

The bill (S. 2107) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2107

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protecting America’s Food and Agriculture Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDING.

Congress finds that—

(1) it is in the national security interest of the United States to ensure that the Nation’s food supply is sufficiently protected; and

(2) a vital part of such protection is the availability of adequate resources at the border to conduct inspections of incoming food and agricultural goods.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives.

(2) **CBP.**—The term “CBP” means U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION PERSONNEL.

(a) **CBP AGRICULTURE SPECIALISTS.**—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may hire, train, and assign 240 new CBP Agriculture Specialists above the current attrition level during every fiscal year until the total number of CBP Agriculture Specialists equals and sustains the requirements identified each year in the Agriculture Resource Allocation Model.

(b) **MISSION AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may hire, train, and assign support staff to support CBP Agriculture Specialists.

(2) **CBP AGRICULTURE TECHNICIANS.**—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may hire, train, and assign 200 new CBP Agriculture Technicians during each fiscal year until the total number of CBP Agriculture Technicians equals and sustains the requirements identified each year in the Mission and Operational Support Resource Allocation Model.

(c) **CBP AGRICULTURE CANINE TEAMS.**—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may hire, train, and assign 20 new CBP agriculture canine teams during each of the first 3 fiscal years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) **TRAFFIC FORECASTS.**—In calculating the number of CBP Agriculture Specialists needed at each port of entry through the Agriculture Resource Allocation Model, the Office of Field Operations shall—

(1) rely on data collected regarding the inspections and other activities conducted at each such port of entry; and

(2) consider volume from seasonal surges, other projected changes in commercial and passenger volumes, the most current commercial forecasts, and other relevant information.

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

(1) **CBP AGRICULTURE SPECIALISTS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (a)—

(A) \$29,900,000 for fiscal year 2020;

(B) \$36,100,000 for fiscal year 2021; and

(C) \$40,500,000 for fiscal year 2022.

(2) **CBP AGRICULTURE TECHNICIANS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (b)—

(A) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2020;

(B) \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2021; and

(C) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2022.

(3) **CBP AGRICULTURE CANINE TEAMS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (c)—

(A) \$3,500,000 for fiscal year 2020;

(B) \$7,400,000 for fiscal year 2021; and

(C) \$12,200,000 for fiscal year 2022.

(4) **TRAINING.**—There is authorized to be appropriated for training costs associated with the new CBP personnel and canine teams hired pursuant to subsections (a), (b), and (c) \$6,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022.

SEC. 5. GAO STUDY, BRIEFING, AND REPORT.

(a) **STUDY.**—The Comptroller General of the United States, after consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, shall conduct a review of the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Agriculture, and other Federal agencies to address risks to the agricultural supply that analyzes—

(1) interagency coordination and the distribution of responsibilities among Federal agencies with respect to the inspection of agricultural commodities entering the United States;

(2) the effectiveness of such inspection responsibilities among Federal agencies; and

(3) the training provided to, and working conditions of, CBP Agriculture Specialists.

(b) **BRIEFING.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall brief the appropriate congressional committees regarding the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the briefing required under subsection (b), the Comptroller General shall complete the study required under subsection (a) and make the results of the study available to the public.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 362 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 362) designating the week beginning on October 13, 2019, as “National Wildlife Refuge Week”.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 362) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to. (The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 379, S. Res. 380, S. Res. 381, S. Res. 382, S. Res. 383, and S. Res. 384.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. I know of no further debate on the resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the resolutions en bloc.

The resolutions (S. Res. 379, S. Res. 380, S. Res. 381, S. Res. 382, S. Res. 383, and S. Res. 384) were agreed to en bloc.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. I ask unanimous consent that the preambles be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preambles were agreed to en bloc.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, October 28; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 3055 under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:01 p.m., adjourned until Monday, October 28, 2019, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate October 24, 2019:

THE JUDICIARY

JUSTIN REED WALKER, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY.