The Supporting Urban and Innovative Farming Act will build on the success of the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production and incorporate lessons learned about how to better serve these operations.

The Supporting Urban and Innovative Farming Act makes important reforms to improve both the content and delivery of technical assistance to these operations and enables cooperative agreements with community organizations. The bill will also increase access to grant funds among farmers and their networks and scale composting and food waste initiatives.

For the first time, USDA Service Centers are opening in urban areas across the country. This enables them to be near a growing number of urban and suburban farmers and better provide them with services.

The bill will ensure that these services are offered consistently across the country and provide:

- Conservation planning that considers stormwater runoff and other unique characteristics of urban environments.
- Technical assistance for navigating local zoning and accessing the suite of USDA services for the often smaller and unique structure of urban and suburban farms.

The bill also includes measures to improve access to funding offered through grants and cooperative agreements by:

- Expanding eligibility to agricultural cooperatives, agricultural business entities, and producer networks.
- Making sure that microgrants can be offered under grant activities to supplement effective education and training with small, but impactful, financial investments.
- Enabling communities to scale composting and food waste initiatives to develop food waste-to-energy projects.

Critically, the Supporting Urban and Innovative Farming Act will ensure urban growers get continued support and growth by providing mandatory funding at $25 million per year and increasing discretionary authorization from $25 million to $50 million.
• We believe good, healthy, nutrient-rich food is a right. Urban and suburban farmers provide fresh, healthful food to their communities, and the Supporting Urban and Innovative Farming Act will make sure they have the resources and guidance to be successful and increase food security.

• The Supporting Urban and Innovative Farming Act will direct cooperative agreements to areas with a high number of urban farms and facilitate relationships with socially disadvantaged populations and those with limited English proficiency.

• The bill will turn the climate problem of food waste into a climate solution by scaling waste-to-energy projects.

• The Supporting Urban and Innovative Farming Act will seed innovation and help communities identify the farms and food businesses best able to meet their food needs.

• The bill will make it easier for both urban and rural producers to access grant funding to promote innovation.

• Critically, this bill will allow for microgrants to be awarded to urban and innovative producers to foster food system health and entrepreneurship.