

105th Congress, 2d Session - - - - - House Document 105-198

REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS OF \$6,000,000 FOR
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FROM THE SALE OF
GRAIN IN THE DISASTER RESERVE ESTABLISHED IN THE AGRI-
CULTURAL ACT OF 1970, PURSUANT TO 31 U.S.C. 1107



FEBRUARY 3, 1998.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and
ordered to be printed

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WASHINGTON : 1998

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, December 3, 1997.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: In accordance with provisions of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998, I hereby request and make available emergency appropriations of \$6,000,000 for the Department of Agriculture from the sale of grain in the disaster reserve established in the Agricultural Act of 1970. These funds would indemnify farmers and ranchers for cattle losses occurring as a result of natural disasters.

I hereby designate the amount made available as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

Enclosure.

[Estimate No. 22, 105th Cong., 1st Sess.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,
Washington, DC, December 2, 1997.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available emergency appropriations totaling \$6 million for the Department of Agriculture (USDA). Your approval of this request would make available contingent emergency funds appropriated in the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1998. These funds would be used to make indemnity payments to farmers and ranchers who have suffered livestock losses as a result of natural disasters.

The funds requested would cover major livestock losses in Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska suffered as a consequence of a severe early winter storm in October 1997. In addition, the funding would indemnify farmers and ranchers in Oklahoma and Texas who suffered similar losses from other natural disasters this year. At this time, USDA estimates that no other State would be eligible for relief. The provisions for relief are identical to the program enacted in the Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act of 1997, which indemnified South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota after last year's winter storms. USDA estimates that the \$6 million would fully cover all eligible payments.

I recommend that you designate this request as an emergency funding requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. No further congressional action is required.

I have carefully reviewed this proposal and am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of Agriculture in recommending that you approve this request by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

FRANKLIN D. RAINES, *Director.*

Enclosure.

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED MADE
AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT

Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Commodity Credit Corporation Fund, Disaster reserve assistance program | \$6,000,000 |
|--|-------------|

General Provision 633 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998, provides \$6 million for livestock indemnity payments, contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Con-

gress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

At this time, \$6 million is required to make livestock indemnity payments to farmers and ranchers who suffered losses as a result of natural disasters this year. The Department of Agriculture estimates that this amount will fully indemnify producers in the affected areas for their losses.

