To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 26, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Securing our Agriculture and Food Act”.

SEC. 2. COORDINATION OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, AND VETERINARY DEFENSE AGAINST TERRORISM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after section 103 (6 U.S.C. 113) the following new section:

“SEC. 104. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS COORDINATION OF DEPARTMENT EFFORTS RELATED TO FOOD, AGRICULTURE, AND VETERINARY DEFENSE AGAINST TERRORISM.

“(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs shall carry out a program to coordinate the Department’s efforts related to defending the food, agriculture, and veterinary systems against terrorism and other high-consequence events that pose a high risk to homeland security.

“(b) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—The coordination program required by subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

“(1) Providing oversight and integration of the Department’s activities related to veterinary public health, food defense, and agricultural security.
“(2) Leading the Department’s policy initiatives relating to food, animal, and agricultural incidents, and the impact of such incidents on animal and public health.

“(3) Leading the Department’s policy initiatives relating to overall domestic preparedness for and collective response to agricultural terrorism.”.

(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 note) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 103 the following new item:

“Sec. 104. Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs coordination of Department efforts related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism.”.