

(B) Response from Secretary

Not more than 45 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a report under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit a written response to that report to—

- (i) the Committee; and
- (ii) the relevant committees of Congress.

(6) Compensation of members

Members of the Committee shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5 for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Committee.

(7) Federal Advisory Committee Act exemption

Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Committee.

(Pub. L. 103-354, title III, §309, as added Pub. L. 113-79, title XII, §12303, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 985; amended Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, §12303, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4962.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(7), is section 14 of Pub. L. 92-463, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, and not as part of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 which in part comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-334 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

§ 6922. Office of Homeland Security**(a) Definition of agriculture and food defense**

In this section, the term “agriculture and food defense” means any action to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to, or recover from a naturally occurring, unintentional, or intentional threat to the agriculture and food system.

(b) Authorization

The Secretary shall establish in the Department the Office of Homeland Security.

(c) Executive Director

The Office of Homeland Security shall be headed by an Executive Director, who shall be known as the Executive Director of Homeland Security.

(d) Duties

The Executive Director of Homeland Security shall—

- (1) serve as the principal advisor to the Secretary on homeland security, including emergency management and agriculture and food defense;

- (2) coordinate activities of the Department, including policies, processes, budget needs, and oversight relating to homeland security, including emergency management and agriculture and food defense;

- (3) act as the primary liaison on behalf of the Department with other Federal departments and agencies in activities relating to homeland security, including emergency management and agriculture and food defense, and provide for interagency coordination and data sharing;

- (4)(A) coordinate in the Department the gathering of information relevant to early warning and awareness of threats and risks to the food and agriculture critical infrastructure sector; and

- (B) share that information with, and provide assistance with interpretation and risk characterization of that information to, the intelligence community (as defined in section 3003 of title 50), law enforcement agencies, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and State fusion centers (as defined in section 124h(j) of title 6¹;

- (5) liaise with the Director of National Intelligence to assist in the development of periodic assessments and intelligence estimates, or other intelligence products, that support the defense of the food and agriculture critical infrastructure sector;

- (6) coordinate the conduct, evaluation, and improvement of exercises to identify and eliminate gaps in preparedness and response;

- (7) produce a Department-wide centralized strategic coordination plan to provide a high-level perspective of the operations of the Department relating to homeland security, including emergency management and agriculture and food defense; and

- (8) carry out other appropriate duties, as determined by the Secretary.

(e) Agriculture and food threat awareness partnership program**(1) Interagency exchange program**

The Secretary, in partnership with the intelligence community (as defined in section 3003 of title 50) and fusion centers (as defined in section 124h(j) of title 6¹ that have analysis and intelligence capabilities relating to the defense of the food and agriculture critical infrastructure sector, shall establish and carry out an interagency exchange program of personnel and information to improve communication and analysis for the defense of the food and agriculture critical infrastructure sector.

(2) Collaboration with Federal, State, and local authorities

To carry out the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary may—

- (A) enter into 1 or more cooperative agreements or contracts with Federal, State, or local authorities that have analysis and intelligence capabilities and expertise relating

¹ So in original. Probably should be followed by a closing parenthesis.

to the defense of the food and agriculture critical infrastructure sector; and

(B) carry out any other activity under any other authority of the Secretary that is appropriate to engage the authorities described in subparagraph (A) for the defense of the food and agriculture critical infrastructure sector, as determined by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §221, as added Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, §12202, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4944.)

§ 6923. Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

(a) Office

(1) In general

The Secretary shall establish in the Department an Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production.

(2) Director

The Secretary shall appoint a senior official to serve as the Director of the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (referred to in this section as the “Director”).

(3) Mission

The mission of the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production shall be to encourage and promote urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural practices, including—

- (A) community gardens and farms located in urban areas, suburbs, and urban clusters;
- (B) rooftop farms, outdoor vertical production, and green walls;
- (C) indoor farms, greenhouses, and high-tech vertical technology farms;
- (D) hydroponic, aeroponic, and aquaponic farm facilities; and
- (E) other innovations in agricultural production, as determined by the Secretary.

(4) Responsibilities

The Director shall be responsible for engaging in activities to carry out the mission described in paragraph (3), including by—

- (A) managing programs, including for community gardens, urban farms, rooftop agriculture, and indoor vertical production;
- (B) advising the Secretary;
- (C) coordinating with the agencies and officials of the Department to update relevant programs;
- (D) engaging in stakeholder relations and developing external partnerships;
- (E) identifying common State and municipal best practices for navigating local policies;
- (F) coordinating networks of community gardens and facilitating connections to local food banks, in partnership with the Food and Nutrition Service; and
- (G) collaborating with other Federal agencies.

(b) Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Advisory Committee

(1) In general

Not later than 180 days after December 20, 2018, the Secretary shall establish an Urban

Agriculture and Innovative Production Advisory Committee (referred to in this subsection as the “Committee”) to advise the Secretary on—

- (A) the development of policies and outreach relating to urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production practices; and
- (B) any other aspects of the implementation of this section.

(2) Membership

(A) In general

The Committee shall be composed of 12 members, of whom—

- (i) 4 shall be individuals who are agricultural producers, of whom—
 - (I) 2 individuals shall be agricultural producers located in an urban area or urban cluster; and
 - (II) 2 individuals shall be farmers that use innovative technology;

- (ii) 2 shall be representatives from an institution of higher education or extension program;

- (iii) 1 shall be an individual who represents a nonprofit organization, which may include a public health, environmental, or community organization;

- (iv) 1 shall be an individual who represents business and economic development, which may include a business development entity, a chamber of commerce, a city government, or a planning organization;

- (v) 1 shall be an individual with supply chain experience, which may include a food aggregator, wholesale food distributor, food hub, or an individual who has direct-to-consumer market experience;

- (vi) 1 shall be an individual from a financing entity; and

- (vii) 2 shall be individuals with related experience or expertise in urban, indoor, and other emerging agriculture production practices, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) Initial appointments

The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Committee not later than 180 days after December 20, 2018.

(3) Period of appointment; vacancies

(A) In general

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a member of the Committee shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(B) Initial appointments

Of the members first appointed to the Committee—

- (i) 4 of the members, as determined by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a term of 3 years;

- (ii) 4 of the members, as determined by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a term of 2 years; and

- (iii) 4 of the members, as determined by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a term of 1 year.

(C) Vacancies

Any vacancy in the Committee—