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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program to recognize farms that have been in continuous operation for 100 years.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself and Mr. NOLAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program to recognize farms that have been in continuous operation for 100 years.

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 “Century Farms Act
5 of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) the United States has a long history of
2 farming and has historically appreciated the inval-
3 uable contribution of farming to domestic and global
4 populations;

5 (2) family farms represent 97 percent of all
6 farms in the United States, of which 90 percent are
7 small family farms;

8 (3) over 30 States have established Century or
9 Centennial Farm designations and awards; and

10 (4) agricultural producers perform a vital public
11 service that should be recognized and rewarded.

12 **SEC. 3. CENTURY FARMS PROGRAM.**

13 The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this sec-
14 tion as the “Secretary”) shall establish a program under
15 which the Secretary recognizes any farm that—

16 (1) a State department of agriculture or similar
17 statewide agricultural organization recognizes as a
18 Century Farm; or

19 (2)(A) is defined as a farm or ranch under sec-
20 tion 4284.902 of title 7, Code of Federal Regula-
21 tions (as in effect on the date of enactment of this
22 Act);

23 (B) has been in continuous operation for at
24 least 100 years; and

1 (C) has been owned by the same family for at
2 least 100 consecutive years, as verified through
3 deeds, wills, abstracts, tax statements, or other simi-
4 lar legal documents considered appropriate by the
5 Secretary.