

83^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2233

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 29 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1953

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas (for himself and Mr. McCLELLAN, Mr. HILL, Mr. SPARKMAN, Mr. EASTLAND, Mr. STENNIS, Mr. CLEMENTS, Mr. DANIEL, Mr. MAYBANK, Mr. KEHR, Mr. MONRONEY, Mr. LANGER, Mr. THYE, Mr. SCHOEPEL, and Mr. CARLSON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

A BILL

To provide assistance to farmers and stockmen in areas where a production disaster caused by severe drought has occurred.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That this Act may be cited as the "Drought Disaster Relief
4 Act of 1953".

5 SEC. 2. Whenever the President shall find that a severe
6 drought exists in any area which has destroyed crops and
7 sources of grazing feed and has caused in such area a drought
8 disaster he shall declare, upon the request of the Governor
9 of the State in which such area is located, that such area is,

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1 for the purposes of the assistance provided for in this Act, a
2 drought disaster area.

3 SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and
4 directed to make loans to farmers and stockmen for any
5 agricultural purpose (including but not limited to loans for
6 seed, feed, fertilizer, farm equipment, supplies, refinancing,
7 and family subsistence) in any area declared by the President
8 to be a drought disaster area. Such loans shall be made at
9 such rates of interest, not exceeding 4 per centum per an-
10 num, and on such general terms and conditions as the Secre-
11 tary shall prescribe. Any collateral which is available to the
12 borrower may be required as security for any such loan.

13 SEC. 4. In order to prevent the payment of exorbitant
14 prices for, and to insure the availability of, urgently required
15 agricultural commodities, materials, and supplies in the
16 drought-stricken areas where there is an acute emergency
17 shortage of such items, the President is authorized to utilize
18 funds appropriated for the purposes of this Act to procure
19 in areas where they are readily available any of the com-
20 modities, materials, or supplies required for any agricultural
21 purpose by farmers and stockmen in drought disaster areas
22 designated pursuant to this Act; to subsidize the costs of trans-
23 porting such commodities, materials, and supplies to the
24 drought-stricken areas; and, to sell such commodities, ma-
25 terials, and supplies to farmers and stockmen in the drought-

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1 stricken areas at reasonable prices. Commodities, ma-
2 terials, and supplies as used in this section shall include but
3 shall not be limited to, seed, stock feed, urgently required
4 farm equipment, general farm supplies, and family subsistence
5 items.

6 SEC. 5. The authority conferred upon the President and
7 the Secretary of Agriculture by this Act shall be in addi-
8 tion to the authority conferred upon them by any other Act.

9 SEC. 6. Such sums as may be necessary to carry out the
10 purposes of this Act are hereby authorized to be appropriated.

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