

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5297

To amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cost share assistance for the construction of reservoir structures for the storage of water in rural areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2000

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

A BILL

To amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cost share assistance for the construction of reservoir structures for the storage of water in rural areas, 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. COST SHARE ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL WATER**

4 **STORAGE AND SUPPLY.**

5 (a) ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Watershed Pro-
6 tection and Flood Prevention Act is amended by inserting

1 after section 3A (16 U.S.C. 1003a) the following new sec-
2 tion:

3 **“SEC. 3B. COST SHARE ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL WATER**
4 **STORAGE AND SUPPLY.**

5 “(a) RESERVOIR STRUCTURES AND TRANSMISSION
6 LINES.—The Secretary may provide cost share assistance
7 to project sponsors to enable such sponsors to construct—

8 “(1) reservoir structures for the storage of
9 water; and

10 “(2) main water transmission lines to increase
11 the water supply in a rural area.

12 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to qualify for assistance
13 under this section, a project must be designed to increase
14 the supply of water in a rural area that is experiencing
15 a severe problem with the quality or quantity of water.

16 “(c) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE; LIMITATION.—The
17 amount of the assistance provided by the Secretary for
18 a project under this section shall cover at least 50 percent
19 of the project costs, except that rural water supply costs
20 under subsection (a)(2) may not exceed 50 percent of total
21 project costs.

22 “(d) RURAL AREA DEFINED.—In this section, the
23 term ‘rural area’ means any area that is not within the
24 outer boundary of any city having a population of 65,000

1 or more, according to the most recent decennial census
2 of the United States.”.

3 (b) DEFINITION OF WORKS OF IMPROVEMENT.—Sec-
4 tion 2 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention
5 Act (16 U.S.C. 1002) is amended by striking “Each
6 project must contain” and all that follows through “bene-
7 fits of the project.”.

8 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3A of the
9 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16
10 U.S.C. 1003a) is amended by inserting “**WETLAND OR**
11 **FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION EASEMENTS**” before
12 the period at the end of the section heading.

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