

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT**

**119–22**

**OFFERED BY MS. BROWNLEY OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of title XII add the following:

1 **SEC. 12 \_\_\_\_ . STUDY OF CLIMATE-FRIENDLY CERTIFICATION**

2 **FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

4 (1) 10 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions  
5 emitted by the United States come from the agricul-  
6 tural sector.

7 (2) Sustainable agricultural practices that re-  
8 duce greenhouse gas emissions and prevent deforest-  
9 ation will be critical to preventing the Earth from  
10 reaching 1.5 degrees Celsius warmer than pre-indus-  
11 trial levels, the threshold that would result in cata-  
12 strophic climate-related effects.

13 (3) Improving the agricultural sector’s impact  
14 on the climate is a vital component of efforts by the  
15 U.S. to meet its contributions to the Paris Agree-  
16 ment.

17 (4) The USDA Organic label represents a suc-  
18 cessful model for using a voluntary, market-based  
19 approaches to driving innovation in the agricultural

1 sector and successfully created a robust organic  
2 market in the United States.

3 (5) Market-based approaches like USDA Or-  
4 ganic can spark significant economic benefits includ-  
5 ing jobs, and new, higher revenues for farmers.

6 (6) In 2021, organic farming totaled  
7 \$11,200,000,000 in sales, created opportunity for  
8 17,445 organic farms, and 28 percent of organic  
9 farmers planned to continue to grow their level or  
10 organic production. A similar voluntary, market-  
11 based approach to climate-friendly agricultural prac-  
12 tices could create comparable economic benefits for  
13 farmers and workers.

14 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an advi-  
15 sory panel to carry out the study described in subsection  
16 (d).

17 (c) MEMBERS.—The advisory panel established under  
18 subsection (b) shall be composed of members appointed  
19 by the Secretary of Agriculture and shall include—

20 (1) representatives—

21 (A) that are scientists, including experts  
22 on climate science and nutrition science;

23 (B) of environmental advocacy organiza-  
24 tions;

1 (C) of industry, including food manufac-  
2 turing and farming; and

3 (D) of other stakeholders, as the Secretary  
4 of Agriculture determines appropriate; and

5 (2) at least one representative from each of the  
6 following:

7 (A) The Department of Agriculture.

8 (B) The Environmental Protection Agency.

9 (C) The Centers for Disease Control and  
10 Prevention.

11 (D) The Food and Drug Administration.

12 (E) The National Academy of Sciences.

13 (F) Any other Federal agency the Sec-  
14 retary of Agriculture determines appropriate.

15 (d) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after  
16 the date of the enactment of this Act, the panel shall sub-  
17 mit to the Secretary of Agriculture and Congress a report  
18 that includes—

19 (1) recommendations regarding the development  
20 of a climate-friendly certification for agricultural  
21 products that—

22 (A) moves agricultural producers toward  
23 reducing greenhouse gas emissions on a lifecycle  
24 basis; and

1 (B) uses market-based approaches that al-  
2 lows for greater consumer choice and education;  
3 and

4 (2) how such a certification would measure—

5 (A) the life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions  
6 of agricultural products;

7 (B) the water usage in production of agri-  
8 cultural products;

9 (C) the land use effects of agricultural  
10 products; and

11 (D) any additional criteria the panel deter-  
12 mines appropriate.

13 (e) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
14 shall make the report required under subsection (d) pub-  
15 licly available on the website of the Department of Agri-  
16 culture.

17 (f) MORATORIUM ON USE OF CLIMATE-FRIENDLY  
18 CERTIFICATION DURING STUDY.—The Secretary of Agri-  
19 culture may not issue any regulations or guidance or oth-  
20 erwise certify or advertise any agricultural product as cli-  
21 mate-friendly before the date on which the report required  
22 under subsection (d) is submitted to Congress.

