

## HR 5487

### Regional Conservation Partnership Program Improvement Act of 2018

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Apr 12, 2018

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Apr 30, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5487>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]

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

## Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 30, 2018

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 1966	Related bill	Oct 17, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

## **Regional Conservation Partnership Program Improvement Act of 2018**

This bill amends the Food Security Act of 1985 to make several modifications to the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

(The RCPP currently 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 bill modifies the program to:

- require the RCPP to be operated as a separate program rather than through several existing USDA conservation programs,
- expand the purposes of the program,
- expand the authority of project partners to define the scope of the activities that will help achieve conservation benefits,
- require USDA to set timelines for entering into contracts and providing funding,
- require USDA to establish program coordinators in each state,
- modify the requirements for allocating funding for the program,
- modify the application process and requirements for program contracts,
- authorize USDA to award grants to partners to directly operate conservation projects,
- authorize USDA to advance funding to partners for project development and outreach activities, and
- establish reporting requirements for partners regarding the progress made toward addressing natural resource concerns and related outcomes of the projects.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Apr 30, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Apr 12, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 12, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.