

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2020

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JUNE 6, 2019.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of  
the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. BISHOP, from the Committee on Appropriations,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 3164]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in  
explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for Ag-  
riculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and  
Related Agencies for fiscal year 2020.

CONTENTS

	Page
Title I—Agricultural Programs .....	3
Title II—Farm Production and Conservation Programs .....	40
Title III—Rural Development Programs .....	47
Title IV—Domestic Food Programs .....	60
Title V—Foreign Assistance and Related Programs .....	67
Title VI—Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration .....	70
Title VII—General Provisions .....	86

OVERVIEW

The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administra-  
tion, and Related Agencies Subcommittee has jurisdiction over the  
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) except for the Forest Serv-  
ice, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Commodity Fu-  
tures Trading Commission (CFTC), and the Farm Credit Adminis-  
tration (FCA).

The Subcommittee's responsibility covers a diverse group of agencies responsible for such things as promoting the production of a plentiful food supply; assisting farmers and ranchers across the country with sound production practices; improving the quality of life and vitality of communities in rural America; assisting people in the U.S. and abroad with nutritional needs; supporting research and development in agriculture to improve productivity and stability; overseeing commodity markets that provide confidence for businesses, traders, investors, and the public; supporting a safe food supply; and ensuring safe and effective drugs and medical devices. The activities of these agencies impact Americans every day of the year.

The fiscal year 2020 discretionary spending in this bill totals \$24,310,000,000, which is \$1,000,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level and \$5,111,351,000 above the President's budget request for fiscal year 2020.

The funding levels provided in this appropriations bill continue to demonstrate how seriously this Committee takes its responsibility to fund the highest priority programs and activities to serve the American people.

#### OVERSIGHT AND HEARINGS

The Subcommittee held eight hearings related to the responsibilities of the Subcommittee and key agriculture issues. The hearings were:

1. Food and Drug Administration Status of Operations—February 27, 2019
2. USDA Inspector General—March 12, 2019
3. Member Day—March 26, 2019
4. USDA's Proposed Relocation of the Economic Research Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture—March 27, 2019
5. The Rural Economy—April 2, 2019
6. Food and Drug Administration FY 2020 Budget Request—April 3, 2019
7. USDA FY 2020 Budget Request—April 9, 2019
8. Economic Opportunities for Farmers through Sustainable Agricultural Practices—April 10, 2019

*Performance Measures.*—The Committee directs USDA and FDA to comply with title 31 of the United States Code, including the development of their organizational priority goals and outcomes such as performance outcome measures, output measures, efficiency measures, and customer service measures. The Committee directs them to brief the Committee on the implementation plan for measures within 60 days of enactment of the Act.

In this report, "the Committees" refers to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

TITLE I  
 AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS  
 PROCESSING, RESEARCH AND MARKETING  
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
 (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$46,603,000
2020 budget estimate .....	41,373,000
Provided in the bill .....	45,112,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	– 1,491,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+3,739,000

The following table reflects the amount provided by the Committee for each office and activity:

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Office of the Secretary .....	\$5,051	\$4,850	\$4,850
Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development .....	800	800	0
Office of Homeland Security .....	1,496	1,448	1,448
Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement .....	4,711	1,672	6,211
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration .....	875	875	875
Departmental Administration .....	22,301	21,376	21,376
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs .....	3,869	3,091	3,091
Office of Communications .....	7,500	7,261	7,261
Total, Office of the Secretary .....	\$46,603	\$41,373	\$45,112

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Secretary, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$45,112,000.

The Committee accepts the President's proposed reductions for the Immediate Office of the Secretary, the Office of Homeland Security, Departmental Administration, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs, and the Office of Communications.

The Committee adopts the President's proposed funding level for the Assistant Secretary for Administration.

The Committee provides an increase of \$1,500,000 over the 2019 enacted level for the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE) and rejects the reductions proposed in the budget request. The Committee strongly supports the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Veterans program. This funding is in addition to the \$15,000,000 in mandatory funds available in 2020. In a separate provision in Title VII, an additional \$10,000,000 for the Farm Opportunities Training and Outreach Program is provided. OPPE is directed to use not more than five percent of this sum for administrative costs.

*Adapting to a changing climate.*—The Committee directs USDA to conduct a survey on current programs that aid farmers in mitigating and adapting to the effects of the changing climate, including programs that support carbon sequestration in the soil, and identify opportunities to expand this work.

*Advertising expenditures.*—The Committee believes that, as the largest advertiser in the United States, the federal government should work to ensure fair access to its advertising contracts for small disadvantaged businesses and businesses owned by minorities and women. The Committee directs USDA to include the following information in a report to the Committee 60 days after enactment of this Act: expenditures for fiscal year 2019 and expected expenditures for fiscal year 2020 and 2021, respectively, for (1) all contracts for advertising services; and (2) contracts for the advertising services of socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns (as defined in section 8(a)(4) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(4)), and women- and minority-owned businesses.

*Agroterrorism.*—The United States enjoys a safe, plentiful, and inexpensive food supply. The Committee views domestic food production as a priority for national security. The Committee directs the Secretary to explore USDA's laboratory and response capacity to address the threat of agroterrorism, and how national response plans can better incorporate agroterrorism. The Committee encourages the Secretary to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of the Interior, the intelligence agencies, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other agencies to improve response plans, conduct vulnerability assessments, and expand monitoring and surveillance for agroterrorism. The Committee also encourages the Secretary to focus on bolstering tracking systems for agricultural products, laboratory networks, and border inspection training.

*Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Farmers.*—The Committee urges the Secretary to measure the effectiveness of USDA's recruitment and outreach plans for the increasing number of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander farmers. The Committee directs the Department to make available required resources in additional Asian American and Pacific Islander languages to reduce any cultural or linguistic barriers for these farmers.

*CCC Report.*—The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report on November 15, 2019, and May 18, 2020, on planned uses of funding under the authorities of Section 4 and Section 11 of the CCC Charter Act.

*Census of Agriculture.*—The Committee is aware that urban agriculture is a rapidly growing sector of the U.S. agricultural economy and that there is a need to understand emerging agricultural production. The Committee directs the Department to collect data on urban, indoor, and emerging agricultural production, such as community gardens, rooftop farms, greenhouses and indoor farms, in the 2022 Census of Agriculture. The Committee expects the Department to provide resources for this work in its annual budget request to Congress when it begins planning for the 2022 census.

*Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Obligations and Commitments.*—The Secretary is directed to notify the Committees in writing 15 days prior to the obligation or commitment of any emergency funds from the CCC.

*Communication from USDA.*—A collaborative working relationship between the Committee and USDA is necessary to ensure effi-

cient and effective implementation of Congress' funding decisions. USDA is directed to ensure that the Committee is notified of major changes to existing policies and any significant developments in its operations, before providing non-governmental stakeholders such information, before making the changes public and before implementing them.

*Design-Build.*—The Committee encourages the Department to use the design-build method of project delivery when appropriate.

*Distribution of Farm Subsidies.*—The Committee directs the Department to provide to the Committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a report on the distribution of farm subsidies, low interest loans, and cost-share conservation programs and its impact on minority-owned farms.

*ERS/NIFA relocation.*—On August 8, 2018, the Secretary sent the Committees a letter notifying them that he was planning to move the Economic Research Service (ERS), and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture outside of the greater Washington, D.C., area. Seven days later, without waiting the statutorily-required 30 days after notification, in violation of the reprogramming rules in P.L. 116–6, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, the Secretary published a *Federal Register* notice that the Department was seeking expressions of interest from parties interested in housing the two agencies. At no point in this process, however, has USDA solicited public comment on this proposal. Since then, it has moved forward, despite the clearly expressed opposition of many members of the House and Senate. It failed to comply with the direction of the conferees on the 2019 Act to submit all cost benefits for the move and a detailed analysis of any research benefits of a relocation. It has flatly refused numerous requests from this Committee and other members of Congress to provide the initial cost benefit analysis that preceded the decision to go ahead with the proposal. These agencies' mission is to achieve the best science through research that advances U.S. agriculture and our understanding of the agricultural economy. The Committee believes that the Department's proposal puts that mission at risk and the Committee has therefore included bill language to prevent it.

*Flexibility in Loan and Loan Guarantee Levels.*—The bill includes language to exceed by up to 25 percent the limitation on loan and loan guarantee levels without budget authority upon written notification to the Committees on Appropriations.

*GAO Report on Credit Service to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers.*—Section 5416 of the 2018 Farm Bill mandated a GAO study of the access of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to credit. That report is expected to be released this summer. The Committee looks forward to reviewing the report and assessing the need for further work on this issue.

*Grain Export Inspection.*—The Committee is aware of the ongoing contract negotiations between West Coast grain terminal operators and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and recognizes the importance of reaching an agreement that works for both parties, as a failure to reach an agreement could result in an interruption in grain terminal service that would negatively impact the nation's grain exports. Therefore, the Committee urges all parties to continue negotiating in good faith to ensure an equitable outcome that protects worker rights and benefits is expeditiously

reached. The Committee strongly discourages USDA from requiring its grain inspectors to cross a picket line.

*Health Care Access for Farmers.*—The Department of Agriculture shall conduct a study on access to affordable, ACA-compliant, high-quality health care for individuals and their families who are self-employed on small, locally-owned and family-owned businesses in rural communities. The report should include recommendations for increasing access to health insurance options for those individuals. The Department should submit the report to the Committee 270 days after enactment of this Act.

*International Food Security Technical Assistance.*—The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 recognized the challenge of global hunger and the need to improve the delivery of assistance to meet immediate food security requirements and to improve nutritional standards for underserved populations. Section 3308 of that Act authorized USDA agencies, including the Food Nutrition and Consumer Services among other relevant agencies, to provide technical assistance to international entities and organizations that develop and improve food and nutrition safety net systems. The Committee notes the trend of worsening food insecurity and the growing instability that may result and urges the Secretary to prioritize the implementation of this provision. The Committee expects a report on the progress of this effort within 90 days of enactment.

*Loan and Grant Programs.*—The Committee directs that if an estimate of loan activity for any program funded in Titles II and III of this bill indicates that a limitation on authority to make commitments for a fiscal year will be reached before the end of that fiscal year, or in any event when 75 percent of the authority to make commitments has been utilized, the Secretary shall promptly notify the Committees through OBPA. The Committee directs the Department, through OBPA, to provide quarterly reports to the Committees on the status of obligations and funds availability for the loan and grant programs provided in this bill.

*Moving ERS to the Office of the Chief Economist.*—On August 8, 2018, the Secretary notified the Committees that he planned to move ERS from the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics (REE) to the Office of the Chief Economist, which is part of the Office of the Secretary. The Under Secretary of REE also serves as USDA's chief scientist. By law, he or she is charged with overseeing all issues involving scientific integrity within the Department. In fact, the Chief Scientist is actually empowered to oppose any efforts to politicize science. The Chief Economist has no such role or power. Keeping ERS within a mission area that is solely devoted to research ensures it will continue to be seen as a first-class, independent research entity. Putting it under the Office of the Secretary puts that at jeopardy. The Committee opposes the proposal and has included bill language to prevent it.

*Native American Foods.*—Native American tribes suffer among the highest rates of diabetes in the United States. Traditional Native American diets have been shown to be culturally relevant and protective against metabolic diseases such as diabetes. The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) has increased the variety of traditional foods offered in the program. The Committee directs USDA to develop programs in conjunction with Indian Tribal Organizations to restore food ecosystems and revive

traditional foods based on dietary preferences of Native American populations. USDA shall continue to collaborate with FDPIR agencies on recommendations for food package changes, with the goal of further increasing the amount and variety of traditional and locally or regionally grown food items offered through the program.

*Native Plant Use Preference.*—The Committee continues to support the use of locally adapted native plant materials in the undertaking of land management activity on Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, including in maintenance and in restoration in response to degradation caused by human activity or natural events (such as fire, flood, or infestation). The Committee directs that it be the policy of the USDA that preference shall be made, to the extent practicable, for the use of locally adapted native plant materials in these cases.

*Office for Civil Rights.*—The Committee requests a report from the Secretary on how the Office intends to manage and avoid recurrent backlogs in cases, including both those involving USDA programs and those involving USDA employees. The report is due by December 31, 2019.

*Pay Costs.*—The Committee does not include funding for a civilian pay increase across the Department. Should the President provide a civilian pay increase for fiscal year 2020, it is assumed that the cost of such a pay increase will be absorbed within existing appropriations for fiscal year 2020.

*Rural Broadband.*—The Committee continues to support the Re-Connect program to increase access to broadband connectivity in unserved rural communities. The Committee continues to direct the Department to target grants and loans issued to areas of the country with the largest broadband coverage gaps. These projects should utilize technology that will maximize coverage of broadband with the most benefit to taxpayers and the rural communities served. Technologies to consider should include, but are not limited to, fiber, cable modem, fixed wireless, and television white space. The bill includes funding for broadband deployment through the Broadband Loan program, Community Connect grant program, Distance Learning and Telemedicine program and an additional \$550,000,000 for the Re-Connect program.

*Rural Health Liaison.*—The Committee directs the Department to designate a Rural Health Liaison in the Office of the Secretary no later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act. The Office of the Secretary shall work in conjunction with the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy under HHS to ensure that the duties of the Rural Health Liaison enumerated in Section 12409 of the Agriculture Improvement Act are carried out effectively.

*Rural Poverty.*—In their fiscal year 2016 bills, both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees directed USDA to produce a detailed plan setting forth all USDA resources available to combat rural poverty. The report was due on April 16, 2016, and more than three years later, it has not been received. The Committee will consider penalizing the Department if it has not received the report before the conference on this bill begins.

*Status of House and Senate Report Language.*—The Department is directed to include in its fiscal year 2021 Congressional Justification, as a single exhibit, a table listing all deliverables, with a column for due dates if applicable. The Office of Budget and Program

Analysis (OBPA) is directed to provide updates on the status of House and Senate reports upon request from the Committees.

*USDA-owned Vehicles.*—The Committee has included revised bill language related to the number of vehicles the Department owns, similar to that proposed by the administration. However, the Committee was troubled to learn that USDA’s concern about the previous language was that it limited the Department to a specific number of vehicles, which USDA was completely unable to certify. The Committee requests a report from the Department within 60 days after enactment of this Act that describes how it plans to better manage its vehicle fleet.

#### EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

2019 appropriation .....	\$21,286,000
2020 budget estimate .....	18,513,000
Provided in the bill .....	21,013,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	– 273,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+2,500,000

##### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Chief Economist, the Committee provides the budget request of \$21,013,000.

*Drought.*—The Committee provides \$2,500,000 to support the work of the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC). The increase will provide 24/7 backup of NDMC weekly field data and build capacity to respond to the increasing number of drought-related research and operations requests to NDMC by U.S. regional climate hubs.

##### OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

2019 appropriation .....	\$15,222,000
2020 budget estimate .....	13,474,000
Provided in the bill .....	15,222,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	– – –
2020 budget estimate .....	+1,748,000

##### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of Hearings and Appeals, the Committee provides the fiscal year 2019 enacted level of \$15,222,000.

##### OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

2019 appropriation .....	\$9,525,000
2020 budget estimate .....	8,199,000
Provided in the bill .....	9,525,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	– – –
2020 budget estimate .....	+1,326,000

##### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, the Committee provides the fiscal year 2019 enacted level of \$9,525,000.



## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

2019 appropriation .....	\$55,630,000
2020 budget estimate .....	101,400,000
Provided in the bill .....	101,400,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+45,770,000
2020 budget estimate .....	---

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Chief Information Officer, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$101,400,000.

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

2019 appropriation .....	\$6,028,000
2020 budget estimate .....	13,500,000
Provided in the bill .....	6,028,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	-7,472,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$6,028,000.

The Committee provides no funds for the New Pay Initiative. The five sentences devoted to this in the budget justification do not provide sufficient justification for the requested increase of \$7,500,000 for the Initiative.

## OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$901,000
2020 budget estimate .....	800,000
Provided in the bill .....	901,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	+101,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, the Committee provides the fiscal year 2019 enacted level of \$901,000.

## OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$24,206,000
2020 budget estimate .....	21,228,000
Provided in the bill .....	24,206,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	+2,978,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of Civil Rights, the Committee provides the fiscal year 2019 enacted level of \$24,206,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$59,967,000
2020 budget estimate .....	331,114,000
Provided in the bill .....	331,114,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+271,147,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Agriculture Buildings and Facilities, the Committee provides the requested level of \$331,114,000. The Committee provides the full request because it strongly supports USDA’s “One Neighborhood” proposal to renovate USDA headquarters buildings. Along with renovation of the George Washington Carver facility in Beltsville, MD, USDA will have greatly expanded capacity in the National Capital Region (NCR). This will end what USDA itself says are its “high vacancy rates” in the NCR.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$3,503,000
2020 budget estimate .....	3,290,000
Provided in the bill .....	5,288,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+1,785,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+1,998,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Hazardous Materials Management, the Committee provides \$5,288,000. The Committee rejects the reduction to the program proposed in the budget and provides an increase of \$1,988,000 for additional remediation work.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

2019 appropriation .....	\$98,208,000
2020 budget estimate .....	98,208,000
Provided in the bill .....	98,208,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of Inspector General (OIG), the Committee provides the fiscal year 2019 enacted level of \$98,208,000.

*Animal fighting.*—The Committee is very concerned about illegal animal fighting activity. The OIG is encouraged to increase its efforts to enforce the laws under USDA’s jurisdiction against animal fighting and to investigate promptly any evidence of such illegal activity. The Committee also encourages the OIG to audit USDA enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, the Horse Protection Act, and the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act to help improve compliance with these important laws.

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

2019 appropriation .....	\$45,146,000
2020 budget estimate .....	41,242,000
Provided in the bill .....	41,242,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— 3,904,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the General Counsel, the Committee provides the budget request of \$41,242,000.

## OFFICE OF ETHICS

2019 appropriation .....	\$4,136,000
2020 budget estimate .....	2,752,000
Provided in the bill .....	4,136,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	+1,384,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of Ethics, the Committee provides the 2019 enacted level of \$4,136,000.

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

2019 appropriation .....	\$800,000
2020 budget estimate .....	800,000
Provided in the bill .....	800,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$800,000.

*Antimicrobial Resistance Research Strategy.*—The Committee has provided additional resources to ARS and NIFA that may be used to strengthen USDA's ability to support an expanded focus on animal science and antibiotic stewardship. The Committee encourages USDA to build on the work of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria and directs USDA to develop a strategic approach that coordinates all antimicrobial resistance projects in the REE mission area. The Department should explore coordinating with agencies and offices in HHS. USDA should also consider establishing a public-private partnership framework with HHS (including the Centers for Disease Control), industry, and land-grant universities with relevant expertise in states with significant livestock production to support applied research, education, and outreach to address antimicrobial-resistant animal and human pathogens.

*Enhancing Entrepreneurship at USDA.*—While USDA deploys significant investments to drive agricultural innovation and enhance community vitality, the Committee believes that USDA could more effectively support entrepreneurship in rural communities by

bolstering creative partnerships that connect entrepreneurs in the agricultural ecosystem. The Committee directs ARS and NIFA to work together and brief the Committee on USDA efforts that enhance and encourage entrepreneurship across rural America. The brief shall include a discussion of how ongoing agricultural entrepreneurship, extension, and 4-H and other youth agriculture programs at land-grant universities help to increase visibility and viability of agricultural entrepreneurship in rural America; an examination of barriers to commercialization of USDA-funded research; and an evaluation of USDA regulations that inhibit rural entrepreneurship.

*Leveraging Plant Genome Information.*—The Committee recognizes the potential impact that variable weather, environments, and production systems can have on the yield and quantity of maize and the need for greater prediction of plant performance under variable growing conditions. The Committee encourages USDA to support research that leverages plant genomic information with phenotypic and environmental data through an interdisciplinary framework, resulting in an understanding of plant processes that affect productivity and the ability to predict plant performance.

*National Data Repository for Intelligent Agricultural Production, Health, and Security.*—The food and agriculture sector in the United States is entering a new era with a proliferation of available data resulting in unprecedented opportunities for modeling, forecasting, and analytics that are already changing other sectors of the American economy. The Committee encourages USDA to explore developing a national data repository for intelligent agricultural production, health, and security. The Committee directs USDA to provide to the Committee a brief that explores how to develop a roadmap for policies that enable large-scale aggregation of agricultural production data while preserving competitive advantage for individual farmers, ranchers, producers, and processors. As part of the brief, USDA should identify leading land-grant universities with capacity to lead this effort and identify a consortium of universities to partner in defining potential goals, resource needs, and expected outcomes and benefits of this national repository.

*Pollinators and Colony Health Research.*—The Committee recognizes that Colony Collapse Disorder and related colony health issues are a significant concern to beekeepers, honey producers, farmers, researchers, policymakers, and the public. It directs the Department to continue to focus on the challenges facing pollinators. The bill includes funding for a pollinator research coordinator as authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill.

*Potato Research.*—The Committee supports research efforts to combat crop-threatening pest and disease pressures, including the potato cyst nematode. The Committee also recognizes the importance of research initiatives to identify and improve desired traits for new potato varieties and directs the Department to continue working with universities, industry and potato growers on these projects.

*Poultry Technology Research.*—The Committee understands that the U.S. poultry industry is the most efficient in the world. However, with expected global growth in demand and competition, technological advances in broiler production are critical to increasing

production and profitability. The Committee supports cooperative research that contributes to increased efficiencies in housing, equipment, energy and environmental controls tailored to meet the long-term needs of the industry.

*Screening Technologies.*—The Committee encourages the development of technologies that will provide rapid, portable, and facile screening of food fish species at port sites and wholesale and retail centers.

*Vector Control.*—The Committee encourages USDA to support research, including the work done through the Biotechnology Risk Assessment Research Grants program, to develop innovative vector control technologies targeted to combatting Zika-carrying *Aedes aegypti* mosquitos. The Committee is aware that vaccine development takes time, pesticide use has a variety of limitations, and human health effects and treatment will be a challenge for years to come. Therefore, the Committee urges USDA to utilize pest management programs and partner organizations to conduct research to develop and test effective repellents, create new molecular pesticide technologies that prevent mosquitoes from reproducing, and explore natural product remedies to deter pests.

#### ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

2019 appropriation .....	\$86,757,000
2020 budget estimate .....	60,500,000
Provided in the bill .....	87,757,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+1,000,00
2020 budget estimate .....	+27,257,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Economic Research Service (ERS), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$87,757,000. The Committee strongly disagrees with USDA's proposal to relocate ERS and provides no funding for relocation activities. In addition, the Committee does not concur with the request to significantly reduce ERS' research activities.

*Recovering Value from Animal Waste.*—The Committee is interested in understanding the potential cost savings that may arise from more efficiently processing and managing animal waste. The Committee directs ERS to provide a report to the Committee not later than 1 year after the enactment of this Act on potential opportunities to recover greater value for farmers from animal waste. The report shall include a discussion of the following: 1) direct and indirect financial revenue opportunities; 2) the potential value of i) on-farm reuse of products such as fertilizer application to cropland; ii) remanufactured products; iii) energy recovery; 3) potential tax credits; 4) nutrient recovery; 5) grants and loan incentives; and 6) other sources of revenue. An optimum value model should be described. The Committee expects the report to address the feasibility of recovering value from animal waste, the emerging technologies and tools available, and physical and economic factors to be considered, and identify potential federal programs which could provide incentives and adoption. The Committee provides ERS \$1,000,000 to conduct the report.

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

2019 appropriation .....	\$174,517,000
2020 budget estimate .....	163,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	180,794,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+6,277,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+17,794,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$180,794,000, of which \$45,300,000 is for the Census of Agriculture. The Committee does not accept any proposed eliminations or reductions of ongoing activities, including in-season forecasts for non-citrus fruit and tree nut crops such as pecans. The Committee provides \$2,000,000 to expand the Farm Labor Survey.

*Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Initiative.*—The Committee appreciates the continued focus on broadband access for rural communities. The Committee provides the requested \$2,000,000 for this initiative and directs NASS to coordinate their collection efforts in partnership with USDA’s Rural Development Programs to ensure no duplication of efforts occurs.

*Antibiotic Resistance Efforts.*—The Committee includes an additional \$2,000,000 to strengthen NASS activities in support of the National Animal Health Monitoring System commodity studies and the Agricultural Resource Management Survey. This additional funding will help expand USDA knowledge and understanding of antibiotic use practices and the emergency of resistance.

*Chemical Use Data.*—The Committee encourages NASS to continue funding the collection and analysis of chemical use data as well as practices such as integrated pest management. In addition, the Committee directs NASS to continue collecting Fruit Chemical Use data and Vegetable Chemical Use data in alternating years.

*Commercial Floriculture Crops Report.*—USDA is directed to complete the Commercial Floriculture Crops Report.

*Commodity Survey Staffing.*—The Committee directs NASS to explore the feasibility of reestablishing a physical presence in Puerto Rico and provide a briefing to the Committee not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

*Organic Agriculture Survey.*—The Committee includes the requested funding to conduct the Organic Agriculture Survey. The Committee notes that the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), ERS, and NASS are each involved in data collection or reporting on organics. The Department is directed to brief the Committees on its data collection and reporting efforts on organic agriculture, its plan for continuing these efforts in the future, and how these efforts are coordinated across the Department not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2019 appropriation .....	\$1,303,266,000
2020 budget estimate .....	1,203,491,000
Provided in the bill .....	1,347,516,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+44,250,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+144,025,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Salaries and Expenses of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,347,516,000.

The Committee recognizes that many research goals constitute a moving target and research objectives may change from year to year. The Committee is interested in understanding what research programs ARS has determined are mature and what research programs are the highest priority of the agency. The Committee directs ARS to provide a brief to the Committee on its ongoing efforts to assess and prioritize research across all its ongoing programs. This will help the Committee direct resources to the most impactful programs in the future. The Committee does not accept the President's budget request regarding the reduction or termination of extramural research and expects that extramural research be funded at no less than the fiscal year 2019 levels. In addition, the Committee does not accept the proposed termination of research programs or closure of research locations.

*Agricultural Research Facilities.*—The Committee directs ARS to explore ways in which its labs could be better utilized, in cooperation with non-profits, consortiums, and land grant universities, to achieve new scientific goals that benefit the nation's food and agriculture system. In addition, the Committee encourages ARS to work with the entities listed above to develop a smart agriculture industry technology roadmap. This research strategy can help guide the future development of technology in the agriculture industry and maintain U.S. leadership.

*Alfalfa Research.*—The Committee supports an additional \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for research into alfalfa seed and forage systems, which hold the potential to maximize crop yields, increase milk production, and improve genetics.

*Animal Research.*—The Committee continues to monitor closely the compliance by ARS animal research facilities with the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act. The Committee notes that ARS has not yet submitted the single report discussing all the violations found by APHIS to date that was mandated in the 2019 Act and that the first quarterly report since the 2019 Act was enacted failed to include any discussion of violations found by APHIS and specific actions taken. Thus, the Committee directs ARS to revise the mandated report accordingly.

*Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plan.*—The Committee supports the research goals of USDA's Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plan to examine the role of nutritional alternative/feed additives containing bioactives and prebiotics as alternatives to increase antibiotic use. This may lead to reduced antibiotic use and boost immune responses in livestock. The Committee directs ARS to provide

an update on their role in this effort in its fiscal year 2021 budget request.

*Areawide Integrated Pest Management.*—The Committee supports ARS' efforts on areawide integrated pest management and encourages continued efforts to design and implement programs across the country.

*Big Data.*—The Committee supports ARS' ongoing efforts to maximize knowledge extracted from large data sets. The Committee is interested in the development of long-term, durable solutions for the information challenges involving Big Data.

*Biological Collections.*—The Committee supports the biological collection activities of ARS and its importance to the scientific mission of ARS.

*Bovine Pleuropneumonia.*—The Committee is concerned about the potential harm to the cattle industry from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and provides \$1,000,000 to partner with academia to develop improved diagnostic tests and vaccines for this harmful disease.

*Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).*—The Committee supports research aimed at defining BSE inheritance patterns, environmental triggers for BSE susceptibility and/or resistance, and development of preclinical disease testing methods and strategies.

*Cattle Fever Ticks.*—The Committee provides not less than \$8,000,000 for cattle fever tick critical research needs. The Committee directs ARS to coordinate development of its long-term cattle fever tick research program with APHIS efforts under the Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program.

*Cercospora Leaf Spot Disease.*—The Committee is concerned about the prevalence of the cercospora leaf spot, a destructive disease that impacts sugar beet production and results in significant losses in root yield and sugar content. The Committee supports the work being done by ARS and its continued efforts to develop management solutions to combat cercospora leaf spot disease.

*Citrus Greening Disease Research.*—The Committee commends ARS' research efforts on citrus greening disease and encourages the agency to continue working to develop methods to reduce transmission and enhance immunity in citrus trees and to work with industry, universities, growers, and other partners to develop effective control mechanisms. The Committee also encourages ARS to coordinate its efforts with the Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination group (HLB MAC).

*Coffee Plant Health Initiative.*—The Committee supports the research goals of the Coffee Plant Health Initiative.

*Cranberry Research.*—The Committee is supportive of the multi-university cranberry and blueberry research programs operated in partnership with the ARS, and provides an additional \$750,000 above the 2019 level for the purchase of equipment and the hiring of additional scientists to meet research needs in disease prevention, pesticide reduction, and water conservation.

*Energy-Water Nexus.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Energy-Water Nexus, and as part of that effort, encourages USDA to work with the Department of Energy (DOE) to identify research collaborations to develop safe, affordable, deployable, energy- and water-efficient technologies for food production platforms that support non-traditional water use. The Committee di-



rects ARS to work with NIFA and DOE on this initiative and provide to the Committee not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a report listing ongoing research collaborations between ARS and DOE, including its National Laboratories.

