

Union Calendar No. 1

117TH CONGRESS }
1st Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

{ REPORT
117-7

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TO ACCOMPANY

H.R. 1319

together with

MINORITY VIEWS



FEBRUARY 24, 2021.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House
on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

TITLE I—COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The Committee on Agriculture met, pursuant to notice, with a quorum present, on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, to consider the Committee on Agriculture Committee Print pursuant to the budget reconciliation instructions provided in the fiscal year 2021 budget resolution, S. Con. Res. 5.

Chairman David Scott offered an opening statement as did Ranking Member Glenn ‘GT’ Thompson. Without objection the Committee on Agriculture Committee Print was placed before the Committee for consideration and the first reading of the measure was waived. The measure was open for amendment on a section by section basis and subsequently for amendment at any point.

The Committee engaged in discussion of specific sections and of the Committee Print in general. Fourteen amendments were offered, all by the Minority.

Ranking Member Thompson offered an amendment to the Committee Print that would have reduced by half each dollar amount specified in any section of the measure, excluding sections 1005 and 1006. The amendment would have provided payments through the Renewable Fuel Reimbursement Program and would have provided funding for certain broadband programs, rural utility bridge loans, and rural hospitals and other community facilities. Mr. Thompson called for a recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 24 nays.

Mr. Feenstra offered an amendment to section 1001 of the Committee Print that would provide payments for necessary expenses related to crop losses, including losses due to high winds or derechos, pursuant to the Wildfire Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus. Mr. Feenstra called for a recorded vote and the amendment was adopted by a vote of 24 yeas to 23 nays.

Mr. Feenstra offered an amendment to section 1001 of the Committee Print that would have prioritized small and medium-sized processors and distributors, where available, for purchases and distribution of agricultural commodities under section 1001(b)(2). Mr. Thompson called for recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 24 nays.

Mr. Davis offered an amendment to section 1001 of the Committee Print that would have provided payments to biofuels producers for unexpected market losses due to COVID-19. Mr. Thompson called for a recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 25 nays.

Mr. LaMalfa offered an amendment to section 1001 of the Committee Print that would have reduced funding for COVID-19 animal surveillance by \$200 million and increased funding for grants and loans for measures to protect workers against COVID-19 by \$200 million. Mr. LaMalfa withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Johnson offered an amendment to section 1001 of the Committee Print that would have allowed funds for COVID-19 animal monitoring and surveillance to be used to conduct animal research and vaccination. Mr. Johnson withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Hagedorn offered an amendment to the Committee Print that would have prevented any funds provided under this measure from being allocated until 80 percent of the funds made available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 have been obligated. Mr. Hagedorn called for a recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 25 nays.

Mr. Feenstra offered an amendment to section 1005 of the Committee Print that would have reduced farm loan assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to 100 percent of the outstanding farm loan indebtedness of each such farmer or rancher. Mr. Thompson called for recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 24 nays.

Mrs. Hartzler offered an amendment to section 1005 of the Committee Print that would

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have limited farm loan assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to farm loan debt incurred as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Thompson called for a recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 25 nays.

Mr. Davis offered an amendment to section 1006 of the Committee Print that would have expanded section 1006(b)(6) of the measure to include any entities eligible to receive funds under a capacity and infrastructure program under the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994. Mr. Davis withdrew his amendment.

Mrs. Cammack offered an amendment to section 1011 of the Committee Print that would have eliminated the 3-month extension of the temporary increase in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits and provided \$3 billion for employment and training programs. Mr. Thompson called for a recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 25 nays.

Mr. Bacon offered an amendment to the Committee Print that would have provided a \$380 million increase in agricultural research and cooperative extension and education programs. Mr. Thompson called for a recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 25 nays.

Mr. Feenstra offered an amendment to the Committee Print that would have rescinded the unobligated balance of each amount made available without fiscal year limitation by the Act, as of September 22, 2022. Mr. Thompson called for recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 23 yeas to 25 nays.

Mr. Baird offered an amendment to the Committee Print that would withhold all funds made available under this measure until the Secretary of Agriculture reinstated the processing of payments under the program under part 9 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations. Mr. Thompson called for a recorded vote and it failed by a vote of 22 yeas to 25 nays.

Hearing no further debate or amendments, Vice Chair Alma Adams moved that the Committee transmit the Committee Print, with amendment, to the Committee on the Budget. Ranking Member Thompson called for a recorded vote and it passed by a vote of 25 yeas to 23 nays.

Ranking Member Thompson reserved the right for Minority views to be included with the Committee Report.

Chairman David Scott advised Members that, consistent with Committee and House rules, Members would have until the end of the day on Sunday, February 14, 2021 to file such views with the Committee. Without objection, staff were given the authority to make any necessary clerical, technical, or conforming changes to the Committee Report reflect the intent of the Committee. Chairman David Scott thanked the Members and the Committee meeting was adjourned.