119th CONGRESS 1st Session

S.	_	

To amend the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 to establish an additional reporting requirement, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. RICKETTS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

- To amend the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 to establish an additional reporting requirement, 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 "AFIDA Improvements
- 5 Act of 2025".

6 SEC. 2. REPORTING; ENFORCEMENT.

7 (a) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 2 of the
8 Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978
9 (7 U.S.C. 3501) is amended by adding at the end the fol10 lowing:

1 "(g) MINIMUM OWNERSHIP.—In the case of agricul-2 tural land in which more than 1 foreign person acquires 3 or transfers any interest, other than a security interest, 4 the reporting requirements under this section shall apply 5 to each foreign person who holds at least a 1 percent inter-6 est in that land— 7 minimum ((1)) limited at least ball of a transfer and in

- 7 "(1) directly through the first tier of ownership;8 or
- 9 "(2) in the aggregate through an interest in
 10 other entities at various tiers.".

(b) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 4 of the Agricultural
Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C.
3503) is amended—

14 (1) by striking the section designation and all
15 that follows through "The Secretary" and inserting
16 the following:

17 "SEC. 4. INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS.

18 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary"; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 "(b) ACTIONS BY FPAC-BC.—As part of the actions
21 taken under subsection (a), the Farm Production and
22 Conservation Business Center shall—

23 "(1) take such actions as are necessary to vali24 date the data collected under section 2, including re-

1	vising and validating information throughout the
2	data collection process;
3	"(2) take such actions as are necessary to en-
4	sure compliance with section 2(g); and
5	"(3) in coordination with the Farm Service
6	Agency, to the maximum extent practicable, identify
7	persons that have carried out an activity subject to
8	a civil penalty described in paragraph (1) or (2) of
9	section 3(a).".
10	SEC. 3. AGRICULTURAL FOREIGN INVESTMENT DISCLO-
11	SURE IMPROVEMENTS.
12	(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
13	(1) AFIDA.—The term "AFIDA" means the
14	Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of
15	1978 (7 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).
16	(2) FPAC–BC.—The term "FPAC–BC" means
17	the Farm Production and Conservation Business
18	Center.
19	(3) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
20	the Secretary of Agriculture.
21	(b) MOU WITH CFIUS.—Not later than 1 year after
22	the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall enter
23	into 1 or more memoranda of understanding with the
24	Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States
25	under which the Secretary shall provide the Committee

with all relevant information relating to reports on foreign
 ownership of United States agricultural land submitted to
 the Secretary under section 2 of AFIDA (7 U.S.C. 3501),
 including information on—

5 (1) each report submitted to the Secretary; and
6 (2) with respect to each such report, the iden7 tity of the person submitting the report and the date
8 of submission.

9 (c) AFIDA HANDBOOK UPDATES.—

10 (1) FIRST UPDATE.—Not later than 1 year 11 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-12 retary shall update the most recent version of the 13 Farm Service Agency handbook entitled "Foreign 14 Investment Disclosure" as determined necessary by 15 the Secretary for the effective implementation of 16 AFIDA, which update shall incorporate rec-17 ommendations made by the report of the Govern-18 ment Accountability Office entitled "Foreign Invest-19 ments in U.S. Agricultural Land: Enhancing Efforts 20 to Collect, Track, and Share Key Information Could 21 Better Identify National Security Risks" and dated 22 January 18, 2024.

(2) SUBSEQUENT UPDATES.—After updating
the handbook described in paragraph (1) under that
paragraph, the Secretary shall carry out an update

of that handbook every 10 years thereafter, includ ing by incorporating any recommendations of the
 Government Accountability Office.

4 (d) ANALYSIS OF STREAMLINED PROCESS FOR
5 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION AND RETENTION OF REPORTS
6 UNDER AFIDA.—

7 (1) DEFINITION OF COVERED PROCESS.—In
8 this subsection, the term "covered process" means
9 the streamlined process for electronic submission
10 and retention of disclosures made under AFIDA re11 quired under section 773 of division A of the Con12 solidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (7 U.S.C. 3501
13 note; 136 Stat. 4509).

14 (2) ANALYSIS.—Unless the covered process is 15 established by not later than 1 year after the date 16 of enactment of this Act, the FPAC–BC, in coordi-17 nation with the Farm Service Agency, shall, by that 18 date—

(A) carry out an analysis of the specific
steps required to establish that process and the
elements of that process; and

(B) develop a timeline for specific imple-mentation benchmarks to be met.

24 (3) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to
25 the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and For-

estry of the Senate and the Committee on Agri culture of the House of Representatives a report de scribing the analysis and implementation timeline
 under paragraph (2), if applicable.