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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program under which the Secretary awards grants for purposes of providing training and any related assistance to dairy producers and dairy workers on implementation of risk mitigation strategies related to biosecurity threats, to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 with respect to emergency assistance for certain losses due to highly pathogenic avian influenza, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. SLOTKIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program under which the Secretary awards grants for purposes of providing training and any related assistance to dairy producers and dairy workers on implementation of risk mitigation strategies related to biosecurity threats, to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 with respect to emergency assistance for certain losses due to highly pathogenic avian influenza, 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 “Avian Influenza Re-
5 search and Response Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONTINUING ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE, FOOD**
7 **SECURITY, AND STEWARDSHIP RESEARCH,**
8 **EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION PROGRAMS.**

9 Section 1433 of the National Agricultural Research,
10 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
11 3195) is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
13 section (d);

14 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(c) DAIRY BIOSECURITY EDUCATION AND TRAIN-
17 ING PROGRAM.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
19 lish a program under which the Secretary will award
20 grants to eligible entities to enable such entities to
21 provide training and any related assistance to dairy
22 producers and dairy workers on implementation of
23 risk mitigation strategies related to biosecurity
24 threats, including strategies such as—

25 “(A) equipment cleaning;

1 “(B) interstate and intrastate movement of
2 animals; and

3 “(C) other risk mitigation measures relat-
4 ing to biosecurity threats.

5 “(2) TRAINING LANGUAGES.—The Secretary
6 shall ensure that any training or materials provided
7 by an eligible entity using funds received through a
8 grant made under paragraph (1) are provided in
9 English, Spanish, and other languages, as deter-
10 mined necessary by the Secretary.

11 “(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity eligible to
12 receive a grant under this subsection is any of the
13 following:

14 “(A) A State cooperative extension service.

15 “(B) A Federal, State, local, or Tribal
16 agency.

17 “(C) A nonprofit, community-based organi-
18 zation or non-governmental organization.

19 “(D) An organization that—

20 “(i) represents owners and operators
21 of farms, small food processors, or small
22 fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers;
23 and

1 “(ii) has a commitment to public
2 health and expertise in administering pro-
3 grams that contribute to food safety.

4 “(E) A farmer-owned cooperative.

5 “(F) An institution of higher education (as
6 defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Edu-
7 cation Act of 1964 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) or a
8 foundation maintained by an institution of
9 higher education.

10 “(G) A dairy product and business innova-
11 tion initiative, as described in section 12513 of
12 the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7
13 U.S.C. 1632d).

14 “(H) A collaboration of 2 of more eligible
15 entities described in subparagraphs (A) through
16 (D).

17 “(I) Such other appropriate entity, as de-
18 termined by the Secretary

19 “(4) MULTISTATE PROJECTS.—A grant under
20 this subsection may be made to an eligible entity (or
21 collaboration of 2 or more such entities) proposing
22 to use funds received through the grant for projects
23 involving more than 1 State.

24 “(5) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In making
25 grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall, to

1 the maximum extent practicable, ensure geographic
2 diversity.

3 “(6) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
4 may use funds made available to carry out this sub-
5 section to provide technical assistance to grant re-
6 cipients to further the purposes of this subsection.

7 “(7) BEST PRACTICES.—Based on evaluations
8 of, and responses arising from, training and other
9 assistance provided pursuant to this subsection, the
10 Secretary may issue a set of recommended best
11 practices and models to be used by dairy producers
12 for training programs relating to mitigation of risks
13 from biosecurity threats.”; and

14 (3) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by para-
15 graph (1))—

16 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking
17 “\$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014
18 through 2023” and inserting “\$50,000,000 for
19 each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”;

20 (B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as
21 follows:

22 “(2) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds
23 made available under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year,
24 the Secretary shall reserve not less than—

1 “(A) \$5,000,000 to carry out the capacity
2 and infrastructure program under subsection
3 (a); and

4 “(B) \$5,000,000 to carry out the program
5 under subsection (c).”; and

6 (C) in paragraph (3)—

7 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking
8 “85” and inserting “70”; and

9 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(C) 15 percent of such amounts shall be
12 used to carry out the program under subsection
13 (c).”.

14 **SEC. 3. APPROPRIATIONS FOR RESEARCH ON NATIONAL**
15 **OR REGIONAL PROBLEMS.**

16 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section
17 1434(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension,
18 and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3196(a)) is
19 amended—

20 (1) by striking “or national or regional” and in-
21 serting “emerging animal health or disease pro-
22 grams, and national or regional”; and

23 (2) by striking “, but not to exceed” and all
24 that follows through “subsequent fiscal year”.

1 (b) DURATION OF GRANTS.—Section 1434(b) of the
2 National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
3 Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3196(b)) is amended by
4 striking “Federal agencies, private organizations or cor-
5 porations, and individuals” and inserting “Federal or
6 State agencies, Tribal agencies, private organizations or
7 corporations, and nonprofit, community-based organiza-
8 tions or non-governmental organizations”.

9 (c) PRIORITY LISTS.—Section 1434(c) of the Na-
10 tional Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
11 Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3196(c)) is amended—

12 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

13 (A) by striking “Such lists” and all that
14 follows through “of priorities.”; and

15 (B) by striking “and the Advisory Board”;

16 (2) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the
17 end;

18 (3) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at
19 the end and inserting “; and”; and

20 (4) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(6) whether new approaches for vaccine devel-
22 opment may help to reduce negative impacts to ani-
23 mal and human health”.

24 (d) ASSIGNMENT OF PRIORITIES.—Section 1434(d)
25 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and

1 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3196(d)) is amend-
2 ed by striking the first sentence.

3 (e) MULTIYEAR GRANTS.—Section 1434(e) of the
4 National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
5 Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3196(e)) is amended by
6 striking “In the case of” and inserting “A grant under
7 this section shall have a term that is not more than 3
8 years. In the case of”.

9 **SEC. 4. HIGHLIGHTING HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLU-**
10 **ENZA AS ZONOTIC DISEASE FOR PURPOSES**
11 **OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION AND**
12 **ANIMAL PRODUCTS PRIORITY AREA UNDER**
13 **AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIA-**
14 **TIVE.**

15 Subsection (b)(2)(B)(ix)(II) of the Competitive, Spe-
16 cial, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C.
17 3157(b)(2)(B)(ix)(II)) is amended by inserting “, highly
18 pathogenic avian influenza,” after “brucellosis”.

19 **SEC. 5. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN LOSSES**
20 **DUE TO HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLU-**
21 **ENZA.**

22 Section 1501(d)(1) of the Agricultural Act of 2014
23 (7 U.S.C. 9081(d)(1)) is amended—

24 (1) by inserting “(including dairy cattle)” after
25 “producers of livestock”; and

- 1 (2) by inserting “and highly pathogenic avian
- 2 influenza” after “cattle tick fever”.