*Genetic Oat Research.*—The Committee recognizes the potential genetic oat research has to improve disease resistance (especially rusts and viruses), genetics, increase yields, and develop crop rotation systems that include oats, which will enhance the value of oats and provide benefits to producers and consumers. The Committee provides an additional \$500,000 above the 2019 level to research oat germplasm, genomics, phenomics, disease resistance, and enhanced yield.

*Germplasm Enhancement of Maize.*—The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level in support of germplasm enhancement of maize projects and encourages continued cooperation between ARS and industry.

*Greenhouse Technology Research.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of advancing greenhouse technology and exploring its capabilities to address the energy and water challenges inherent in four-season production systems, beginning in food insecure communities across the country. The Committee encourages ARS to work with DOE on greenhouse technology research that explores how to integrate ongoing research projects at the various DOE National Labs to develop affordable, deployable, and energy and water-efficient food production platforms for undernourished regions of the country. By working together, ARS and DOE can bring their respective strengths and resources to designing the most desirable, low-cost, and efficient production system. The Committee provides an additional \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level in continued support of this effort.

*Healthy Soil-Healthy Food-Healthy People.*—The Committee supports efforts within ARS to encourage the study of enhanced food nutritional quality through the Healthy Soil-Healthy Food-Healthy People initiative.

*Hops Research.*—The Committee recognizes that the U.S. hops industry has experienced unprecedented expansion due to the brewing industry's economic growth over the past decade. To sustain this growth, new varieties of hops are needed to prevent disease and expand production throughout the country. The Committee strongly supports ARS' ongoing research in hops genomics and pathology, and maintains increases from previous years.

*Horticultural Research and Education.*—The Committee recognizes the U.S. National Arboretum as a prominent research body staffed with highly skilled and dedicated scientists with a history of scientific discovery in environmental horticulture. The Committee encourages continued support of the Arboretum as its research and academic programs not only work towards developing new approaches in detecting and treating plant disease, but also the ability to connect people with plants in a unique and serene environment that enhances the public understanding of agricultural plant sciences.

*Human Nutrition Research.*—The Committee directs ARS to provide to the Committee not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a report on the connection between how to advance science, policy, and practice for how healthier food enhances overall

health, reduces obesity and related co-morbidity, and could lower health care costs.

*Livestock Protection.*—The Committee recognizes the challenges caused by infectious disease problems arising from wildlife-domestic animal agriculture interactions, particularly between domestic sheep and wild bighorn sheep. Researchers have recently produced an experimental vaccine to protect bighorn populations from disease, but much work is still required. The Committee encourages ARS to pursue work to determine the role of domestic sheep in causing die-offs of bighorn sheep from respiratory disease and develop methods to reduce transmission and enhance immunity in domestic and bighorn sheep.

*Long-Term Agro-ecosystem Research.*—The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 above fiscal year 2019 for the Long-Term Agro-ecosystem Research (LTAR) network. The Committee encourages ARS to fully utilize all the LTAR sites.

*Lower Mississippi River Basin.*—The Committee recognizes the groundwater problems in the Lower Mississippi River Basin and encourages ARS, in collaboration with university research, extension scientists and local stakeholders, to identify gaps in water management research and focus efforts on the development of conservation and irrigation techniques to reduce water usage in agriculture production while maintaining crop quality and yield.

*Macadamia Tree Health Initiative.*—The Committee provides an additional \$500,000 above fiscal year 2019 to support implementation of the Macadamia Tree Health Initiative.

*Marine Aquaculture Seedstock.*—The Committee is concerned that vital seedstock to support the development of aquaculture in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico will be sourced from foreign aquaculture producers. Domestic on-land recirculating aquaculture systems and offshore aquaculture are highly capable of producing a steady supply of marine fish seedstock to support new offshore and aquaculture industries. This includes broodstock acquisition and care, spawning, larval culture techniques, and juvenile rearing. The Committee provides an additional \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for the development effort of aquaculture technology that will ensure a steady supply of warm water marine fish seedstock for economic growth of the U.S. aquaculture industry.

*National Agricultural Library.*—The Committee encourages ARS to maintain a focus on agricultural-related legal issues within the National Agricultural Library. The Committee notes that as the agriculture sector faces increasing financial stress, there is a necessity that agriculture-related legal issues be addressed on an increasingly frequent basis. Further, agriculture-related legal issues are increasingly complex, and the impact of these legal issues continues to broaden in scope. The Committee recommends that the National Agricultural Library play an important role in assisting all stakeholders with understanding these issues.

*National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF).*—The Committee notes that NBAF is approaching construction completion and that there are remaining transition and operational capability actions necessary before full operational capability can occur. While the Committee understands the current research programs at APHIS and ARS that will be moved into NBAF once the full transition from the Plum Island Animal Disease Center is complete, the Com-

mittee is not yet aware of how USDA will fill out the rest of NBAF with other ongoing or new research activities and any associated outyear costs. Therefore, USDA shall submit to the Committees a ten-year strategic plan that describes the annual projected research and operations costs associated with full utilization of the NBAF facility. The plan should include a discussion of how USDA will utilize all available lab space, what ongoing research programs will grow, future research priorities that will be housed in NBAF, and the associated annual costs of each activity.

*National Soil Dynamics Laboratory.*—The Committee directs the National Soil Dynamics Laboratory to conduct research and development of technologies to recover phosphorous from manure, transform manure into secondary byproducts and find alternative, environmentally safe and economical usages of manure. The research may also explore environmentally safe methods and appropriate rates of manure application for growing crops and vegetables and the development of alternative feedstock for livestock by raising aquatic zooplankton on manure wastewater.

*New Cotton Virus.*—The Committee encourages ARS to coordinate with APHIS, academic partners, and industry to conduct research to establish biomarkers, research resistant seed varieties, and to develop virus taxonomy and extension management strategies pertaining to aphid control and general cotton management for cotton viruses transmitted by the cotton aphid.

*Pickled Vegetables.*—The Committee supports ARS' ongoing research efforts on pickled vegetables.

*Regional Hubs.*—The Committee supports the role of USDA's Climate Hubs and how they supplement ongoing work at ARS. The Committee directs ARS to provide a briefing on these ongoing efforts and planned activities in future years.

*Roseau Cane.*—The Committee continues to direct ARS to work with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and stakeholders to develop an integrated management program for control of the scale insect pest infestation that is destroying Roseau cane in the Mississippi River's Delta region along the Gulf of Mexico.

*Sclerotinia Initiative.*—The Committee is aware of the importance of controlling Sclerotinia in sunflowers, soybeans, canola, edible beans, peanuts, peas, lentils, and chickpeas and encourages ARS to continue its support of this initiative.

*Shellfish Research.*—The Committee includes an additional \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level to support additional shellfish genetics research staff positions.

*Small Fruits Research.*—The Committee supports the tri-state research efforts on the development of small fruits and grapes in the Pacific Northwest. This research is critical to ensuring continued economic and environmentally-sustainable production for these crops.

*Small Grain Genomics.*—The Committee supports research on small grain genomics to address national genomic and breeding needs for U.S. crops to keep small grains and feed as viable crops and continue their substantial contributions to the agricultural economy. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level for this research.

*Soft Wheat Falling Numbers Test Research.*—The Committee recognizes the emerging crisis surrounding wheat starch degradation, as detected by the Hagberg-Perten Falling Numbers Test, and encourages ARS to continue researching the accuracy of the test and the environmental, storage, and generic conditions leading to this quality loss.

*Spittle Bug.*—The Committee encourages ARS to coordinate research efforts with NIFA and APHIS to address the impact of the spittle bug.

*Sugarcane Research Program.*—The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level to the Sugarcane Research Program to support breeding and pathology research for the development of high-yielding, biotic and abiotic stress resistant cultivars resistant to emerging pests and diseases that threaten the sugarcane industry.

*Tropical and Subtropical Research.*—The Committee encourages ARS to explore research aimed at supporting tropical and subtropical crops and how this research would fit into ongoing activities.

*Turfgrass Research.*—The Committee provides an additional \$3,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level to conduct research on new grasses that require less water, fertilizer, and other inputs; genomic sequencing of grasses to identify drought, heat, and pest resistance; maximizing the amount of carbon captured by turfgrass systems and reducing carbon output through enhanced maintenance systems; and enhancing turfgrass contributions as a foundation for landscape enhancements.

*U.S. Sheep Experiment Station (USSES).*—The Committee recognizes the unique and valuable contributions the USSES makes toward increasing the production efficiency of sheep and improving sustainable rangeland ecosystems. The Committee also recognizes a unique opportunity to expand other research initiatives. The Committee encourages ARS to work with various stakeholders regarding efforts to propose mission improvements for the USSES.

*U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab (USWBS).*—The Committee recognizes the importance of the research carried out through the USWBS Initiative. Fusarium head blight is a major threat to agriculture, inflicting substantial yield and quality losses throughout the U.S. The Committee provides an additional \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 level in support of the USWBS Initiative.

*Vacant Positions.*—The Committee notes that there are still numerous vacant positions at ARS laboratories across the nation. The Committee directs ARS to fill vacant positions in order to optimize the utilization of ARS laboratory space and ensure that research goals can be continually met. Further, the Committee encourages ARS to fill these vacancies with permanent employees.

*Water Quality.*—The Committee supports ARS's continued efforts to research alternatives to land application of animal manures in watersheds where over-application is harming fresh water drinking supplies. The Committee also supports ARS efforts to identify alternative collection and processing options for manure to remove toxic elements and yield usable material.

*Whitefly.*—The Committee recognizes that whiteflies are an emerging pest as a result of developing resistance to many pesticides making chemical control difficult and climate variability re-

sulting in warmer winters and lower seasonal die off. The Committee remains concerned with the whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci*, epidemic which is severely impacting vegetable and cotton production in the Southeast United States.

*Wildfire Smoke Taint Research on Winegrapes.*—The Committee supports research to identify the compounds responsible for smoke taint, establish science-based threshold levels of smoke compounds that cause smoke taint, develop mitigation methods to reduce or eliminate smoke taint, and study compounds that can act as a barrier between the grapes and smoke compounds. The Committee provides \$1,500,000 in support of these research efforts.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

2019 appropriation .....	\$381,200,000
2020 budget estimate .....	50,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	50,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— 331,200,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$50,000,000 for deferred maintenance priorities of existing facilities.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

##### RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

2019 appropriation .....	\$927,649,000
2020 budget estimate .....	974,715,000
Provided in the bill .....	1,033,007,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+105,358,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+58,292,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Research and Education Activities, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,033,007,000. The Committee strongly opposes USDA's proposal to relocate NIFA and provides no funding for such relocation activities.

*Agricultural Research Enhancement Awards.*—The Committee continues to direct that not less than 15 percent of the competitive research grant funds be used for USDA's agriculture research enhancement awards program, including USDA-EPSCoR, in accordance with 7 U.S.C. 450i.

*Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI).*—The Committee strongly supports the AFRI program. The Committee notes that projects that characterize protein functionality from crops to assess their sustainability for use as alternatives to conventional animal products are eligible for competitive awards in the AFRI program. In addition, the Committee also notes that research into plant-based protein-rich foods for human consumption is also eligible. The Committee supports the continued research goals of the AFRI program.

*Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems.*—The Committee recognizes the potential that the fields of agroecology and food systems have to increase food security, food self-sufficiency, sustain-

able economic development, public health, and weather resiliency. The Committee supports research focused on agroecology and sustainable food systems and encourages NIFA to explore strategic partnerships, interdisciplinary educational programming, applied research, policy analysis, outreach, and scholarships in these fields as part of its ongoing research efforts.

*Alfalfa Seed and Alfalfa Forage Systems.*—The Committee notes that research into alfalfa seed and alfalfa forage systems holds the potential to increase yields, increase milk production, and improve genetics. The Committee supports this research and its continued focus on enhancing existing breeding programs that can improve yields, harvesting, water conservation, and environmental benefits.

*Blockchain Food Traceability.*—The Committee notes the potential of blockchain technology to revolutionize the practice of food traceability, tracking food products from origin through every point of contact on the journey to the consumer. The Committee is interested in how blockchain technology can be utilized to accurately trace food and mitigate the risks associated with food contaminated outbreaks and to develop effective strategies for controls. The Committee encourages NIFA to coordinate research to reduce the risk of foodborne illness through the application of blockchain technology.

*Childhood Obesity.*—The Committee recognizes that NIFA has supported important and effective programs that address childhood obesity in remote areas and among native and underserved populations. The Committee encourages NIFA to continue funding these programs to address childhood obesity prevention and community health promotion in remote areas and among native and underserved populations.

*Citrus Disease Research Program.*—The 2014 Farm Bill established the Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program, which is intended to discover and develop tools for early detection, control, and eradication of diseases and pests that threaten domestic citrus production and processing. The 2018 Farm Bill reauthorized this program and established the Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Development Trust Fund to provide \$25,000,000 per year in mandatory funding for the program. The Committee believes research projects funded under this authority should be prioritized based on the critical threat of citrus greening and encourages NIFA, to the maximum extent practicable, to follow the recommendations of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Advisory Board's citrus disease subcommittee and to collaborate with the HLB MAC group.

*Crop Degradation.*—The Committee is aware of crop degradation issues harming agricultural producers. For example, starch degradation in Pacific Northwest soft white wheat crops led to significant value losses for producers in late 2016. The Committee encourages NIFA to conduct research through AFRI into soft white wheat crop quality loss to mitigate its impact on producers.

*Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network.*—The Committee supports the goals of the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network and includes an increase in funds for the program's second year of operation.

*Grants for Insular Areas.*—The Committee recognizes NIFA efforts to strengthen capacity at land-grant institutions in the U.S.

territories in the areas of instruction, distance education, facilities and equipment, and research. The Committee emphasizes the importance of continuing the support for these institutions and provides an increase to help address plant disease and invasive species priorities in the territories.

*Grants Promoting K-12 Agriculture Education.*—The Committee directs USDA to continue to prioritize projects that include a component of connecting stakeholders and employers to students, teachers, and schools to facilitate collaboration and communication and to ensure stakeholders are connected to students, especially in urban areas.

*Livestock and Poultry Waste Research.*—The Committee recognizes the benefits of improved methods of managing animal waste in livestock and poultry production and encourages NIFA to support research and development of innovative technologies, particularly those that are operationally and economically feasible and have a high probability of widespread implementation.

*Multifaceted Tools for Controlling Harmful Algal Blooms and Huanglongbing.*—The Committee encourages NIFA to continue research into the use of potent antimicrobials through the use of environmentally-friendly integrated nano-delivery systems for the purpose of controlling both harmful algal blooms and Huanglongbing.

*Research at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions.*—The Committee encourages NIFA to continue to support biotechnology by promoting research at the land-grant colleges and universities, including the Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions, and directs NIFA to encourage partnerships among those universities and industry. The Committee directs NIFA to brief the Committee not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act on its efforts.

*Sensor Technologies.*—The Committee encourages NIFA to work cooperatively with non-profit institutions, consortia, and land-grant universities to conduct research on advanced sensor manufacturing techniques to improve the agricultural industry.

*Specialty Crop Research Initiative.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) in addressing the needs of the specialty crop industry through research and extension activities. The Committee encourages NIFA to address winter production, season extension, and high tunnel vegetable production as part of ongoing SCRI activities.

*Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE).*—The Committee notes that energy efficiency is an integral part of sustainable agriculture. The Committee encourages USDA to explore how ongoing programs at land grant universities can complement energy efficiency operations at farms. The SARE program can serve as an important connection between land grant universities and farmers and ranchers. The Committee directs USDA to provide a briefing not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act on the potential for the SARE program to assist agricultural producers in carbon neutral agricultural practices.

*Sustainable Agricultural Systems.*—The Committee encourages NIFA to continue the Sustainable Agricultural Systems program and emphasize, among its priorities and goals, the reduction of bac-

terial contamination and the increase of nutrition research to inform agricultural systems from production to user.

*Urban Agriculture.*—The Committee notes that urban agriculture can be a viable solution to support healthier dietary options and improve the overall health of residents in urban communities. The Committee encourages NIFA to create partnerships and linkages to assist urban agricultural production in food insecure and nutrient short communities across the nation. In addition, the Committee also encourages NIFA to continue to serve as a resource for urban and rural farmers to enable collaborations on market production.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the Committee:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES  
[Dollars in Thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	2019 enacted	2020 estimate	Committee provision
Hatch Act .....	7 U.S.C. 361a-i .....	\$259,000	\$243,238	\$265,000
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act .....	16 U.S.C. 582a through a-7 ..	36,000	28,867	38,000
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans-Allen Program).	7 U.S.C. 3222 .....	58,000	53,817	67,000
Payments to the 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 301 note .....	3,439	3,416	4,000
Education Grants for 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(b) .....	19,336	18,710	23,009
Scholarships at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3222a .....	— —	— —	10,000
Competitive Facility Modernization Grants .....	7 U.S.C. 390–390d .....	— —	50,000	— —
Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions	7 U.S.C. 3241 .....	9,219	9,156	20,000
Education Grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions.	7 U.S.C. 3156 .....	3,194	— —	4,000
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 301 note .....	3,801	1,789	3,801
Capacity Building for Non-Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture.	7 U.S.C. 3319i .....	5,000	— —	5,000
Grants for Insular Areas .....	7 U.S.C. 3222b–2, 3362 and 3363.	2,000	— —	2,700
Competitive Program for Native Alaskans, Native Hawaiians, and Insular Area Institutions.	.....	— —	5,000	— —
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(b) .....	415,000	500,000	460,000
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment .....	7 U.S.C. 3151a .....	8,000	4,991	9,000
Veterinary Services Grant Program .....	7 U.S.C. 3151b .....	3,000	— —	3,000
Continuing Animal Health and Disease Research Program.	7 U.S.C. 3195 .....	4,000	— —	4,000
Supplemental and Alternative Crops .....	7 U.S.C. 3319d .....	1,000	— —	1,000
Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship and Institution Challenge Grants.	7 U.S.C. 3152(b) .....	9,000	— —	9,000
Secondary and 2-year Post-Secondary Education ...	7 U.S.C. 3152(j) .....	900	— —	900
Aquaculture Centers .....	7 U.S.C. 3322 .....	5,000	— —	5,000
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education ...	7 U.S.C. 5811, 5812, 5831, and 5832.	37,000	19,009	45,000
Farm Business Management .....	7 U.S.C. 5925f .....	2,000	— —	2,250
Sun Grant Program .....	7 U.S.C. 8114 .....	3,000	— —	3,000
Research Equipment Grants .....	7 U.S.C. 3310a .....	— —	— —	5,000
Alfalfa and Forage Research Program .....	7 U.S.C. 5925 .....	3,000	— —	5,000
Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4) .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	11,913	— —	12,000
Special Research Grants: .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c).			
Global Change/UV Monitoring .....	.....	1,405	— —	1,405
Potato Research .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	2,750	— —	3,250
Aquaculture Research .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	2,000	— —	2,000
Total, Special Research Grants .....	.....	6,155	— —	6,655
Necessary Expenses of Research and Education Activities:				
Grants Management Systems .....	.....	7,830	7,424	7,830
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses.	.....	11,862	29,298	11,862



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES—  
Continued  
[Dollars in Thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	2019 enacted	2020 estimate	Committee provision
Total, Necessary Expenses .....	.....	19,692	36,722	19,692
Total, Research and Education Activities.	.....	\$927,649	\$974,715	\$1,033,007

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

2019 appropriation .....	(\$11,880,000)
2020 budget estimate .....	(11,857,000)
Provided in the bill .....	(11,880,000)
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	+23,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund, the Committee provides \$11,880,000.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

2019 appropriation .....	\$505,692,000
2020 budget estimate .....	415,274,000
Provided in the bill .....	541,086,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+35,394,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+125,812,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Extension Activities, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$541,086,000.

*Rural Health and Safety Education Programs.*—The opioid abuse epidemic is one of the greatest threats facing rural America today, and the Committee supports all efforts to address this problem through improved health and safety education and outreach. The Committee provides an increase of \$500,000 for Rural Health and Safety Education Programs to combat opioid abuse in rural communities.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the Committee:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—EXTENSION ACTIVITIES  
[Dollars in Thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Smith-Lever Act, Section 3(b) and (c) programs and Cooperative Extension.	7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c) and 208(c) of P.L. 93–471.	\$315,000	\$299,430	\$325,000
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3221 .....	48,620	47,310	57,000
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3) .....	6,446	4,416	8,000
Facility Improvements at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3222b .....	19,730	— — —	23,529
Renewable Resources Extension Act .....	16 U.S.C. 1671 et. seq. ....	4,060	— — —	4,060
Rural Health and Safety Education Programs .....	7 U.S.C. 2662(i) .....	3,000	2,000	3,500
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database Program	7 U.S.C. 7642 .....	2,500	— — —	2,500
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields .....	7 U.S.C. 5925 .....	400	— — —	400
Food Safety Outreach Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7625 .....	8,000	4,000	10,000

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—EXTENSION ACTIVITIES—Continued

[Dollars in Thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Food and Ag Service Learning .....	7 U.S.C. 7633 .....	1,000	— — —	2,000
Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network .....	7 U.S.C. 5936 .....	2,000	— — —	10,000
Smith-Lever Act, Section 3(d): .....	7 U.S.C. 343(d) .....			
Food and Nutrition Education .....		69,000	55,100	69,000
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education Programs .....		4,610	— — —	4,610
New Technologies for Agricultural Extension ....		1,550	— — —	1,550
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk .....		8,395	— — —	8,395
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program .....		3,039	3,018	3,200
Total, Section 3(d) .....		86,594	58,118	86,755
Necessary Expenses of Extension Activities: .....				
Agriculture in the K–12 Classroom .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(j) .....	552	— — —	552
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses for Extension Activities .....		7,790	— — —	7,790
Total, Necessary Expenses .....		8,342	— — —	8,342
Total, Extension Activities .....		\$505,692	\$415,274	\$541,086

## INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

2019 appropriation .....	\$38,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	1,697,000
Provided in the bill .....	40,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+2,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+38,303,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Integrated Activities, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$40,000,000.

*Crop Protection and Pest Management Program.*—The Committee supports the development and implementation of areawide integrated pest management (AIPM) projects. The Committee directs NIFA to establish within the Crop Protection and Pest Management Program an organizational framework and funding plan to implement AIPM projects that are to be planned in coordination with ARS, APHIS, and other federal agencies and implemented by cross-institutional teams, including farmers, ranchers, and land managers, at the local level.

*Food Safety Education.*—The Committee supports NIFA’s ongoing efforts to provide research, education, and extension activities to reduce the incidence of foodborne illness and provide a safer food supply.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the Committee.

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

[Dollars in Thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Methyl Bromide Transition Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	\$2,000	\$ — —	\$2,000
Organic Transition Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	6,000	— — —	8,000
Regional Rural Development Centers .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	2,000	1,697	2,000

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES—Continued

[Dollars in Thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative .....	7 U.S.C. 3351 .....	8,000	— — —	8,000
Crop Protection/Pest Management Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	20,000	— — —	20,000
Total, Integrated Activities .....	.....	38,000	1,697	40,000

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND  
REGULATORY PROGRAMS

2019 appropriation .....	\$901,000
2020 budget estimate .....	800,000
Provided in the bill .....	800,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— 101,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$800,000.

## ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$1,011,136,000
2020 budget estimate .....	981,893,000
Provided in the bill .....	1,034,011,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+22,875,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+52,118,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,034,011,000.

The Committee provides increases for the following programs: \$8,500,000 for Cattle Health; \$3,000,000 for Equine, Cervid, and Small Ruminant Health; \$2,000,000 for Veterinary Biologics; \$4,200,000 for Veterinary Diagnostics; \$1,000,000 for Zoonotic Disease Management; \$1,000,000 for Field Crop and Rangeland Ecosystems Pests; \$295,000 for Horse Protection; \$1,000,000 for Plant Protection Methods Development; \$1,380,000 for Wildlife Damage Management; and \$500,000 for Specialty Crop Pests.

Within the amount included for Specialty Crop Pests, the Committee includes \$63,640,000 for fruit fly exclusion and detection; \$61,000,000 for citrus health, including \$3,000,000 for the Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination efforts; \$21,100,000 for the glassy-winged sharpshooter; \$6,318,000 for the pale cyst nematode; \$6,500,000 for the light brown apple moth; \$6,600,000 for the European grapevine moth; and \$12,000,000 for spotted lanternfly.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the Committee:

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Animal Health Technical Services .....	\$37,857	\$44,857	\$37,857
Aquatic Animal Health .....	2,253	2,253	2,253
Avian Health .....	62,840	62,840	62,840
Cattle Health .....	96,500	96,500	105,000
Equine, Cervid, and Small Ruminant Health .....	20,800	16,500	23,800
National Veterinary Stockpile .....	5,725	5,725	5,725
Swine Health .....	24,800	19,753	24,800
Veterinary Biologics .....	16,417	16,417	18,417
Veterinary Diagnostics .....	50,140	49,230	54,340
Zoonotic Disease Management .....	16,523	15,744	17,523
<i>Subtotal, Animal Health</i> .....	333,855	329,819	352,555
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated) .....	32,330	31,330	32,330
Cotton Pests .....	11,520	7,000	11,520
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests .....	11,826	7,809	12,826
Pest Detection .....	27,446	27,446	27,446
Plant Protection Methods Development .....	20,686	20,686	21,686
Specialty Crop Pests .....	186,013	176,843	186,513
Tree & Wood Pests .....	60,000	56,000	60,000
<i>Subtotal, Plant Health</i> .....	349,821	327,114	352,321
Wildlife Damage Management .....	108,376	108,376	109,756
Wildlife Services Methods Development .....	18,856	18,856	18,856
<i>Subtotal, Wildlife Services</i> .....	127,232	127,232	128,612
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement .....	16,224	16,224	16,224
Biotechnology Regulatory Services .....	18,875	18,875	18,875
<i>Subtotal, Regulatory Services</i> .....	35,099	35,099	35,099
Contingency Fund .....	470	470	470
Emergency Preparedness & Response .....	40,966	40,966	40,966
<i>Subtotal, Emergency Management</i> .....	41,436	41,436	41,436
Agriculture Import/Export .....	15,599	15,599	15,599
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations .....	24,115	22,115	24,115
<i>Subtotal, Safe Trade</i> .....	39,714	37,714	39,714
Animal Welfare .....	31,310	30,810	31,310
Horse Protection .....	705	705	1,000
<i>Subtotal, Animal Welfare</i> .....	32,015	31,515	32,310
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure .....	4,251	4,251	4,251
Physical/Operational Security .....	5,146	5,146	5,146
Rent and DHS Payments .....	42,567	42,567	42,567
<i>Subtotal, Agency Management</i> .....	51,964	51,964	51,964
<b>Total, APHIS S&amp;E Direct Appropriation .....</b>	<b>\$1,011,136</b>	<b>\$981,893</b>	<b>\$1,034,011</b>

*Agriculture Quarantine Inspections.*—The Committee recognizes that prevention of infestations of pests and diseases is much more cost effective than subsequent control or eradication. This is an important Federal responsibility and the Committee provides \$32,330,000 for the agricultural quarantine inspections (AQI) function, including pre-departure and interline inspections. The Committee does not adopt the President's proposal to move to a user fee system.

*Animal Care Program.*—The Committee is deeply concerned by how the Animal Care program is being managed. In particular, it has employed mechanisms such as “teachable moments” to avoid documenting violations of the laws it enforces. To address these concerns, the Committee directs Animal Care to immediately re-

quire all its inspectors to cite every observed violation at any visit to a regulated entity.

*Animal Surveillance.*—The Committee supports efforts to advance the development of improved animal surveillance practices that may lead to reduced and tailored antibiotic use and improved immune responses in livestock. The Committee encourages USDA to partner with organizations to continue to monitor animals, and collect and maintain information relevant to public health and livestock-management practices.

*Antimicrobial Resistance.*—The Committee supports efforts to address potential gaps in farm-specific antimicrobial resistance data. At the same time, the agency is reminded that any information collected on-farm should be done through the National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), keeping respondents anonymous and ensuring that all information collected is protected from release or distribution in a manner that could identify an individual respondent.

*Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB).*—Within the amount provided for Tree and Wood Pests, the Committee maintains funding and cost share rates for ALB at the 2019 level.

*Biological Control Program.*—The Committee provides an increase of \$1,000,000 for the Biological Control Program within Plant Protection Methods Development to continue efforts to suppress pest populations.

*Cattle Health.*—The Committee provides an increase of \$8,500,000 for Cattle Health to continue to fund related to eradication of fever ticks for livestock and wildlife hosts including but not limited to research, data management, infrastructure, and treatment. The Committee is concerned that the cattle fever tick quarantine area is expanding despite efforts to constrain their spread. To prevent movement of livestock and game animals outside of the quarantined or high-risk premises, the Committee encourages APHIS to use available funds for a cost-share program for the construction and repair of livestock or game fencing on private lands. The Committee directs USDA, in conjunction with State Animal Health Commissions, to develop a strategy to exclude wildlife from areas at highest risk of tick spread and identify areas that qualify for funds within these areas. APHIS is requested to submit a report to the Committee on its efforts within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

The Committee also notes that there are large dense stands of non-native carrizo cane occupy the banks and floodplains of the Rio Grande River, providing favorable habitat for agriculturally-damaging cattle fever ticks and threatening water supplies for agriculture due to its high evapo-transpiration capacity. The Committee understands APHIS has been working with ARS on biological controls and has received funds from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for mechanical controls. The Committee provides \$5,000,000 for APHIS to continue to coordinate with ARS, CBP, Department of the Interior, the International Boundary and Water Commission, the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, and other stakeholders on control efforts. The Committee directs APHIS to provide a report on the performance of this program within 60 days of the enactment of this Act.

*Center for Plant Health Science and Technology Laboratory.*—The Committee is concerned about the major threat to pistachios, almonds, and walnuts from the navel orangeworm. The annual loss caused by this pest is in excess of \$500,000,000. The Committee directs APHIS to develop a cost estimate for the creation of a pilot program involving the navel orangeworm rearing and sterile insect technology. This pilot program would mirror the work conducted by APHIS at this facility which led to the eradication of the pink bollworm. The Committee directs APHIS to provide the Committees with the estimate no later than 90 days after enactment.

