

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8157

To amend the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 to modernize oversight by directing a study on risk-based oversight, defining risk to organic integrity, and authorizing regulatory reforms, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2026

Mr. WIED (for himself and Mr. RILEY of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 to modernize oversight by directing a study on risk-based oversight, defining risk to organic integrity, and authorizing regulatory reforms, 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 “Risk-based Oversight
5 for Integrity Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS OF RISK TO ORGANIC INTEGRITY AND**
2 **OVERSIGHT PROTOCOLS.**

3 Section 2103 of the Organic Foods Production Act
4 of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6502) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (20) through
6 (22) as paragraphs (22) through (24), respectively;

7 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (16) through
8 (19) as paragraphs (17) through (20), respectively;

9 (3) by inserting after paragraph (15) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(16) OVERSIGHT PROTOCOLS.—The term
12 ‘oversight protocols’ means the regulations, policies,
13 and procedures issued by the Secretary under the
14 authorities provided in sections 2104, 2107, 2114,
15 2115, 2116, and 2120.”; and

16 (4) by inserting after paragraph (20), as so re-
17 designated, the following:

18 “(21) RISK TO ORGANIC INTEGRITY.—The term
19 ‘risk to organic integrity’ means the likelihood that
20 a product marketed as organically produced is, or
21 contains, an agricultural product that was not pro-
22 duced using a system of organic farming in compli-
23 ance with this title, not processed in compliance with
24 this title, or both.”.

1 **SEC. 3. MODERNIZATION OF INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS.**

2 Paragraph (5) of section 2107(a) of the Organic
3 Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6506(a)) is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 “(5) provide for annual inspections by the certi-
6 fying agent of each farm and handling operation
7 that has been certified under this title, which inspec-
8 tions shall be—

9 “(A) in the case of a farm or handling op-
10 eration located outside of the United States,
11 conducted on-site;

12 “(B) in the case of a farm or handling op-
13 eration site located in the United States, con-
14 ducted on-site once every three years with inter-
15 vening annual inspections being conducted on-
16 site or virtually based on the farm’s or handling
17 operation’s risk to organic integrity, as deter-
18 mined by the Secretary; and

19 “(C) in the case of a handling operation
20 that acquires but does not physically receive,
21 process, package, or store organic product, con-
22 ducted through inspection methods, including
23 virtual methods, that provide sufficient assur-
24 ance of compliance, as determined by the Sec-
25 retary;”.

1 **SEC. 4. STUDY AND REFORM OF NATIONAL ORGANIC PRO-**
 2 **GRAM OVERSIGHT PROTOCOLS.**

3 The Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C.
 4 6501 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 2122A
 5 (7 U.S.C. 6521a) the following:

6 **“SEC. 2122B. STUDY AND REFORM OF NATIONAL ORGANIC**
 7 **PROGRAM OVERSIGHT PROTOCOLS.**

8 “(a) STUDY.—Not later than 12 months after the
 9 date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall con-
 10 duct a comprehensive study for the purpose of determining
 11 whether the establishment of oversight protocols based on
 12 risk to organic integrity and the implementation of related
 13 reforms are necessary and appropriate.

14 “(b) ELEMENTS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In conducting the study
 16 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall examine
 17 the feasibility, opportunities, and implications of im-
 18 plementing oversight protocols that—

19 “(A) are based on risk to organic integrity;

20 “(B) include differential treatment of non-
 21 compliance that increases the risk to organic in-
 22 tegrity versus non-compliance that does not;

23 “(C) adopt standardized organic plans
 24 under section 2114 aligned with the risk to or-
 25 ganic integrity;

1 “(D) include a multi-tiered approach to
2 certification aligned with the risk to organic in-
3 tegrity and the scale of the organic operation;
4 and

5 “(E) provide increased guidance and inter-
6 pretations of standards and criteria established
7 under this title given by the National Organic
8 Program to certifying agents and to certified
9 organic farms and handling operations.

10 “(2) CONSIDERATION OF RELEVANT FAC-
11 TORS.—In administering paragraph (1), the Sec-
12 retary shall, with respect to certified organic farms,
13 certified organic handling operations, and certifying
14 agents, take into account—

15 “(A) the scope of certification or accredita-
16 tion of each entity;

17 “(B) the scale and complexity of each enti-
18 ty;

19 “(C) the domestic or international location
20 of each entity;

21 “(D) the history of compliance of each en-
22 tity; and

23 “(E) other relevant factors.

24 “(c) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
25 date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall sub-

1 mit to the appropriate congressional committees, and
2 make publically available on the websites of the Depart-
3 ment of Agriculture, a report describing the findings of
4 the study conducted under subsection (a).

5 “(d) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study
6 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with—

7 “(1) the National Organic Standards Board;

8 “(2) certifying agents;

9 “(3) certified organic farms and handling oper-
10 ations;

11 “(4) organic consumers; and

12 “(5) other relevant organic stakeholders.

13 “(e) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL TERMS
14 AND CONDITIONS.—

15 “(1) ISSUANCE OF REGULATIONS.—Based on
16 the findings described in the report under subsection
17 (c), and after consultation with the appropriate con-
18 gressional committees, the Secretary may issue regu-
19 lations to establish or modify oversight protocols
20 under this title that the Secretary determines are
21 necessary and appropriate, provided such regulations
22 maintain strong organic integrity, support a resilient
23 domestic organic sector, and are consistent with the
24 requirements of this title.

1 “(2) REDUCING OVERSIGHT COSTS;
2 PRIORITIZATION.—In issuing the regulations under
3 paragraph (1), the Secretary may seek to—

4 “(A) reduce oversight costs and adminis-
5 trative burdens for certified organic farms, cer-
6 tified organic handling operations, and certi-
7 fying agents that present a lower risk to or-
8 ganic integrity; or

9 “(B) prioritize oversight resources for ac-
10 tivities that present a higher risk to organic in-
11 tegrity.

12 “(f) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
13 DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congres-
14 sional committees’ means—

15 “(1) the Committee on Agriculture of the
16 House of Representatives; and

17 “(2) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,
18 and Forestry of the Senate.

19 “(g) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
20 tion shall be construed to limit the Secretary’s authority
21 to enforce compliance with this title to protect organic in-
22 tegrity.”.

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