

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3970

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to promote an American agriculture first agenda and establish the position of Domestic Agriculture Supply Chain Administrator in the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture to connect United States farmers with foodbanks, grocers, and nonprofit food distributors during periods of food scarcity, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 16, 2020

Mrs. LOEFFLER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to promote an American agriculture first agenda and establish the position of Domestic Agriculture Supply Chain Administrator in the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture to connect United States farmers with foodbanks, grocers, and nonprofit food distributors during periods of food scarcity, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Farmers,
3 Food Banks, and Families Act of 2020”.

4 **SEC. 2. DOMESTIC AGRICULTURE SUPPLY CHAIN ADMINIS-**
5 **TRATOR.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of the Department of
7 Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 is amended by in-
8 serting after section 216 (7 U.S.C. 6916) the following:

9 **“SEC. 217. DOMESTIC AGRICULTURE SUPPLY CHAIN ADMIN-**
10 **ISTRATOR.**

11 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall establish
12 in the Office of the Secretary a position of Domestic Agri-
13 culture Supply Chain Administrator (referred to in this
14 section as the ‘Administrator’).

15 “(b) DUTIES.—The Administrator shall—

16 “(1) carry out activities in the interest of as-
17 sisting farmers in entering the products of the farm-
18 ers into the domestic market;

19 “(2) act as a liaison between—

20 “(A) farmers; and

21 “(B) food banks, schools, grocers, res-
22 taurants, and other food distribution entities
23 partnered with the Department or other non-
24 profit organizations; and

25 “(3)(A) identify barriers, either regulatory or
26 legal, that prevent or inhibit farmers from entering

1 the products of the farmers into the domestic mar-
2 ket through food distribution networks or other enti-
3 ties; and

4 “(B) make recommendations to the Secretary
5 regarding the means by which to remove the barriers
6 identified under subparagraph (A).

7 “(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Administrator
8 shall be—

9 “(1) to promote the domestic supply chain; and

10 “(2) to connect farmers that have excess agri-
11 cultural products, whether perishable or nonperish-
12 able, with an appropriate food distribution organiza-
13 tion that is in need of certain agricultural products.

14 “(d) TEAM.—The Administrator shall oversee a team
15 composed of—

16 “(1) a regulatory reform officer;

17 “(2) an agricultural marketing expert; and

18 “(3) individuals with private sector experience
19 in the food distribution network.

20 “(e) COLLABORATION.—The Administrator shall con-
21 vene representatives of appropriate Federal advisory com-
22 mittees of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Federal
23 agencies, and members of the private sector to advise the
24 Administrator in carrying out the duties described in sub-
25 section (b).

1 “(f) EXISTING POSITION.—To the extent practicable,
 2 the Administrator shall be an additional role of an existing
 3 position, and not a new position, within the Office of the
 4 Secretary.”.

5 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 296(b) of
 6 the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of
 7 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7014(b)) is amended by adding at the end
 8 the following:

9 “(11) The authority of the Secretary to carry
 10 out the amendments made to this title by the Amer-
 11 ican Farmers, Food Banks, and Families Act of
 12 2020”.

13 (c) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Subtitle A of the De-
 14 partment of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 is
 15 amended by redesignating section 225 (7 U.S.C. 6925) as
 16 section 224A.

17 **SEC. 3. CATALOGUE TO CONNECT FARMERS AND FOOD DIS-**
 18 **TRIBUTION ORGANIZATIONS.**

19 The Secretary of Agriculture, in coordination with
 20 private sector entities, shall establish a catalogue or data
 21 resource that is capable of recording—

22 (1) farms that have excess agricultural prod-
 23 ucts; and

- 1 (2) food distribution organizations that are in
- 2 need of certain agricultural products.