*Center for Veterinary Biologics.*—The Committee provides an increase of \$2,000,000 for facility improvements and additional staff at the Center for Veterinary Biologics.

*Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).*—Funding is continued in Equine, Cervid, and Small Ruminant Health for the national, voluntary Herd Certification Program (HCP) and regulations for the interstate movement of farmed or captive deer, elk, and moose. The cervid industry continues to participate in the agency's HCP, which supports the domestic and international marketability of U.S. cervid herds. Funds are to be used for a combination of surveillance, research, and indemnification for culling herds where CWD infection has been found. Currently the only reliable test is a brain biopsy. The agency is encouraged to utilize resources to help speed up the development of a live test for CWD that would greatly decrease the need for indemnity. The Committee encourages APHIS to maintain its commitment to the HCP and the cervid industry, and directs the agency to spend no less than \$7,000,000 for cervid health activities. Within the funds provided, the agency should consider indemnity payments if warranted.

The Committee is concerned about the impacts of chronic wasting disease on free-ranging deer, and the potential threats of the disease on the future of free-ranging deer populations, hunting and rural economies. Of the amount for cervid health activities, \$3,000,000 is provided for appropriate assistance to state wildlife agencies, including conducting CWD surveillance and field programs, to assess and minimize the impacts of CWD on free-ranging deer.

The Committee also supports continued efforts under Wildlife Services Methods Development to research the predominant pathways and mechanisms of the transmission of chronic wasting disease in wild, captive, and farmed populations of cervids in North America, including identifying significant gaps in the current scientific knowledge regarding transmission pathways. In carrying out this research APHIS may consult, partner, or contract with the ARS, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Academy of Sciences, and other public and private entities.

*Citrus Health Response Program (CHRP).*—CHRP is a national effort to protect the U.S. industry from the ravages of invasive pests and diseases. These funds are designed to partner with state departments of agriculture and industry groups to address the challenges of citrus pests and diseases. In addition to the funds provided in this account, the Committee encourages APHIS to utilize the funds available in the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Programs account to the greatest extent

possible in an attempt to sustain the economic viability of the citrus industry.

*Cogongrass.*—The Committee continues to provide \$2,000,000 for APHIS to partner with state departments of agriculture and forestry commissions in states considered to be the epicenter of infestations, to assist with control and treatment of cogongrass in order to slow the advancing front of this invasive plant-pest species and its impact on forest productivity, wildlife habitat, and private landowners.

*Cotton Pests.*—The bill maintains funding for the joint Cotton Pests Program at the 2019 level. Given the eradication of the pink bollworm, all resources in the joint cotton pests program can now be dedicated to the eradication of the boll weevil, thus effectively increasing funding for this pest by almost \$4,000,000. The Committee encourages APHIS and the cotton industry to make every effort to ensure the boll weevil does not re-infest areas of the U.S. where it has been successfully eradicated. The Boll Weevil Eradication Program, an outstanding example of a public-private partnership, has successfully eradicated the boll weevil from all U.S. cotton-producing regions except for the extreme lower parts of Texas in the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) bordering Tamaulipas, Mexico. Growers in the LRGV, with assistance from APHIS and the support of the entire industry, continue to conduct an active program to eradicate the boll weevil. The LRGV serves as the barrier between boll weevil infested areas of Mexico and boll weevil-free areas of the United States.

*Disease Surveillance.*—Recognizing the importance of disease surveillance among APHIS-inspected animals, the Committee encourages APHIS to continue to explore partnerships with veterinary medicine programs to establish a formal disease surveillance network.

*Emergency Outbreaks.*—The Committee continues to include specific language relating to the availability of funds to address emergencies related to the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious diseases or pests of animals, poultry or plants. The Committee expects the Secretary to continue to use the authority provided in this bill to transfer funds from the CCC for the arrest and eradication of animal and plant pests and diseases that threaten American agriculture. By providing funds in this account, the Committee is enhancing, not replacing, the use of CCC funding for emergency outbreaks.

*Emergency Preparedness and Response.*—The Committee continues to provide funding for the Animal Care Program to coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on the National Response Plan and to support state and local governments' efforts to plan for protection of people with animals and incorporate lessons learned from previous disasters.

*Fresh Produce Pest Identification.*—The Committee is aware that when a local identifier cannot identify a plant pest or pathogen found within produce at a Port of Entry, the specimen is sent to a USDA national specialist in one of three offices on the East Coast. This may cause fresh produce to wait up to five days for an insect identification. The Committee directs APHIS to use the appropriate resources to expedite identifications and reduce the wait time for fresh produce. The Committee directs the agency to submit

a report to the Committees on Appropriations on its efforts within 60 days of enactment.

*Fruit Fly Facility.*—The Committee understands that APHIS is undertaking a review of the facility needs of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly Preventive Release Program located at the Los Alamitos National Guard Air Force Base and requests a report upon completion of the review.

*Green Coffee Imports.*—The Committee encourages APHIS to complete a trial program for allowing the import of green coffee beans into Puerto Rico by the end of fiscal year 2020 and move to a decision as expeditiously as possible on a rulemaking regarding the import of green coffee beans into Puerto Rico.

*HLB MAC Group.*—The Committee recognizes the significant economic impact of this disease on the citrus industry, which is especially acute in Florida and a growing concern in both Texas and California. The Committee also understands that growers are requesting the right to try treatments that have begun to show success in early stages of testing. The Committee encourages the HLB MAC group to explore and identify new methods to expedite the delivery of promising treatments directly to willing growers, regardless of the phase of observation the treatment is at within the research pipeline. Finally, the Committee expects any funds which are redirected from existing HLB MAC projects be repurposed to other priority HLB MAC projects that are showing promising results in order to ensure these critical funds remain committed to help facilitate the design and implementation of the rapid delivery pathway to growers.

*Huanglongbing Emergency Response.*—The Committee maintains the increased funding levels for HLB emergency response within the Specialty Crop Pests line item. The Committee encourages APHIS to allocate sufficient resources in order to continue vital management, control, and associated activities to address citrus greening. The disease, for which there is no cure, has caused a reduction in citrus production by over 60 percent since 2007 in Florida alone. All citrus producing counties in Texas are under quarantine, and California has found the Asian Citrus Psyllid, the vector of the disease, in some backyard trees. The spread of this disease has called into question the future of the domestic citrus industry, costing thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in lost revenue. The agency is encouraged to support priorities and strategies identified by the HLB MAC group which will benefit the citrus industry. The agency should appropriately allocate resources based on critical need and maximum effect to the citrus industry.

The Committee maintains \$3,000,000 from fiscal year 2019 for citrus health to support priorities and strategies identified by the HLB MAC group. The HLB MAC is focused on solutions to help the citrus industry, and the cooperative nature of federal, state, and industry representatives in this group is expected to result in the development of tools and techniques to address this devastating disease. The MAC has been an effective resource in helping growers explore new possible solutions. The agency should appropriately allocate resources based on critical need and maximum impact to the citrus industry. These citrus health activities directly protect citrus production on approximately 765,000 acres in the United States worth more than \$11 billion in total.



*In and Out Bound Market Access Report.*—The Committee awaits the report from APHIS on U.S. out-bound and foreign in-bound agricultural market access.

*Inspection Reports.*—The bill provides \$31,310,000 for the Animal Welfare program in order to ensure that minimum standards of care and treatment are provided for certain animals bred for commercial sale, used in research, transported commercially, or exhibited to the public. The funding level supports the agreement between APHIS and ARS, under which APHIS conducts compliance inspections of ARS facilities to ensure compliance with the regulations and standards of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The Committee continues to direct APHIS to transmit to the Committees all inspection reports involving ARS facilities, including pre-compliance inspections. These facilities involve federal funds over which this Committee has oversight responsibilities. APHIS is directed to include every violation its inspectors find and never to frustrate the Committee's oversight activities by using so-called "teachable moments" or other means of not reporting ARS facility violations.

*National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).*—The laboratories within the NAHLN network are on the frontline for detection of newly identified and reemerging animal diseases. NAHLN laboratories provide a critical contribution to animal and public health. The bill continues to provide funding for NAHLN through both APHIS and NIFA at approximately \$12,000,000 and \$4,300,000, respectively, resulting in a total investment of no less than \$16,300,000 for fiscal year 2020. This amount is in addition to mandatory funding provided through the 2018 Farm Bill for Animal Disease Prevention and Management. The Committee encourages the Department to provide robust funding from the 2018 Farm Bill for NAHLN. These laboratories were invaluable during the 2015 outbreak of HPAI, which significantly increased testing needs. At the same time, NAHLN laboratories must also continue testing for other animal diseases of concern.

*National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF).*—The bill provides an increase of \$4,200,000 for NBAF as requested. The Committee includes additional guidance under ARS.

*National Clean Plant Network (NCPN).*—The Committee continues to support robust funding for the National Clean Plant Network (NCPN). The Committee understands APHIS is working with the berries industry and other entities to establish a berries clean plant laboratory. Of the funds made available for NCPN, appropriate consideration shall be provided for equipment purchases and technical support to ensure the establishment of a redundant diagnostic and therapy center for berries.

*National Honey Bee Disease Survey Report.*—The Committee continues funding the survey at the 2019 level. Since 2009, a national survey of honey bee pests and diseases has been funded annually by APHIS along with other federal and non-federal partners to document which bee diseases, parasites, or pests of honey bees are present and/or likely absent in the U.S. This information will help place current and future epidemiological studies in context and thus may indirectly help investigations of emerging conditions.

*Pacific Ants.*—Congress encourages APHIS, ARS, and the Forest Service to lead the revision of the Pacific Ants Prevention Plan, in collaboration with U.S. and international partners. The plan should

include (1) research; (2) the development of technologies and methodologies for prevention, eradication and control of invasive ants; and (3) the collaborative implementation of projects to prevent, monitor and control invasive ants in affected Pacific islands.

*Pale Cyst Nematode Eradication.*—The Committee includes funding to maintain resources for the pale cyst nematode eradication program at the 2019 level in order to continue with successful efforts to eradicate this pest. If left untreated, this pest could spread, affecting other crops.

*Protecting Animals with Shelter Grants Program.*—The Committee provides \$2,000,000 for the program. It also directs the Secretary of Agriculture to immediately begin consultations, and enter into any necessary agreements, to establish during fiscal year 2020 the requirements for grant application and grant awards, pursuant to section 12502 of the 2018 Farm Bill, to provide emergency and transitional shelter options for domestic violence survivors with companion animals.

*Roseau Cane.*—The Committee remains concerned with the invasive species-scale insect pest that is destroying Roseau cane in the Mississippi River Delta region along the Gulf of Mexico. The Committee directs APHIS to continue to work with ARS and stakeholders and provide no less than \$2,000,000 within Field Crop and Rangeland Ecosystems Pests to further develop an integrated management program for control of the Roseau cane scale insect pest infestation.

*Salmonid Pathogens.*—The Committee recognizes that viral pathogens pose a significant threat to the cultivation of salmonids for hatchery and aquaculture production. The Committee is aware that multiple state and federal agencies collect information on fish pathogens, but there is currently no strategic national approach to sharing, managing, and utilizing the data such that it is both accessible and useful to private, tribal, state or federal agencies. Therefore, the Committee recommends that APHIS actively engage with federal, state, tribal, and private stakeholders to establish a strategic national approach to study, monitor, and track the transmission of such pathogens in order to reduce the threat posed to existing salmonid production operations.

*Spotted Lanternfly.*—The Committee continues to be concerned about the recent Spotted Lanternfly outbreak and maintains the increase of \$7,000,000 provided for fiscal year 2019 to support efforts in combatting this pest.

*Wildlife Services.*—The Committee provides a total of \$128,612,000 for Wildlife Damage Management and Wildlife Services Methods Development, including continued funding for the National Scrapie Eradication Program and the Beaver Management Assistance Program. In addition, the Committee continues funding provided in prior years and provides APHIS authority to obtain aviation assets, including rotary wing assets, necessary for mission critical activities such as conducting surveillance, controlling, or eradicating destructive pests or wildlife.

The Committee is aware of the economic loss sunflower growers can incur due to blackbird infestations, and encourages Wildlife Services to do further research into the use of bird repellents to minimize blackbird depredation.

The Committee is aware that Wildlife Services has worked with landowners to deploy nonlethal strategies, e.g., fladry, electric fencing, and livestock guardian dogs, to reduce predator depredation on livestock. The bill provides an increase of \$1,380,000 for Wildlife Services to hire personnel exclusively to: 1) promote and implement nonlethal livestock-predator conflict deterrence techniques in selected states; and 2) assist in providing training in these techniques to agricultural producers, landowners, and other agency personnel in collaboration with the National Wildlife Research Center. This would include research on monitoring methods for efficacy of non-lethal control methods implemented to reduce predation.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

2019 appropriation .....	\$3,175,000
2020 budget estimate .....	2,709,000
Provided in the bill .....	3,175,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	+466,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Buildings and Facilities of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Committee provides \$3,175,000.

#### AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

##### MARKETING SERVICES

2019 appropriation .....	\$159,095,000
2020 budget estimate .....	115,143,000
Provided in the bill .....	182,888,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+23,793,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+67,745,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Marketing Services of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$182,888,000. This amount includes increases of \$500,000 to continue the Organic Production and Market Data Initiative and \$3,906,000 to fund the National Organic Standards program at the authorized level of \$18,000,000. The bill also includes \$5,400,000 for the Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program authorized under the Local Agriculture Market Program (LAMP) in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. This amount is in addition to \$50,000,000 of mandatory funds available for LAMP in fiscal year 2020. The bill maintains the \$1,000,000 increase provided in fiscal year 2019 for the Acer Access and Development Program. The bill provides \$16,496,000 for the Hemp Production Program, as discussed further below. The bill does not continue funding for rural infrastructure analyses or dairy business innovation initiatives.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the Committee:

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2019 enacted	FY2020 Estimate	Committee provision
Market News .....	\$33,659	\$28,927	\$33,659

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2019 enacted	FY2020 Estimate	Committee provision
Shell Egg Surveillance .....	2,568	1,930	2,568
Standardization .....	5,118	4,984	5,118
Federal Seed Act Program .....	2,325	2,068	2,325
Country of Origin Labeling .....	4,744	3,752	4,744
Pesticide Data Program .....	15,073	14,971	15,073
National Organic Standards .....	14,094	12,032	18,000
Organic Production & Market Data Initiative .....			500
Transportation & Market Development .....	10,175	7,183	9,175
Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion .....			5,400
National Bioengineered Food Disclosure .....	2,000	993	2,000
GSA Rent & DHS Security .....	1,277	1,268	1,268
Acer Access and Development .....	4,000	0	4,000
Packers & Stockyards .....	23,281	22,975	23,281
Grain Regulatory .....	20,201	0	20,201
US Warehouse Activities .....	10,506	14,060	10,506
International Food Procurement .....	8,574	0	8,574
Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives .....	1,500	0	0
Hemp Production Program .....	0	0	16,496
Total Marketing Services .....	\$159,095	\$115,143	\$182,888

*Bioengineered Food Disclosure Regulations.*—The Committee is concerned that elements of the Bioengineered Food Disclosure final rule may lead to uncertainty and confusion among the food value chain and in consumer understanding of disclosures provided under the final rule. The Committee directs AMS to continue to work collaboratively, with the involvement of industry stakeholders, to promptly address concerns raised so that manufacturers may begin adhering to the rule.

*Farmers Markets.*—Farmers markets represent a valuable connection between farmers and consumers by offering fresh, healthy food while stimulating the local economy. The number of farmers markets has increased dramatically over the last decades; however, there is a recent disturbing trend in the rising number of market closures, especially in rural communities. The Committee directs AMS to provide a report within 180 days of enactment on the status of the Nation's farmers markets in rural areas and actions USDA can take to help these markets remain economically viable.

*Hemp Production Program.*—The Committee understands that USDA is working on implementing the Hemp Production Program as authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill and encourages the Department to use existing resources to issue regulations as soon as possible. The bill includes \$16,496,000 for implementation costs in fiscal year 2020. The Department is directed to provide the Committee with frequent status updates on the progress of implementation.

*National Organic Program (NOP).*—There continues to be concern about fraud in the organic program, especially among imports. Therefore, the Committee provides an increase of \$3,906,000 to fund NOP at the authorized level of \$18,000,000 to strengthen enforcement of organic labeling, including a continued focus on fraud detection and oversight. AMS is directed to continue providing the Committee with timely updates on investigations of fraud in organic markets.

*Origin of Livestock Regulations.*—The Committee is concerned by USDA's delay in issuing final guidance regarding the origin of or-

ganic livestock. In 2015, USDA issued a proposed rule to clarify regulations around the origin of livestock while still allowing a one-time transition of a conventional herd to organic. While there was widespread support from the organic industry, USDA did not issue a final rule. This has caused a lack of uniform enforcement by USDA and direct economic harm for organic farmers. The bill requires USDA to issue a final rule within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

#### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

2019 limitation .....	(\$61,227,000)
2020 budget limitation .....	(60,982,000)
Provided in the bill .....	(61,227,000)
Comparison:	
2019 limitation .....	---
2020 budget limitation .....	+245,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

The Committee provides a limitation of \$61,227,000 on Administrative Expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

#### FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	(\$20,705,000)
2020 budget estimate .....	(20,705,000)
Provided in the bill .....	(20,705,000)
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	---

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Marketing Agreements and Orders Program, the Committee provides a transfer from Section 32 funds of \$20,705,000.

The following table reflects the status of this fund:

#### ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD FISCAL YEARS 2019–2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Appropriation (30% of Customs Receipts) .....	\$10,624,198	\$15,123,425	\$15,123,425
Less Transfers:			
Food and Nutrition Service .....	– 9,092,218	– 13,561,425	– 13,561,425
Commerce Department .....	– 157,980	– 158,000	– 158,000
<i>Total Transfers</i> .....	– 9,250,198	– 13,719,425	– 13,719,425
Budget Authority, Farm Bill .....	1,374,000	1,404,000	1,404,000
Appropriations Temporarily Reduced-Sequestration .....	– 74,400	0	– 72,216
<i>Budget Authority, Appropriations Act</i> .....	1,299,600	1,404,000	1,331,784
Less Obligations:			
Child Nutrition Programs (Entitlement Commodities) .....	485,000	485,000	485,000
State Option Contract .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Removal of Defective Commodities .....	2,500	2,500	2,500
Disaster Relief .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Additional Fruits, Vegetables, and Nuts Purchases .....	206,000	206,000	206,000
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program .....	176,000	180,000	180,000
Estimated Future Needs .....	363,542	463,942	391,726

ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD FISCAL YEARS 2019–  
2020—Continued  
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
<i>Total Commodity Procurement</i> .....	1,243,042	1,347,442	1,275,226
Administrative Funds:			
Commodity Purchase Support .....	35,853	35,853	35,853
Marketing Agreements and Orders .....	20,705	20,705	20,705
<i>Total, Administrative Funds</i> .....	56,558	56,558	56,558
<i>Total Obligations</i> .....	\$1,299,600	\$1,404,000	\$1,331,784

*Cranberry Purchases.*—The Committee remains concerned about low cranberry commodity prices and associated farm losses that US cranberry producers have incurred over the past three years. Retaliatory tariffs in major export markets coupled with high yields across major producing areas have negatively impacted efforts by the industry and USDA to expand new markets and address current pressures on farm income. The Committee commends the recent actions taken by USDA in the approval of a volume regulation implemented in 2018–19 as well as purchases under USDA’s trade mitigation program. The Committee expects USDA to continue evaluating the cranberry industry’s market conditions to determine if Section 32 purchases are warranted.

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

2019 appropriation .....	\$1,235,000
2020 budget estimate .....	1,109,000
Provided in the bill .....	1,235,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	+126,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Payments to States and Possessions, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,235,000.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

2019 limitation .....	(\$55,000,000)
2020 budget limitation .....	(80,000,000)
Provided in the bill .....	(55,000,000)
Comparison:	
2019 limitation .....	— — —
2020 budget limitation .....	– 25,000,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

The Committee includes a limitation on inspection and weighing services expenses of \$55,000,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

2019 appropriation .....	\$800,000
2020 budget estimate .....	800,000
Provided in the bill .....	800,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$800,000.

## FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

2019 appropriation .....	\$1,049,344,000
2020 budget estimate .....	1,045,320,000
Provided in the bill .....	1,054,344,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+5,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+9,024,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,054,344,000.

The following table reflects the Committee's recommendations for fiscal year 2020:

## FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

[Dollars in Thousands]

	Recommendation
Federal Inspection .....	\$936,324
Public Health Data Communication Infrastructure System .....	34,580
International Food Safety and Inspection .....	16,758
State Food Safety and Inspection .....	66,682
Total, Food Safety and Inspection Service .....	\$1,054,344

*Corrosive chemicals.*—The Committee remains concerned over reports that meat and poultry workers are being harmed by corrosive chemicals, such as peroxyacetic acid. The Committee urges the USDA, FDA, and EPA to enter into a memorandum of understanding concerning plant worker and FSIS employee safety and approval of antimicrobials in the meat and poultry industry.

*Humane Methods of Slaughter.*—FSIS shall ensure that inspectors hired with funding previously specified for enforcement under the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act focus their attention on overseeing compliance with humane handling rules for live animals as they arrive and are offloaded and handled in pens, chutes, and stunning areas, and that all inspectors receive robust national training, including on the Regulatory Essentials, Humane Animal Tracking System, and Public Health Information System. The Committee directs the agency to conduct an annual program evaluation for its humane handling inspections program that includes document review, field staff surveys, and monitoring to assess the degree of consistency and objectivity of implementation of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act by all levels of inspection staff.

*Tribally-raised Buffalo and Bison.*—The Committee urges FSIS to enhance its efforts to work with tribes to set up voluntary, fee-for-service programs for the slaughter of tribally raised buffalo/bison. In doing so, FSIS should work with the Tribal Council and make the Council aware of such opportunities as mobile slaughter and any trade associations that may be able to assist the tribe in qualifying for inspection and starting its operations. In addition, the Committee expects a report to the Committee within 90 days

of enactment on the projected impact to the agency if Congress were to determine that buffalo/bison were an amenable species under the Federal Meat Inspection Act.

## TITLE II

### FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

#### OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

2019 appropriation .....	\$901,000
2020 budget estimate .....	875,000
Provided in the bill .....	901,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	+26,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$901,000.

*Information Technology Briefing.*—The Committee directs the Under Secretary to provide briefings during fiscal year 2020 on the development and combination of information technology systems, specifically farm program modernization and the latest updates to the farmers.gov website.

*Livestock Indemnity Payments for Adverse Weather.*—The Committee is aware that millions of farmed animals die each year due to the effects of adverse weather. Extreme weather events are occurring at increased frequency, putting additional livestock at risk. The Committee recognizes the importance of disaster planning and encourages the Department to work with producers that want to voluntarily develop disaster plans to prevent livestock deaths and injuries.

### FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION BUSINESS CENTER

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2019 appropriation .....	\$216,350,000
2020 budget estimate .....	206,530,000
Provided in the bill .....	206,530,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— 9,820,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$206,530,000.

### FARM SERVICE AGENCY

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

	Appropriation	Transfer from program accounts	Total, FSA S&E
2019 appropriation .....	\$1,081,655,000	(\$293,522,000)	\$1,375,177,000



	Appropriation	Transfer from program accounts	Total, FSA S&E
2020 budget estimate .....	1,012,008,000	(294,567,000)	1,306,575,000
Provided in the bill .....	1,122,837,000	(293,522,000)	1,416,359,000
Comparison:			
2019 appropriation .....	+41,182,000	— — —	+41,182,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+110,829,000	— 1,045,000	+109,784,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Salaries and Expenses of the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,122,837,000 and transfers of \$293,522,000 for a total program level of \$1,416,359,000. The Committee accepts the proposed information technology savings and provides a net increase of \$11,182,000 for IT improvements.

*Access to Farming Data.*—The Committee understands the financial burden farmers, especially young, beginning and small farmers, face when acquiring software, licenses, and data platforms that provide farm-specific information that allows them to better manage their land. The Committee encourages the Department to help farmers and producers understand emerging technologies and data platforms that may work best for them as well as referring them to public data that can meet their needs as well.

*Farm Ownership Loans.*—The Committee encourages the Farm Service Agency to prioritize changing the eligibility requirements for farm ownership loans in accordance with the provisions of Section 5101 of the 2018 Farm Bill.

*FSA Workload Study.*—The Committee continues to wait for FSA's workload study of FSA county offices as detailed in the House Report 114–205. The Committee again includes statutory language preventing the closure of these offices.

*Hypoxia Zones.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of conservation practices that reduce sediment loadings, nutrient loadings, and harmful algal blooms. In implementing the Clean Lakes, Estuaries, and Rivers Initiative, the Secretary is encouraged to assist landowners in mitigating hypoxia zones.

*Lending Opportunities.*—As the lender of the first opportunity, FSA is reminded to continue informing small, beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers on lending options available to them.

*National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP).*—The Committee recognizes the value of NAIP in providing enhanced ground recognition of agricultural markers. The Committee supports the requested information technology increase that will improve the program and aid the aerial imagery of up to 20 states in 2020.

*Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Fairness.*—The Committee supports finding a more transparent process to calculate county transition yields (T yields) when regional or contiguous county data is available. The Committee also supports a process of review by the national FSA office when a state FSA office decreases the expected yield for a county by more than 50 percent in one year, including a review of changes that meet the 50 percent threshold during fiscal year 2019.

*Small Farms.*—The Committee is concerned that a majority of financial and technical assistance goes to larger farmers. The Department should make every effort to reach smaller farmers and di-

rects the Secretary to report to the Committee on Appropriations no later than 120 days after enactment on its outreach efforts to small farmers, specifically those that operate on less than 25 acres, and how the Department meets the unique needs of smaller farmers. The report should also include resources provided to small farmers and what can be done to ensure resources provided by Congress reach these small farmers.

#### STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$3,904,000
2020 budget estimate .....	3,067,000
Provided in the bill .....	5,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+1,096,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+1,933,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For State Mediation Grants, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$5,000,000.

*Obligation of funds.*—In recent years, the Department has not issued any grants in this program until the end of December. As a result, the mediation programs must operate for the first quarter of the fiscal year without any funding. The delay in funding requires some programs to take out loans secured by personal assets, reduce or stop pay for staff, or turn down new requests for mediation. To the extent possible, the Committee strongly encourages USDA to obligate available funds within 30 days of enactment.

#### GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

2019 appropriation .....	\$6,500,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —
Provided in the bill .....	6,500,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	+6,500,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Grassroots Source Water Protection Program, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$6,500,000.

#### DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	<sup>1</sup> \$500,000
2020 budget estimate .....	<sup>1</sup> 500,000
Provided in the bill .....	<sup>1</sup> 500,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup> Current indefinite appropriation.

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Dairy Indemnity Program, the Committee provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary (estimated to be \$500,000 in the President's fiscal year 2020 budget request).

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

ESTIMATED LOAN LEVELS

2019 loan level .....	\$7,987,668,000
2020 budget estimate .....	7,674,267,000
Provided in the bill .....	7,997,801,000
Comparison:	
2019 loan level .....	+10,133,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+323,534,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund program account, the Committee provides a loan level of \$7,997,801,000.

The Committee provides a transfer of \$16,081,000 to the FPAC Business Center account.

The following table reflects the loan levels for the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund program account:

AGRICULTURE CREDIT PROGRAMS—LOAN LEVELS

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Farm Loan Programs:			
Farm Ownership:			
Direct .....	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Unsubsidized Guaranteed .....	2,750,000	2,750,000	2,750,000
Farm Operating:			
Direct .....	1,530,000	1,550,133	1,550,133
Unsubsidized Guaranteed .....	1,960,000	1,614,953	1,960,000
Emergency Loans .....	37,668	29,181	37,668
Indian Tribe Land Acquisition Loans .....	20,000	20,000	20,000
Conservation Loans:			
Unsubsidized Guaranteed .....	150,000	150,000	150,000
Indian Highly Fractionated Land .....	10,000	— —	10,000
Boll Weevil Eradication .....	30,000	60,000	20,000
Total .....	\$7,987,668	\$7,674,267	\$7,997,801

ESTIMATED LOAN SUBSIDY AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES LEVELS

[Dollars in Thousands]

	Direct loan subsidy	Guaranteed loan subsidy	Administrative expenses
2019 appropriation .....	\$59,670	\$21,168	\$317,068
2020 budget estimate .....	58,440	17,280	319,762
Provided in the Bill .....	58,440	20,972	317,068
Comparison:			
2019 appropriation .....	— 1,230	— 196	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —	+3,692	— 2,694

The following table reflects the costs of loan programs under credit reform:

## AGRICULTURE CREDIT PROGRAMS—SUBSIDIES AND GRANTS

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Farm Loan Subsidies			
Farm Operating:			
Direct .....	\$59,670	\$58,440	\$58,440
Unsubsidized Guaranteed .....	21,168	17,280	20,972
Emergency Loans .....	1,567	1,567	2,023
Indian Highly Fractionated Land .....	2,134	— —	2,745
Boll Weevil Eradication .....	— —	60	20
Total .....	84,539	77,347	84,200
ACIF Expenses:			
FSA Salaries and Expenses .....	290,917	294,114	290,917
Program Administrative Expenses .....	10,070	9,567	10,070
FPAC Business Center Salaries and Expenses .....	16,081	16,081	16,081
Total, ACIF Expenses .....	\$401,607	\$397,109	\$401,268

## RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2019 appropriation .....	\$58,361,000
2020 budget estimate .....	56,045,000
Provided in the bill .....	58,361,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— —
2020 budget estimate .....	+2,316,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Risk Management Agency, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$58,361,000.

## NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

## CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

2019 appropriation .....	\$819,492,000
2020 budget estimate .....	755,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	829,628,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+10,136,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+74,628,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Conservation Operations, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$829,628,000.

The Committee provides \$9,400,000 for the Snow Survey and Water Forecasting Program; \$9,481,000 for the Plant Materials Centers; and \$74,987,000 for the Soil Surveys Program. The Committee provides \$725,926,000 for Conservation Technical Assistance. The Committee provides \$9,834,000 for the farmers.gov Customer Experience Portal program.

*Carbon Markets.*—The Committee recognizes that carbon markets could reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide new revenue streams for farmers. The Committee urges the Secretary to explore carbon markets for agriculture and develop common, science-based methodologies for carbon markets.

*Drought Mitigation.*—The Committee is concerned about severe and prolonged droughts in the United States. The Committee expects the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to utilize all available flexibility, discretion and opportunities to assist producers, irrigators and irrigation districts in implementing area-wide plans to address drought resiliency and mitigation in a way that maintains strong rural and agriculture communities and protects natural resources. Priority should be given to supporting the implementation of major drought response plans, agreements or programs designed to result in conservation of surface water or groundwater.

*Harmful Algal Blooms.*—The Committee strongly supports and directs funding to NRCS's ongoing work to reduce nutrient loading from agricultural sources that can contribute to the growth of harmful algal blooms. Funding shall be used for targeting of watersheds where harmful algal blooms pose a threat and implementing a variety of conservation systems to address all transport pathways of phosphorus from agricultural land uses. Conservation planning should prioritize fields with the highest risk of elevated phosphorus and/or nitrogen losses.

*Monarch Butterfly Populations.*—The Committee is aware that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering listing the monarch butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. The potential effect of monarchs being listed as threatened or endangered would have significant impacts on agriculture in the U.S. The Committee directs the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to work together in coordination with the states, and private and nonprofit organizations to develop and implement strategies to help protect monarch butterfly populations and preserve the natural habitats critical to their survival. The Secretaries are directed to report back within 120 days of the passage of this Act on the status of this plan and any other actions the Departments are taking to encourage support of monarch conservation by the agricultural community.

*Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production.*—The Committee provides \$5,000,000 for this office. Of this amount, \$1,000,000 is for pilot programs under section 222(d)(2) of Subtitle A of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, as amended by section 12302 of P.L. 115–334.

*Outcomes-Verified Soil Health Program.*—The Committee understands the importance of soil health programs that promote on-farm resilience while increasing farmer profitability. The Committee urges the Secretary to establish a voluntary, outcomes-verified soil health program within NRCS, allowing farmers to enroll and demonstrate that recommended soil health benchmarks are being met.

*Resource Conservation and Development Councils (RC&Ds).*—The Committee recognizes RC&Ds have been valuable partners in conservation and encourages NRCS to continue working with local councils, as appropriate, to ensure conservation programs meet local resource needs.

*Sage Grouse Initiative.*—The Committee supports NRCS's sage grouse conservation efforts. Through the initiative, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help landowners conserve sage grouse habitat on their land. The initiative is an integral part of

efforts by federal agencies, several western states, and private landowners to help preclude the listing of the sage grouse as an endangered species.

*State Partnerships.*—NRCS appropriately partners with States, Territories, and Indian Tribal Organizations to implement activities within its charge and has historically provided direct resources to states to assist with those activities. The Committee understands that many programs offered by NRCS are popular and demand is high. To the extent possible, the Committee encourages NRCS to ensure the equitable allocation of resources between the States, Territories and Indian Tribal Organizations. The Committee directs NRCS to continue providing data on resources provided to the states in the annual budget submission to Congress.

*Three-D Elevation Program (3DEP).*—The U.S. Geological Survey is leading the 3D Elevation Program, a collaborative initiative to systematically collect accurate digital elevation data nationwide. The Committee recognizes the positive impact of combined resources, such as NRCS’s “Light Detection and Ranging Enhanced Soil Survey” model and similar derived datasets, which can enhance conservation efforts, farmland management, and mapping of floodplains. The Committee encourages the Secretary, to the extent possible, to participate in and support 3DEP.

#### WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

2019 appropriation .....	\$150,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —
Provided in the bill .....	155,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+5,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+155,000,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$155,000,000.

#### WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

2019 appropriation .....	\$10,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —
Provided in the bill .....	12,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+2,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+12,000,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Watershed Rehabilitation Program, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$12,000,000.

#### CORPORATIONS

##### FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

2019 appropriation .....	<sup>1</sup> \$15,410,629,000
2020 budget estimate .....	18,936,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	18,936,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— 6,474,629,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup>Current indefinite appropriation

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund, the Committee provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary (estimated to be \$8,936,000,000 in the President's fiscal year 2020 budget request).

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND  
REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	<sup>1</sup> \$15,410,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	<sup>1</sup> 25,553,096,000
Provided in the bill .....	<sup>1</sup> 25,553,096,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+10,143,096,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

<sup>1</sup> Current indefinite appropriation

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses to the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Committee provides such sums as may be necessary to reimburse for net realized losses sustained but not previously reimbursed (estimated to be \$25,553,096,000 in the President's fiscal year 2020 budget request).

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT  
(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

2019 limitation .....	(\$5,000,000)
2020 budget estimate .....	(5,000,000)
Provided in the bill .....	(5,000,000)
Comparison:	
2019 limitation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Hazardous Waste Management, the Committee provides a limitation of \$5,000,000.

## TITLE III

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

2019 appropriation .....	<sup>1</sup> — — —
2020 budget estimate .....	<sup>1</sup> — — —
Provided in the bill .....	\$800,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+800,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+800,000

<sup>1</sup> Funded and requested under the Office of the Secretary for the Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$800,000. The Committee reestablishes the Under Secretary of Rural Development and does

not fund the Assistant to the Secretary previously funded under the Office of the Secretary.

*Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (ATTRA).*—The Committee continues to support ATTRA’s work with military veterans. The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a report not later than 180 days after the date of enactment on the number of trainings completed, number of participants and pertinent data and performance measures used to measure program outcomes for fiscal years 2017–2019.

*Climate Adaptation.*—The Committee recognizes that the impacts of climate change—including sea level rise and more frequent and severe coastal hazards—pose a significant threat to infrastructure and economic development opportunities in rural communities. Therefore, the Committee encourages Rural Development to partner with USDA’s Climate Hubs to better leverage existing USDA programs to provide resources to communities to invest in infrastructure improvements that will enhance resilience to future impacts of climate change.

*Community Development.*—The Committee is interested in the role that broadband connectivity can play in fostering community and economic development. The Committee urges USDA work collaboratively with communities to identify ways towards addressing complex and long-term impediments towards economic growth. This may include, but not be limited to, a holistic review of how integrating programs, streamlining grant review and increasing community participation may more effectively address economic development challenges. The review should also include the development of metrics that measure economic impact across functions such as telehealth, telecommuting, precision agriculture and the economic benefit to diverse populations. Within 120 days after the date of enactment, the Committee directs USDA to report to the Committee on its findings.

*Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI).*—HFFI, through the National Fund Manager, invests in projects that will increase the supply of and demand for healthy foods in underserved communities, through loans, grants, and by providing technical assistance. In order to improve access to healthy food, particularly in rural areas and Tribal communities, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 expands eligible projects to include healthy food enterprises. These food enterprises would include businesses or organizations along the food supply chain such as food hubs; food producers, distributors, processors, and manufacturers; commercial kitchens and food business incubators; mobile markets; and other direct to consumer markets.

*High-Cost Universal Service Fund (USF) Recipients with Minimum 25/3 Buildout Obligations.*—ReConnect funding for service areas where High-Cost USF recipients under the CAF–II auction have buildout obligations of 25/3 Mbps or greater for fixed terrestrial broadband can only be requested by the entity that is receiving such USF support. Project sponsors that receive USF support in those areas may only apply for funds that serve those areas from the 100% loan funding category under the ReConnect Program. For purposes of clarification, this limitation on eligibility shall only apply to those areas (e.g., study areas or census blocks) for which



the USF CAF-II recipient is subject to a buildout obligation of 25/3 Mbps or greater for fixed terrestrial broadband.

*Hub Communities.*—The Committee encourages the Department to consider the mission and scope of all program applicants, including community colleges, hospitals and other regional public service entities and their ability to effectively address rural depopulation struggles. These entities are often located in regional “hub” communities larger than the program population limits, yet without these critical services many of the surrounding smaller towns could not exist and prosper. The Committee encourages the Secretary to make grants and loans available to these institutions, located in rural areas as defined by current law and serve rural areas.

*Persistent Poverty Areas.*—The Committee supports targeted investments in impoverished areas, particularly in persistent poverty counties. To understand how programs funded through the Department are serving these areas, the Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the percentage of funds allocated by each rural development program in fiscal years 2017, 2018 and 2019 and estimates for fiscal year 2020 serving individuals living in persistent poverty counties. The Department shall submit the report to the Committees within 180 days of enactment.

*Placemaking Approach to Rural Development and Broadband.*—In order to maximize the efficacy of investment in rural communities, the Committee is interested in learning what factors determine the greatest level of success for broadband resources. The Committee believes that the Department should consider how communities can increase the social, cultural, and quality of life benefits of broadband beyond the historical functional benefits provided to schools, healthcare facilities and services, and businesses. The USDA should issue a request for proposals to identify a public-private partnership or partnerships with expertise and experience working with rural communities in “place-making” as a way to foster simultaneously the adoption of broadband services and the creation of greater social and cultural vitality. Selection criteria must include geographic and ethnic diversity as well as such factors as the revitalization and shaping of future town centers, community and county wellbeing and economic vitality, and the enhancement of full community participation in creating growth strategies. An annual report shall be provided to Congress on the accelerators of and impediments to success of implementation of broadband, integration of all rural development programs and drivers for making a place more livable.

*Qualified Opportunity Zones.*—The Committee recognizes that Qualified Opportunity Zones were created to incentivize greater private-sector investments in rural and economically distressed communities. Given the critical role that USDA Rural Development programs play in supporting economic development opportunities in these communities, the Committee encourages the Under Secretary for Rural Development to develop strategies to leverage existing RD resources to support greater investment in communities located in or adjacent to a Qualified Opportunity Zone.

*ReConnect Program.*—The Committee directs the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), following the first round of applications to the Rural e-Connectivity Pilot Program, to convene interested stakeholders

including, but not limited to, telecommunication companies, rural electric cooperatives and utilities, internet service providers and municipalities to gather comments and recommendations for improving program implementation. The Committee recognizes that this is the first round of funding and commends the RUS for efforts to date in establishing and administering the program. The Committee also recognizes possible unintended consequences and unanticipated obstacles may have arisen from the program design to program implementation stages. Specifically, the Committee is concerned about the lack of access to ReConnect funds for entities other than the CAF-II auction recipient in a census block. Currently there is no connectivity requirement, such as number of households served, for these funds, and therefore many rural Americans are still left without broadband access. The Committee believes that all Americans should have access to reliable and affordable broadband, and urges the USDA to amend the ReConnect eligibility requirements in order to better provide service to an accurate number of households, grant recipients, and census block areas. Given the speed, anticipated demand and importance of expanding broadband infrastructure in rural areas, it is imperative to have all interested stakeholders engaged to make best use of taxpayer resources.

*Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP).*—The Committee supports RESP and the opportunity it provides to launch or expand energy efficiency financing programs. The Committee urges the Department to conduct outreach to co-ops to build awareness of the program.

*Veterinary Care Facilities.*—Due to recent decline of and urgent need for veterinarians to serve in rural and underserved areas, the Committee expects USDA to give high priority to animal and veterinary care facilities for receipt of loans and grants through Rural Development programs including Community Facilities Loan and Grant Programs and the Rural Business Service programs.

#### RURAL DEVELOPMENT

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Appropriations .....	\$236,835,000	\$192,343,000	\$255,835,000
Transfers from:			
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account .....	412,254,000	244,249,000	412,254,000
Rural Community Facilities Program Account .....	— — —	147,591,000	— — —
Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account .....	4,468,000	— — —	4,468,000
Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loan Program Account .....	33,270,000	38,027,000	33,270,000
Rural Business Programs .....	— — —	7,035,000	— — —
Rural Water and Waste Program .....	— — —	18,149,000	— — —
Total, RD Salaries and Expenses .....	\$686,827,000	\$647,394,000	\$705,827,000

##### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Salaries and Expenses of the Rural Development mission area, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$255,835,000.

*Rural Development Staffing.*—The Committee is concerned by the pace of operations at the Rural Development (RD) state offices due to reported staffing shortages. With authority over sizable financial resources, these programs are uniquely poised to provide essential services to and increase the economic competitiveness of underserved rural areas. However, the Committee is aware that a lack of staff at program offices has created a cyclical backlog of applications. Such delays and uncertainty deter potential applicants and fundamentally undercut the programs potential impact. The Committee includes an additional \$25,000,000 for salaries and expenses to support 4,566 total staff years and directs the Department to increase hiring at State offices to fulfill Rural Development's commitment towards improving customer service.

*Rural Hospitals.*—Many rural hospitals have closed in recent years, with many more vulnerable. Rural hospitals are an essential pillar of their communities and are necessary to create the economic growth that is direly needed in rural communities. USDA has the experience and expertise to help struggling rural hospitals negotiate, reorganize, and revitalize. Providing assistance to strengthen their sustainability will protect taxpayer investments and help preserve the future of rural health care. Building on the 2018 Farm Bill Joint Explanatory Statement, the Committee provides \$1,000,000 to expand technical assistance to vulnerable hospitals in the Community Facilities portfolio to protect the government funds already expended and preserve access to health care in rural communities. In addition, where appropriate, the Committee directs the Department to provide technical assistance to those hospitals that seek to refinance their debt under the new provision for refinancing certain hospital debt as authorized by Section 6103 of the 2018 Farm Bill, in order to protect the investment of government funds expended for this purpose.

*Single Family Direct Home Loans.*—The Committee continues to provide the resources to meet demand to assist low and very low income applicants obtain decent, safe and sanitary housing in rural areas.

## RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

### RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Loan level	Subsidy level	Administrative expenses
2019 Appropriation .....	\$25,345,500	\$88,063	\$412,254
2020 Budget Estimate .....	24,260,000	— — —	244,249
Provided in the Bill .....	25,373,000	141,727	412,254
Comparison:			
2019 Appropriation .....	+27,500	+53,664	— — —
2020 Budget Estimate .....	+\$1,113,000	+\$141,727	+\$168,005

### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account, the Committee provides a loan level of \$25,373,000,000.

The following table reflects the loan levels for the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account:

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Loans			
Single Family Housing (sec. 502):			
Direct .....	\$1,000,000	— — —	\$1,000,000
Unsubsidized Guaranteed .....	24,000,000	\$24,000,000	24,000,000
Housing Repair (sec. 504) .....	28,000	— — —	28,000
Rental Housing (sec. 515) .....	40,000	— — —	45,000
Multi-family Guaranteed (sec. 538) .....	230,000	250,000	250,000
Site Development Loans .....	5,000	— — —	5,000
Credit Sales of Acquired Property .....	10,000	10,000	10,000
Self-help Housing Land Development Fund .....	5,000	— — —	5,000
Farm Labor Housing .....	27,500	— — —	30,000
Total, Loan Authorization .....	\$25,345,500	\$24,260,000	\$25,373,000

The following table reflects the costs of loan programs under credit reform:

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account (Loan Subsidies and Grants):			
Single Family Housing (sec. 502):			
Direct .....	\$67,700	— — —	\$112,900
Housing Repair (sec. 504) .....	3,419	— — —	4,679
Rental Housing (sec. 515) .....	9,484	— — —	13,662
Farm Labor Housing .....	6,853	— — —	9,363
Site Development (sec. 524) .....	176	— — —	546
Self-Help Land (sec. 523) .....	431	— — —	577
Total, Loan Subsidies .....	88,063	— — —	141,727
Farm Labor Housing Grants .....	10,000	— — —	10,000
RHIF Expenses:			
Administrative Expenses .....	\$412,254	\$244,249	\$412,254

## RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

2019 appropriation .....	\$1,331,400,000
2020 budget estimate .....	1,407,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	1,375,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+43,600,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— 32,000,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rental Assistance Program, the Committee provides a program level of \$1,375,000,000. This provides full funding for the program and does not include rural vouchers as proposed in the budget request.

## MULTIFAMILY HOUSING REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

2019 appropriation .....	\$51,500,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —
Provided in the bill .....	75,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+23,500,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+75,000,000

For the Multifamily Housing Revitalization Program Account, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$75,000,000, including \$35,000,000 for the rural housing voucher program.

The Committee does not accept the proposal to move the voucher and multifamily housing revitalization programs.

#### MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$30,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— —
Provided in the bill .....	32,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+2,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+32,000,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Mutual and Self-Help Housing program, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$32,000,000.

#### RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$45,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— —
Provided in the bill .....	45,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— —
2020 budget estimate .....	+45,000,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Housing Assistance Grants program, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$45,000,000, including \$15,000,000 for rural housing preservation grants.

The Committee encourages USDA to consider utilizing resources to address families or individuals that have straight-pipe septic systems or an individual sewage treatment system that fail to meet state or federal requirements.

#### RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$50,063,000
2020 budget estimate .....	60,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	71,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+20,937,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+11,000,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Community Facilities Program Account, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$71,000,000.

The Committee continues to take the Rural Development administrative expense transfer from the Rural Housing Insurance Fund (RHIF) and does not accept the proposed transfer from the Rural Community Facilities program account.

*Community Facility Loans.*—The Committee directs the Department to report on the Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant and Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan programs portfolio within 180 days of enactment of the bill. The report shall include: the credit quality of selected significant loans reported by facility

type, including educational, and health care; a list and description of measures USDA tracks to evaluate the effect on communities of projects funded through Community Facilities programs and for how long these measures are tracked; the number of Community Facilities projects under which funding is being used for refinancing and/or acquisition in order to improve or prevent loss of service to communities.

The following table provides the Committee's recommendations as compared to the budget request:

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Loan Levels:			
Community Facility Direct Loans .....	(\$2,800,000)	(\$2,500,000)	(\$2,800,000)
Community Facility Guaranteed Loans .....	(148,287)	(500,000)	(250,000)
Subsidy and Grants:			
Community Facility Guaranteed Loans .....	4,285	---	---
Community Facility Grants .....	30,000	50,000	50,000
Rural Community Development Initiative .....	6,000	---	8,000
Economic Impact Initiative .....	5,778	---	6,000
Tribal College Grants .....	4,000	10,000	7,000
Total, Rural Community Facilities Program Sub- sidy and Grants .....	\$50,063	\$60,000	\$71,000

## RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE

### RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$65,040,000
2020 budget estimate .....	20,500,000
Provided in the bill .....	67,600,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+2,560,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+47,100,000

### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Business Program Account, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$67,600,000.

The Committee provides resources to operate programs under the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS). RBS programs complement lending activities of the private sector by promoting economic prosperity in rural communities through improved access to capital and economic development on a regional scale.

*Arts in rural communities.*—The Committee recognizes the valuable role of the arts in the economic and community development of rural communities across the country. In providing grants and assistance under this title, Rural Development shall continue to support individuals, nonprofits and small businesses in the arts through these traditional economic development tools, including business incubators, and economic development planning and technical assistance.

The following table provides the Committee's recommendations as compared to the budget request:

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Loan Level:			
Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans .....	(\$950,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,200,000)
Subsidy and Grants:			
Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans .....	22,040	20,500	24,600
Rural Business Development Grants .....	35,000	---	35,000
Delta Regional Authority/Appalachian Regional Commission/ Northern Border Regional Commission .....	8,000	---	8,000
Total, Rural Business Program Subsidy and Grants .....	\$65,040	\$20,500	\$67,600

The following programs are included in the bill for the Rural Business Program account: \$500,000 for rural transportation technical assistance and \$4,000,000 for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, of which \$250,000 is for transportation technical assistance.

#### INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

[Dollars in Thousands]

	Loan level	Subsidy level	Administrative expenses
2019 Appropriation .....	\$18,889	\$4,157	\$4,468
2020 Budget Estimate .....	---	---	---
Provided in the Bill .....	18,889	5,219	4,468
Comparison:			
2019 Appropriation .....	---	+1,062	---
2020 Budget Estimate .....	+18,889	+5,219	+4,468

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account, the Committee provides for a loan level of \$18,889,000.

For the loan subsidy, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$5,219,000. In addition, the Committee provides \$4,468,000 for administrative expenses.

#### RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

2019 appropriation .....	\$50,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	---
Provided in the bill .....	50,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	+50,000,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account, the Committee provides for a loan level of \$50,000,000.

#### RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$29,100,000
2020 budget estimate .....	---
Provided in the bill .....	29,800,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+700,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+29,800,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Rural Cooperative Development Grants, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$29,800,000. This total includes \$3,000,000 for a cooperative agreement for the Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas program and \$18,000,000 for the Value-added Agricultural Product Market Development Grant Program under the Local Agriculture Market Program in the 2018 Farm Bill.

*Cooperatives.*—The Committee recognizes the important role that cooperatives play in the nation's rural economy and the continued need to fund established and successful development centers throughout the country.

## RURAL MICRO-ENTREPRENEUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

2019 appropriation .....	\$3,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— —
Provided in the bill .....	6,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+3,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+6,000,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$6,000,000. RMAP provides loans and grants to non-profit organizations, community-based financial institutions, and local economic development councils, which in turn provide technical assistance services and microloans to rural owner-operated small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs. These funds support the economic development needs of rural communities and make up for the end of mandatory Farm Bill funding.

## RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

2019 appropriation .....	\$335,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— —
Provided in the bill .....	353,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+18,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+353,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Energy for America Program, the Committee provides a loan level of \$10,000,000 and an appropriation of \$353,000 for the loan subsidy to make loans as authorized by section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107).



## RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

## RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$548,690,000
2020 budget estimate .....	527,630,000
Provided in the bill .....	718,480,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+169,790,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+190,850,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$718,480,000. Rural areas continue to face immense needs and challenges in attaining safe and clean water, and this program provides targeted and coordinated support for these communities and is essential for the delivery of safe, dependable and affordable water and wastewater to rural America. The Committee believes this program is complementary, not duplicative, of other federal programs and critical in supporting quality of life, economic development and health to rural communities.

*Domestic Preference.*—The bill includes language specifying that RUS' Rural Water and Waste Disposal program account projects utilizing iron and steel shall use iron and steel products produced in the United States. RUS shall apply the Environmental Protection Agency's definition of public water systems while implementing the domestic preference provision.

*Open Access Infrastructure.*—The Committee is aware that public entities have invested in open access fiber infrastructure that is facilitating the delivery of high-speed broadband services by licensed telecommunications providers, including the model pioneered by public port authorities. The Committee understands that while particular open access fiber projects may be eligible for RUS grants and loans, more generally, there exist significant barriers to government backing for these types of open access investments. The Committee believes RUS programs should support financially-feasible open access infrastructure projects that meet program goals. The Committee urges RUS to ensure the agency's criteria and application processes provide for fair consideration of open access projects by accounting for the unique structures and opportunities such projects present in advancing broadband deployment in unserved and underserved communities.

*Sewage Management.*—The Committee supports the development of a multi-faceted solution to the problem of raw sewage discharge in rural communities.

*Technical Assistance and Training Grant Program.*—The Committee provides \$30,000,000 for water and waste technical assistance and training grants. Up to \$5,000,000 of these resources shall be used to support the national apprenticeship/workforce development program to ensure a future pipeline of workers to provide clean and safe water for the public.

*Water Supplies for Very Small Communities.*—The Committee is aware of concerns that RUS grant programs do not adequately help small, disadvantaged, and severely disadvantaged communities ac-

cess the funding and expertise necessary to develop sustainable water supplies or otherwise improve their wastewater systems, and it directs the agency to focus its efforts to assist these communities with predevelopment planning to help them address their water supply needs.

The following table provides the Committee's recommendations as compared to the budget request:

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Loan Levels:			
Water and Waste Direct Loans .....	(\$1,400,000)	(\$1,200,000)	(\$1,400,000)
Water and Waste Guaranteed Loans .....	(50,000)	---	(50,000)
Subsidy and Grants:			
Direct Subsidy .....	---	54,720	63,840
Guaranteed Subsidy .....	190	---	70
Water and Waste Revolving Fund .....	1,000	1,000	1,000
Water Well System Grants .....	1,500	993	15,000
Grants for the Colonias and AK/HI .....	68,000	68,000	70,000
Water and Waste Technical Assistance Grants .....	30,000	40,000	30,000
Circuit Rider Program .....	19,000	19,000	19,570
Solid Waste Management Grants .....	4,000	4,000	4,000
High Energy Cost Grants .....	10,000	---	---
Water and Waste Disposal Grants .....	400,000	324,917	500,000
306A(i)(2) Grants .....	15,000	15,000	15,000
Total, Subsidies and Grants .....	\$548,690	\$527,630	\$718,480

## RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

### LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

[Dollars in Thousands]

	Loan Level	Subsidy level	Administrative expenses
2019 Appropriation .....	\$6,940,000	\$1,725	\$33,270
2020 Budget Estimate .....	6,190,000	1,933	38,027
Provided in the Bill .....	6,940,000	3,795	33,270
Comparison:			
2019 Appropriation .....	---	+2,070	---
2020 Budget Estimate .....	+750,000	+1,862	-4,757

### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account, the Committee provides a loan level of \$6,940,000,000. In addition, the Committee provides \$33,270,000 for administrative expenses.

The following table reflects the loan levels for the Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account:

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Loan Authorizations:			
Electric:			
Direct, FFB .....	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000
Guaranteed Underwriting .....	750,000	---	750,000

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Subtotal .....	6,250,000	5,500,000	6,250,000
Telecommunications:			
Direct, Treasury Rate .....	345,000	175,727	345,000
Direct, FFB .....	345,000	514,273	345,000
Total, Loan Authorizations .....	\$6,940,000	\$6,190,000	\$6,940,000

## BROADBAND PROGRAM

[Dollars in Thousands]

	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2020 estimate	Committee provision
Broadband Program:			
Loan Authorization .....	\$29,851	— — —	\$29,851
Loan Subsidy .....	5,830	— — —	5,830
Grants .....	30,000	30,000	50,000
Distance Learning and Telemedicine:			
Grants .....	34,000	43,600	50,000
Total, Loan Subsidy and Grants .....	\$69,830	\$73,600	\$105,830

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Broadband Program, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$5,830,000 for a loan authorization level of \$29,851,000.

*Healthcare and Education Options.*—The Committee continues to support Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband program grants that assist rural communities in connecting to the rest of the world and overcoming health disparities that effect that population, including addressing the opioid abuse epidemic in rural communities. The Committee urges the Under Secretary for Rural Development to continue awarding grants that support technology upgrades that provide additional healthcare access and education through the use of telemedicine and expanded services in community health centers through partnerships with hub medical centers.

*Indian Country Broadband.*—The Committee recognizes the persistent digital divide in America and the acute impacts this has on educational, health, public safety, and economic opportunities in Indian country. The Committee urges the Department to explore means to expand high-speed internet deployment in Indian country utilizing current programs. Specifically, the Committee encourages the USDA to work with tribal communities to better understand the unique infrastructure challenges they face to ensure that they are not held at a competitive disadvantage when competing for these resources.

## TITLE IV

## DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION, AND  
CONSUMER SERVICES

2019 appropriation .....	\$800,000
2020 budget estimate .....	800,000
Provided in the bill .....	800,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	---

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$800,000.

*Cross-government Coordination on Nutrition.* The committee calls on USDA to lead a whole of government approach and create a report on responsibilities of each agency and how they will coordinate the biochemical, physiologic, nutritional and population health effects of government recommendation for nutrition and food consumption in America.

*Innovative Technologies.*—The Committee looks forward to the results of the SNAP online purchasing pilot. The Committee recognizes the need for enhanced efficiency in nutrition programs and supports FNS as it continues to implement and evaluate new technologies.

*Nutrition Education Coordination.*—USDA plays an important role in offering nutrition education and training through programs such as SNAP–Ed, EFNEP and WIC. However, the Committee is concerned regarding the lack of communication and coordination between the five main nutrition education programs (SNAP–Ed, EFNEP, Team Nutrition, WIC and FINI/Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program) at USDA. USDA is directed to report to the Committees within 90 days of the enactment of this Act on the steps it will take to better coordinate nutrition education, utilize experts from CNPP in the Dietary Guidelines development, and track program effectiveness across each program.

*Public Release of Information.*—The Committee directs FNS to continue making all policy documents related to the WIC program (including, but not limited to, instructions, memoranda, guidance, and questions and answers) available to the public on the Internet within one week of their release to WIC state administrators.

*Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP).*—The Committee recognizes the success of the SFMNP, with over 800,000 low-income seniors able to benefit from 19,449 farmers at 3,641 farmers' markets as well as 2,541 roadside stands and 94 community supported agriculture programs in FY 2017. The Committee encourages USDA to improve eligible participants' awareness of the SFMNP through education and outreach efforts. The Committee is critically aware of the need for SFMNP in low income communities. The Committee directs FNS to research the backlog of states requesting SFMNP funding and to deliver their findings to the Committees within 180 days of enactment.

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).*—The Committee is aware of the challenges people face when transitioning out of incarceration, including finding employment. Access to nutrition assistance is critical to successfully reentering society as it offers temporary assistance to ex-offenders as they search for stable employment. The Committee directs the Department to research and report ways states especially those who have lifted or modified the SNAP drug felony ban—can best serve this population, such as but not limited to: pre-release applications for SNAP and employment and training programs for this population. The Committee directs the Department to share those findings in a report with the Appropriations Committees and disseminate those best practices to state agencies no later than 180 days after enactment of this act. Such findings should also be made available online for the public to utilize.

