

S 3479

Cover Crop Flexibility Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Mar 12, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (text: CR S1743)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (text: CR S1743) (Mar 12, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3479>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 12, 2020
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 17, 2020
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Jun 17, 2020
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Jun 17, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 17, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 12, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Cover Crop Flexibility Act of 2020

This bill modifies the federal crop insurance program to address the planting of cover crops following prevented planting.

Specifically, the bill allows a producer that is prevented from planting its first crop to plant a second crop and receive an indemnity equal to the full guarantee for the first crop if the second crop (1) is an approved cover crop, and (2) cannot be harvested for grain or other uses unrelated to livestock forage or conservation. Under current law, if a producer plants a second crop it can only get an indemnity worth at most 35% of the prevented planting guarantee for the first crop.

For a producer planting a cover crop following prevented planting, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) may provide separate prevented planting coverage factors that include preplanting costs, the cost of cover crop seed, and the cost of fencing and supplying water to livestock.

Further, the FCIC must conduct research and development regarding a policy to insure crops on fields that regularly utilize cover crops, including research to examine the extent that cover crops reduce risks of prevented planting and other crop insurance losses.

Actions Timeline

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