

## HR 4420

### Chesapeake Bay Farm Bill Enhancements Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Nov 16, 2017

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Dec 5, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4420>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** VA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Brown, Anthony G. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Comstock, Barbara [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Delaney, John K. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Hoyer, Steny H. [D-MD-5]	D · MD		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. McEachin, A. Donald [D-VA-4]	D · VA		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		May 22, 2018

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 5, 2017

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 3042	Related bill	<b>Jun 18, 2018:</b> Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 470.
115 S 2139	Related bill	<b>Nov 16, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S7298-7299)

## Summary (as of Nov 16, 2017)

### Chesapeake Bay Farm Bill Enhancements Act of 2017

This bill amends the Food Security Act of 1985 to modify and increase funding for the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

(The RCPP operates through several USDA conservation programs to provide funding for partners to join in efforts with producers to increase the restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife, and related natural resources on regional or watershed scales. The RCPP includes the purposes and functions of several conservation programs such as the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative.)

The bill modifies the RCPP to:

- increase mandatory funding and revise the requirements for distributing funds,
- allow in-kind support to count toward a partner's matching contribution,
- allow partners to apply for a funding renewal of a partnership agreement,
- authorize USDA to provide information and feedback to applicants throughout the application process,
- authorize grants for partners to directly operate conservation projects,
- authorize USDA to advance funding to partners for technical assistance for project development and outreach activities,
- require USDA to make publicly available the amounts available for technical assistance under a partnership agreement,
- limit USDA costs for technical assistance to costs specific and necessary to carry out the objectives of the partnership agreement,
- modify the criteria for a critical conservation area, and
- revise the requirements for prioritizing applications.

## Actions Timeline

- **Dec 5, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Nov 16, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 16, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.