*WIC Realignment.*—The Committee is concerned with the proposed realignment of state WIC agencies within FNS regional offices, which could have unintended consequences on resource distribution and multi-state projects. The Committee urges FNS to reach out to stakeholders and requests a briefing within 60 days of enactment on how the realignment is proceeding and how state and Indian Tribal Organizations' concerns are being addressed.

#### FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

##### CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$23,140,781,000
2020 budget estimate .....	23,943,216,000
Provided in the bill .....	24,040,885,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+900,104,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+97,669,000

##### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Child Nutrition Programs, the Committee provides \$24,040,885,000 which includes \$35,000,000 for school meals equipment grants, \$50,000,000 for the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) for Children Demonstration, and \$1,000,000 for technical assistance related to sodium.

*Cost of School Meals.*—The Committee is interested in understanding the cost of school meals in Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Committee directs FNS to include all territories, including those that receive block grants, in any studies it does on the Child Nutrition Programs.

*Food Waste.*—Food waste also remains a concern in the school meals program. Schools should have the ability to serve leftover, compliant foods in a quick, timely manner in accordance with food safety requirements. The Committee urges USDA to consider implementing flexibilities in allowing schools to utilize these foods in a more efficient manner.

*Length of School Meals.*—The Committee is aware that providing adequate time to eat healthy school meals increases the consumption of fruits and vegetables and minimizes food waste. The Com-

mittee encourages the Department, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education, to develop best practices to ensure school schedules provide students adequate time to eat healthy school meals.

*School Breakfast Expansion Grants.*—The Committee is concerned that while participation in the School Breakfast Program is increasing, many children who are eligible for the School Breakfast Program are not participating. Therefore, the Committee provides \$10,000,000 for grants for expansion of the School Breakfast Program, of which \$1,000,000 is dedicated to the U.S. territories.

*School Nutrition Standards.*—The Committee directs the Department to publish on its website data on the compliance of school food authorities with respect to the nutritional requirements under section 9(f) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The data reported should include the total number of school food authorities in each state, the number of school food authorities in compliance with the requirements, and the percentage of school food authorities in compliance with the requirements by state.

*Sodium Reduction.*—The Committee recognizes the need for additional support for schools to meet the sodium-reduction targets and, of the funds made available for Team Nutrition, provides \$1,000,000 for technical assistance. Within one year of enactment, the Committees requests a report on the use of the funds to provide schools with technical assistance, training resources, and mentoring to meet the sodium-reduction targets. Further, the Committee requests information on USDA's plans to update the sodium-reduction targets consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommendations on sodium. The Committee strongly encourages USDA to work with industry and other stakeholders to ensure there that there are a wide variety of lower-sodium options on the market from which schools can procure.

*Summer EBT.*—The Committee recognizes the benefits the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) program has had on reducing childhood hunger. The Committee provides increased funding to serve more children and directs the Department to expand the Summer EBT program into new areas while also continuing to serve areas that have received such funding in prior years. Additionally, the Committee is aware that the Summer EBT evaluation suggests greater barriers for participation, redemption and exhaustion of benefits and higher administrative costs in the Summer EBT WIC model than in the Summer EBT SNAP model. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Secretary to prioritize Summer EBT projects through the SNAP model.

*Training for School Food Service Personnel.*—The Committee recognizes the value of webinars, conference calls, and online courses in expanding the reach of trainings for school food service personnel. For any in-person trainings for school food service personnel, all efforts should be made to ensure those trainings are held during normal working hours. In the event such training is scheduled outside working hours, all efforts should be made to inform food service personnel of the necessity of the training; the committee also encourages the Department to work with states on compensation for personnel participating in such training programs under such circumstances.

*Yogurt.*—The Committee is aware that after soliciting Requests for Information on the food crediting system for the school lunch and breakfast programs, FNS decided to maintain the current crediting standard for strained, high-protein yogurt. The Committee encourages the Secretary to continue evaluating how strained, high-protein yogurt is credited based on the best available science. The Committee also requests a briefing from the Department, within 180 days of enactment, to better understand food crediting in the Child Nutrition programs, particularly how decisions are made regarding products containing high protein.

The following table reflects the Committee recommendations for the child nutrition programs:

[Dollars in Thousands]

Child Nutrition Programs:	
School Lunch Program .....	\$12,726,216
School Breakfast Program .....	4,929,291
Child and Adult Care Food Program .....	3,839,675
Summer Food Service Program .....	551,928
Special Milk Program .....	7,185
State Administrative Expenses .....	315,130
Commodity Procurement .....	1,472,629
Food Safety Education .....	2,929
Coordinated Review .....	10,000
Computer Support and Processing .....	12,124
Training and Technical Assistance .....	33,935
CNP Studies and Evaluations .....	21,639
CN Payment Accuracy .....	11,203
Farm to School Team .....	3,997
Team Nutrition .....	16,504
Healthier U.S. Schools Challenge .....	1,500
School Meals Equipment Grants .....	35,000
Summer EBT Demonstration .....	50,000
<i>Total</i> .....	<i>\$24,040,885</i>

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS,  
AND CHILDREN (WIC)

2019 appropriation .....	\$6,075,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	5,750,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	6,000,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	– 75,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+250,000,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$6,000,000,000. The Committee provides \$70,000,000 for the breastfeeding peer counselor program and \$14,000,000 for infrastructure. The Committee encourages FNS to support innovative technologies that can improve rural and urban participants' access to lactation consultants particularly outside of normal WIC clinic business hours.

USDA data shows that WIC participation rates have decreased steadily since fiscal year 2010. The President's budget request includes a projection of an average monthly participation rate of 6.6 million women, infants, and children for fiscal year 2020.

USDA is estimating recovery and carryover funds to be higher than average. Furthermore, the Secretary has a WIC contingency

reserve fund as a safety net to meet unexpected demand. With lower participation rates, higher carryover funds, and an ample reserve fund, the Committee provides funding that will ensure all eligible participants will be served.

The Committee will continue to monitor WIC participation, carryover funds, and food costs and take additional action as necessary to ensure that funding provided in fiscal year 2020 remains sufficient to serve all eligible applicants.

*Breastfeeding Rates.*—The Committee is interested in understanding how to improve breastfeeding rates, especially as higher rates have been linked to lower childhood obesity. The Committee also recognizes that there are many barriers to breastfeeding as detailed in CDC's 2018 Breastfeeding Report Card. Each year, FNS awards some state agencies bonus awards for their successful efforts in promoting and supporting breastfeeding among WIC participants. The Committee directs FNS to review the work of awardees from previous years to look for commonalities and trends. FNS should develop a report, within 180 days of enactment, that summarizes these best practices. This report should include a summary of the factors that prevent or impede breastfeeding and recommendations on how they can be addressed.

*Zika Outreach and Education.*—The Committee encourages the Department to continue its education and outreach efforts through the WIC program to provide pregnant women with the information they need to prevent Zika.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

2019 appropriation .....	\$73,476,921,000
2020 budget estimate .....	69,069,910,000
Provided in the bill .....	71,093,908,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	– 2,383,013,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+2,023,998,000

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the Committee provides \$71,093,908,000. The total amount includes \$5,000,000,000 for a contingency reserve to be used only in the amount necessary.

*College Hunger.*—The Committee is concerned that SNAP-eligible students who are food-insecure lack proper clarity and information about resources available to them. Therefore, the Committee directs the Food and Nutrition Service to make information available on its website regarding student SNAP eligibility requirements easier to understand and more accessible. The Committee further directs FNS regional offices to collect and review information about existing SNAP flexibilities and examples of approaches state SNAP agencies are taking to assist eligible college students to access SNAP benefits and share such information with state SNAP agencies. It also encourages the Secretary to work with the Department of Education to share these best practices with higher education institutions. The Committee directs FNS to provide a briefing to the Committee on Appropriations on its plan for executing these items no later than 90 days after enactment.

*Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Demonstration Project for Tribal Organizations.*—The Committee sup-



ports FDPIR and the ability of tribal organizations to enter into 638 self-determination contracts for the procurement of FDPIR foods, which would promote tribal sovereignty and allow tailoring of this vital program to meet specific tribal cultural and local needs. The Committee provides \$3,000,000 for the 638 Tribal Self Governance Demonstration Program for Tribal Organizations as described in Section 4003 of P.L. 115–334. Additionally, the Committee encourages the Secretary to review Department-wide nutrition programs, with the full participation of Indian tribes and tribal organizations, to consider ways in which more Native foods can be incorporated into these programs where possible and the possibility of allowing tribes to provide input into federal nutritional guidance that reflects unique Indian tribal needs.

*Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) Study.*—The Committee supports ongoing efforts by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to shift NAP to SNAP. The Committee recognizes this will require Puerto Rico to build additional capacity to operate SNAP according to federal rules. The Committee provides \$5 million (of which no less than \$1 million shall be made available to Puerto Rico to support the process) to develop a report to Congress that updates the administrative, operational, and program integrity parts of chapter IV of the 2010 report “Implementing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in Puerto Rico: A Feasibility Study” and includes a detailed plan with specific steps and timelines for USDA and the Commonwealth to address and remedy identified gaps. The Secretary is to report the results to the Committees no later than September 30, 2020. In addition, the Committee provides \$2 million for the Commonwealth to fund a preliminary planning process regarding technology requirements and costs to operate SNAP and requests the Commonwealth to provide a report to the Committees on its efforts no later than September 30, 2020.

*Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) Transparency.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of transparency and data availability for Puerto Rico’s Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP). The Committee directs the Secretary to publish information regarding monthly enrollment, issuance data and the Commonwealth’s State Plan of Operations for NAP on the Department’s web site. The Committee further directs the Secretary, acting through the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, to measure the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in Puerto Rico. The Department is directed to report to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the status of the Department’s efforts to achieve greater transparency to Puerto Rico’s Nutrition Assistance Program.

The following table reflects the Committee recommendations for SNAP:

[Dollars in Thousands]

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Account:	
Benefits .....	\$57,496,374
Contingency Reserve .....	5,000,000
<i>Administrative Costs:</i>	
State Administrative Costs .....	4,965,651
Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program .....	441,000
Employment and Training .....	513,694
Mandatory Other Program Costs .....	213,289
Discretionary Other Program Costs .....	998

(Dollars in Thousands)

Administrative Subtotal .....	6,134,632
Nutrition Assistance for Puerto Rico (NAP) .....	1,959,136
American Samoa .....	7,868
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations .....	153,000
TEFAP Commodities .....	320,750
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands .....	12,148
Community Food Project .....	5,000
Program Access .....	5,000
Subtotal .....	2,442,954
Total .....	\$71,093,908

## COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

2019 appropriation .....	\$322,139,000
2020 budget estimate .....	55,471,000
Provided in the bill .....	344,248,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+22,109,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+288,777,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

The Committee provides an appropriation of \$344,248,000 for the Commodity Assistance Program. The recommended funding level for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program is \$245,000,000. The Committee recognizes the importance of the CSFP, which improves the health of low-income elderly persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious foods. The amount provided fully funds expected caseload.

The Committee recommendation maintains the 2019 levels of \$18,548,000 for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, \$79,630,000 for administrative funding for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and \$1,070,000 for the Food Donations Programs for Pacific Island Assistance.

*TEFAP Handling and Distribution Costs.*—In addition to grant funds supporting commodity handling and distribution costs, the bill permits states to use up to 15 percent of the funds provided for purchasing TEFAP commodities to help with the costs of storing, transporting, and distributing commodities. The Committee expects state agencies to consult with their emergency feeding organizations on the need for the conversion of such funds.

## NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

2019 appropriation .....	\$164,688,000
2020 budget estimate .....	152,041,000
Provided in the bill .....	154,041,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	– 10,647,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+2,000,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Nutrition Programs Administration, the Committee provides \$154,041,000, including \$2,000,000 to continue the Congressional Hunger Center Fellows Program.

## TITLE V

## FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND FOREIGN  
AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

2019 appropriation .....	\$875,000
2020 budget estimate .....	875,000
Provided in the bill .....	875,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	---

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$875,000.

The Committee supports expanding the utilization of various modalities, including vouchers, monetary transfers, and locally and regionally procured assistance, in addition to in-kind contributions from the United States, in order to address hunger and assist those in emergency situations around the globe with the most appropriate, efficient, and timely means available.

## OFFICE OF CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

2019 appropriation .....	\$3,976,000
2020 budget estimate .....	4,775,000
Provided in the bill .....	4,775,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+799,000
2020 budget estimate .....	---

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of Codex Alimentarius, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$4,775,000.

## FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

## (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

	Appropriation	Transfer from export loan account	Total
2019 appropriation .....	\$213,890,000	\$6,382,000	\$220,272,000
2020 budget estimate .....	192,824,000	6,063,000	198,887,000
Provided in the bill .....	215,513,000	6,382,000	221,895,000
Comparison:			
2019 appropriation .....	+1,623,000	---	+1,623,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+22,689,000	+319,000	+23,008,000

## COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Foreign Agricultural Service, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$215,513,000 and a transfer of \$6,382,000, for a total appropriation of \$221,895,000.

The Committee provides increases in funding for International Cooperative Administrative Support Services, Capital Security Cost Sharing, locally employed staff, and biotech programs. The Com-

mittee does not maintain the 2019 increase for the Country Strategy Support Fund.

*Farmer-to-Farmer.*—The Committee is interested in improving the efficacy of dollars that serve to improve local food production around the world through the Global Food Security Act and the Feed the Future Initiative. International food security is beneficial for reducing poverty and risk of conflict and can also serve to increase the buying power of American goods and services. The John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer program (Farmer-to-Farmer) is a program that brings American ingenuity to our investment in local food production. The Committee is interested in a stronger coordination between USAID and USDA for Farmer-to-Farmer. The Committee is interested in USAID ensuring that recommendations from USDA are considered in identifying the Country Coordinators for Feed the Future priority countries. Coordinators should develop a clear strategy for determining what expertise is needed to accelerate success and overcome obstacles that impede more effective local food production. This should also include a pull strategy for Farmer-to-Farmer volunteers, which is defined as requiring the country/program to locally define what expertise is needed based on insights from the field rather than from the central office. The efforts of the partnership with USAID should be strengthened by a stronger relationship with USDA, by incorporating working groups in Washington. In addition, USAID should seek the expertise of USDA in developing streamlined metrics for assessment of program effectiveness, including measures in addition to child stunting such as geocentric yield analysis. The Committee is interested in USAID seeking recommendations from USDA for maximizing the efficacy of Farmer-to-Farmer and for developing a demonstration in a select few Feed the Future countries. The Committee notes that last year's House Report directed USDA to enhance its participation in the Farmer-to-Farmer program by expanding the role of the agricultural officer in Target Countries, which are determined in accordance with the Global Food Security Act. The Committee notes that the agricultural officer can help improve the Farmer-to-Farmer program by determining what expertise is needed to overcome obstacles that impede local food production and incorporating insights from the field. The Committee directs that the USDA agricultural officer continue to work with USAID staff to achieve the food security goals of Farmer-to-Farmer. The Committee directs USDA to provide a briefing to the Committee on these efforts and how USDA can help maximize the efficacy of Farmer-to-Farmer. In addition, the Committee directs USAID to coordinate with USDA on incorporating the role of the agricultural officer to maximize the efficacy of the Farmer-to-Farmer program.

*International Agricultural Education Fellowship.*—The Committee provides \$1,000,000 for this program as authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill. The Committee is interested in exploring how this program can supplement ongoing efforts at the Foreign Agricultural Service. Prior to issuing any funding awards, the Committee directs USDA to brief the Committees on how the International Agricultural Education Fellowship program will work in collaboration with other ongoing Foreign Agricultural Service programs to achieve USDA's goals.

*U.S.-Central America, Mexico Cooperation.*—The Committee directs FAS to work with its counterparts in Central America and Mexico to develop agricultural working groups focused on improving the efficiency of the agricultural inspection process and agricultural trade facilitation issues. In addition, FAS shall use existing programs for academic exchanges in agriculture-related fields of study in this region. The Committee directs FAS to brief the Committees on its efforts not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND FOOD FOR PROGRESS  
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$142,000
2020 budget estimate .....	135,000
Provided in the bill .....	142,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— —
2020 budget estimate .....	+7,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For administrative expenses to carry out the credit program of Food for Peace Title I, Food for Peace Act, and the Food for Progress Act, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$142,000.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$1,500,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— —
Provided in the bill .....	1,850,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+350,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+1,850,000,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Food for Peace Title II grants, the Committee provides \$1,850,000,000, of which \$365,000,000 is for non-emergency assistance.

MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD  
NUTRITION PROGRAM GRANTS

2019 appropriation .....	\$210,255,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— —
Provided in the bill .....	235,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+24,745,000
2020 budget estimate .....	+235,000,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program Grants, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$235,000,000.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS)  
CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

2019 appropriation .....	\$8,845,000
2020 budget estimate .....	6,381,000
Provided in the bill .....	8,845,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	— — —
2020 budget estimate .....	+2,464,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For administrative expenses of the Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Credit Guarantee Program Account, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$8,845,000.

TITLE VI

RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

[Dollars in Thousands]

	Appropriation	User fees	Total, FDA S&E
2019 Appropriation .....	\$3,068,678	\$2,516,287	\$5,584,965
2020 Budget Estimate .....	3,239,524	2,594,418	5,833,942
Provided in the bill .....	3,253,939	2,594,418	5,848,357
Comparison:			
2019 Appropriation .....	+185,261	+78,131	+263,392
2020 Budget Estimate .....	+14,415	— — —	+14,415

The Committee provides an appropriation of \$3,253,939,000 in new budget authority for the FDA. In addition, the Committee recommends the following user fee amounts: \$1,062,367,000—prescription drugs; \$219,527,000—medical devices; \$511,682,000—human generic drugs; \$39,618,000—biosimilar biologicals; \$30,524,000—animal drugs; \$18,700,000—animal generic drugs; and \$712,000,000—tobacco products. The combination of new budget authority and definite user fees provides the FDA with a total discretionary salaries and expenses level of \$5,848,357,000. This total does not include permanent, indefinite user fees for: the Mammography Quality Standards Act; Export Certification; Priority Review Vouchers for Pediatric Disease; Food and Feed Recall; Food Reinspection; Voluntary Qualified Importer Program; the Third Party Auditor Program; and Outsourcing Facilities.

The Committee recommendation includes a net increase of \$185,261,000, including the full requested level for the following programs or initiatives: Medical Countermeasures Initiatives, Integrated Pathogen Reduction of the Blood Supply, Office of Laboratory Safety, Compounding, and Promoting Innovation and Emerging Technology While Maintaining Product Safety. In addition, the

Transform Medical Device Safety, Cybersecurity, Review, and Innovation initiative is funded at the fiscal year 2019 level.

The Committee does not accept proposed funding reductions for: foreign high-risk Inspections; the produce safety cooperative agreement funds with states; the Critical Path Initiative; and compounding bulk drug substances.

The Committee recommendation does not include proposed user fees that are not authorized. It includes an appropriation for Over-the-Counter Monograph fees, contingent upon authorization.

The Committee does not include funding for a civilian pay increase across the agency. Should the President provide a civilian pay increase for fiscal year 2020, it is assumed that the cost of such a pay increase will be absorbed within existing appropriations for fiscal year 2020.

*Animal Food Ingredients.*—Animal food ingredients are reviewed and approved by the Center for Veterinary Medicine and is responsible for ensuring the safety of ingredients as they enter the marketplace for either food animal production or for pets. The Committee is concerned about the time associated with the ingredient review and approval process. To address this concern, the Committee includes an additional \$2,000,000 to address reviews to enable innovation and address challenges and opportunities in the animal industry.

*Antimicrobial Drug Use.*—In recent years, FDA has expanded antimicrobial drug sales and distribution reporting under Section 105 of the Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2008 in an effort to further enhance FDA's understanding of antimicrobial drug use in food-producing animals. The Committee firmly believes that efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance must take into consideration animal health and welfare, which in turn affect human health and food safety. The Committee supports the collection and reporting of accurate and validated data of antimicrobial drug use for food-producing animals, but is concerned that this reporting of antimicrobial sales and distribution data is being inappropriately equated to actual antimicrobial use data. The Committee acknowledges that the FDA sales and distribution summary report notes this same concern and cautions against using sales data as a proxy for actual drug use. The Committee also acknowledges the efforts of the FDA to collect actual antimicrobial use information through the establishment of cooperative agreements to collect use information for feedlot and dairy cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys. Therefore, the Committee encourages FDA to continue to seek alternative methods to better identify and reduce inappropriate antimicrobial drug uses. The Committee recognizes that not all antimicrobial drugs used in animal agriculture are involved in the potential for developing resistance mechanisms relevant to animal or human health. The Committee acknowledges FDA's recent revisions of the sales and distribution summary report to more clearly differentiate medically important antimicrobials from those that are not medically important. However, the Committee encourages the Agency to continue to consider additional updates to the format of the annual summary report, based on stakeholder input, that will help to further differentiate medically important antimicrobial drugs from those that are not considered medically important and

that are not relevant to the development of antimicrobial resistance mechanisms.

*Automated Compounding.*—The Committee encourages FDA to review policies, regulations, and guidance to incorporate and incentivize the use of automation technology to enhance safety, improve accuracy, and facilitate compliance in drug compounding.

*Bacterial Risk Control Strategies for Blood Collection.*—The Committee notes that FDA revised its draft guidance document on Bacterial Risk Control Strategies for Blood Collection Establishments and Transfusion Services in December 2018. The Committee appreciates FDA’s continued efforts to expeditiously publish a final guidance document.

*Blood Donor Procedures.*—The Committee requests FDA continue to evaluate the current blood donation deferral policy and consider alternative procedures that would maintain the current level of safety and reduce the risk of HIV transmission through blood and blood components. The Committee is aware that in 2019 the inter-agency Transfusion Transmissible Infections Monitoring System (TTIMS) will assess prevalence, incidence, and risk factors for HIV infection among both first-time and repeat donors and assess time trends that may be associated with policy changes such as the current 12-month deferral. The Committee encourages FDA to work with the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to analyze the TTIMS data to fully understand the risk factors that might expose a potential donor to blood-borne illness and adjust deferment questions if warranted.

*Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Trials.*—The Committee is aware of the remarkable promise of cancer immunotherapy and encouraged by the FDA’s recent approval of new treatments that harness this approach to fighting cancer. More than 1,500 immuno-oncology clinical trials are in some stage of development. As more patients turn to immune-based treatments, and more clinical trials are conducted to evaluate them, understanding how to recognize and manage the side effects of cancer immunotherapies will become increasingly important. Currently, however, standard parameters for reporting cancer immunotherapy-related adverse events in clinical trials are lacking, and this makes comparisons and management across studies challenging. The Committee, therefore, urges the FDA to work with the research community and the pharmaceutical industry to develop standardized templates for reporting toxicities in cancer immunotherapy clinical trials.

*Cannabidiol Regulatory Pathway.*—The Committee is concerned about the proliferation of foods and dietary supplements marketed in violation of the Federal Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), including products containing cannabis and cannabis-derived ingredients. Non-FFDCA-compliant products pose potential health and safety risks to consumers through unsubstantiated and misleading claims such as treating a wide-range of life-threatening diseases and conditions; excessive cannabidiol (CBD) concentrations that can result in harmful drug-drug interactions, somnolence, and elevated transaminases or liver toxicity; and the presence of significant levels of intoxicating compounds such as tetrahydrocannabinols (THC). The 2018 Farm Bill expressly preserves FDA’s public health authority to take appropriate actions regarding cannabis, including hemp and its derivatives. The Committee rec-



ognizes the FDA is considering a public regulatory process to evaluate the appropriateness, and possible parameters, of a regulatory pathway that would permit CBD in certain foods and dietary supplements. The Committee expects the FDA to assert its commitment to identifying lawful federal regulatory pathways for CBD foods and dietary supplements if such pathways are consistent with protection of the public health. Such pathways may include necessary public health and safety parameters that will protect the public health, such as labeling requirements and limits on CBD or other cannabis-derived ingredients in products, based upon anticipated total exposure levels. The Committee also expects the FDA to preserve the integrity of its drug development and approval processes, which ensures that products marketed for drug uses have undergone a rigorous scientific validation process demonstrating quality, safety and efficacy. It is also imperative that any FDA regulation of foods and dietary supplements containing CBD or other cannabis-derived ingredients preserve incentives to invest in robust clinical study of cannabis, so its therapeutic value can be more fully understood.

*Canned Tuna.*—The Committee is concerned that FDA has not revised the standard of identity for canned tuna to adopt the drained weight fill of container standard despite having received two citizens petitions, as far back as 1994. FDA is directed to provide an update on the status of its review of the citizen petitions related to the standard of identity for canned tuna within 90 days.

*Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition Centers of Excellence.*—The Committee is aware of the important contribution of the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition's Centers of Excellence (COEs) program in supporting critical basic research as well as facilitating the implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act. The Committee encourages the Agency to continue to fully utilize the COEs to accomplish these goals, and instructs that it embrace its level of support for FDA Food Safety Modernization Act activities.

*Center for Veterinary Medicine Guidance Documents.*—The FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) recently updated its list of guidance topics to include possible new topics for consideration as well as revisions to existing CVM guidance documents. Additionally, the CVM 5-year Strategic Plan for Antimicrobial Stewardship in Veterinary Settings, released in September 2018, will require FDA guidance documents to direct the implementation of the stated goals. The Committee encourages FDA to seek input from relevant industry stakeholders and appropriate scientific experts who can assist FDA in the development of and any revision to guidance documents as well as for FDA to seek advice with these industry stakeholders on the best course for future guidance implementation.

*Chronic Pain.*—Management of chronic pain often requires both non-pharmacological treatment as well as medicines. However, the current pharmacological options do not meet the needs of all patients, and additional treatments are needed. The Committee directs FDA to provide a brief on the progress of the development and advancement of non-opioid chronic pain therapies.

*Compounding Center of Excellence.*—The Committee supports the development of the Compounding Center of Excellence, which ex-

pands engagement with outsourcing facilities regarding good manufacturing practices, thereby helping these facilities adhere to the quality standards needed to protect patient health and support sector growth in small, underserved communities. The Committee encourages FDA to make concerted efforts to advise small compounders on how best to navigate regulations concerning distributing and dispensing practices, so these businesses may continue to adequately service local communities and individual patient needs.

*Continuous Manufacturing Initiative.*—The Committee encourages FDA to explore partnering with existing non-profit entities with demonstrated capacity and experience on advanced manufacturing technologies to lower pharmaceutical costs.

*Corneal Crosslinking.*—The Committee is aware that medical devices for the treatment of keratoconus are still being sold to U.S. physicians by multiple manufacturers for use in human patients without proper FDA authorization. The Committee is concerned that as many as 25% of all patients receiving corneal crosslinking procedures are put at risk by these non-approved devices. The Committee encourages FDA to investigate the manufacturers of these non-FDA approved devices, with specific regard to their marketing practices and medical claims, and to prohibit the utilization of non-FDA approved devices being used for corneal crosslinking procedures.

*Cosmetics Funding.*—The Committee is concerned that FDA's current authority and resources to oversee cosmetics and personal care products are inadequate to properly ensure the safety of cosmetics products. The Committee directs FDA to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the staffing and budget resources it would need to improve its oversight of cosmetics, including whether the agency believes user fees would help to improve such oversight. The Committee provides an additional \$4,000,000 for the Office of Cosmetics and Colors, within the FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, to increase staffing and improve cosmetics safety oversight.

*Cosmetics Public Education.*—The Committee is concerned about the dangers of known carcinogens that may be found in cosmetic products. The Committee urges the FDA to use a variety of communications tools to educate the public on the dangers of products for which a company fails to comply with a recall requested by the FDA.

*Cosmetic Safety.*—The Committee strongly encourages FDA to continue taking steps towards ensuring the safety of cosmetics and continue to work with stakeholders and Congress to modernize the regulatory framework for cosmetics. The Committee requests a report within 180 days after enactment of this Act on what it would take for FDA to establish Good Manufacturing Practices for cosmetics, as a way to further ensure cosmetic safety.

*Critical Path Initiative.*—Innovation in the development of new medicines and other therapies can be enhanced by enabling FDA to focus on specific program areas such as those outlined in FDA's Critical Path Initiative and its Regulatory Science objectives. These types of programs, which FDA often accomplishes through public-private partnerships, expand the knowledge base for those developing medical products and those conducting regulatory review.

*Dairy Standard of Identity.*—The Committee is pleased that the FDA has begun a deliberative process to review how it will enforce the standards of identity for dairy products. The Committee continues to hear concerns with the labeling of certain foods and beverages as dairy products when the products are plant-based rather than derived from an animal. As such, the Committee urges the FDA to continue its work toward ultimately enforcing standards of identity for dairy products.

*Dairy Standard of Identity for Certain Products.*—The Committee understands that, as part of FDA's Nutrition Innovation Strategy and its review of the standards of identity for dairy products, the agency is considering modifications to its standards of identity based on changes in food technology and nutritional science. To promote this objective, the Committee directs the FDA to consult and meet with members of the dairy industry to discuss the need for a standard of identity for dairy products that do not contain the A1 beta casein protein.

*Dietary Supplements.*—Within the increases provided for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, the Committee provides an additional \$3,000,000 for the Office of Dietary Supplement Programs (ODSP). More than half of Americans take at least one dietary supplement each day, with use particularly prevalent among older persons and in children. The Committee applauds FDA's inspection of and enforcement actions against manufacturers of dietary supplement products that contain ingredients that are potentially harmful or otherwise noncompliant with the law, but recognizes more resources are needed to regulate products that are contaminated either intentionally or unintentionally with inherently unsafe ingredients, including active pharmaceutical ingredients. The Committee has been pleased with the interagency collaborations and urges FDA to continue working with the Department of Justice to remove illegal dietary supplements from the market. The Committee directs these increased resources toward enforcement of DSHEA, including inspection and enforcement activities.

*Drug Compounding and Revised Draft MOU.*—The Committee appreciates the revisions made to the new draft MOU for human compounding, released in September 2018 by the FDA. The Committee encourages FDA, before the revised draft is finalized, FDA to work with stakeholders, including state boards of pharmacy, with the goal of having most, if not all, states supporting the MOU.

