

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4157

To protect the information of livestock producers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2014

Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. MCINTYRE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To protect the information of livestock producers, 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 “Farmer Identity Pro-
5 tection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) United States livestock producers supply a
2 vital link in the food supply of the United States,
3 which is listed as a critical infrastructure by the
4 Secretary of Homeland Security;

5 (2) domestic terrorist attacks have occurred at
6 livestock operations across the United States, endan-
7 gering the lives and property of people of the United
8 States;

9 (3) livestock operations in the United States are
10 largely family owned and operated with most fami-
11 lies living at the same location as the livestock oper-
12 ation;

13 (4) State governments and agencies are the pri-
14 mary authority in almost all States for the protec-
15 tion of water quality under the Federal Water Pollu-
16 tion Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.);

17 (5) State agencies maintain records on livestock
18 operations and have the authority to address water
19 quality issues where needed; and

20 (6) there is no discernible environmental or sci-
21 entifically research-related need to create a database
22 or other system of records of livestock operations in
23 the United States by the Administrator.

24 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

25 In this Act:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
3 mental Protection Agency.

4 (2) AGENCY.—The term “Agency” means the
5 Environmental Protection Agency.

6 (3) LIVESTOCK OPERATION.—The term “live-
7 stock operation” includes any operation involved in
8 the raising or finishing of livestock and poultry.

9 **SEC. 4. PROCUREMENT AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMA-**
10 **TION.**

11 (a) PROHIBITION.—Except as provided in subsection
12 (b), the Administrator, any officer or employee of the
13 Agency, or any contractor or cooperator of the Agency,
14 shall not disclose the information of any owner, operator,
15 or employee of a livestock operation provided to the Agen-
16 cy by a livestock producer or a State agency in accordance
17 with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
18 1251 et seq.) or any other law, including—

19 (1) names;

20 (2) telephone numbers;

21 (3) email addresses;

22 (4) physical addresses;

23 (5) Global Positioning System coordinates; or

1 (6) other identifying information regarding the
2 location of the owner, operator, livestock, or em-
3 ployee.

4 (b) EFFECT.—Nothing in this Act affects—

5 (1) the disclosure of information described in
6 subsection (a) if—

7 (A) the information has been transformed
8 into a statistical or aggregate form at the coun-
9 ty level or higher without any information that
10 identifies the agricultural operation or agricul-
11 tural producer; or

12 (B) the livestock producer consents to the
13 disclosure;

14 (2) the authority of any State agency to collect
15 information on livestock operations;

16 (3) the authority of the Agency to disclose the
17 information on livestock operations to State or other
18 Federal governmental agencies; or

19 (4) the authority of the Agency to maintain the
20 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
21 permit program’s public notice and comment proc-
22 ess.

23 (c) CONDITION OF PERMIT OR OTHER PROGRAMS.—

24 The approval of any permit, practice, or program adminis-
25 tered by the Administrator shall not be conditioned on the

1 consent of the livestock producer under subsection
2 (b)(1)(B).

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