

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to expand agricultural market access, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCHIFF introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to expand agricultural market access, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Expanding Market Ac-
5 cess Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROMOTION AND FACILITA-**
7 **TION.**

8 (a) **MODIFICATION TO FOREIGN MARKET DEVELOP-**
9 **MENT COOPERATOR PROGRAM.**—Section 203(c) of the
10 Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5623(c)) is

1 amended by adding at the end the following new para-
2 graph:

3 “(4) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE IN-
4 FRASTRUCTURE IN FOREIGN MARKETS FOR UNITED
5 STATES AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—As part of the pro-
7 gram established under this subsection, the Sec-
8 retary shall enter into contracts or other agree-
9 ments, with eligible trade organizations or with
10 nonprofit organizations with expertise in supply
11 chain infrastructure, to provide needs assess-
12 ments, training, and other technical assistance
13 to enhance the capabilities of infrastructure in
14 new and developing foreign markets, including
15 infrastructure relating to cold chain capacity,
16 port improvements, and other developments, to
17 ensure that United States agricultural commod-
18 ities are not damaged or lost due to deficiencies
19 of such infrastructure.

20 “(B) LIMITATION.—Of the amounts made
21 available to carry out the program established
22 under this subsection, not more than
23 \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2027 and not more
24 than \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2028 and each

1 fiscal year thereafter may be made available to
2 carry out this paragraph.”.

3 (b) REPORT ON COMPETITIVENESS OF UNITED
4 STATES SPECIALTY CROPS.—Section 203(e)(7) of the Ag-
5 ricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5623(e)(7)) is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 “(7) BIENNIAL REPORT.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in con-
9 sultation with the United States Trade Rep-
10 resentative, shall submit every 2 years to the
11 appropriate congressional committees a report
12 detailing the competitiveness of United States
13 specialty crops.

14 “(B) ELEMENTS.—The report required by
15 subparagraph (A) shall—

16 “(i) identify and analyze acts, policies,
17 or practices of foreign countries that con-
18 stitute significant barriers to, or distor-
19 tions of, United States exports of specialty
20 crops, including the imposition of—

21 “(I) tariffs (including retaliatory
22 tariffs) or quotas (including tariff-rate
23 quotas); and

24 “(II) nontariff barriers, including
25 technical barriers to trade, sanitary

1 and phytosanitary measures, import
2 licensing procedures, and subsidies;

3 “(ii) identify acts, policies, or prac-
4 tices of foreign countries that enhance the
5 competitiveness of imported specialty crops
6 with domestic specialty crop producers;

7 “(iii) identify and analyze any dif-
8 ferences in applicable food safety regula-
9 tions of foreign countries that may result
10 in imported specialty crops posing a risk to
11 United States consumers;

12 “(iv) make an estimate of the impacts
13 on the competitiveness of United States
14 specialty crops of any act, policy, or prac-
15 tice identified under clauses (i) and (ii);

16 “(v) assess the extent to which each
17 act, policy, or practice identified under
18 clauses (i) and (ii) are subject to inter-
19 national agreements to which the United
20 States is a party;

21 “(vi) include information with respect
22 to any action taken by the executive or leg-
23 islative branch during the 2 years pre-
24 ceding submission of the report, or ex-
25 pected to be taken after submission of the

1 report, to eliminate any act, policy, or
2 practice identified under clauses (i) and
3 (ii), including—

4 “(I) any action under section
5 301;

6 “(II) negotiations or consulta-
7 tions with foreign governments, which
8 may include engagement through the
9 standing committee on sanitary and
10 phytosanitary matters established
11 under a free trade agreement to which
12 the United States is a party; and

13 “(III) action at the World Trade
14 Organization, including dispute settle-
15 ment actions, consultations, or nego-
16 tiations; and

17 “(vii) a description of—

18 “(I) any funds provided under
19 subsection (f)(3)(A)(iv) that were not
20 obligated in the fiscal year preceding
21 submission of the report; and

22 “(II) the reason such funds were
23 not obligated.

24 “(C) COMMENT PERIOD.—In preparing the
25 report required by subparagraph (A), the Sec-

1 retary, in coordination with the United States
2 Trade Representative, shall seek and consider
3 comments from the public and from the Agri-
4 cultural Technical Advisory Committee for
5 Trade in Fruits and Vegetables.

6 “(D) FORM OF REPORT.—The report re-
7 quired by subparagraph (A) shall be made
8 available to the public in machine-readable for-
9 mat.

10 “(E) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COM-
11 MITTEES DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the
12 term ‘appropriate congressional committees’
13 means—

14 “(i) the Committee on Agriculture
15 and the Committee on Ways and Means of
16 the House of Representatives; and

17 “(ii) the Committee on Agriculture,
18 Nutrition, and Forestry and the Com-
19 mittee on Finance of the Senate.”.

20 (c) MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF FUNDING.—

21 Section 203(f) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7
22 U.S.C. 5623(f)) is amended—

23 (1) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
24 lows:

1 (C) in clause (ii), by striking “not less
2 than” and all that follows through the end and
3 inserting the following: “not less than—

4 “(I) \$34,500,000 for fiscal year
5 2026;

6 “(II) \$70,500,000 for fiscal year
7 2027; and

8 “(III) \$82,000,000 for each of
9 fiscal years 2028 through 2031.”;

10 (D) in clause (iii), by striking “not more
11 than” and all that follows through the end and
12 inserting the following: “not more than—

13 “(I) \$8,000,000 for each of fiscal
14 years 2026 and 2027; and

15 “(II) \$16,000,000 for each of fis-
16 cal years 2028 through 2031.”;

17 (E) in clause (iv), by striking “Corpora-
18 tion” and all that follows through the end and
19 inserting the following: “Corporation—

20 “(I) \$9,000,000 for fiscal year
21 2026; and

22 “(II) \$18,000,000 for each of fis-
23 cal years 2027 through 2031.”; and

1 (F) in clause (v)(I), by striking “commod-
2 ities,” and all that follows through the end and
3 inserting the following: “commodities—

4 “(aa) \$3,500,000 for each of
5 fiscal years 2026 and 2027; and

6 “(bb) \$7,000,000 for each of
7 fiscal years 2028 through
8 2031.”.

9 (d) REPEALS.—The following provisions of law are
10 repealed:

11 (1) Section 718 of title VII of the Agriculture,
12 Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration,
13 and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (as
14 enacted by section 101(a) of division A of Public
15 Law 105–277; 7 U.S.C. 5623 note).

16 (2) Section 10602 of Public Law 119–21 (7
17 U.S.C. 5623a).