*Drug Compounding Pharmacist on Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee.*—The Committee recognizes that the Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee established under the Drug Quality and Security Act (DQSA) needs to adequately represent the interests and needs of providers and patients who use and depend on compounded medications. Compounding is often practiced in community settings. It is therefore vital that voting members of PCAC have a thorough understanding of compounding in a community setting in order to appropriately advise FDA. The Committee encourages FDA to appoint qualified voting members with recent, actual, and diverse experience in the preparation, prescribing, and use of compounded medications.

*DQSA Implementation.*—The Committee is aware of concerns about FDA's implementation of the DQSA as it relates to USP die-

tary supplement monographs. The Committee directs FDA to provide a briefing the Committee on this issue.

*Drug Supply Chain Security Act.*—The Committee is aware that the FDA is more than three years late in meeting its statutory obligation to establish a Federal licensing standard for third-party logistics providers and wholesale distributors. Congress mandated FDA complete this effort by 2015 under the Drug Supply Chain Security Act. This provision was intended to set federal standards to govern licensing for all third-party logistics providers and wholesale distributors, helping to strengthen FDA's and states' ability to ensure the security of the drug supply chain. The Committee directs the FDA to issue its proposed rule-making to fulfill this requirement without delay.

*Epinephrine Auto Injector Shortage.*—The Committee is concerned by the national shortage of epinephrine auto injectors, which pose a serious threat to those at risk of allergic reactions. The Committee is encouraged by FDA's actions to address availability of these drugs, both by approving a new generic and safely extending the expiration dates for existing medications. The Committee urges FDA to aggressively combat this drug shortage to ensure epinephrine auto injectors are readily available to meet the growing number of prescriptions.

*Electrical Stimulation Devices.*—The Committee is concerned about the delay in issuing a final rule prohibiting the use of electrical stimulation devices on persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, especially in light of the agency's statement that "these products present an unreasonable and substantial risk to public health." Given this risk, the Committee directs the agency to issue the final rule no later than December 31, 2019, consistent with the Spring 2019 Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions.

*FDA Partnerships under FSMA.*—The purpose of FSMA is to reform the nation's food safety laws to ensure a safe public food supply. As FDA continues implementation of FSMA, the Committee encourages FDA to work in partnership with existing government food safety programs through MOUs to verify compliance with FSMA rules once they are finalized as a way to eliminate duplication of activities under the law.

*FDARA Section 902 Reports.*—The Committee appreciates FDA's adherence to Section 902 of the FDA Reauthorization Act which requires an annual report on inspections. The Committee requests that FDA provide it with a separate report on the median time, following a request from staff of the FDA reviewing an application to the beginning of the inspection, that lists the median time for generic drugs and new drugs separately.

*Food Additives.*—There are more than 10,000 additives to preserve or modify the taste, appearance and nutrients in food. The Committee is concerned about potential effects of food additives on children and requests a report on the effects of direct and indirect food additives currently listed as generally recognized as safe on the behavioral health of children.

*Food Contact Notification User Fees.*—The funds made available by this Act include sufficient monies to fund the Food and Drug Administration's Food Contact Notification Program and shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of 21 U.S.C. 348(h)(5)(A).

*Food Facility Inspections.*—The Committee is aware of the September 2017 Office of Inspector General (OIG) report that outlined deficiencies in FDA’s inspections of domestic food facilities. The Committee is concerned that the overall number of domestic food facilities that FDA inspected since the passage of FSMA has decreased from a high of about 19,000 facilities in 2011 to 16,000 facilities in 2015, the most recent year for which data is available. The Committee notes that FDA has failed to provide Congress with mandated Food Safety Modernization Act annual reports with data on foreign and domestic food facility inspections, inspections of food imports, and the status of FDA foreign offices for the last six consecutive fiscal years. The FDA is urged to finalize these delayed reports and submit them to Congress within 180 days.

*Food Safety and the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Funding.*—The Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report in January 2019 entitled “Food Safety and Nutrition: FDA Can Build on Existing Efforts to Measure Progress and Implement Key Activities.” The report documents spending and shows a steady increase in spending for food safety. A majority of this spending relates to activities surrounding FSMA development and implementation activities. FSMA implementation places additional requirements on state governments and private stakeholders, and therefore urges the FDA to provide sufficient resources to state and non-profit education and inspection programs to address these needs.

*Foodborne Illness.*—Reducing incidents of foodborne illness is an important public health goal. The Committee believes that coordinated and targeted resources are required to appropriately assess and combat the public health risks of foodborne pathogens. The Committee is aware that FDA is in the process of finalizing guidance regarding *Listeria monocytogenes* (Lm) in foods under its jurisdiction. Reducing the incidence of listeriosis is an important public health goal and the Committee supports efforts to accomplish this objective. The Committee urges FDA to define not ready-to-eat foods in guidance in a manner that aligns with the approach of USDA’s FSIS and is protective of public health and is science-based, practical, and achievable. The Committee also urges FDA to consider all available information relevant to the risk of listeriosis, including available exposure models, outbreak data, dose-response models, and existing risk assessments, in finalizing compliance policy guidance that would establish any final action level of Lm in ready-to-eat foods, and to make sure that the guidance is protective of public health, science-based, practical, and achievable. Additionally, the Committee continues its direction that FDA, in consultation with NIFA, work to coordinate ongoing and future research grant programs addressing foodborne pathogens to ensure that NIFA grant programs address FDA research priorities, and directs USDA to report back to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on its progress toward this goal.

*Foreign High-Risk Inspection.*—The Committee maintains funding for foreign high-risk inspections to allow FDA to continue efforts to develop and utilize a targeted, risk-based, and efficient inspection model that incorporates commercially available information, including onsite facility verification, about all foreign establishments for the purpose of regulatory compliance and surveillance of manufacturing quality management practices. FDA is directed to

provide the Committees with an update on these efforts, including estimated efficiencies and concerns and plans to continue or expand this effort in the future.

*Generic Competition.*—The Committee recognizes the important role generic drug competition plays in the U.S. healthcare marketplace. The Committee supports ongoing efforts at FDA facilitating the approval of safe and effective generic drugs, including the agency’s efforts in approving competitive generic therapies, and providing product-specific guidance to facilitate the approval of generic drugs, including complex generic drugs. The Committee recognizes the record-breaking number of generic approvals in 2018 and encourages FDA to continue its efforts to ensure appropriate generic drug competition in the marketplace.

*Generic Harmonization.*—The Committee supports FDA’s efforts to harmonize scientific and technical standards for generic applications with other nations to reduce regulatory burden and incentivize competition. The Committee also supports efforts to facilitate the international harmonization of drug manufacturing facility standards and mutual recognition of international inspections, which can help improve standards for the pharmaceutical supply chain worldwide. The Committee requests FDA brief the Committee within 90 days of the enactment of this Act on the steps the agency has taken on these efforts, which foreign regulators are being consulted, and approximate timelines by which the agency expects to implement changes.

*Glass Packaging.*—The Committee urges FDA to continue to work with glass packaging suppliers and pharmaceutical manufacturers to evaluate and promote streamlined approval requirements designed to expedite the adoption and use of innovative glass packaging technologies with the capacity to improve product quality, reduce product recalls, reduce drug shortages, and protect public health. Such streamlined approval requirements should address stability testing and other relevant types of data to be submitted in support of product approval.

*Homeopathic Draft Guidance.*—The Committee urges FDA to consider the views of patients in finalizing its draft guidance.

*Imported seafood safety.*—As FDA noted in its February 2019 report, “FDA Strategy for the Safety of Imported Food,” 94 percent of seafood consumed in the U.S. is now imported. One of FDA’s major responsibilities is to protect consumers from the risks of imports, which have been increasing by 5 to 10 percent per year for the last decade. It is also FDA’s policy to ensure that all products regulated by the agency must meet the same requirements, whether imported or domestic. While it is encouraging that FDA uses various regulatory methods to ensure the safety of imported seafood, such as the Foreign Supplier Verification Program, the Import Certification Program, and new FSMA regulations and tools, the best source of knowledge is the physical examination of the product itself. Due to the dramatic increase in imported seafood, the Committee provides a one-time increase of \$5,000,000 to conduct a pilot using Machine Learning to develop a screening model for imported seafood shipments. This would include physical examination of imported seafood covering both chemical and microbiological samples and representative of product and import regions. FDA is directed to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriation on

the results of the pilot as well as recommendations on how the Agency may improve upon the safety of such imports, if warranted.

*Local Port Cooperation.*—The Committee directs the FDA to work with local governments at high volume ports of entry to explore activities which reduce the risk of food borne illnesses and enhance the capacity of local officials in dealing with food borne threats. FDA is requested to report back to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on its efforts.

*Lower-Cost Insulin Products and Transition to the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act Approval Pathway.*—To ensure patient access to lower-cost insulin, the Committee urges FDA to undertake the following measures: (1) ensure any pending application for a proposed insulin product with a goal date prior to March 23, 2020 is reviewed in accordance with the “Program for Enhanced Review Transparency and Communication for NME NDAs and Original BLAs” (“the Program”), (2) work to identify and promote efficiencies in the review of any application submitted under the Public Health Service Act for a proposed insulin product that previously was submitted under the FFDCA with a goal date prior to March 23, 2020, and that failed to meet the requirements for final approval under the FFDCA by March 23, 2020, and (3) act quickly to evaluate stakeholder feedback and recommendations from its May 13, 2019 public meeting on the future of insulin biosimilars.

*Mammography Exam Reports.*—In November 2011, the National Mammography Quality Assurance Advisory Committee approved a change to the mammogram patient report and physician report to include information regarding an individual’s breast density, yet this process has not been completed. The Committee continues to urge the FDA to implement this change in an expedited manner and to brief the Committees on the status of this change.

*Menu Labeling Education Campaign.*—The Committee supports the goals of the Nutrition Innovation Strategy for an educational campaign for consumers surrounding both menu labeling and the updated Nutrition Facts panel and includes \$2,000,000 to support this activity.

*Naloxone to Treat Over-usage of Opioids.*—United States public health agencies have appropriately highlighted the risk of overdose from doses of opioids greater than 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) per day. Also concerning are the hundreds of millions of prescriptions each year of immediate release (IR) lower MME opioids such as hydrocodone and oxycodone. These opioids are commonly associated with abuse and are a common pathway to addiction and also present a risk of overdose. Some states have begun to limit the prescribing of these IR opioids. An additional consideration might be to assess the benefit of co-prescribing naloxone with IR and extended release (ER) opioids. Prescribers including dentists and other primary care providers have an opportunity to become more attuned to the risks of all opioids through the consideration of co-prescribing naloxone with each opioid prescription. The Committee encourages FDA to develop a strategy to test this hypothesis and assess the benefit for enacting such a policy as a national strategy.

*National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS).*—The Committee provides an additional \$2,000,000 for NARMS, a national public health surveillance system that tracks

changes in the antimicrobial susceptibility of enteric bacteria found in people, meats, and food animals in the United States.

*Non-Human Primates.*—The Committee commends the FDA for its work to reduce research on non-human primates and relocate non-human primates no longer needed in research to sanctuary. The Committee directs the FDA to deliver a report within 12 months of enactment of this Act that outlines a strategy, including a detailed timeline, for the reduction and replacement of non-human primates in FDA intramural testing and research with suitable alternative models. The report should also detail plans for the relocation of non-human primates no longer needed in FDA research to appropriate sanctuaries.

*Nutrient Value of Fish During Pregnancy.*—In light of the directive included in section 773 of Division B of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 116–6), the Agency shall continue coordinating with the Environmental Protection Agency to reissue the final fish consumption advice for pregnant women provided in the notice of availability entitled “Advice About Eating Fish, From the Environmental Protection Agency and Food and Drug Administration; Revised Fish Advice; Availability” (82 Fed. Reg. 6571 (January 19, 2017)). The reissuance of this advice will assist pregnant women in making informed decisions on fish consumption during pregnancy, especially as it relates to the positive cognitive development of the child.

*Office Use Compounding.*—The Committee continues to hear concerns that FDA has implemented and enforced the DQSA through guidance for industry documents rather than through the notice and comment rulemaking procedure called for by the underlying statute and the Administrative Procedures Act. The Committee requests a briefing from FDA on this issue.

*Olive Oil Standards of Identity.*—Because of the substantial interest in and consumption of olive oil throughout the United States, driven in part by the significant scientifically-confirmed health benefits of these oils, and the fact that the United States has become a globally-important producer of olive oils, especially extra virgin olive oil, the Committee directs FDA to establish a separate U.S. Standard of Identity for different grades of olive oil (e.g. extra virgin, virgin, and refined) and olive-pomace oils. As the Committee is particularly concerned with the number of different oil state standards for olive oils in the U.S., it is important to determine if establishing a uniform set of the standards would better inform and protect consumers. FDA is directed to consult and meet with domestic producers and importers of olive oil to develop a science-based Standard of Identity for extra virgin olive oil and olive oil to ensure the integrity of these products for U.S. consumers.

*Opioid Abuse.*—The abuse, misuse, and diversion of opioid painkillers continue to drive an epidemic in the United States. The CDC indicates that one American loses his or her battle with addiction every twelve and a half minutes. The Committee continues to be pleased that, with the Opioids Action Plan, Opioid Policy Steering Committee, and several significant regulatory actions, FDA is doing its part to help stem the tide of abuse. The use of opioids as first-line therapies for any form of pain has led to over-prescribing, and the CDC has made clear that clinicians should consider opioid therapy only if expected benefits for both pain and function are an-



ticipated to outweigh the risks to the patient. The Committee hopes that FDA will continue to support the development of alternative and non-addictive alternatives to opioid analgesics and, when opioids are medically necessary, will continue to incentivize development and use of abuse-deterrent formulations. The Committee notes that every patient's treatment regimen should be tailored by his or her doctor to his or her unique needs. The federal government, therefore, should promote the full suite of available treatment options, including abstinence-based models and non-opioid medications. Finally, the Committee continues to be supportive of naloxone distribution among trained, licensed healthcare professionals and emergency responders. When considering the appropriateness of providing naloxone over-the-counter, the Committee urges the FDA to ensure that the administration of naloxone serves as a point of intervention to spur an honest conversation between the patient and his doctor about addiction and treatment.

*OTC Acetaminophen Dosing Information for Children.*—The Committee is concerned that the lack of dosing information for children ages six months to two years may lead to dosing errors, adverse events, and inadequate treatment of fever and pain. The FDA is urged to update the monograph label for acetaminophen to include weight-based dosing instructions for children ages six months to two years and provide to the Committee not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a report on why action has not been taken based on the recommendation of two of its advisory committees.

*Patient Experience in Drug Reviews.*—The Committee is aware the FDA is implementing policies to promote public access to information about how patient experience information factored into the review of approved products. The Committee supports this step forward and encourages FDA to continue refining the instrument and ways to improve its visibility. The Committee also requests that FDA consider ways to include patient-experience information in relevant labeling and accompanying documentation to inform patient/provider decision making and payer determinations.

*Patient-Focused Drug Development Initiative.*—The Committee supports the goals of the Patient-Focused Drug Development Initiative. The Committee notes that alopecia areata is included in this initiative.

*Pediatric Devices.*—The Committee is aware of the success of the FDA's Pediatric Device Consortia (PDC) and the Center for Devices and Radiological Health's (CDRH) interest in developing a collaborative community related to pediatric devices. However, the Committee is concerned the CDRH does not have the necessary resources to properly leverage the benefits of the PDC program and a collaborative community. Therefore, the Committee provides an increase of \$1,000,000 for the PDC program to improve infrastructure for conducting pediatric device trials and the planning of a related Pediatric Device collaborative community.

*Pediatric IBD.*—The Committee commends FDA for convening a workshop in November 2018 to examine barriers to drug development for pediatric IBD, including clinical trials, and recognizes the work done so far to identify the variables that impede trial participation. To advance this work, the Committee strongly encourages FDA to partner with stakeholders including patient advocates,

healthcare professionals, researchers, and industry to establish a working group to develop a plan for reducing barriers to pediatric IBD clinical trial participation and drug development.

*Pentobarbital in Pet Food.*—The Committee is aware that pet food containing any level of pentobarbital is a violation of the FFDCA. Still, pet food products containing pentobarbital managed to reach consumer shelves and affect the lives of pets before being recalled. Lethargy, seizure, and death are only a few of the side effects pet owners grapple with should their pet become ill due to pet food pentobarbital contamination. FDA is directed to report to the Committees on their findings of any current FDA studies of pet food pentobarbital contaminations and what FDA is doing to reduce contamination risks.

*Pesticide Residues in Imported Human Food.*—The Committee is concerned that imported human food continues to have higher pesticide violation rates than domestically produced food. The Committee recognizes that identifying a high violation rate for an imported commodity attests to FDA's sampling design. However, such differences between domestic and import violation rates are concerning. The Committee directs FDA to analyze data in preparation of its next annual report to assess whether giving special attention to certain imported products with significantly higher rates of violations compared to domestic products would change the planning of the pesticide sampling plan for future years.

*Pet Food Imports.*—The Committee appreciates the significant investigational effort over the past several years into reported pet illnesses associated with jerky pet treats. The Committee awaits the final summary paper detailing FDA work on jerky pet treats.

*Rare Cancer Therapeutics.*—FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence was formed to streamline the development of cancer therapies. It creates a unified and collaborative scientific environment to advance the development and regulation of oncology products for cancer patients. However, there continues to be a significant development gap for rare cancer therapies. Therefore, the Committee includes an additional \$5,000,000 to address gaps in the system, streamline resources, accelerate the development of rare cancer therapies and advance the field of cancer research overall, mirroring the efforts of the National Cancer Institute's Developmental Therapeutics Program. FDA is directed to build lines of communications and processes between these two agencies in order to expedite review of rare cancer therapies.

*Real World Evidence.*—In the 21st Century Cures Act, Congress expressed support for the use of real-world evidence and directed FDA to create a comprehensive plan for how to advance efforts for its use in regulatory decision making. Congress commends FDA on the progress it has made on this initiative thus far and urges continued focus on expansion of the use of real-world evidence. Real-world evidence has many uses, including identifying real-time opioid prescribing patterns across the country, creating proactive drug safety monitoring and patient safety regimes, helping to interpret and complement the clinical trial process, and allowing for less costly and quicker drug development. Congress hopes to see continued advances at FDA in this important area and appropriate use of real-world Evidence, particularly in regulatory decision making.

*Sesame.*—The Committee is concerned with the growing prevalence and severity of sesame allergies and commends the FDA for issuing a request for information on adding sesame to the list of major allergens. The Committee requests a report within 90 days of enactment on the status of the review of the data received under the request for information. The report shall include a timeline of when comments will be fully reviewed, recommendations and conclusions based on this review, and a detailed plan of action on proposed rulemaking.

*Standard of Identity Activities for Foods.*—Of the amount provided for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, the Committee provides an increase of \$3,000,000 for the Office of Nutrition and Food Labeling to prioritize efforts regarding standards of identity and related product labeling.

*Sunscreen Ingredients.*—The Committee continues to track the actions of the FDA related to sunscreen ingredients. The Committee recognizes the agency's efforts in generating and posting consumer and public health resources regarding health benefits of sunscreen use. The Committee urges FDA to clarify its messaging concerning currently marketed sunscreen ingredients to ensure the continued use of sunscreens. In addition, the Committee encourages FDA to work with stakeholders.

*Systems for Investigations, Recalls, Compliance and Enforcement (SIRCE) Investment.*—The Committee understands that the Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA) is undergoing an effort to replace aging and segmented data systems through the SIRCE contract. The Committee directs ORA to report back on the status of SIRCE investments and, whenever practicable, to ensure that funding for technology systems support the establishment of an interoperable, comprehensive program.

*The Real Cost.*—The Committee supports FDA's "The Real Cost" youth e-cigarette prevention campaign which to date has been directed at youth ages 12–17, and directs the FDA to explore expanding the advertising to the general public.

*Traceability of food.*—The Committee is aware that FDA has not put forward a comprehensive food-traceability system. The Committee directs FDA to work with stakeholders on a wide-scale traceability system that could help companies and government agencies more rapidly access data crucial to tracking foods implicated in disease outbreaks and subject to recalls.

*Track and Trace.*—Public Law 111–31 required FDA to implement a national track and trace system on the manufacture and flow of tobacco products to ensure compliance with tobacco product standards and disrupt illicit trade and counterfeiting. FDA has yet to fully meet this requirement. The Committee directs FDA to provide not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a report on the status of track and trace rulemaking as it applies to tobacco products, including ENDS and nicotine components.

*Unapproved Stem Cell Products.*—The Committee appreciates the enforcement actions against clinics for marketing unapproved stem cell products. The Committee encourages the FDA to continue prioritizing enforcement actions against businesses that illicitly market unapproved products to patients and to continue to coordinate with the Federal Trade Commission to optimize its enforcement and consumer education activities.

*Youth E-cigarette Use.*—The Committee is troubled by the dramatic increase in youth e-cigarette use and notes that flavors are the most common reason youth use e-cigarettes. The Committee urges FDA to expedite the pre-market review of e-cigarettes and other newly deemed tobacco products that were on the market as of August 8, 2016 and to remove from the market any deemed tobacco product introduced after August 8, 2016 that has not undergone a pre-market review.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

2019 appropriation .....	\$11,788,000
2020 budget estimate .....	11,788,000
Provided in the bill .....	11,788,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	---
2020 budget estimate .....	---

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Buildings and Facilities of the Food and Drug Administration, the Committee provides \$11,788,000.

#### FDA INNOVATION ACCOUNT, CURES ACT

2019 appropriation .....	\$70,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	75,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	75,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+5,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	---

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the FDA Innovation Account as authorized in the 21st Century Cures Act, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$75,000,000.

#### INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

##### COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

2019 appropriation .....	\$268,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	315,000,000
Provided in the bill .....	315,000,000
Comparison:	
2019 appropriation .....	+47,000,000
2020 budget estimate .....	---

#### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$315,000,000, of which \$57,000,000 is for the purchase of IT and \$3,386,000 is for the Inspector General.

*Aluminum.*—The Committee is aware of concerns about pricing by aluminum end users. It is the CFTC's mission to protect market users and the public from fraud, manipulation, and abusive practices related to the sale of commodity and financial futures and options, and to foster open, competitive, and financially sound futures and options markets. The Committee therefore requests that the CFTC report back no later than 90 days after enactment of the bill on the state of the aluminum futures markets.

*Cross-Border Harmonization.*—The Committee strongly encourages the CFTC to work with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to harmonize the definition of a “U.S. person.” Currently, the definition of a “U.S. person” differs between the two agencies, which can result in operational challenges and potentially different regulatory treatment of entities transacting in otherwise similar instruments. Global firms face significant costs and burdens if the CFTC’s and SEC’s regulatory approaches produce different outcomes regarding whether an entity or transaction would be subject to the Dodd-Frank Act. Derivatives transactions for swaps and security-based swaps that are traded typically by the same trading desk or desks should not be analyzed differently. The Committee urges these agencies to work together in an expeditious manner toward a consistent definition of a U.S. person.

*Virtual Currency Monitoring.*—The advent of virtual currency markets has presented several new challenges for the Commission in its efforts to carry out its mission. Each virtual currency derivatives contract currently ties its price in some way, through various settlement processes, to prices of virtual currency on certain cash market platforms. This underlying virtual currency cash market is relatively nascent, and the platforms operating in the cash market remain largely unregulated, with the Commission having only limited enforcement authority over the cash market. Those features of the underlying cash market platforms have led the Commission to note multiple risks to the markets. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Commission’s ongoing efforts, in coordination with other financial regulators such as the Securities and Exchange Commission, to continue monitoring virtual currencies, including Bitcoin futures contracts, and to detect, investigate, and prosecute fraud and manipulation in these markets. The Commission is directed to prepare a report on how to better protect virtual currency investors and promote American competitiveness in this evolving global marketplace. This report should include, but is not limited to, a discussion of how to protect investors against fraud and manipulation involving virtual currency. This report is to be made available on the Commission website within 270 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

## FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

2019 limitation .....	(\$74,600,000)
2020 budget estimate .....	(76,000,000)
Provided in the bill .....	(76,000,000)
Comparison:	
2019 limitation .....	+1,400,000
2020 budget estimate .....	— — —

### COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the limitation on the expenses of the Farm Credit Administration (FCA), the Committee provides \$76,000,000.

*Public/private partnerships.*—The Committee recognizes the value of public/private partnerships in financing rural community facilities and other similar projects, as well as the role the Farm Credit System (FCS) can play in expanding these partnerships. The Committee also recognizes that the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as

amended, provides authority for FCS institutions to make investments in vital rural community facilities and supports improving the Farm Credit Administration's current process of approving these investments. To help the Committee consider ways it can encourage these partnerships, the Farm Credit Administration is directed to report back to the Committee within 120 days of the date of enactment of this Act on the current ways in which the FCS participates in these partnerships and on options to enhance and expand FCS's lending and investment opportunities to increase these partnerships and investment projects in rural America.

## TITLE VII

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The following general provisions are included in the bill:

Section 701.—The bill includes language regarding motor vehicles.

Section 702.—The bill includes language regarding the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture.

Section 703.—The bill includes language limiting funding provided in the bill to one year unless otherwise specified.

Section 704.—The bill includes language regarding nonprofit institutions.

Section 705.—The bill includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 706.—The bill includes language regarding information technology systems.

Section 707.—The bill includes language regarding fund availability.

Section 708.—The bill includes language regarding Rural Utilities Service program eligibility.

Section 709.—The bill includes language regarding funds for information technology expenses.

Section 710.—The bill includes language prohibiting first-class airline travel.

Section 711.—The bill includes language regarding the availability of certain funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Section 712.—The bill includes language regarding funding for advisory committees.

Section 713.—The bill includes language regarding IT system regulations.

Section 714.—The bill includes language regarding Section 32 activities.

Section 715.—The bill includes language regarding user fee proposals without offsets.

Section 716.—The bill includes language regarding the reprogramming of funds for USDA.

Section 717.—The bill includes language regarding the reprogramming of funds and notification requirements for FDA and CFTC.

Section 718.—The bill includes language regarding fees for the guaranteed business and industry loan program.

Section 719.—The bill includes language regarding the appropriations hearing process.

Section 720.—The bill includes language regarding government-sponsored news stories.

Section 721.—The bill includes language regarding details and assignments of Department of Agriculture employees.

Section 722.—The bill includes language regarding eligibility for Rural Development programs.

Section 723.—The bill includes language requiring spend plans.

Section 724.—The bill includes language regarding certain USDA balances.

Section 725.—The bill includes language regarding rural housing loans.

Section 726.—The bill includes language regarding USDA loan programs.

Section 727.—The bill includes language regarding the Working Capital Fund.

Section 728.—The bill includes language regarding SNAP variety.

Section 729.—The bill includes language regarding housing loan programs.

Section 730.—The bill includes language regarding consumer information.

Section 731.—The bill includes language regarding FDA regulations.

Section 732.—The bill includes language regarding Food for Peace.

Section 733.—The bill includes language regarding Rural Development energy program.

Section 734.—The bill includes language regarding USDA regulations.

Section 735.—The bill includes language regarding FDA regulations.

Section 736.—The bill includes language regarding animal welfare.

Section 737.—The bill includes language regarding United States iron and steel products.

Section 738.—The bill includes language regarding lobbying.

Section 739.—The bill includes language regarding poultry products.

Section 740.—The bill includes language regarding certain inspection activities.

Section 741.—The bill includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 742.—The bill includes language regarding poultry products.

Section 743.—The bill includes language regarding child nutrition programs.

Section 744.—The bill includes language regarding low-income communities.

Section 745.—The bill includes language regarding citrus greening.

Section 746.—The bill includes language regarding grape varieties.

Section 747.—The bill includes language regarding school lunch programs.

Section 748.—The bill includes language regarding rural broadband.

Section 749.—The bill includes language regarding the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Section 750.—The bill includes language regarding school breakfast programs.

Section 751.—The bill includes language regarding FDA regulations.

Section 752.—The bill includes language regarding Centers of Excellence.

Section 753.—The bill includes language regarding assistance to rural hospitals.

Section 754.—The bill includes language regarding disaster assistance.

Section 755.—The bill includes language regarding certain USDA balances.

Section 756.—The bill includes language regarding the organic program.

Section 757.—The bill includes language regarding demonstration projects for Tribes.

Section 758.—The bill includes language regarding USDA agencies.

Section 759.—The bill includes language regarding USDA agencies.

Section 760.—The bill includes language regarding animal welfare.

Section 761.—The bill includes language regarding fellowships.

Section 762.—The bill includes language regarding certain research programs.

Section 763.—The bill includes language regarding the school breakfast programs.

Section 764.—The bill includes language regarding farm ownership.

Section 765.—The bill includes language regarding Rural Development loans.

Section 766.—The bill includes language regarding research facilities.

Section 767.—The bill includes language regarding research programs.

Section 768.—The bill includes language regarding urban agriculture.

Section 769.—The bill includes language regarding food loss.

Section 770.—The bill includes language regarding nutrition programs.

Section 771.—The bill includes language regarding pollinator research.

Section 772.—The bill includes language regarding training and outreach.

Section 773.—The bill includes language regarding assistance to Tribal students.

Section 774.—The bill includes language regarding research programs.

Section 775.—The bill includes language regarding farm loans.



Section 776.—The bill includes language regarding a Nutrition Assistance Program study.

Section 777.—The bill includes language regarding micro-grants for food security.

Section 778.—The bill includes language regarding gene editing.

Section 779.—The bill includes language regarding swine inspections.

Section 780.—The bill includes language regarding Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT REQUIREMENTS

### FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those against, are printed below:

## FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

## Roll Call 1

Date: June 4, 2019

Measure: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Appropriations Bill, FY20

Motion by: Mr. Aderholt

Description of Motion: Raises the minimum age with respect to the sale of tobacco products and other purposes.

