

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5053

To expand eligibility for the wetlands reserve program to lands covered by expiring agreements under the Water Bank Act.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 1994

Mr. POMEROY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To expand eligibility for the wetlands reserve program to lands covered by expiring agreements under the Water Bank Act.

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. ELIGIBILITY FOR THE WETLANDS RESERVE**  
4 **PROGRAM OF LAND COVERED BY EXPIRING**  
5 **AGREEMENTS UNDER THE WATER BANK ACT.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1237 of the Food Security  
7 Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837) is amended by redesignat-  
8 ing subsections (d), (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (e),  
9 (f), (g), and (h), respectively, and by inserting after sub-  
10 section (c) the following:

1       “(d) ELIGIBILITY OF LAND COVERED BY AN EXPIR-  
2       ING AGREEMENT UNDER THE WATER BANK PROGRAM.—  
3       During the 1-year period that begins with the date that  
4       an agreement entered into under the Water Bank Act ex-  
5       pires, the land covered by the agreement shall be eligible  
6       to be placed into the wetland reserve established under  
7       this subchapter.”.

8       (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1237A(b)  
9       of such Act (16 U.S.C. 3837a(b)) is amended—

10           (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by  
11           inserting “(except in the case of land eligible for  
12           placement in the wetland reserve pursuant to section  
13           1237(d))” after “restoration”; and

14           (2) in paragraph (1), by amending subpara-  
15           graph (A) to read as follows:

16                   “(A) repairs, improvements, and inspec-  
17                   tions on such land that are necessary to main-  
18                   tain existing public drainage systems if such  
19                   land—

20                           “(i) is not eligible for placement in  
21                           the wetland reserve pursuant to section  
22                           1237(d), and is subsequently restored to  
23                           the condition required by the terms of the  
24                           easement; or

1                   “(ii) is eligible for placement in the  
2                   wetland reserve pursuant to section  
3                   1237(d); and”.

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