

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2733

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to
rename the Department of Agriculture.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 24, 2018

Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. Kaine) in-
troduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Com-
mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization
Act of 1994 to rename the Department of Agriculture.

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 “Department of Agri-
5 culture and Rural Development Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Department of Agriculture is the pri-
9 mary Federal agency dedicated to improving the

1 economy and quality of life in rural areas of the
2 United States;

3 (2) the Department of Agriculture provides sig-
4 nificant financial resources and technical assistance
5 to rural communities, including loans, loan guaran-
6 tees, and grants to help support economic develop-
7 ment in rural areas of the United States;

8 (3) the United States has a substantial interest
9 in ensuring that the nearly 45,000,000 individuals in
10 the United States living in rural communities have
11 access to critical infrastructure, broadband, tele-
12 communications connectivity, capital, health care,
13 and other essential resources; and

14 (4) renaming the Department of Agriculture
15 the “Department of Agriculture and Rural Develop-
16 ment” would—

17 (A) further establish the importance of
18 rural development to the mission of the Depart-
19 ment; and

20 (B) raise awareness in rural areas of the
21 United States of the essential role the Depart-
22 ment has in supporting rural communities
23 throughout the United States.

1 **SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DE-**
2 **VELOPMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of the Department of
4 Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6901
5 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 221. RENAMING AS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**
7 **AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

9 “(1) DEPARTMENT.—The Department of Agri-
10 culture shall be known and designated as the ‘De-
11 partment of Agriculture and Rural Development’.

12 “(2) SECRETARY.—The Secretary of Agri-
13 culture shall be known and designated as the ‘Sec-
14 retary of Agriculture and Rural Development’.

15 “(b) REFERENCES.—Except as provided in sub-
16 section (c), any reference to the Department of Agri-
17 culture or the Secretary of Agriculture in any law, regula-
18 tion, map, document, record, or other paper of the United
19 States shall be deemed to be a reference to the Depart-
20 ment of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Sec-
21 retary of Agriculture and Rural Development, respectively.

22 “(c) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—The renaming
23 of the Department of Agriculture and the Secretary of Ag-
24 riculture under this section shall not apply to any acro-
25 nyms used before the date of enactment of this section
26 by the Secretary for the purposes of labeling.”.

1 (b) AUTHORITY.—Section 296(b) of the Department
2 of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C.
3 7014(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(9) The authority of the Secretary to carry out
5 section 221.”.

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