

84 Roll Call adopted

Amendment Offered by Reps Welch, Owens, Pingree and Courtney

Amendment Description

Amendment would authorize the Secretary to make grants to states, tribal governments and research institutions to research, promote and expand access to lands for maple sugaring.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 6083

OFFERED BY MR. WELCH OF VERMONT

(Offered on behalf of himself, Mr. Owens of New York, Ms. Pingree of Maine, and Mr. Courtney of Connecticut)

At the end of subtitle C of title XII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 12302. ACER ACCESS AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agri-
3 culture may make grants to States, tribal governments,
4 and research institutions to support the efforts of such
5 States, tribal governments, and research institutions to
6 promote the domestic maple syrup industry through the
7 following activities:

8 (1) Promotion of research and education related
9 to maple syrup production.

10 (2) Promotion of natural resource sustainability
11 in the maple syrup industry.

12 (3) Market promotion for maple syrup and
13 maple-sap products.

14 (4) Encouragement of owners and operators of
15 privately-held land containing species of trees in the
16 genus *Acer*—

1 (A) to initiate or expand maple-sugaring
2 activities on the land; or

3 (B) to voluntarily make the land available,
4 including by lease or other means, for access by
5 the public for maple-sugaring activities.

6 (b) APPLICATION.—In submitting an application for
7 a grant under this section, a State or tribal government
8 shall include—

9 (1) a description of the activities to be sup-
10 ported using the grant funds;

11 (2) a description of the benefits that the State
12 or tribal government intends to achieve as a result
13 of engaging in such activities; and

14 (3) an estimate of the increase in maple-sug-
15 aring activities or maple syrup production that the
16 State or tribal government anticipates will occur as
17 a result of engaging in such activities.

18 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
19 tion shall be construed so as to preempt a State or tribal
20 government law, including a State or tribal government
21 liability law.

22 (d) DEFINITION OF MAPLE-SUGARING.—In this sec-
23 tion, the term “maple-sugaring” means the collection of
24 sap from any species of tree in the genus *Acer* for the
25 purpose of boiling to produce food.

1 (e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture
2 shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to
3 carry out this section.

4 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
6 \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2017.

