



## **Soil Conservation And Regeneration Education (Soil CARE) Act of 2026**

Training and education regarding healthy soil management have been critically under-resourced by the federal government for decades, leading to severely depleted topsoils across the nation that present an urgent risk to the future of American agriculture. In order to improve the nation's soil health and successfully implement conservation efforts, we must provide the necessary education and technical support. The Soil CARE Act invests in expanded technical assistance and provides U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) staff and personnel with the latest knowledge, tools, and innovations to help producers adopt conservation practices and build healthy soils nationwide.

### The Soil CARE Act would:

- Utilize cooperative agreements to develop and deliver curriculum, drawing on existing materials of organizations with biological soil health expertise (organic, agroecology, etc.) and experienced training producers.
- Develop a nationally-available online training curriculum based on the latest science and soil health practices. This curriculum would include information from Long-Term Agroecosystem Research sites and other relevant programs to be included in curriculum development.
- Encourage all relevant USDA NRCS staff and third-party technical service providers (TSPs) to complete the online training. Relevant staff include field agents and those involved in conservation planning activities and technical assistance provision.
- Hold regular soil health workshops/in-person training sessions, with full regional coverage. Participation is encouraged but not mandatory for relevant NRCS staff and TSPs.
- Dedicate resources to providing required continuing education for all NRCS and TSPs.
- Require NRCS to use the training curriculum to develop soil health education materials for producers accessing NRCS programs relating to soil health.

The *Soil CARE Act* is endorsed by Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network (OrCAN), Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD), Bob's Red Mill, Earthjustice Action, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Green America / Soil & Climate Alliance, American Sustainable Business Network, United We Eat, Climate Reality Project Regenerative Agriculture Coalition, US Composting Council, Compost Manufacturing Alliance, InCommon Group, Green Mountain Technologies, Inc., New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group, CA Association of Compost Producers, Terra Regenerative Capital, World Centric, Eco-Cycle, and Naturepedic Organic Mattresses