

# PL 115-43: Securing our Agriculture and Food Act

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Office of Health Affairs

# Securing our Agriculture and Food Act

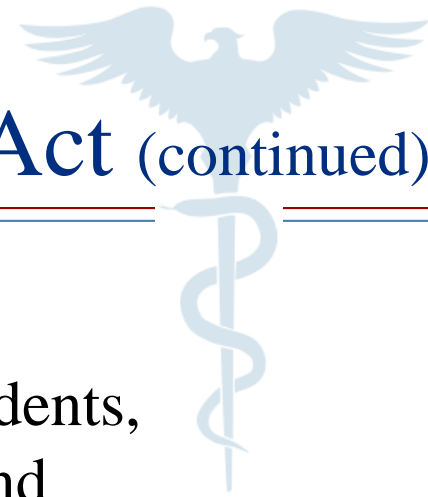


The law tasks the DHS Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs with:

- (1) Providing oversight and management of the Department's responsibilities pursuant to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9–Defense of United States Agriculture and Food [HSPD-9].
- (2) Providing oversight and integration of the Department's activities related to veterinary public health, food defense, and agricultural security.



# Securing our Agriculture and Food Act (continued)



- (3) Leading the Department's policy initiatives relating to food, animal, and agricultural incidents, and the impact of such incidents on animal and public health.
- (4) Leading the Department's policy initiatives relating to overall domestic preparedness for and collective response to agricultural terrorism.



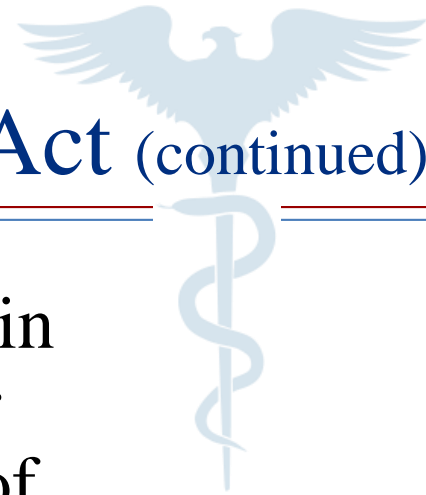
# Securing our Agriculture and Food Act (continued)



- (5) Coordinating with other Department components, including U.S. Customs and Border Protection, as appropriate, on activities related to food and agriculture security and screening procedures for domestic and imported products.
- (6) Coordinating with appropriate Federal departments and agencies.
- (7) Other activities as determined necessary by the Secretary.



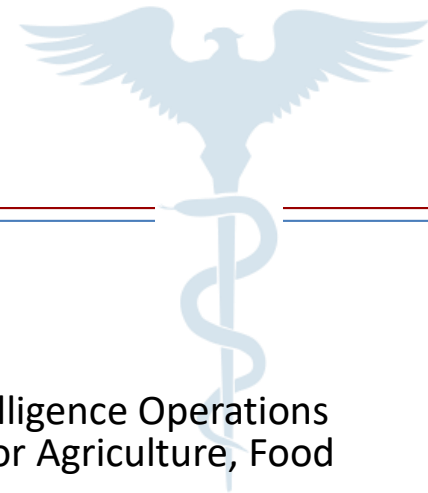
# Securing our Agriculture and Food Act (continued)



(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION** — Nothing in this section may be construed as altering or superseding the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services.



# HSPD-9: Defense of U.S. Agriculture and Food



## Lead (5)

1. **Develop Biological Threat Awareness Capacity for Detection of Attacks (10)**
2. **Ensure Adequate Local Response Capabilities for Potential Terrorist Attack on Agriculture, Disease Outbreak or Natural Disaster (14)**
3. **Develop a Coordinated Agriculture and Food-Specific Standardized Response Plan (15)**
4. **Establish Information Sharing and Analysis Mechanisms in Cooperation with Appropriate Private Sector Entities (19)**
5. **Establish University Based Centers of Excellence in Agriculture and Food Security (25)**

