

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. COSTELLO OF PENNSYLVANIA
[2018 Farm Bill]

After section 11201, insert the following (and make such conforming changes as may be necessary):

1 **SEC. ____ . STATE BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER CO-**
2 **ORDINATOR.**

3 Section 226 of the Department of Agriculture Reor-
4 ganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6934) is amended by
5 adding at the end the following new subsection:

6 “(i) STATE BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER CO-
7 ORDINATOR.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall des-
9 ignate a State beginning farmer and rancher coordi-
10 nator from among existing employees of the Farm
11 Service Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation
12 Service, the Risk Management Agency, the Rural
13 Business-Cooperative Service, and the Rural Utilities
14 Service.

15 “(2) TRAINING.—The Agency shall coordinate
16 the development of a training plan so that each
17 State coordinator shall receive sufficient training to
18 have a general working knowledge of the programs

1 and services available from each agency of the De-
2 partment to assist beginning farmers and ranchers
3 and be familiar with issues relating to beginning
4 farmers and ranchers.

5 “(3) DUTIES.—The coordinator shall—

6 “(A) coordinate technical assistance at the
7 State level to help beginning farmers and
8 ranchers gain access to programs of the De-
9 partment;

10 “(B) work with outreach coordinators in
11 the State offices of the Farm Service Agency,
12 the Natural Resources Conservation Service,
13 the Risk Management Agency, the Rural Busi-
14 ness-Cooperative Service, and the Rural Utili-
15 ties Service to ensure appropriate information
16 about technical assistance is available at out-
17 reach events and activities; and

18 “(C) work with the Office of Partnerships
19 and Public Engagement and regional, state,
20 and local offices of the Department to facilitate
21 partnerships and joint outreach efforts with
22 State regional, state, and local organizations
23 and key stakeholders serving beginning farmers

1 and ranchers through contracts and cooperative
2 agreements.”.

