

Advancing soil health policies & programs that create value for farmers, businesses, and communities.

### LAND CORE SOIL HEALTH FEDERAL LEGISLATION BILL TRACKER UPDATE - 4/22/2022

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Happy Earth Day! Here's your Soil Health Federal Legislation update (visit Land Core's Bill Tracker to see all tracked soil health bills). <u>Sign up</u> to get these monthly updates directly in your inbox.

### News Bills:

<u>H.R.7468 - SECURE Food Act</u>: This Democrat bill, introduced on 4/7 by Rep. Krishnamoorthi (D-IL-8), would require the Director of National Intelligence to submit an intelligence report on the effects of increased production and consumption of alternative proteins on American national security, including impacts on food security, water supplies, climate impacts, public health, the agricultural sector, and the American economy. The study could assess the impacts of all protein production systems, including management-intensive rotational grazing, to provide a full picture of options to build a resilient and secure food system. See <u>Tracker - Ancillary tab</u>.

### Bills Advancing through Congress:

<u>S.3743 - Recycling and Composting Accountability Act</u>: This bipartisan bill, introduced by Sen. Carper (D-DE), which would require the EPA to submit a report to Congress on the capability of the US to implement a national residential composting strategy, and to collect and publish data on composting and recycling rates across the country, was is now being considered by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on 4/7. See <u>Tracker - Ancillary tab</u>.

<u>S.2372 - Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2021</u>: Reintroduced by Sen. Heinrich (D-NM) in 2021, this bill would direct over \$1.3 billion to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program for efforts led by States, territories, and Tribal nations to protect and restore wildlife habitat and prevent vulnerable wildlife from becoming endangered. The bill is now with the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on 4/7. The companion House bill (H.R.2773 sponsored by Rep. Dingell (D-MI-12)) was passed by the Natural Resources Committee on 1/19. See <u>Tracker - Ancillary tab</u>.

H.R.4521 - America COMPETES (Creating Opportunities for Manufacturing Pre-Eminence in Technology and Economic Strength) Act of 2022: This bipartisan bill, introduced by Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX-30), is largely aimed at increasing American economic competitiveness and supply chains, but includes international development assistance to employ "agricultural production practices that reduce poverty while improving soil health". The bill passed the House and the Senate, and the differences are now being reconciled by conference committee. See <u>Tracker - Ancillary tab</u>.

# New Legislator Support:

Below is a list of Members who have recently added their names and support to bills we are tracking. Use the <u>Legislators tab</u> to see all the bills your representative is supporting from our tracker, and find their contact information.

- Core Bills (new cosponsors, end of March and April 2022):
  - <u>H.R.5724 White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, Hunger, and Health Act</u>: Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR-3) (3/28) joins 21 others.
  - <u>H.R.4421 Farm System Reform Act</u>: Rep. Marie Newman (D-IL-3) (3/28) and Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-WA-7) (3/29) join 34 others.
  - <u>H.R.2820 Growing Climate Solutions Act</u>: Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA-14) (3/29), Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA-6) (4/1), and Rep. David Cicilline (D-RI-1) (4/14) join 77 others.
  - H.R.2670 The Civilian Climate Corps for Jobs and Justice Act: Rep. James McGovern (D-MA-2) (3/29), Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT-At Large) (3/29), and Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN-4) (3/30) join 39 others.
  - <u>H.R.794 Climate Emergency Act</u>: Rep. Donald Beyer (D-VA-8) (3/28) joins 52 others.
- Ancillary bills (new cosponsors, end of March and April 2022):
  - <u>H.R.7019 Rural Prosperity Act of 2022</u>: Rep. Josh Harder (D-CA-10) (3/28) and Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA-6) (3/29) join 8 others.
  - <u>H.R.6492 Climate Resilience Workforce Act</u>: Rep. Donald Payne Jr. (D-NJ-10) (3/31) joins 38 others.
  - H.R.2773 Recovering America's Wildlife Act: Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ-6) (3/31), Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA-28) (4/1), Rep. David Valadao (R-CA-21) (4/14/), and Rep. Abigail Spanberger (4-14) join 169 others.
  - <u>S.1328 Farm to School Act</u>: Sen. Christopher Murphy (D-CT) (4/4) joins 5 others.
  - H.R.481 Flood Resiliency and Taxpayer Savings Act: Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA-47) (3/29), Rep. Cynthia Axne (D-IA-3) (3/29), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA-13) (3/29), Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-MI-8) (3/29), Rep. Bradley Scott Schneider (D-IL-10) (4/14), and Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA-5) (4/14) join 37 others.

# Hearings Held:

<u>A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: Energy - Renewable Energy Opportunities in Rural America</u>: Held by the House Committee on Agriculture on 4/5.

<u>A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: International Trade and Food Assistance Programs</u>: Held by the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture on 4/6.

# New Policy Report:

**Regenerative Agriculture: Farm Policy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:** Released on 4/21 by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), this report highlights how regenerative agriculture provides multiple co-benefits – including building soil health, sequestering carbon, and making land more resilient to climate change. The report uses interviews from more than 100 farmers and ranchers from 47 states and DC to inform policy recommendations on how lawmakers can transition the nation's agricultural system in the lead up to the 2023 Farm Bill. See <u>Tracker - Resources/Recommendations tab</u>.

**Are we missing anything?** <u>Let us know</u> if there is a bill of interest that we have not added to our Bill Tracker. Share these Soil Health Legislation Updates with a friend or colleague, <u>explore the archive</u>, and <u>sign up</u> to get these updates directly in your inbox.

Like our work? Please help us continue our federal policy work by <u>donating</u> to Land Core.