



## **Joint Chiefs Reauthorization Act of 2025**

Senator Bennet and Senator Hoeven

July 2025

In 2014, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) launched the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership Initiative (Joint Chiefs) to support forest and grassland restoration projects across public and private land. Over the last eleven years, the initiative has invested \$423 million in 134 projects in 42 states, Guam, and Puerto Rico to help reduce wildfire threats to communities, protect water quality and supply, and improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species

Specifically, the bill will:

- Reauthorize the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership between the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to improve the health and resilience of forest landscapes and grasslands across federal and non-federal land;
- Support voluntary activities and projects across public and private land that reduce wildfire risk, protect water supplies, recover from wildfires, enhance soil and water resources, or improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species;
- Prioritize projects that reduce wildfire risk in municipal watersheds or the wildland-urban interface, are developed through a collaborative process, or increase forest business and workforce opportunities;
- Require the USDA to perform outreach, provide public notice, and make information on the program available to landowners, tribes, states, and local governments;
- Improve accountability by requiring a review of program delivery, data, and outcomes, and establishing annual reporting requirements to Congress; and
- Authorize \$90 million annually for the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership, to be split between the USFS (at least 40%) and the NRCS (at least 40%). The remaining funds may also be used for technical assistance, project development, or local capacity.