

S 658

EQIP Improvement Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Mar 6, 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. (Mar 6, 2023)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/658

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]

Party: Democratic • State: NJ • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]	R · UT		Mar 6, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 28, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 6, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 5252	Identical bill	Sep 25, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology.

## **EQIP Improvement Act of 2023**

This bill amends the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to reduce and remove certain payment requirements. (EQIP provides technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers and forest landowners to address natural resource concerns.)

Specifically, the bill

- reduces the maximum payments available to a person or legal entity under EQIP to \$150,000 per five-year period (from the current level of \$450,000), thereby allowing for an increase in the overall number of participants in the program;
- reduces federal cost sharing to 40% (from 75%) for the costs associated with planning, installation, or maintenance for specified conservation practices (e.g., access roads, dams, and waste storage facilities); and
- removes a requirement that 50% of EQIP funding payments go to livestock production programs.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 6, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 6, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.