

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8238

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Mr. CRAWFORD 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

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

6 **“SEC. 225A. OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE.**

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

10 “(b) DIRECTOR.—

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

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

20 “(3) STAFF.—The Director may appoint and  
21 fix the compensation of such staff as the Director  
22 considers appropriate, except that the Director may  
23 not appoint more than 5 full-time equivalent posi-  
24 tions at an annual rate of pay equal to or greater  
25 than the maximum rate of basic pay for GS–15 of  
26 the General Schedule.

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

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

12                 “(1) The Office shall be responsible for leverag-  
13                 ing the capabilities of the intelligence community  
14                 and National Laboratories intelligence-related re-  
15                 search, to ensure that the Secretary is fully informed  
16                 of threats by foreign actors to United States agri-  
17                 culture.

18                 “(2) The Office shall focus on understanding  
19                 foreign efforts to—

20                         “(A) steal United States agriculture knowl-  
21                         edge and technology; and

22                         “(B) develop or implement biological war-  
23                         fare attacks, cyber or clandestine operations, or  
24                         other means of sabotaging and disrupting  
25                         United States agriculture.

1           “(3) The Office shall conduct or facilitate intel-  
2           ligence briefings for the Secretary and appropriate  
3           officials of the Department of Agriculture.

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

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

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

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

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

22                 “(1) The term ‘Director’ means the Director of  
23                 the Office of Intelligence appointed under subsection  
24                 (b).

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

5           “(3) The term ‘Office’ means the Office of Intelligence  
6           of the Department of Agriculture established under subsection (a).”.

8           (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO EX-  
9           ISTING FUNCTIONS AND AUTHORITIES.—

10           (1) EXISTING FUNCTIONS OF OFFICE OF HOME-  
11           LAND SECURITY OF DEPARTMENT RELATING TO IN-  
12           TELLIGENCE ON THREATS TO FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
13           CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR.—

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

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

17                   and

18                   (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (6)  
19                   through (8) as paragraphs (4) through (6).

20           (B) TRANSFER OF RELATED PERSONNEL  
21           AND ASSETS OF OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—The functions which the Office of  
22           Homeland Security of the Department of Agriculture exercised under paragraphs (4) and (5)  
23           of section 221(d) of the Department of Agri-  
24           culture exercised under paragraphs (4) and (5)  
25           of section 221(d) of the Department of Agri-

1 culture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C.  
2 6922(d)) before the effective date of this para-  
3 graph, together with the funds, assets, and  
4 other resources used by the Director of the Of-  
5 fice of Homeland Security of the Department to  
6 carry out such functions before the effective  
7 date of this paragraph, are transferred to the  
8 Director of the Office of Intelligence of the De-  
9 partment.

10 (2) CARRYING OUT INTERAGENCY EXCHANGE  
11 PROGRAM FOR DEFENSE OF FOOD AND AGRI-  
12 CULTURE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR.—  
13 Section 221(e) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 6922(e)) is  
14 amended by adding at the end the following new  
15 paragraph:

16 “(3) AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF  
17 INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE.—The  
18 Secretary shall carry out this subsection acting  
19 through the Director of the Office of Intelligence of  
20 the Department.”.

21 (3) COORDINATING WITH INTELLIGENCE COM-  
22 MUNITY ON POTENTIAL THREATS TO AGRI-  
23 CULTURE.—Section 335(a)(3) of the Public Health  
24 Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Re-  
25 sponse Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3354(a)(3)) is amend-

1 ed by striking “strengthen coordination” and insert-  
2 ing “acting through the Director of the Office of In-  
3 telligence in the Department of Agriculture,  
4 strengthen coordination”.

5 (4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection and the  
6 amendments made by this subsection shall take ef-  
7 fect upon the appointment of the Director of the Of-  
8 fice of Intelligence in the Department of Agriculture  
9 under section 225A(b) of the Department of Agri-  
10 culture Reorganization Act of 1994 (as added by  
11 subsection (a)).

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