

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-

22

OFFERED BY MS. ELFRETH OF MARYLAND

Page 35, after line 16, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 2103. CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED TURNKEY PILOT**

2 **PROGRAM.**

3 Section 1231C of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16
4 U.S.C. 3831c) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(c) CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED TURNKEY
7 PILOT PROGRAM.—

8 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

9 “(A) CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED.—

10 The term ‘Chesapeake Bay watershed’ has the
11 meaning given the term in section 1240N(a).

12 “(B) CREP DEFINITIONS.—The terms
13 ‘CREP’, ‘eligible land’, and ‘management’ have
14 the meanings given those terms in section
15 1231A(a).

16 “(C) ELIGIBLE PRACTICE.—The term ‘eli-
17 gible practice’ means a forested riparian buffer
18 practice under a CREP and any associated ac-
19 tivities, including—

1 “(i) a stream crossing;

2 “(ii) fencing and alternate water sys-
3 tems;

4 “(iii) herbicide applications; and

5 “(iv) any other activity that is appro-
6 priate to establish the practice.

7 “(D) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term ‘pilot
8 program’ means the pilot program established
9 under paragraph (2).

10 “(E) TECHNICAL SERVICE PROVIDER.—
11 The term ‘technical service provider’ means a
12 third-party provider with which the Secretary
13 enters into an agreement under paragraph
14 (5)(A).

15 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-
16 tablish a pilot program under which the Secretary
17 shall provide, for voluntary owners and operators,
18 establishment and management of eligible practices
19 on eligible land located in the Chesapeake Bay wa-
20 tershed that is enrolled through a CREP.

21 “(3) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—With respect to
22 eligible land enrolled through the pilot program, the
23 Secretary—

24 “(A) may provide, for the owner or oper-
25 ator, establishment and management of an eli-

1 gible practice on the eligible land using a tech-
2 nical service provider pursuant to an agreement
3 under paragraph (5);

4 “(B) may prioritize eligible land within the
5 Environmental Protection Agency’s Most Effec-
6 tive Basin program; and

7 “(C) shall not require the owner or oper-
8 ator—

9 “(i) to pay any costs of the establish-
10 ment or management of an eligible prac-
11 tice, including any compensation provided
12 under paragraph (5)(C); or

13 “(ii) to submit to the Secretary any
14 additional paperwork with respect to the
15 pilot program.

16 “(4) DUTIES OF OWNERS AND OPERATORS.—
17 Each owner or operator of eligible land enrolled
18 through the pilot program—

19 “(A) shall provide to the Secretary and
20 any technical service providers, as applicable,
21 access to the eligible land for purposes of the
22 establishment or management of an eligible
23 practice under the pilot program; and

24 “(B) may not receive any cost-share pay-
25 ment, practice incentive payment, or manage-

1 ment payment under this subchapter with re-
2 spect to an eligible practice under the pilot pro-
3 gram.

4 “(5) AGREEMENTS WITH TECHNICAL SERVICE
5 PROVIDERS.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
7 enter into an agreement under section 1242
8 with 1 or more third-party providers certified
9 under that section, including a third-party pro-
10 vider certified through a streamlined certifi-
11 cation process under subsection (e)(5) of that
12 section, that provide technical assistance under
13 this title in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to
14 conduct the establishment and management of
15 an eligible practice on eligible land under the
16 pilot program.

17 “(B) ACTIVITIES.—In addition to any ac-
18 tivity that a technical service provider may con-
19 duct pursuant to section 1242 relating to the
20 establishment of an eligible practice, a technical
21 service provider may carry out such activities as
22 are necessary to conduct the establishment and
23 management of an eligible practice under the
24 pilot program.

1 “(C) COMPENSATION.—Under an agree-
2 ment entered into under subparagraph (A), the
3 Secretary shall provide to a technical service
4 provider reasonable compensation for services
5 provided under the agreement, including admin-
6 istrative assistance, technical assistance, design
7 assistance, and installation costs.

8 “(6) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1
9 year after the date of enactment of this subsection,
10 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Ag-
11 riculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and
12 the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives a report describing the status of, and
14 any activities carried out under, the pilot program.”.

