

S 499

SHIPP Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Mar 2, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Mar 2, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/499>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]

Party: Republican • **State:** SD • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 2, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Soil Health and Income Protection Program Act of 2017 or the SHIPP Act of 2017

This bill amends the Food Security Act of 1985 to establish a voluntary soil health and income protection program.

Landowners and operators may enroll eligible land in the program by agreeing to adopt certain practices to conserve and improve the soil, water, and wildlife resources of the land for a period of three to five years in exchange for rental payments and additional crop insurance premium discounts.

During the period of the agreement:

- the lowest practicable cost perennial conserving use cover crop must be planted on the enrolled land at the expense of the enrollee;
- the land may be harvested for seed, hayed, or grazed outside the nesting and brood-rearing period, but may not be insured and is subject to a 25% reduction in rental payments if the land is harvested for seed;
- the land may be eligible for a walk-in access program of the applicable state; and
- a nonprofit wildlife organization may provide to the owner or operator of the eligible land a payment in exchange for an agreement by the owner or operator not to harvest the conserving use cover.

Beginning, small, socially disadvantaged, young, or veteran farmers and ranchers are only required to pay 50% of the cost of planting the conserving using cover crop and are eligible for increased payments and crop insurance premium discounts under the program.

A maximum of 15% of the eligible land on a farm may be enrolled in the program.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 2, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
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