

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 859

To amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to provide for the conducts of activities to detect, and respond in a timely manner to, threats to animal health.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 6, 2013

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

A BILL

To amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to provide for the conducts of activities to detect, and respond in a timely manner to, threats to animal health.

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 “Animal and Public
5 Health Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY NET-**
2 **WORK.**

3 Subtitle E of title X of the Farm Security and Rural
4 Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.) is amend-
5 ed by inserting after section 10409 the following:

6 **“SEC. 10409A. NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY**
7 **NETWORK.**

8 “(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE LABORATORY.—In
9 this section, the term ‘eligible laboratory’ means a diag-
10 nostic laboratory that meets specific criteria developed by
11 the Secretary, in consultation with State animal health of-
12 ficials, State veterinary diagnostic laboratories, and veteri-
13 nary diagnostic laboratories at institutions of higher edu-
14 cation.

15 “(b) CONTRACTS.—The Secretary shall offer to enter
16 into contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, or other
17 legal instruments with eligible laboratories—

18 “(1) to enhance the capability of the Sec-
19 retary—

20 “(A) to detect, and respond in a timely
21 manner to, emerging or existing threats to ani-
22 mal health; and

23 “(B) to support the protection of public
24 health, the environment, and the agricultural
25 economy of the United States;

1 “(2) to provide the capacity and capability for
2 standardized—

3 “(A) test procedures, reference materials,
4 and equipment;

5 “(B) laboratory biosafety and biosecurity
6 levels;

7 “(C) quality management system require-
8 ments;

9 “(D) interconnected electronic reporting
10 and transmission of data; and

11 “(E) evaluation for emergency prepared-
12 ness; and

13 “(3) to coordinate the development, implemen-
14 tation, and enhancement of national veterinary diag-
15 nostic laboratory capabilities, with special emphasis
16 on surveillance planning and vulnerability analysis,
17 technology development and validation, training, and
18 outreach.

19 “(c) PRIORITY.—To the extent practicable and to the
20 extent capacity and specialized expertise may be nec-
21 essary, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible labora-
22 tories at existing Federal facilities, State facilities, and fa-
23 cilities at institutions of higher education.

1 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.”.

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