Results: Defeated 23 yeas to 27 nays

*Members Voting Yea*

Mr. Aderholt  
Mr. Bishop  
Mr. Calvert  
Mr. Carter  
Mr. Cole  
Mr. Cuellar  
Mr. Diaz-Balart  
Mr. Fleischmann  
Mr. Fortenberry  
Ms. Granger  
Mr. Graves  
Dr. Harris  
Mr. Hurd  
Mr. Joyce  
Mr. Moolenaar  
Mr. Newhouse  
Mr. Palazzo  
Mrs. Roby  
Mr. Rogers  
Mr. Rutherford  
Mr. Simpson  
Mr. Stewart  
Mr. Womack

*Members Voting Nay*

Mr. Aguilar  
Mrs. Bustos  
Mr. Cartwright  
Mr. Case  
Ms. Clark  
Mr. Crist  
Ms. DeLauro  
Ms. Frankel  
Ms. Kaptur  
Mr. Kilmer  
Mrs. Kirkpatrick  
Mrs. Lawrence  
Ms. Lee  
Mrs. Lowey  
Ms. McCollum  
Ms. Meng  
Ms. Pingree  
Mr. Pocan  
Mr. Price  
Mr. Quigley  
Mr. Ruppersberger  
Mr. Ryan  
Mr. Serrano  
Mrs. Torres  
Mr. Visclosky  
Ms. Wasserman Schultz  
Mrs. Watson Coleman

## FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

## Roll Call 2

Date: June 4, 2019

Measure: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY20

Motion by: Ms. Kaptur

Description of Motion: Motion to report the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill to the House, as amended.

Results: Adopted 29 yeas to 21 nays

*Members Voting Yea*

Mr. Aguilar  
Mr. Bishop  
Mrs. Bustos  
Mr. Cartwright  
Mr. Case  
Ms. Clark  
Mr. Crist  
Mr. Cuellar  
Ms. DeLauro  
Ms. Frankel  
Ms. Kaptur  
Mr. Kilmer  
Mrs. Kirkpatrick  
Mrs. Lawrence  
Ms. Lee  
Mrs. Lowey  
Ms. McCollum  
Ms. Meng  
Ms. Pingree  
Mr. Pocan  
Mr. Price  
Mr. Quigley  
Mr. Ruppertsberger  
Mr. Ryan  
Mr. Serrano  
Mrs. Torres  
Mr. Visclosky  
Ms. Wasserman Schultz  
Mrs. Watson Coleman

*Members Voting Nay*

Mr. Aderholt  
Mr. Calvert  
Mr. Carter  
Mr. Cole  
Mr. Diaz-Balart  
Mr. Fleischmann  
Mr. Fortenberry  
Ms. Granger  
Mr. Graves  
Dr. Harris  
Mr. Hurd  
Mr. Joyce  
Mr. Moolenaar  
Mr. Newhouse  
Mr. Palazzo  
Mrs. Roby  
Mr. Rogers  
Mr. Rutherford  
Mr. Simpson  
Mr. Stewart  
Mr. Womack

## STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is a statement of general performance goals and objectives for which this measure authorizes funding:

The Committee on Appropriations considers program performance, including a program's success in developing and attaining outcome-related goals and objectives, in developing funding recommendations.

## PROGRAM DUPLICATION

No provision of this bill establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111-139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

## TRANSFERS OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following list includes the transfers of unexpended balances included in the accompanying bill:

1. *Office of the Secretary*.—The bill allows funds within the account to be transferred among the offices included in the account.

2. *Departmental Administration*.—The bill requires reimbursement for expenses related to certain hearings.

3. *Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs*.—The bill allows a portion of the funds appropriated to the Office of the Assistant Secretary to be transferred to agencies.

4. *Hazardous Materials Management*.—The bill allows the funds appropriated to the Department for hazardous materials management to be transferred to agencies of the Department as required.

5. *Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*.—Authority is included to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer from other appropriations or funds of the Department such sums as may be necessary to combat emergency outbreaks of certain diseases of animals, plants, and poultry.

6. *Funds for Strengthening Markets, Income, and Supply*.—The bill limits the transfer of section 32 funds to purposes specified in the bill.

7. *Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) Business Center*.—The bill allows certain funds to be merged with the salaries and expenses account for the FPAC Business Center.

8. *Farm Service Agency Salaries and Expenses*.—The bill provides that funds provided to other accounts in the agency may be advanced to and merged with the salaries and expenses account of the Farm Service Agency.

9. *Dairy Indemnity Program*.—The bill authorizes the transfer of funds to the Commodity Credit Corporation, by reference.

10. *Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account*.—The bill provides funds to be transferred to the Farm Service Agency and to the FPAC Business Center and for certain funds to be transferred within the account.

11. *Commodity Credit Corporation*.—The bill includes language allowing certain funds to be transferred to the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities.

12. *Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account, Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account, and Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Program Account*.—The bill provides funds in this account shall be transferred to the Rural Development Salaries and Expenses account.

13. *Child Nutrition Programs*.—The bill includes authority to transfer section 32 funds to these programs.

14. *Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses*.—The bill allows for the transfer of funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loan Program Account.

15. *Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account*.—The bill allows funds to be transferred to the Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses account.

16. *Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Program*.—The bill provides for transfer of funds to the Foreign Agricultural Service and to the Farm Service Agency for overhead expenses associated with credit reform.

17. *Food and Drug Administration, Salaries and Expenses*.—The bill allows funds to be transferred among certain activities.

18. *Food and Drug Administration, FDA Innovation Account, Cures Act*.—The bill allows funds to be transferred from the 21st Century Cures Act to the Food and Drug Administration, Salaries and Expenses account.

19. *Commodity Futures Trading Commission*.—The bill allows certain funds to be transferred to a no-year account in the Treasury.

20. *General Provisions*.—Section 702 of the bill allows unobligated balances of discretionary funds to be transferred to the Working Capital Fund. Section 767 of the bill allows funding transfers to USDA for certain research programs.

#### RESCISSIONS

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following lists the rescissions of unexpended balances included in the accompanying bill:

<i>Program or activity</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USDA FNS (prior year balances) .....	\$800,000,000
USDA NIFA (prior year balances) .....	5,830,000

#### DISCLOSURE OF EARMARKS AND CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

Neither the bill nor this report contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII, CL. 3(e) (RAMSEYER RULE)

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omit-

ted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

## **RICHARD B. RUSSELL NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **NUTRITIONAL AND OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

SEC. 9. (a)(1)(A) Lunches served by schools participating in the school lunch program under this Act shall meet minimum nutritional requirements prescribed by the Secretary on the basis of tested nutritional research, except that the minimum nutritional requirements—

(i) shall not be construed to prohibit the substitution of foods to accommodate the medical or other special dietary needs of individual students; and

(ii) shall, at a minimum, be based on the weekly average of the nutrient content of school lunches.

(B) The Secretary shall provide technical assistance and training, including technical assistance and training in the preparation of lower-fat versions of foods commonly used in the school lunch program under this Act, to schools participating in the school lunch program to assist the schools in complying with the nutritional requirements prescribed by the Secretary pursuant to subparagraph (A) and in providing appropriate meals to children with medically certified special dietary needs. The Secretary shall provide additional technical assistance to schools that are having difficulty maintaining compliance with the requirements.

#### **(2) FLUID MILK.—**

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Lunches served by schools participating in the school lunch program under this Act—

(i) shall offer students a variety of fluid milk. Such milk shall be consistent with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341);

(ii) may offer students flavored and unflavored fluid milk and lactose-free fluid milk; and

(iii) shall provide a substitute for fluid milk for students whose disability restricts their diet, on receipt of a written statement from a licensed physician that identifies the disability that restricts the student's diet and that specifies the substitute for fluid milk.

#### **(B) SUBSTITUTES.—**

(i) **STANDARDS FOR SUBSTITUTION.**—A school may substitute for the fluid milk provided under subparagraph (A), a nondairy beverage that is nutritionally equivalent to fluid milk and meets nutritional standards established by the Secretary (which shall, among other requirements to be determined by the Secretary, include fortification of calcium, protein, vitamin A, and vitamin D to levels found in cow's milk) for students who cannot consume fluid milk because of a medical or other special dietary need other than a disability described in subparagraph (A)(iii).

(ii) NOTICE.—The substitutions may be made if the school notifies the State agency that the school is implementing a variation allowed under this subparagraph, and if the substitution is requested by written statement of a medical authority or by a student's parent or legal guardian that identifies the medical or other special dietary need that restricts the student's diet, except that the school shall not be required to provide beverages other than beverages the school has identified as acceptable substitutes.

(iii) EXCESS EXPENSES BORNE BY SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITY.—Expenses incurred in providing substitutions under this subparagraph that are in excess of expenses covered by reimbursements under this Act shall be paid by the school food authority.

(C) RESTRICTIONS ON SALE OF MILK PROHIBITED.—A school that participates in the school lunch program under this Act shall not directly or indirectly restrict the sale or marketing of fluid milk products by the school (or by a person approved by the school) at any time or any place—

(i) on the school premises; or

(ii) at any school-sponsored event.

(3) Students in senior high schools that participate in the school lunch program under this Act (and, when approved by the local school district or nonprofit private schools, students in any other grade level) shall not be required to accept offered foods they do not intend to consume, and any such failure to accept offered foods shall not affect the full charge to the student for a lunch meeting the requirements of this subsection or the amount of payments made under this Act to any such school for such lunch.

(4) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—

(A) GUIDANCE.—Prior to the beginning of the school year beginning July 2004, the Secretary shall issue guidance to States and school food authorities to increase the consumption of foods and food ingredients that are recommended for increased serving consumption in the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341).

(B) RULES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall promulgate rules, based on the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans, that reflect specific recommendations, expressed in serving recommendations, for increased consumption of foods and food ingredients offered in school nutrition programs under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).

(C) PROCUREMENT AND PROCESSING OF FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS AND COMMODITIES.—The Secretary shall—

(i) identify, develop, and disseminate to State departments of agriculture and education, school food authorities, local educational agencies, and local processing entities, model product specifications and practices for foods offered in school nutrition programs under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42

U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) to ensure that the foods reflect the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341);

(ii) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subparagraph—

(I) carry out a study to analyze the quantity and quality of nutritional information available to school food authorities about food service products and commodities; and

(II) submit to Congress a report on the results of the study that contains such legislative recommendations as the Secretary considers necessary to ensure that school food authorities have access to the nutritional information needed for menu planning and compliance assessments; and

(iii) to the maximum extent practicable, in purchasing and processing commodities for use in school nutrition programs under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), purchase the widest variety of healthful foods that reflect the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

(5) WATER.—Schools participating in the school lunch program under this Act shall make available to children free of charge, as nutritionally appropriate, potable water for consumption in the place where meals are served during meal service.

(b)(1)(A) Not later than June 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall prescribe income guidelines for determining eligibility for free and reduced price lunches during the 12-month period beginning July 1 of such fiscal year and ending June 30 of the following fiscal year. The income guidelines for determining eligibility for free lunches shall be 130 percent of the applicable family size income levels contained in the nonfarm income poverty guidelines prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget, as adjusted annually in accordance with subparagraph (B). The income guidelines for determining eligibility for reduced price lunches for any school year shall be 185 percent of the applicable family size income levels contained in the nonfarm income poverty guidelines prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget, as adjusted annually in accordance with subparagraph (B). The Office of Management and Budget guidelines shall be revised at annual intervals, or at any shorter interval deemed feasible and desirable.

(B) The revision required by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph shall be made by multiplying—

(i) the official poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget); by

(ii) the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index during the annual or other interval immediately preceding the time at which the adjustment is made.

Revisions under this subparagraph shall be made not more than 30 days after the date on which the consumer price index data required to compute the adjustment becomes available.



(2)(A) Following the determination by the Secretary under paragraph (1) of this subsection of the income eligibility guidelines for each school year, each State educational agency shall announce the income eligibility guidelines, by family size, to be used by schools in the State in making determinations of eligibility for free and reduced price lunches. Local school authorities shall, each year, publicly announce the income eligibility guidelines for free and reduced price lunches on or before the opening of school.

(B) APPLICATIONS AND DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Applications for free and reduced price lunches, in such form as the Secretary may prescribe or approve, and any descriptive material, shall be distributed to the parents or guardians of children in attendance at the school, and shall contain only the family size income levels for reduced price meal eligibility with the explanation that households with incomes less than or equal to these values would be eligible for free or reduced price lunches.

(ii) INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES.—Forms and descriptive material distributed in accordance with clause (i) may not contain the income eligibility guidelines for free lunches.

(iii) CONTENTS OF DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Descriptive material distributed in accordance with clause (i) shall contain a notification that—

(aa) participants in the programs listed in subclause (II) may be eligible for free or reduced price meals; and

(bb) documentation may be requested for verification of eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

(II) PROGRAMS.—The programs referred to in subclause (I)(aa) are—

(aa) the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children established by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786);

(bb) the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(cc) the food distribution program on Indian reservations established under section 4(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2013(b)); and

(dd) a State program funded under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).

(3) HOUSEHOLD APPLICATIONS.—

(A) DEFINITION OF HOUSEHOLD APPLICATION.—In this paragraph, the term “household application” means an application for a child of a household to receive free or reduced price school lunches under this Act, or free or re-

duced price school breakfasts under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), for which an eligibility determination is made other than under paragraph (4) or (5).

(B) ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligibility determination shall be made on the basis of a complete household application executed by an adult member of the household or in accordance with guidance issued by the Secretary.

(ii) ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES AND APPLICATIONS.—A household application may be executed using an electronic signature if—

(I) the application is submitted electronically; and

(II) the electronic application filing system meets confidentiality standards established by the Secretary.

(C) CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The household application shall identify the names of each child in the household for whom meal benefits are requested.

(ii) SEPARATE APPLICATIONS.—A State educational agency or local educational agency may not request a separate application for each child in the household that attends schools under the same local educational agency.

(D) VERIFICATION OF SAMPLE.—

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this subparagraph:

(I) ERROR PRONE APPLICATION.—The term “error prone application” means an approved household application that—

(aa) indicates monthly income that is within \$100, or an annual income that is within \$1,200, of the income eligibility limitation for free or reduced price meals; or

(bb) in lieu of the criteria established under item (aa), meets criteria established by the Secretary.

(II) NON-RESPONSE RATE.—The term “non-response rate” means (in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary) the percentage of approved household applications for which verification information has not been obtained by a local educational agency after attempted verification under subparagraphs (F) and (G).

(ii) VERIFICATION OF SAMPLE.—Each school year, a local educational agency shall verify eligibility of the children in a sample of household applications approved for the school year by the local educational agency, as determined by the Secretary in accordance with this subsection.

(iii) SAMPLE SIZE.—Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the sample for a local educational agency for a school year shall equal the lesser of—

(I) 3 percent of all applications approved by the local educational agency for the school year, as of October 1 of the school year, selected from error prone applications; or

(II) 3,000 error prone applications approved by the local educational agency for the school year, as of October 1 of the school year.

(iv) ALTERNATIVE SAMPLE SIZE.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—If the conditions described in subclause (IV) are met, the verification sample size for a local educational agency shall be the sample size described in subclause (II) or (III), as determined by the local educational agency.

(II) 3,000/3 PERCENT OPTION.—The sample size described in this subclause shall be the lesser of 3,000, or 3 percent of, applications selected at random from applications approved by the local educational agency for the school year, as of October 1 of the school year.

(III) 1,000/1 PERCENT PLUS OPTION.—

(aa) IN GENERAL.—The sample size described in this subclause shall be the sum of—

(AA) the lesser of 1,000, or 1 percent of, all applications approved by the local educational agency for the school year, as of October 1 of the school year, selected from error prone applications; and

(BB) the lesser of 500, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent of, applications approved by the local educational agency for the school year, as of October 1 of the school year, that provide a case number (in lieu of income information) showing participation in a program described in item (bb) selected from those approved applications that provide a case number (in lieu of income information) verifying the participation.

(bb) PROGRAMS.—The programs described in this item are—

(AA) the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(BB) the food distribution program on Indian reservations established under section 4(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2013(b)); and

(CC) a State program funded under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) that the Secretary determines complies with standards established by the Secretary that ensure that the standards

under the State program are comparable to or more restrictive than those in effect on June 1, 1995.

(IV) CONDITIONS.—The conditions referred to in subclause (I) shall be met for a local educational agency for a school year if—

(aa) the nonresponse rate for the local educational agency for the preceding school year is less than 20 percent; or

(bb) the local educational agency has more than 20,000 children approved by application by the local educational agency as eligible for free or reduced price meals for the school year, as of October 1 of the school year, and—

(AA) the nonresponse rate for the preceding school year is at least 10 percent below the nonresponse rate for the second preceding school year; or

(BB) in the case of the school year beginning July 2005, the local educational agency attempts to verify all approved household applications selected for verification through use of public agency records from at least 2 of the programs or sources of information described in subparagraph (F)(i).

(v) ADDITIONAL SELECTED APPLICATIONS.—A sample for a local educational agency for a school year under clauses (iii) and (iv)(III)(AA) shall include the number of additional randomly selected approved household applications that are required to comply with the sample size requirements in those clauses.

(E) PRELIMINARY REVIEW.—

(i) REVIEW FOR ACCURACY.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Prior to conducting any other verification activity for approved household applications selected for verification, the local educational agency shall ensure that the initial eligibility determination for each approved household application is reviewed for accuracy by an individual other than the individual making the initial eligibility determination, unless otherwise determined by the Secretary.

(II) WAIVER.—The requirements of subclause (I) shall be waived for a local educational agency if the local educational agency is using a technology-based solution that demonstrates a high level of accuracy, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, in processing an initial eligibility determination in accordance with the income eligibility guidelines of the school lunch program.

(ii) CORRECT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—If the review indicates that the initial eligibility determination is correct, the local educational agency shall verify the approved household application.

(iii) INCORRECT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—If the review indicates that the initial eligibility determination is incorrect, the local educational agency shall (as determined by the Secretary)—

- (I) correct the eligibility status of the household;
- (II) notify the household of the change;
- (III) in any case in which the review indicates that the household is not eligible for free or reduced-price meals, notify the household of the reason for the ineligibility and that the household may reapply with income documentation for free or reduced-price meals; and
- (IV) in any case in which the review indicates that the household is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, verify the approved household application.

(F) DIRECT VERIFICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clauses (ii) and (iii), to verify eligibility for free or reduced price meals for approved household applications selected for verification, the local educational agency may (in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary) first obtain and use income and program participation information from a public agency administering—

(I) the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(II) the food distribution program on Indian reservations established under section 4(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2013(b));

(III) the temporary assistance for needy families program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

(IV) the State medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.); or

(V) a similar income-tested program or other source of information, as determined by the Secretary.

(ii) FREE MEALS.—Public agency records that may be obtained and used under clause (i) to verify eligibility for free meals for approved household applications selected for verification shall include the most recent available information (other than information reflecting program participation or income before the 180-day period ending on the date of application for free meals) that is relied on to administer—

(I) a program or source of information described in clause (i) (other than clause (i)(IV)); or

(II) the State plan for medical assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) in—

(aa) a State in which the income eligibility limit applied under section 1902(l)(2)(C) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(l)(2)(C)) is not more

than 133 percent of the official poverty line described in section 1902(l)(2)(A) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(l)(2)(A)); or

(bb) a State that otherwise identifies households that have income that is not more than 133 percent of the official poverty line described in section 1902(l)(2)(A) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(l)(2)(A)).

(iii) REDUCED PRICE MEALS.—Public agency records that may be obtained and used under clause (i) to verify eligibility for reduced price meals for approved household applications selected for verification shall include the most recent available information (other than information reflecting program participation or income before the 180-day period ending on the date of application for reduced price meals) that is relied on to administer—

(I) a program or source of information described in clause (i) (other than clause (i)(IV)); or

(II) the State plan for medical assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) in—

(aa) a State in which the income eligibility limit applied under section 1902(l)(2)(C) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(l)(2)(C)) is not more than 185 percent of the official poverty line described in section 1902(l)(2)(A) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(l)(2)(A)); or

(bb) a State that otherwise identifies households that have income that is not more than 185 percent of the official poverty line described in section 1902(l)(2)(A) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(l)(2)(A)).

(iv) EVALUATION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall complete an evaluation of—

(I) the effectiveness of direct verification carried out under this subparagraph in decreasing the portion of the verification sample that must be verified under subparagraph (G) while ensuring that adequate verification information is obtained; and

(II) the feasibility of direct verification by State agencies and local educational agencies.

(v) EXPANDED USE OF DIRECT VERIFICATION.—If the Secretary determines that direct verification significantly decreases the portion of the verification sample that must be verified under subparagraph (G), while ensuring that adequate verification information is obtained, and can be conducted by most State agencies and local educational agencies, the Secretary may require a State agency or local educational agency to implement direct verification through 1 or more of the programs described in clause (i), as determined by the Secretary, unless the State agency or local educational

agency demonstrates (under criteria established by the Secretary) that the State agency or local educational agency lacks the capacity to conduct, or is unable to implement, direct verification.

(G) HOUSEHOLD VERIFICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If an approved household application is not verified through the use of public agency records, a local educational agency shall provide to the household written notice that—

(I) the approved household application has been selected for verification; and

(II) the household is required to submit verification information to confirm eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

(ii) PHONE NUMBER.—The written notice in clause (i) shall include a toll-free phone number that parents and legal guardians in households selected for verification can call for assistance with the verification process.

(iii) FOLLOWUP ACTIVITIES.—If a household does not respond to a verification request, a local educational agency shall make at least 1 attempt to obtain the necessary verification from the household in accordance with guidelines and regulations promulgated by the Secretary.

(iv) CONTRACT AUTHORITY FOR SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES.—A local educational agency may contract (under standards established by the Secretary) with a third party to assist the local educational agency in carrying out clause (iii).

(H) VERIFICATION DEADLINE.—

(i) GENERAL DEADLINE.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), not later than November 15 of each school year, a local educational agency shall complete the verification activities required for the school year (including followup activities).

(II) EXTENSION.—Under criteria established by the Secretary, a State may extend the deadline established under subclause (I) for a school year for a local educational agency to December 15 of the school year.

(ii) ELIGIBILITY CHANGES.—Based on the verification activities, the local educational agency shall make appropriate modifications to the eligibility determinations made for household applications in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary.

(I) LOCAL CONDITIONS.—In the case of a natural disaster, civil disorder, strike, or other local condition (as determined by the Secretary), the Secretary may substitute alternatives for—

(i) the sample size and sample selection criteria established under subparagraph (D); and

(ii) the verification deadline established under subparagraph (H).

(J) INDIVIDUAL REVIEW.—In accordance with criteria established by the Secretary, the local educational agency may, on individual review—

(i) decline to verify no more than 5 percent of approved household applications selected under subparagraph (D); and

(ii) replace the approved household applications with other approved household applications to be verified.

(K) FEASIBILITY STUDY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study of the feasibility of using computer technology (including data mining) to reduce—

(I) overcertification errors in the school lunch program under this Act;

(II) waste, fraud, and abuse in connection with this paragraph; and

(III) errors, waste, fraud, and abuse in other nutrition programs, as determined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

(ii) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describing—

(I) the results of the feasibility study conducted under this subsection;

(II) how a computer system using technology described in clause (i) could be implemented;

(III) a plan for implementation; and

(IV) proposed legislation, if necessary, to implement the system.

(4) DIRECT CERTIFICATION FOR CHILDREN IN SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HOUSEHOLDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (D), each State agency shall enter into an agreement with the State agency conducting eligibility determinations for the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

(B) PROCEDURES.—Subject to paragraph (6), the agreement shall establish procedures under which a child who is a member of a household receiving assistance under the supplemental nutrition assistance program shall be certified as eligible for free lunches under this Act and free breakfasts under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), without further application.

(C) CERTIFICATION.—Subject to paragraph (6), under the agreement, the local educational agency conducting eligibility determinations for a school lunch program under this Act and a school breakfast program under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) shall certify a child who is a member of a household receiving assistance under the supplemental nutrition assistance program as eligible for free lunches under this Act and free break-



fasts under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), without further application.

(D) APPLICABILITY.—This paragraph applies to—

- (i) in the case of the school year beginning July 2006, a school district that had an enrollment of 25,000 students or more in the preceding school year;
- (ii) in the case of the school year beginning July 2007, a school district that had an enrollment of 10,000 students or more in the preceding school year; and
- (iii) in the case of the school year beginning July 2008 and each subsequent school year, each local educational agency.

(E) PERFORMANCE AWARDS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Effective for each of the school years beginning July 1, 2011, July 1, 2012, and July 1, 2013, the Secretary shall offer performance awards to States to encourage the States to ensure that all children eligible for direct certification under this paragraph are certified in accordance with this paragraph.

(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—For each school year described in clause (i), the Secretary shall—

(I) consider State data from the prior school year, including estimates contained in the report required under section 4301 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 1758a); and

(II) make performance awards to not more than 15 States that demonstrate, as determined by the Secretary—

- (aa) outstanding performance; and
- (bb) substantial improvement.

(iii) USE OF FUNDS.—A State agency that receives a performance award under clause (i)—

- (I) shall treat the funds as program income; and
- (II) may transfer the funds to school food authorities for use in carrying out the program.

(iv) FUNDING.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2011, and each subsequent October 1 through October 1, 2013, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary—

- (aa) \$2,000,000 to carry out clause (ii)(I)(aa); and
- (bb) \$2,000,000 to carry out clause (ii)(I)(bb).

(II) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out this clause the funds transferred under subclause (I), without further appropriation.

(v) PAYMENTS NOT SUBJECT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW.—A determination by the Secretary whether, and in what

amount, to make a performance award under this subparagraph shall not be subject to administrative or judicial review.

(F) CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLANS.—

(i) DEFINITION OF REQUIRED PERCENTAGE.—In this subparagraph, the term “required percentage” means—

(I) for the school year beginning July 1, 2011, 80 percent;

(II) for the school year beginning July 1, 2012, 90 percent; and

(III) for the school year beginning July 1, 2013, and each school year thereafter, 95 percent.

(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—Each school year, the Secretary shall—

(I) identify, using data from the prior year, including estimates contained in the report required under section 4301 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 1758a), States that directly certify less than the required percentage of the total number of children in the State who are eligible for direct certification under this paragraph;

(II) require the States identified under subclause (I) to implement a continuous improvement plan to fully meet the requirements of this paragraph, which shall include a plan to improve direct certification for the following school year; and

(III) assist the States identified under subclause (I) to develop and implement a continuous improvement plan in accordance with subclause (II).

(iii) FAILURE TO MEET PERFORMANCE STANDARD.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—A State that is required to develop and implement a continuous improvement plan under clause (ii)(II) shall be required to submit the continuous improvement plan to the Secretary, for the approval of the Secretary.

(II) REQUIREMENTS.—At a minimum, a continuous improvement plan under subclause (I) shall include—

(aa) specific measures that the State will use to identify more children who are eligible for direct certification, including improvements or modifications to technology, information systems, or databases;

(bb) a timeline for the State to implement those measures; and

(cc) goals for the State to improve direct certification results.

(G) WITHOUT FURTHER APPLICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In this paragraph, the term “without further application” means that no action is required by the household of the child.

(ii) CLARIFICATION.—A requirement that a household return a letter notifying the household of eligibility for

direct certification or eligibility for free school meals does not meet the requirements of clause (i).

(5) DISCRETIONARY CERTIFICATION.—Subject to paragraph (6), any local educational agency may certify any child as eligible for free lunches or breakfasts, without further application, by directly communicating with the appropriate State or local agency to obtain documentation of the status of the child as—

(A) a member of a family that is receiving assistance under the temporary assistance for needy families program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) that the Secretary determines complies with standards established by the Secretary that ensure that the standards under the State program are comparable to or more restrictive than those in effect on June 1, 1995;

(B) a homeless child or youth (defined as 1 of the individuals described in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)));

(C) served by the runaway and homeless youth grant program established under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.);

(D) a migratory child (as defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6399)); or

(E)(i) a foster child whose care and placement is the responsibility of an agency that administers a State plan under part B or E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.); or

(ii) a foster child who a court has placed with a caretaker household.

(6) USE OR DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The use or disclosure of any information obtained from an application for free or reduced price meals, or from a State or local agency referred to in paragraph (3)(F), (4), or (5), shall be limited to—

(i) a person directly connected with the administration or enforcement of this Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) (including a regulation promulgated under either Act);

(ii) a person directly connected with the administration or enforcement of—

(I) a Federal education program;

(II) a State health or education program administered by the State or local educational agency (other than a program carried out under title XIX or XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.; 42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.)); or

(III) a Federal, State, or local means-tested nutrition program with eligibility standards comparable to the school lunch program under this Act;

(iii)(I) the Comptroller General of the United States for audit and examination authorized by any other provision of law; and

(II) notwithstanding any other provision of law, a Federal, State, or local law enforcement official for the purpose of investigating an alleged violation of any program covered by this paragraph or paragraph (3)(F), (4), or (5);

(iv) a person directly connected with the administration of the State medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) or the State children's health insurance program under title XXI of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.) solely for the purposes of—

(I) identifying children eligible for benefits under, and enrolling children in, those programs, except that this subclause shall apply only to the extent that the State and the local educational agency or school food authority so elect; and

(II) verifying the eligibility of children for programs under this Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.); and

(v) a third party contractor described in paragraph (3)(G)(iv).

(B) LIMITATION ON INFORMATION PROVIDED.—Information provided under clause (ii) or (v) of subparagraph (A) shall be limited to the income eligibility status of the child for whom application for free or reduced price meal benefits is made or for whom eligibility information is provided under paragraph (3)(F), (4), or (5), unless the consent of the parent or guardian of the child for whom application for benefits was made is obtained.