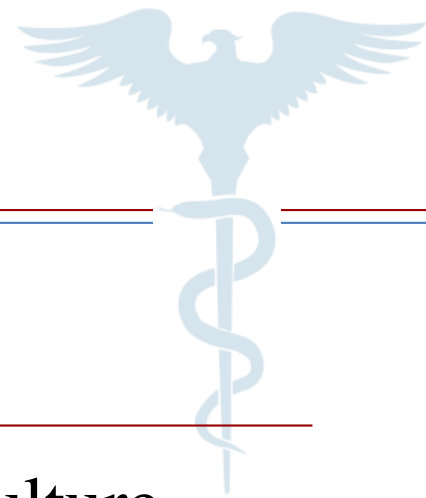
## Co-Lead (7)

1. **Develop and Enhance Intelligence Operations and Analysis Capabilities for Agriculture, Food and Water Sectors (9)**
2. **Expand and Conduct Vulnerability Assessments for Agriculture and Food Sectors (11)**
3. **Develop and Implement Mitigation Strategies to Protect Vulnerable Critical Production Nodes (12)**
4. **Expand Development of Common Screening Procedures for Agriculture and Food Items Entering the United States (13)**
5. **Development of Specialized Training in Agriculture and Food Protection (22)**
6. **Accelerate / Expand Development of Countermeasures Against Introduction of Catastrophic Animal or Plant Diseases (23)**
7. **Develop a Plan to Provide Secure Biocontainment Laboratories for Researching Improved FAD Diagnostic Capabilities (24)**



# Food, Agriculture, and Veterinary Defense Branch

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## Strategic Vision

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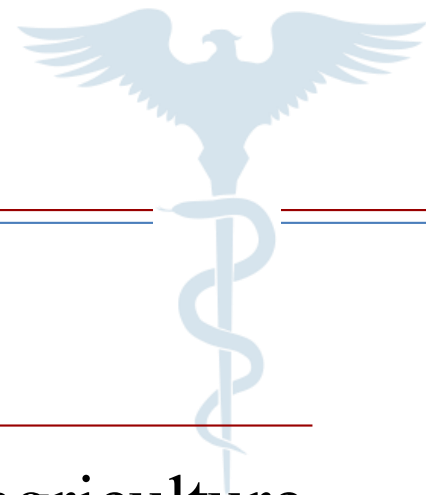
Advance defense of the U.S. food, agriculture, and veterinary systems against terrorism and other high-consequence events that pose a high risk to homeland security.



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# Food, Agriculture, and Veterinary Defense Branch

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## Strategic Mission

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Serve as DHS's principal agent for all food, agriculture, and veterinary matters and endeavors to ensure the security of our Nation's food, agriculture, and human and animal health in the face of all hazards through cooperation and collaboration with DHS offices, and components; other federal departments and agencies; state, local, territorial, and tribal governments; the academic community; and the private sector.



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# Strategic Goals

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1. Provide oversight and management of DHS responsibilities under HSPD-9.
2. Provide oversight and integration of DHS activities relating to veterinary public health, food defense, and agricultural security.
3. Lead DHS policy initiatives related to food, animal, and agricultural incidents and evaluate the impact of such incidents on animal and public health.



# Strategic Goals

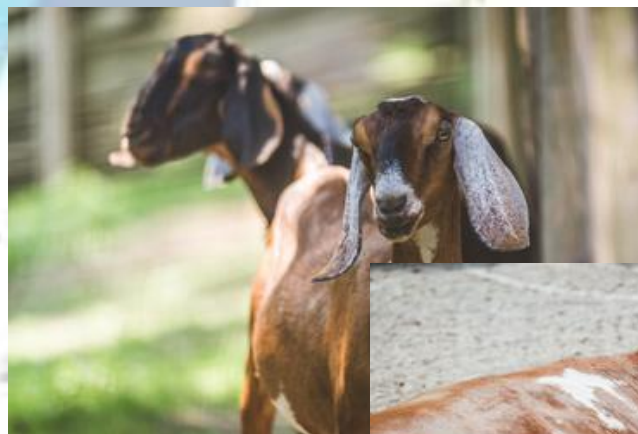
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4. Lead DHS policy initiatives related to overall domestic preparedness for and collective response to agricultural terrorism.
5. Coordinate with DHS components on activities relating to food and agriculture security and screening procedures for domestic and imported products.
6. Coordinate with appropriate federal departments and agencies with responsibilities for protecting the health and security of the Nation's animals, plants, and food systems.



# Working Together to Protect American Food and Agriculture



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# Questions



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