

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7675

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish an Agricultural and Food System Supply Chain Resilience and Crisis Response Task Force, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2022

Ms. CRAIG (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. HINSON, Mrs. AXNE, and Mr. FEENSTRA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish an Agricultural and Food System Supply Chain Resilience and Crisis Response Task Force, 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. AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SYSTEM SUPPLY**
4 **CHAIN RESILIENCE AND CRISIS RESPONSE**
5 **TASK FORCE.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title II of the De-
7 partment of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7

1 U.S.C. 6931 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
2 the following:

3 **“SEC. 229. AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SYSTEM SUPPLY**
4 **CHAIN RESILIENCE AND CRISIS RESPONSE**
5 **TASK FORCE.**

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after
7 the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary
8 shall establish in the Department an Agricultural and
9 Food System Supply Chain Resilience and Crisis Response
10 Task Force (in this section referred to as the ‘Task
11 Force’).

12 “(b) MISSION.—The mission of the Task Force shall
13 be the following:

14 “(1) Help to promote the leadership of the
15 United States with respect to the stability of the ag-
16 riculture and food system supply chain.

17 “(2) Encourage a Government-wide approach
18 through partnerships and collaboration with the pri-
19 vate sector, labor organizations, the governments of
20 countries that are allies or key international part-
21 ners of the United States, States or political subdivi-
22 sions thereof, and Tribal governments in order to—

23 “(A) promote the resilience of the agri-
24 culture and food system supply chain; and

1 “(B) identify, prepare for, and respond to
2 shocks to the agricultural and food system sup-
3 ply chain.

4 “(3) Monitor the resilience, diversity, security,
5 and strength of the agricultural and food system
6 supply chain.

7 “(4) Support the availability of agricultural and
8 food system supply chain goods for domestic manu-
9 facturers, domestic producers, and domestic enter-
10 prises in the United States and in countries that are
11 allies or key international partners.

12 “(5) Assist the Federal Government in pre-
13 paring for and responding to shocks to the agricul-
14 tural and food system supply chain.

15 “(6) Support the creation of jobs with competi-
16 tive wages in the United States agricultural and
17 food system sector.

18 “(7) Coordinate executive branch actions nec-
19 essary to carry out the functions described in para-
20 graphs (1) through (6).

21 “(c) SPECIAL ADVISOR ON SUPPLY CHAIN RESIL-
22 IANCE AND CRISIS RESPONSE.—The head of the Task
23 Force shall be the Special Advisor on Supply Chain Resil-
24 ience and Crisis Response (in this section, referred to as

1 the ‘Special Advisor’) who shall be appointed by the Sec-
2 retary.

3 “(d) AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEM SUPPLY
4 CHAIN EVALUATION AND REPORT.—

5 “(1) EVALUATION.—The Special Advisor, in
6 consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and
7 the Secretary of Transportation, shall conduct an
8 evaluation of the stability and reliability of the agri-
9 culture and food system supply chain. The evalua-
10 tion shall focus on the items listed in subsection (b).

11 “(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
12 270 days after the date of the enactment of this sec-
13 tion, the Special Advisor shall submit to the Com-
14 mittee on Agriculture, the Committee on Energy and
15 Commerce, and the Committee on Transportation
16 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
17 and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and
18 Forestry and the Committee on Commerce, Science,
19 and Transportation of the Senate a report on the
20 evaluation conducted under subsection (a) that in-
21 cludes the following:

22 “(A) An evaluation of—

23 “(i) the strengths of the agriculture
24 and food system supply chain;

1 “(ii) the weaknesses of the agriculture
2 and food system supply chain;

3 “(iii) current and potential future
4 critical bottlenecks in the agriculture and
5 food system supply chain, including trans-
6 portation bottlenecks in the distribution of
7 agricultural inputs, processed and unproc-
8 essed food and food input products, and
9 consumer-ready food products;

10 “(iv) workforce challenges and oppor-
11 tunities in the agriculture and food system
12 supply chain; and

13 “(v) the overall stability and reliability
14 of the agriculture and food system supply
15 chain.

16 “(B) An evaluation of Federal, State, and
17 local laws and regulations that—

18 “(i) increase the stability and reli-
19 ability of the agriculture and food system
20 supply chain; or

21 “(ii) decrease or otherwise negatively
22 impact the stability and reliability of the
23 agriculture and food system supply chain.

24 “(C) Specific recommendations to improve
25 the security, safety, and resilience of the agri-

1 culture and food system supply chain, including
2 recommendations that address challenges iden-
3 tified under paragraph (1) and that also ad-
4 dress—

5 “(i) long-term strategies;

6 “(ii) industry best practices;

7 “(iii) risk-mitigation actions to pre-
8 vent future bottlenecks and vulnerabilities
9 at all levels of the agriculture and food sys-
10 tem supply chain; and

11 “(iv) legislative and regulatory actions
12 that would positively impact the security
13 and resilience of the agriculture and food
14 system supply chain.”.

15 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 296(b) of the
16 Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7
17 U.S.C. 7014(b)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(11) The authority of the Secretary to estab-
20 lish in the Department the Agricultural and Food
21 System Supply Chain Resilience and Crisis Response
22 Task Force in accordance with section 229.”.

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