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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To require the designation of composting as a conservation practice and activity, and to provide grants and loan guarantees for composting facilities and programs, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. BROWNLEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To require the designation of composting as a conservation practice and activity, and to provide grants and loan guarantees for composting facilities and programs, 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 “Cultivating Organic  
5       Matter through the Promotion Of Sustainable Techniques  
6       Act” or the “COMPOST Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMPOSTING AS CONSERVATION PRACTICE.**

2 (a) CONSERVATION STANDARDS AND REQUIRE-  
3 MENTS.—Section 1241(j) of the Food Security Act of  
4 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(j)) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-  
6 graph (3); and

7 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-  
8 lowing new paragraph:

9 “(2) COMPOSTING AS CONSERVATION PRACTICE  
10 AND ACTIVITY.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall by  
12 regulation provide that composting is a con-  
13 servation practice and a conservation activity  
14 for the purposes of this title.

15 “(B) COMPOSTING DEFINED.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes  
17 of this paragraph, the term ‘composting’  
18 means—

19 “(I) an activity (including an ac-  
20 tivity that does not require the use of  
21 a composting facility) to produce com-  
22 post from organic waste that is—

23 “(aa) generated on a farm;  
24 or

25 “(bb) brought to a farm  
26 from a nearby community and

1 used to produce compost on that  
2 farm; and

3 “(II) the use and active manage-  
4 ment of compost on a farm, in accord-  
5 ance with any applicable Federal,  
6 State, or local law, to improve water  
7 retention and soil health.

8 “(ii) DETERMINATION OF NEARBY  
9 COMMUNITIES.—The Secretary, in con-  
10 sultation with the Administrator of the En-  
11 vironmental Protection Agency, shall issue  
12 regulations for determining whether a com-  
13 munity is nearby for purposes of clause  
14 (i)(I), which shall ensure that bringing or-  
15 ganic waste from the community to the  
16 farm to produce compost results in a net  
17 reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.”.

18 (b) CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM.—Sec-  
19 tion 1240I(2)(B)(i) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
20 U.S.C. 3839aa–21(2)(B)(i)) is amended by inserting “and  
21 composting practices” after “agriculture drainage man-  
22 agement systems”.

23 (c) ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PRO-  
24 GRAM.—Section 1240A(6)(A)(ii) of the Food Security Act  
25 of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–1(6)(A)(ii)) is amended by in-

1   serting “, including composting practices” before the semi-  
2   colon at the end.

3           (d) DELIVERY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section  
4   1242(h) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.  
5   3842(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6           “(5) DEVELOPMENT OF COMPOSTING PRACTICE  
7       STANDARD.—In addition to conducting a review  
8       under this subsection of any composting facility  
9       practice standard established before the date of en-  
10      actment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall estab-  
11      lish a composting practice standard under the proc-  
12      ess developed under paragraph (3).”.