

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5277

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to publish, on an annual basis, an assessment of United States dependency on critical agricultural products or inputs from the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

Mr. RICKETTS (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. SCHMITT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to publish, on an annual basis, an assessment of United States dependency on critical agricultural products or inputs from the People’s Republic of China, 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 “Securing American Ag-
5 riculture Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CRITICAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS OR INPUTS**
2 **STUDY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—On an annual basis, the Secretary
4 of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Sec-
5 retary”) shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture,
6 Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee
7 on Agriculture of the House of Representatives an assess-
8 ment of the dependency of the United States on critical
9 agricultural products or inputs that could be exploited in
10 the event the People’s Republic of China weaponizes any
11 such dependency.

12 (b) CONTENTS.—Each report under subsection (a)
13 shall—

14 (1) address, with respect to the critical inputs
15 described in subsection (c)—

16 (A) the current domestic production capac-
17 ity of each such critical input; and

18 (B) the current and potential bottlenecks
19 in the supply chain for each such critical input
20 that could be exploited by the People’s Republic
21 of China; and

22 (2) contain the recommendations of the Sec-
23 retary, in consultation with the United States Trade
24 Representative, the Secretary of Commerce, and the
25 Commissioner of Food and Drugs, to reduce the de-
26 pendency of the United States on the People’s Re-

1 public of China to supply critical agricultural prod-
2 ucts or inputs, including recommendations—

3 (A) to mitigate potential threats posed by
4 the People’s Republic of China to the supply
5 chains of each critical input described in sub-
6 section (c); and

7 (B) for legislative and regulatory actions to
8 reduce barriers to onshore or nearshore produc-
9 tion of each such critical input.

10 (c) CRITICAL INPUTS.—The critical inputs referred
11 to in subsection (b) include all farm management, agro-
12 nomic, and field-applied production inputs, including each
13 of the following:

14 (1) Agricultural equipment, machinery, and
15 technology.

16 (2) Fuel.

17 (3) Fertilizers.

18 (4) Feed, including its components, such as vi-
19 tamins, amino acids, and minerals.

20 (5) Veterinary drugs and vaccines.

21 (6) Crop protection chemicals.

22 (7) Seed.

23 (8) Any other critical agricultural inputs, as de-
24 termined by the Secretary.

1 (d) COLLECTION, DISTRIBUTION, AND PROTECTION
2 OF INFORMATION.—

3 (1) VOLUNTARY BASIS.—In conducting an as-
4 sessment under subsection (a), the Secretary shall
5 not require any private entity to provide information
6 to the Secretary.

7 (2) AGGREGATE DATA.—In the case of informa-
8 tion provided to the Secretary to conduct an assess-
9 ment under subsection (a), the Secretary, any other
10 officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture
11 or agency thereof, or any other person shall not—

12 (A) use that information for a purpose
13 other than the development or reporting of ag-
14 gregate data in a manner such that the identity
15 of the person that supplied the information is
16 not—

17 (i) discernible; or

18 (ii) material to the intended uses of
19 the information; or

20 (B) disclose that information to the public,
21 unless the information has been transformed
22 into a statistical or aggregate form that does
23 not allow the identification of the person that
24 supplied particular information.

1 (3) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The Secretary shall
2 ensure that the assessments under subsection (a) do
3 not include any information that is a trade secret or
4 confidential information subject to—

5 (A) section 552(b)(4) of title 5, United
6 States Code; or

7 (B) section 1905 of title 18, United States
8 Code.

9 (4) IMMUNITY FROM DISCLOSURE.—Informa-
10 tion provided to the Secretary as part of an assess-
11 ment conducted under subsection (a) shall not be
12 used by the Secretary for any purpose other than to
13 carry out that subsection.

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