

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1625

To establish the Office of Intelligence in the Department of Agriculture,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2021

Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. TURNER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. STEWART, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BACON, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. JACOBS of New York, and Mr. BALDERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, 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 establish the Office of Intelligence in the Department
of Agriculture, 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 “Agricultural Intel-
5 ligence Measures Act” or the “AIM Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE IN**
2 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of the Depart-
5 ment of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7
6 U.S.C. 6912 et seq.) is amended by adding at the
7 end the following:

8 **“SEC. 224B. OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE.**

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
10 Department an Office of Intelligence. The Office shall be
11 under the National Intelligence Program.

12 “(b) DIRECTOR.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be headed
14 by the Director of the Office of Intelligence, who
15 shall be an employee in the Senior Executive Service
16 and who shall be appointed by the Secretary. The
17 Director shall report directly to the Secretary.

18 “(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Secretary shall se-
19 lect an individual to serve as the Director from
20 among individuals who have significant experience
21 serving in the intelligence community.

22 “(3) STAFF.—The Director may appoint and
23 fix the compensation of such staff as the Director
24 considers appropriate, except that the Director may
25 not appoint more than 5 full-time equivalent posi-
26 tions at an annual rate of pay equal to or greater

1 than the maximum rate of basic pay for GS-15 of
2 the General Schedule.

3 “(4) DETAIL OF PERSONNEL OF INTELLIGENCE
4 COMMUNITY.—Upon the request of the Director, the
5 head of an element of the intelligence community
6 may detail any of the personnel of such element to
7 assist the Office in carrying out its duties. Any per-
8 sonnel detailed to assist the Office shall not be taken
9 into account in determining the number of full-time
10 equivalent positions of the Office under paragraph
11 (3).

12 “(c) DUTIES.—The Office shall carry out the fol-
13 lowing duties:

14 “(1) The Office shall be responsible for
15 leveraging the capabilities of the intelligence commu-
16 nity and National Laboratories intelligence-related
17 research, to ensure that the Secretary is fully in-
18 formed of threats by foreign actors to United States
19 agriculture.

20 “(2) The Office shall focus on understanding
21 foreign efforts to—

22 “(A) steal United States agriculture knowl-
23 edge and technology; and

24 “(B) develop or implement biological war-
25 fare attacks, cyber or clandestine operations, or

1 other means of sabotaging and disrupting
2 United States agriculture.

3 “(3) The Office shall prepare, conduct, and fa-
4 cilitate intelligence briefings for the Secretary and
5 appropriate officials of the Department.

6 “(4) The Office shall operate as the liaison be-
7 tween the Secretary and the intelligence community,
8 with the authority to request intelligence collection
9 and analysis on matters related to United States ag-
10 riculture.

11 “(5) The Office shall collaborate with the intel-
12 ligence community to downgrade intelligence assess-
13 ments for broader dissemination within the Depart-
14 ment.

15 “(6) The Office shall facilitate sharing informa-
16 tion on foreign activities related to agriculture, as
17 acquired by the Department with the intelligence
18 community.

19 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
20 is authorized to be appropriated for the Office \$970,000
21 for fiscal year 2021.

22 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following
23 definitions apply:

1 “(1) The term ‘Director’ means the Director of
2 the Office of Intelligence appointed under subsection
3 (b).

4 “(2) The terms ‘intelligence community’ and
5 ‘National Intelligence Program’ have the meaning
6 given such terms in section 3 of the National Secu-
7 rity Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

8 “(3) The term ‘Office’ means the Office of In-
9 telligence of the Department established under sub-
10 section (a).”.

11 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

12 (A) Subtitle A of the Department of Agri-
13 culture Reorganization Act of 1994 is amended
14 by redesignating section 225 (7 U.S.C. 6925)
15 as section 224A.

16 (B) Section 296(b) of the Department of
17 Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7
18 U.S.C. 7014(b)) is amended by adding at the
19 end the following:

20 “(11) The authority of the Secretary to carry
21 out section 224B.”.

22 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO EX-
23 ISTING FUNCTIONS AND AUTHORITIES.—

24 (1) EXISTING FUNCTIONS OF OFFICE OF HOME-
25 LAND SECURITY OF DEPARTMENT RELATING TO IN-

1 TELLIGENCE ON THREATS TO FOOD AND AGRI-
2 CULTURE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 221(d) of such
4 Act (7 U.S.C. 6922(d)) is amended—

5 (i) by striking paragraphs (4) and (5);

6 and

7 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (6)
8 through (8) as paragraphs (4) through (6),
9 respectively.

10 (B) TRANSFER OF RELATED PERSONNEL
11 AND ASSETS OF OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECU-
12 RITY.—The functions which the Office of
13 Homeland Security of the Department of Agri-
14 culture exercised under paragraphs (4) and (5)
15 of section 221(d) of the Department of Agri-
16 culture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C.
17 6922(d)) before the effective date of this para-
18 graph, together with the funds, assets, and
19 other resources used by the Director of the Of-
20 fice of Homeland Security of the Department of
21 Agriculture to carry out such functions before
22 the effective date of this paragraph, are trans-
23 ferred to the Director of the Office of Intel-
24 ligence of the Department of Agriculture.

1 (2) CARRYING OUT INTERAGENCY EXCHANGE
2 PROGRAM FOR DEFENSE OF FOOD AND AGRI-
3 CULTURE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR.—
4 Section 221(e) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 6922(e)) is
5 amended by adding at the end the following new
6 paragraph:

7 “(3) AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF
8 INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE.—The
9 Secretary shall carry out this subsection acting
10 through the Director of the Office of Intelligence of
11 the Department.”.

12 (3) COORDINATING WITH INTELLIGENCE COM-
13 MUNITY ON POTENTIAL THREATS TO AGRI-
14 CULTURE.—Section 335(a)(3) of the Public Health
15 Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Re-
16 sponse Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3354(a)(3)) is amend-
17 ed by striking “strengthen coordination” and insert-
18 ing “acting through the Director of the Office of In-
19 telligence in the Department of Agriculture,
20 strengthen coordination”.

21 (4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection and the
22 amendments made by this subsection shall take ef-
23 fect upon the appointment of the Director of the Of-
24 fice of Intelligence in the Department of Agriculture
25 under section 224B(b) of the Department of Agri-

- 1 culture Reorganization Act of 1994 (as added by
- 2 subsection (a)(1)).

