



(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

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

To amend the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 to provide for continuous improvement of organic standards, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NEWHOUSE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 to provide for continuous improvement of organic standards, 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 “Continuous Improve-  
5 ment and Accountability in Organic Standards Act” or the  
6 “CIAO Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES.**

2 Section 2122(a) of the Organic Foods Production Act  
3 of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6521(a)) is amended to read as follows:

4 “(a) CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF ORGANIC  
5 STANDARDS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
7 after the date of enactment of the Continuous Im-  
8 provement and Accountability in Organic Standards  
9 Act, and not less frequently than once every 5 years  
10 thereafter, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal  
11 Register a request for information soliciting the  
12 public’s input with respect to which regulations im-  
13 plementing this title should be prioritized for revi-  
14 sion during the following five-year period.

15 “(2) IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDED  
16 CHANGES.—Based upon the information received  
17 pursuant to the request for information under para-  
18 graph (1), and in consultation with the National Or-  
19 ganic Standards Board, the Secretary shall, not  
20 later than 5 years after the date on which a request  
21 for information is published under paragraph (1)—

22 “(A) publish in the Federal Register a list  
23 of proposed changes to the regulations imple-  
24 menting this title that will be prioritized for re-  
25 vision;

1           “(B) obtain from the National Organic  
2           Standards Board recommendations for each of  
3           the proposed changes listed under subpara-  
4           graph (A), except for any such changes for  
5           which the National Organic Standards Board  
6           has previously provided recommendations that  
7           are sufficient (as determined by the Secretary)  
8           for implementation; and

9           “(C) after obtaining recommendations  
10          from the National Organic Standards Board,  
11          and after public notice and an opportunity for  
12          comment, revise such regulations accordingly.

13          “(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—When implementing  
14          paragraph (2), the Secretary and the National Or-  
15          ganic Standards Board shall each consider the best  
16          available information, including environmental and  
17          ecological data, consumer and market data, organic  
18          production and handling practices, organic research,  
19          and scientific data.

20          “(4) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
21          this subsection shall be construed as—

22                 “(A) altering the Secretary’s obligation to  
23                 consult with the National Organic Standards  
24                 Board pursuant to section 2104(c);

25                 “(B) affecting section 2118; or

1                   “(C) precluding from occurring on a more  
2                   frequent or urgent timeline any revisions to reg-  
3                   ulations implementing this title.”.