

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4168

To require the Administrator of the Economic Research Service to conduct research on consolidation and concentration in the livestock industry, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 24, 2026

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Ms. SLOTKIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Economic Research Service to conduct research on consolidation and concentration in the livestock industry, 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 “Livestock Consolida-
5 tion Research Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. LIVESTOCK CONSOLIDATION RESEARCH.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
8 date on which each latest Census of Agriculture is made
9 publicly available, the Administrator of the Economic Re-

1 search Service shall publish a report on consolidation and
 2 concentration in the livestock industry, including—

3 (1) changes in the size and location of ranches,
 4 farms, processing facilities, and packers throughout
 5 the United States; and

6 (2) the impact of the changes described in para-
 7 graph (1) on farmers, ranchers, and downstream
 8 consumers, including—

9 (A) financial impacts;

10 (B) market entry impacts;

11 (C) access to resources and inputs, includ-
 12 ing processing facilities; and

13 (D) dietary impacts.

14 (b) SOURCES OF INFORMATION.—In preparing a re-
 15 port under subsection (a), the Administrator of the Eco-
 16 nomic Research Service shall draw on data available to
 17 the Secretary of Agriculture, including the Census of Agri-
 18 culture, inspection records of the Food Safety and Inspec-
 19 tion Service, and the packing plant data of the Packers
 20 and Stockyards Division of the Agricultural Marketing
 21 Service.

22 (c) REPORT ORGANIZATION.—The report under sub-
 23 section (a) shall separate information on beef cattle by
 24 cow-calf and fed cattle operations.

1 (d) CONFIDENTIALITY.—A report published under
2 subsection (a) shall not contain any confidential business
3 information.

4 (e) DEFINITION OF LIVESTOCK.—In this section, the
5 term “livestock” includes beef, dairy, pork, and poultry
6 production (including broilers, eggs, and turkeys).

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