

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

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To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to reauthorize the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Mr. BENNET) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to reauthorize the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Advancing Cutting  
5 Edge Agriculture Act of 2026” or the “ACE Agriculture  
6 Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. AGRICULTURE ADVANCED RESEARCH AND DEVEL-**2 **OPMENT AUTHORITY.**3 Section 1473H of the National Agricultural Re-  
4 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7  
5 U.S.C. 3319k) is amended—

6 (1) in the section heading, by striking

7 **“PILOT”;**8 (2) in subsection (a)(6)(A), by striking “grow-  
9 ing,” and inserting “growing (including water con-  
10 servation technologies and innovation);”;

11 (3) in subsection (b)—

12 (A) by striking “pilot program” each place  
13 it appears and inserting “program”;

14 (B) in paragraph (2)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (B)—

16 (I) by inserting “the long-term  
17 and high-risk technological” before  
18 “barriers”; and19 (II) by striking “and resilience to  
20 extreme weather;” and inserting  
21 “water conservation, the reduction,  
22 avoidance, sequestration, or mitigation  
23 of greenhouse gas emissions from the  
24 agriculture sector, and resilience to  
25 extreme weather, drought, infectious

1 diseases, plant and animal pathogens,  
2 and plant and animal pests;”; and

3 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting  
4 “or economic cost” before the period at the  
5 end;

6 (C) in paragraph (3)(B)—

7 (i) in clause (ii), in the matter pre-  
8 ceding subclause (I), by striking “advise  
9 the Chief Scientist on, and”; and

10 (ii) by striking clause (iii) and insert-  
11 ing the following:

22 (D) in paragraph (9), by striking the para-  
23 graph designation and heading and all that fol-  
24 lows through “In carrying out” and inserting  
25 the following:

1                     “(9) PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

2                     “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-  
3                     tablish and maintain within the AGARDA a  
4                     staff with sufficient qualifications and expertise  
5                     to enable the AGARDA to carry out the respon-  
6                     sibilities of the AGARDA under this section in  
7                     conjunction with other operations of the De-  
8                     partment of Agriculture.

9                     “(B) USE OF EXISTING PERSONNEL AU-  
10                     THORITIES.—In carrying out”;

11                     (4) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the  
12                     following:

13                     “(4) USE OF STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Secretary  
14                     shall use the strategic plan developed under para-  
15                     graph (1) and dated 2022 to inform the administra-  
16                     tion of the AGARDA under this section.”;

17                     (5) in subsection (d)—

18                     (A) by redesignating subparagraph (C) of  
19                     paragraph (2) as paragraph (5), indenting ap-  
20                     propriately, and moving the paragraph so as to  
21                     appear after paragraph (3);

22                     (B) in paragraph (3), by striking  
23                     “\$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019  
24                     through 2023” and inserting “\$100,000,000  
25                     for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2031”;

1 (C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the  
2 following:

3                   “(4) OTHER FUNDING.—In addition to amounts  
4                   otherwise made available to carry out this section,  
5                   the Secretary may use to carry out this section other  
6                   unobligated funds available to the Secretary for any  
7                   other purpose.”; and

8 (D) in paragraph (5) (as redesignated by  
9 subparagraph (A)), by striking “this para-  
10 graph” and inserting “paragraph (2) or (4);  
11 and  
12 (6) by striking subsection (e).