

S 2798

BUFFER Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Sep 14, 2023

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. (Sep 14, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2798>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]

Party: Democratic • **State:** VT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Sep 14, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 14, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 5466	Identical bill	Sep 26, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology.

Building Up Farmland Frontiers for Ecological Resilience Act or the BUFFER Act

This bill provides that certain land (that is under state regulations) is eligible to participate under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Under CRP, the Department of Agriculture provides annual payments to agricultural producers to take highly erodible and environmentally sensitive land out of production and install resource-conserving practices.

Specifically, land otherwise eligible under the program remains eligible for enrollment even if a tribal, state, or other local law, ordinance, or other regulation requires any resource-conserving or environmental protection measure or practice. The bill includes an exception that makes the land ineligible under the program if the implementation requirement has been imposed by an administrative order or a court order.

Current regulations exclude from enrollment eligibility (with exceptions) land that is subject to tribal, state, or other local laws, ordinances, or other regulations that require any resource-conserving or environmental protection measures or practices.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 14, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 14, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.