

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1637

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to reaffirm the authority of the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23 (legislative day, MAY 22), 2019

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BROWN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to reaffirm the authority of the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics, 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 “Agriculture Research  
5 Integrity Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. REAFFIRMING THE AUTHORITY OF THE UNDER**  
2 **SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR RE-**  
3 **SEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS.**

4 Subtitle F of the Department of Agriculture Reorga-  
5 nization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6971) is amended by add-  
6 ing at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 252. REAFFIRMING THE AUTHORITY OF THE UNDER**  
8 **SECRETARY.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the authority  
10 specified in Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1953 (67  
11 Stat. 633; 5 U.S.C. App.; 7 U.S.C. 2201 note) or any  
12 other provision of Federal law relating to the authority  
13 of the Secretary, including section 296—

14 “(1) the Agricultural Research Service, the  
15 Economic Research Service, the National Agricul-  
16 tural Statistics Service, and the National Institute of  
17 Food and Agriculture (and any successor agency to  
18 any of those agencies) shall be within the research,  
19 education, and economics mission area of the De-  
20 partment;

21 “(2) the authority to administer each of those  
22 agencies is vested in the Under Secretary for Re-  
23 search, Education, and Economics; and

24 “(3) the authority to administer those agencies  
25 may not be vested in the head of another agency  
26 within the Department.

1       “(b) LOCATION OF AGENCIES.—The Secretary shall  
2 locate the headquarters of the Economic Research Service  
3 and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and  
4 the majority of the staff of each of those agencies, within  
5 the National Capital Region to ensure maximum coordina-  
6 tion and interaction—

7               “(1) between those agencies;

8               “(2) between each of those agencies and the  
9 agencies delivering the food and agricultural pro-  
10 grams and services of the Department; and

11               “(3) between each of those agencies and other  
12 Federal science agencies (including science agencies  
13 of the Department).”.

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