(C) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—A person described in subparagraph (A) who publishes, divulges, discloses, or makes known in any manner, or to any extent not authorized by Federal law (including a regulation), any information obtained under this subsection shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

(D) REQUIREMENTS FOR WAIVER OF CONFIDENTIALITY.—A State that elects to exercise the option described in subparagraph (A)(iv)(I) shall ensure that any local educational agency or school food authority acting in accordance with that option—

(i) has a written agreement with 1 or more State or local agencies administering health programs for children under titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq. and 1397aa et seq.) that requires the health agencies to use the information obtained under subparagraph (A) to seek to enroll children in those health programs; and

(ii)(I) notifies each household, the information of which shall be disclosed under subparagraph (A), that the information disclosed will be used only to enroll children in health programs referred to in subparagraph (A)(iv); and

(II) provides each parent or guardian of a child in the household with an opportunity to elect not to have the information disclosed.

(E) USE OF DISCLOSED INFORMATION.—A person to which information is disclosed under subparagraph (A)(iv)(I) shall use or disclose the information only as necessary for the purpose of enrolling children in health programs referred to in subparagraph (A)(iv).

(7) FREE AND REDUCED PRICE POLICY STATEMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—After the initial submission, a local educational agency shall not be required to submit a free and reduced price policy statement to a State educational agency under this Act unless there is a substantive change in the free and reduced price policy of the local educational agency.

(B) ROUTINE CHANGE.—A routine change in the policy of a local educational agency (such as an annual adjustment of the income eligibility guidelines for free and reduced price meals) shall not be sufficient cause for requiring the local educational agency to submit a policy statement.

(8) COMMUNICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any communication with a household under this subsection or subsection (d) shall be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the maximum extent practicable, in a language that parents and legal guardians can understand.

(B) ELECTRONIC AVAILABILITY.—In addition to the distribution of applications and descriptive material in paper form as provided for in this paragraph, the applications and material may be made available electronically via the Internet.

(9) ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE LUNCHES.—

(A) FREE LUNCHES.—Any child who is a member of a household whose income, at the time the application is submitted, is at an annual rate which does not exceed the applicable family size income level of the income eligibility guidelines for free lunches, as determined under paragraph (1), shall be served a free lunch.

(B) REDUCED PRICE LUNCHES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Any child who is a member of a household whose income, at the time the application is submitted, is at an annual rate greater than the applicable family size income level of the income eligibility guidelines for free lunches, as determined under paragraph (1), but less than or equal to the applicable family size income level of the income eligibility guidelines for reduced price lunches, as determined under paragraph (1), shall be served a reduced price lunch.

(ii) MAXIMUM PRICE.—The price charged for a reduced price lunch shall not exceed 40 cents.

(C) DURATION.—Except as otherwise specified in paragraph (3)(E), (3)(H)(ii), and section 11(a), eligibility for free or reduced price meals for any school year shall remain in effect—

(i) beginning on the date of eligibility approval for the current school year; and

(ii) ending on a date during the subsequent school year determined by the Secretary.

(10) No physical segregation of or other discrimination against any child eligible for a free lunch or a reduced price lunch under this subsection shall be made by the school nor shall there be any overt identification of any child by special tokens or tickets, announced or published list of names, or by other means.

(11) Any child who has a parent or guardian who (A) is responsible for the principal support of such child and (B) is unemployed shall be served a free or reduced price lunch, respectively, during any period (i) in which such child's parent or guardian continues to be unemployed and (ii) the income of the child's parents or guardians during such period of unemployment falls within the income eligibility criteria for free lunches or reduced price lunches, respectively, based on the current rate of income of such parents or guardians. Local educational agencies shall publicly announce that such children are eligible for free or reduced price lunch, and shall make determinations with respect to the status of any parent or guardian of any child under clauses (A) and (B) of the preceding sentence on the basis of a statement executed in such form as the Secretary may prescribe by such parent or guardian. No physical segregation of, or other discrimination against, any child eligible for a free or reduced price lunch under this paragraph shall be made by the school nor shall there be any overt identification of any such child by special tokens or tickets, announced or published lists of names, or by any other means.

(12)(A) A child shall be considered automatically eligible for a free lunch and breakfast under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), respectively, without further application or eligibility determination, if the child is—

(i) a member of a household receiving assistance under the supplemental nutrition assistance program authorized under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(ii) a member of a family (under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)) that the Secretary determines complies with standards established by the Secretary that ensure that the standards under the State program are comparable to or more restrictive than those in effect on June 1, 1995;

(iii) enrolled as a participant in a Head Start program authorized under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), on the basis of a determination that the child meets the eligibility criteria prescribed under section 645(a)(1)(B) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9840(a)(1)(B));

(iv) a homeless child or youth (defined as 1 of the individuals described in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)));

(v) served by the runaway and homeless youth grant program established under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.);

(vi) a migratory child (as defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6399)); or

(vii)(I) a foster child whose care and placement is the responsibility of an agency that administers a State plan under part B or E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.); or

(II) a foster child who a court has placed with a caretaker household.

(B) Proof of receipt of supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits or assistance under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) that the Secretary determines complies with standards established by the Secretary that ensure that the standards under the State program are comparable to or more restrictive than those in effect on June 1, 1995, or of enrollment or participation in a Head Start program on the basis described in subparagraph (A)(iii), shall be sufficient to satisfy any verification requirement imposed under this subsection.

(13) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN MILITARY HOUSING ALLOWANCES.—The amount of a basic allowance provided under section 403 of title 37, United States Code, on behalf of a member of a uniformed service for housing that is acquired or constructed under subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, or any related provision of law, shall not be considered to be income for the purpose of determining the eligibility of a child who is a member of the household of the member of a uniformed service for free or reduced price lunches under this Act.

(14) COMBAT PAY.—

(A) DEFINITION OF COMBAT PAY.—In this paragraph, the term “combat pay” means any additional payment under chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, or otherwise designated by the Secretary to be appropriate for exclusion under this paragraph, that is received by or from a member of the United States Armed Forces deployed to a designated combat zone, if the additional pay—

(i) is the result of deployment to or service in a combat zone; and

(ii) was not received immediately prior to serving in a combat zone.

(B) EXCLUSION.—Combat pay shall not be considered to be income for the purpose of determining the eligibility for free or reduced price meals of a child who is a member of the household of a member of the United States Armed Forces.

(15) DIRECT CERTIFICATION FOR CHILDREN RECEIVING MEDICAID BENEFITS.—

(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

(i) ELIGIBLE CHILD.—The term “eligible child” means a child—

(I)(aa) who is eligible for and receiving medical assistance under the Medicaid program; and

(bb) who is a member of a family with an income as measured by the Medicaid program before the application of any expense, block, or other income disregard, that does not exceed 133 percent of the poverty line (as defined in section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2), including any revision required by such section)) applicable to a family of the size

used for purposes of determining eligibility for the Medicaid program; or

(II) who is a member of a household (as that term is defined in section 245.2 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations) with a child described in subclause (I).

(ii) MEDICAID PROGRAM.—The term “Medicaid program” means the program of medical assistance established under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.).

(B) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service and in cooperation with selected State agencies, shall conduct a demonstration project in selected local educational agencies to determine whether direct certification of eligible children is an effective method of certifying children for free lunches and breakfasts under section 9(b)(1)(A) of this Act and section 4(e)(1)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773(e)(1)(A)).

(ii) SCOPE OF PROJECT.—The Secretary shall carry out the demonstration project under this subparagraph—

(I) for the school year beginning July 1, 2012, in selected local educational agencies that collectively serve 2.5 percent of students certified for free and reduced price meals nationwide, based on the most recent available data;

(II) for the school year beginning July 1, 2013, in selected local educational agencies that collectively serve 5 percent of students certified for free and reduced price meals nationwide, based on the most recent available data; and

(III) for the school year beginning July 1, 2014, and each subsequent school year, in selected local educational agencies that collectively serve 10 percent of students certified for free and reduced price meals nationwide, based on the most recent available data.

(iii) PURPOSES OF THE PROJECT.—At a minimum, the purposes of the demonstration project shall be—

(I) to determine the potential of direct certification with the Medicaid program to reach children who are eligible for free meals but not certified to receive the meals;

(II) to determine the potential of direct certification with the Medicaid program to directly certify children who are enrolled for free meals based on a household application; and

(III) to provide an estimate of the effect on Federal costs and on participation in the school lunch program under this Act and the school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nu-



trition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) of direct certification with the Medicaid program.

(iv) COST ESTIMATE.—For each of 2 school years of the demonstration project, the Secretary shall estimate the cost of the direct certification of eligible children for free school meals through data derived from—

(I) the school meal programs authorized under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.);

(II) the Medicaid program; and

(III) interviews with a statistically representative sample of households.

(C) AGREEMENT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than July 1 of the first school year during which a State agency will participate in the demonstration project, the State agency shall enter into an agreement with the 1 or more State agencies conducting eligibility determinations for the Medicaid program.

(ii) WITHOUT FURTHER APPLICATION.—Subject to paragraph (6), the agreement described in subparagraph (D) shall establish procedures under which an eligible child shall be certified for free lunches under this Act and free breakfasts under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773), without further application (as defined in paragraph (4)(G)).

(D) CERTIFICATION.—For the school year beginning on July 1, 2012, and each subsequent school year, subject to paragraph (6), the local educational agencies participating in the demonstration project shall certify an eligible child as eligible for free lunches under this Act and free breakfasts under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), without further application (as defined in paragraph (4)(G)).

(E) SITE SELECTION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to participate in the demonstration project under this subsection, a State agency shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(ii) CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting States and local educational agencies for participation in the demonstration project, the Secretary may take into consideration such factors as the Secretary considers to be appropriate, which may include—

(I) the rate of direct certification;

(II) the share of individuals who are eligible for benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) who participate in the program, as determined by the Secretary;

(III) the income eligibility limit for the Medicaid program;

(IV) the feasibility of matching data between local educational agencies and the Medicaid program;

(V) the socioeconomic profile of the State or local educational agencies; and

(VI) the willingness of the State and local educational agencies to comply with the requirements of the demonstration project.

(F) ACCESS TO DATA.—For purposes of conducting the demonstration project under this paragraph, the Secretary shall have access to—

(i) educational and other records of State and local educational and other agencies and institutions receiving funding or providing benefits for 1 or more programs authorized under this Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.); and

(ii) income and program participation information from public agencies administering the Medicaid program.

(G) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2014, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, an interim report that describes the results of the demonstration project required under this paragraph.

(ii) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 2015, the Secretary shall submit a final report to the committees described in clause (i).

(H) FUNDING.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2010, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out subparagraph (G) \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

(ii) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out subparagraph (G) the funds transferred under clause (i), without further appropriation.

(c) School lunch programs under this Act shall be operated on a nonprofit basis. Commodities purchased under the authority of section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, may be donated by the Secretary to schools, in accordance with the needs as determined by local school authorities, for utilization in the school lunch program under this Act as well as to other schools carrying out nonprofit school lunch programs and institutions authorized to receive such commodities. The requirements of this section relating to the service of meals without cost or at a reduced cost shall apply to the lunch program of any school utilizing commodities donated under any provision of law.

(d)(1) The Secretary shall require as a condition of eligibility for receipt of free or reduced price lunches that the member of the household who executes the application furnish the last 4 digits of the social security account number of the parent or guardian who

is the primary wage earner responsible for the care of the child for whom the application is made, or that of another appropriate adult member of the child's household, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) No member of a household may be provided a free or reduced price lunch under this Act unless—

(A) appropriate documentation relating to the income of such household (as prescribed by the Secretary) has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency so that the local educational agency may calculate the total income of such household;

(B) documentation showing that the household is participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency;

(C) documentation has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency showing that the family is receiving assistance under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act that the Secretary determines complies with standards established by the Secretary that ensure that the standards under the State program are comparable to or more restrictive than those in effect on June 1, 1995;

(D) documentation has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency showing that the child meets the criteria specified in clauses (iv) or (v) of subsection (b)(12)(A);

(E) documentation has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency showing the status of the child as a migratory child (as defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6399));

(F)(i) documentation has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency showing the status of the child as a foster child whose care and placement is the responsibility of an agency that administers a State plan under part B or E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.); or

(ii) documentation has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency showing the status of the child as a foster child who a court has placed with a caretaker household; or

(G) documentation has been provided to the appropriate local educational agency showing the status of the child as an eligible child (as defined in subsection (b)(15)(A)).

(e) A school or school food authority participating in a program under this Act may not contract with a food service company to provide a la carte food service unless the company agrees to offer free, reduced price, and full-price reimbursable meals to all eligible children.

(f) NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Schools that are participating in the school lunch program or school breakfast program shall serve lunches and breakfasts that—

(A) are consistent with the goals of the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341); and

(B) consider the nutrient needs of children who may be at risk for inadequate food intake and food insecurity.

(2) To assist schools in meeting the requirements of this subsection, the Secretary—

(A) shall—

(i) develop, and provide to schools, standardized recipes, menu cycles, and food product specification and preparation techniques; and

(ii) provide to schools information regarding nutrient standard menu planning, assisted nutrient standard menu planning, and food-based menu systems; and

(B) may provide to schools information regarding other approaches, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) USE OF ANY REASONABLE APPROACH.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A school food service authority may use any reasonable approach, within guidelines established by the Secretary in a timely manner, to meet the requirements of this subsection, including—

(i) using the school nutrition meal pattern in effect for the 1994–1995 school year; and

(ii) using any of the approaches described in paragraph (3).

(B) NUTRIENT ANALYSIS.—The Secretary may not require a school to conduct or use a nutrient analysis to meet the requirements of this subsection.

(4) WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT FOR WEIGHTED AVERAGES FOR NUTRIENT ANALYSIS.—During the period ending on September 30, 2010, the Secretary shall not require the use of weighted averages for nutrient analysis of menu items and foods offered or served as part of a meal offered or served under the school lunch program under this Act or the school breakfast program under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773).

(g) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall provide a notification to Congress that justifies the need for production records required under section 210.10(b) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, and describes how the Secretary has reduced paperwork relating to the school lunch and school breakfast programs.

(h) FOOD SAFETY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A school participating in the school lunch program under this Act or the school breakfast program under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) shall—

(A) at least twice during each school year, obtain a food safety inspection conducted by a State or local governmental agency responsible for food safety inspections;

(B) post in a publicly visible location a report on the most recent inspection conducted under subparagraph (A); and

(C) on request, provide a copy of the report to a member of the public.

(2) STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSPECTIONS.—Nothing in paragraph (1) prevents any State or local government from adopting or enforcing any requirement for more frequent food safety inspections of schools.

(3) AUDITS AND REPORTS BY STATES.—**[For fiscal year 2019]** *For fiscal years 2020 and 2021*, each State shall annually—

(A) audit food safety inspections of schools conducted under paragraphs (1) and (2); and

(B) submit to the Secretary a report of the results of the audit.

(4) AUDIT BY THE SECRETARY.—**[For fiscal year 2019]** *For fiscal years 2020 and 2021*, the Secretary shall annually audit State reports of food safety inspections of schools submitted under paragraph (3).

(5) SCHOOL FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each school food authority shall implement a school food safety program, in the preparation and service of each meal served to children, that complies with any hazard analysis and critical control point system established by the Secretary.

(B) APPLICABILITY.—Subparagraph (A) shall apply to any facility or part of a facility in which food is stored, prepared, or served for the purposes of the school nutrition programs under this Act or section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773).

(i) SINGLE PERMANENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN STATE AGENCY AND SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITY; COMMON CLAIMS FORM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a single State agency administers any combination of the school lunch program under this Act, the school breakfast program under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773), the summer food service program for children under section 13 of this Act, or the child and adult care food program under section 17 of this Act, the agency shall—

(A) require each school food authority to submit to the State agency a single agreement with respect to the operation by the authority of the programs administered by the State agency; and

(B) use a common claims form with respect to meals and supplements served under the programs administered by the State agency.

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—The agreement described in paragraph (1)(A) shall be a permanent agreement that may be amended as necessary.

(j) PURCHASES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED FOODS.—The Secretary shall—

(1) encourage institutions receiving funds under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) to purchase unprocessed agricultural products, both locally grown and locally raised, to the maximum extent practicable and appropriate;

(2) advise institutions participating in a program described in paragraph (1) of the policy described in that paragraph and paragraph (3) and post information concerning the policy on the website maintained by the Secretary; and

(3) allow institutions receiving funds under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), including the Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, to use a geographic preference for the procurement of

unprocessed agricultural products, both locally grown and locally raised.

(k) INFORMATION ON THE SCHOOL NUTRITION ENVIRONMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) establish requirements for local educational agencies participating in the school lunch program under this Act and the school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) to report information about the school nutrition environment, for all schools under the jurisdiction of the local educational agencies, to the Secretary and to the public in the State on a periodic basis; and

(B) provide training and technical assistance to States and local educational agencies on the assessment and reporting of the school nutrition environment, including the use of any assessment materials developed by the Secretary.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In establishing the requirements for reporting on the school nutrition environment under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(A) include information pertaining to food safety inspections, local wellness policies, meal program participation, the nutritional quality of program meals, and other information as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) ensure that information is made available to the public by local educational agencies in an accessible, easily understood manner in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.

(l) FOOD DONATION PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each school and local educational agency participating in the school lunch program under this Act may donate any food not consumed under such program to eligible local food banks or charitable organizations.

(2) GUIDANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall develop and publish guidance to schools and local educational agencies participating in the school lunch program under this Act to assist such schools and local educational agencies in donating food under this subsection.

(B) UPDATES.—The Secretary shall update such guidance as necessary.

(3) LIABILITY.—Any school or local educational agency making donations pursuant to this subsection shall be exempt from civil and criminal liability to the extent provided under the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (42 U.S.C. 1791).

(4) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “eligible local food banks or charitable organizations” means any food bank or charitable organization which is exempt from tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)).

\* \* \* \* \*

**SEC. 26. INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall enter into a contract with a nongovernmental organization described in subsection (b) to establish and maintain a clearinghouse to provide information to nongovernmental groups located throughout the United States that assist low-income individuals or communities regarding food assistance, self-help activities to aid individuals in becoming self-reliant, and other activities that empower low-income individuals or communities to improve the lives of low-income individuals and reduce reliance on Federal, State, or local governmental agencies for food or other assistance.

(b) **NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION.**—The nongovernmental organization referred to in subsection (a) shall be selected on a competitive basis and shall—

(1) be experienced in the gathering of first-hand information in all the States through onsite visits to grassroots organizations in each State that fight hunger and poverty or that assist individuals in becoming self-reliant;

(2) be experienced in the establishment of a clearinghouse similar to the clearinghouse described in subsection (a);

(3) agree to contribute in-kind resources towards the establishment and maintenance of the clearinghouse and agree to provide clearinghouse information, free of charge, to the Secretary, States, counties, cities, antihunger groups, and grassroots organizations that assist individuals in becoming self-sufficient and self-reliant;

(4) be sponsored by an organization, or be an organization, that—

(A) has helped combat hunger for at least 10 years;

(B) is committed to reinvesting in the United States; and

(C) is knowledgeable regarding Federal nutrition programs;

(5) be experienced in communicating the purpose of the clearinghouse through the media, including the radio and print media, and be able to provide access to the clearinghouse information through computer or telecommunications technology, as well as through the mails; and

(6) be able to provide examples, advice, and guidance to States, counties, cities, communities, antihunger groups, and local organizations regarding means of assisting individuals and communities to reduce reliance on government programs, reduce hunger, improve nutrition, and otherwise assist low-income individuals and communities become more self-sufficient.

(c) **AUDITS.**—The Secretary shall establish fair and reasonable auditing procedures regarding the expenditures of funds to carry out this section.

(d) **FUNDING.**—Out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay to the Secretary to provide to the organization selected under this section, to establish and maintain the information clearinghouse, \$200,000 for each of fiscal years 1995 and 1996, \$150,000 for fiscal year 1997, \$100,000 for fiscal year 1998, \$166,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2004, and \$250,000 for each of fiscal years [2010 through 2019] 2010 through 2021. The Secretary shall be entitled to receive

the funds and shall accept the funds, without further appropriation.

\* \* \* \* \*

## RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ACT OF 1936

### TITLE I

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SEC. 2. GENERAL AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

(a) **LOANS.**—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) is authorized and empowered to make loans, or refinance loans **【made by the Secretary】** *made or guaranteed by the Secretary* under this Act, in the several States and Territories of the United States for rural electrification and for the purpose of furnishing and improving electric and telephone service in rural areas, as provided in this Act, and for the purpose of assisting electric borrowers to implement demand side management, energy efficiency and conservation programs, and on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems.

(b) **INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTS.**—The Secretary may make, or cause to be made, studies, investigations, and reports regarding matters, including financial, technological, and regulatory matters, affecting the condition and progress of electric, telecommunications, and economic development in rural areas, and publish and disseminate information with respect to the matters.

(c) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Energy under which the Secretary of Energy shall provide technical assistance to the Rural Utilities Service on loans to be made under subsection (a) of this section and section 4(a).

\* \* \* \* \*

#### CHANGES IN THE APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(A) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the effect of provisions in the accompanying bill that directly or indirectly change the application of existing law.

The bill includes a number of provisions which place limitations on the use of funds in the bill or change existing limitations and that might, under some circumstances, be construed as changing the application of existing law:

1. *Office of the Secretary.*—Language is included to limit the amount of funds for official reception and representation expenses, as determined by the Secretary.

2. *Departmental Administration.*—Language is included to reimburse the agency for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings.

3. *Economic Research Service.*—Language is included to prohibit the use of funds to relocate the Economic Research Service outside the National Capital Region.



4. *Agricultural Research Service*.—Language is included that allows the Agricultural Research Service to grant easements at the Beltsville, MD, agricultural research center and to grant easements at any facility for the construction of a research facility for use by the agency.

5. *Agricultural Research Service*.—Language is included to limit the amount of funds that may be obligated to support the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.

6. *National Institute of Food and Agriculture*.—Language is included to prohibit the use of funds to relocate the National Institute of Food and Agriculture outside the National Capital Region.

7. *Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*.—The bill includes language regarding state matching funds and the brucellosis control program through state cost sharing.

Language is included to allow APHIS to recoup expenses incurred from providing technical assistance goods, or services to non-APHIS personnel, and to allow transfers of funds for agricultural emergencies.

Language is included to limit the amount of funds for representational allowances.

Language is included to limit the amount of funds that may be obligated to support the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.

8. *Agricultural Marketing Service, Limitation on Administrative Expenses*.—The bill includes language to allow AMS to exceed the limitation on administrative expenses by 10 percent with notification to the Appropriations Committees.

9. *Agricultural Marketing Service, Inspection and Weighing Services*.—The bill includes authority to exceed the limitation on inspection and weighing services by 10 percent with notification to the Appropriations Committees.

10. *Food Safety and Inspection Service*.—Language is included to limit the amount of funds for representational allowances.

11. *Dairy Indemnity Program*.—Language is included by reference that allows the Secretary to utilize the services of the Commodity Credit Corporation for the purpose of making dairy indemnity payments.

12. *Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account*.—Language is included that deems the pink bollworm a boll weevil for the purposes of administering the boll weevil loan program.

13. *Risk Management Agency*.—Language is included to limit the amount of funds for official reception and representation expenses.

14. *Commodity Credit Corporation Fund*.—Language is included to provide for the reimbursement appropriation. Language is also included to allow certain funds transferred from the Commodity Credit Corporation to be used for information resource management. In addition, language is included which limits the amount of funds that can be spent on operation and maintenance costs of CCC hazardous waste sites.

15. *Rural Development Salaries and Expenses*.—Language is included to allow funds to be used for advertising and promotional activities.

16. *Rental Assistance Program*.—Language is included that provides that agreements entered into during the current fiscal year be funded for a one-year period. Language also is included to renew contracts once during any 12-month period.

17. *Office of Codex Alimentarius*.—Language is included to limit the amount of funds for official reception and representation expenses.

18. *Foreign Agricultural Service*.—Language is included to enable the agency to use funds received by an advance or by reimbursement to carry out its activities.

19. *McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program Grants*.—Language is included to specify the amount of funds available to purchase commodities described by subsection 3107(a)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

20. *Food and Drug Administration, Salaries and Expenses*.—Language is included to limit the amount of funds for official reception and representation expenses and to limit the usage of certain user fees.

21. *Commodity Futures Trading Commission*.—Language is included to limit the amount of funds for official reception and representation expenses. Language is also included to allow the Commission to record prior year lease obligations.

22. *Farm Credit Administration*.—The bill includes authority to exceed the limitation on assessments by 10 percent with notification to the Appropriations Committees.

23. *General Provisions*.—

Section 701.—The bill includes language regarding limits on motor vehicles.

Section 702.—The bill includes language regarding changes to the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture and the National Finance Center.

Section 703.—The bill includes language limiting funding provided in the bill to one year unless otherwise specified.

Section 704.—This provision provides that none of the funds in this Act may be made available to pay indirect costs charged against competitive agricultural research, education, or extension grants awarded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture in excess of 10 percent of total direct costs.

Section 705.—This provision allows funds made available in the current fiscal year for the Rural Development Loan Fund program account; the Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans program account; and the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account to remain available until expended to disburse obligations.

Section 706.—Language is included that requires approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board for acquisition of new information technology systems or significant upgrades, and that prohibits the transfer of funds to the Office of the Chief Information Officer without the notification and prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Section 707.—Language is included regarding the availability of funds for certain conservation programs.

Section 708.—Language is included regarding certain Rural Utilities Service Programs.

Section 709.—Language is included that allows unobligated balances of the Farm Service Agency and Rural Development mission areas to be used for information technology purposes.

Section 710.—Language is included regarding the prohibition of first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded in this Act.

Section 711.—Language is included regarding the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Section 712.—Language is included that limits the amount of spending for USDA advisory committees.

Section 713.—The bill includes language regarding computer networks.

Section 714.—The bill includes language regarding Section 32 activities.

Section 715.—Language is included that prohibits funds from being used to prepare a budget submission to Congress that assumes reductions from the previous year's budget due to user fee proposals unless the submission also identifies spending reductions which should occur if the user fees are not enacted.

Section 716.—The bill includes language regarding the re-programming of funds by USDA.

Section 717.—The bill includes language regarding the re-programming of funds and notification requirements for FDA and CFTC.

Section 718.—The bill includes language regarding fees for the guaranteed business and industry loan program.

Section 719.—This provision prohibits the Department of Agriculture or the Food and Drug Administration from transmitting or making available to any non-Department of Agriculture or non-Department of Health and Human Services employee questions or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process.

Section 720.—The bill includes language regarding government-sponsored news stories.

Section 721.—This provision includes language regarding the detailing of any employee of the Department of Agriculture within that department.

Section 722.—The bill includes language regarding eligibility for Rural Development programs.

Section 723.—The bill includes language requiring spend plans.

Section 724.—The bill includes a rescission of unobligated balances.

Section 725.—The bill includes language regarding rural housing loans.

Section 726.—The bill includes language regarding USDA loan programs.

Section 727.—The bill includes language regarding the Working Capital Fund.

Section 728.—The bill includes language regarding SNAP variety requirements.

Section 729.—The bill includes language regarding housing loan programs.

Section 730.—The bill includes language regarding consumer information.

Section 731.—The bill includes language regarding FDA regulations.

Section 732.—The bill includes language regarding Food for Peace.

Section 733.—The bill includes language regarding a Rural Development energy program.

Section 734.—The bill includes language regarding USDA regulations.

Section 735.—The bill includes language regarding FDA regulations.

Section 736.—The bill includes language regarding animal welfare.

Section 737.—The bill includes language regarding United States iron and steel products.

Section 738.—The bill includes language regarding lobbying.

Section 739.—The bill includes language regarding poultry products.

Section 740.—The bill includes language regarding certain inspection activities.

Section 741.—The bill includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 742.—The bill includes language regarding poultry products.

Section 743.—The bill includes language regarding child nutrition programs.

Section 744.—The bill includes language regarding the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

Section 745.—The bill includes language regarding citrus greening.

Section 746.—The bill includes language regarding grape varieties.

Section 747.—The bill includes language regarding school lunch programs.

Section 748.—The bill includes language regarding rural broadband.

Section 749.—The bill includes language regarding the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Section 750.—The bill includes language regarding school breakfast programs.

Section 751.—The bill includes language regarding FDA regulations.

Section 752.—The bill includes language regarding Centers of Excellence.

Section 753.—The bill includes language regarding assistance to rural hospitals.

Section 754.—The bill provides funding for grants under section 12502 of P.L. 115–334.

Section 755.—The bill rescinds certain USDA balances.

Section 756.—The bill includes language regarding the organic program.

Section 757.—The bill includes language regarding demonstration projects for tribal organizations.

Section 758.—The bill includes language regarding USDA agencies.

Section 759.—The bill includes language regarding USDA agencies.

Section 760.—The bill includes language regarding animal welfare.

Section 762.—The bill includes language regarding matching funds for certain research programs.

Section 763.—The bill includes language regarding the school breakfast programs.

Section 765.—The bill includes language regarding Rural Development loans.

Section 766.—The bill includes language regarding research facilities.

Section 767.—The bill includes language regarding research programs.

Section 769.—The bill includes language regarding food loss.

Section 770.—The bill includes language regarding nutrition programs.

Section 771.—The bill includes language regarding pollinator research.

Section 778.—The bill includes language regarding gene editing.

Section 779.—The bill includes language regarding swine inspections.

Section 780.—The bill includes language regarding Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers.

#### APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Pursuant to clause 3(f)(1)(B) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following table lists the appropriations in the accompanying bill which are not authorized by law for the period concerned:

Agency/Program	Last year of authorization	Authorization level	Appropriation in last year of authorization	Appropriations in this bill
CFTC .....	2013	Such sums	\$205,000,000	\$315,000,000
Farmers' Market Nutrition Program .....	2015	Such sums	16,548,000	18,548,000
State Administrative Expenses .....	2015	Such sums	263,686,000	315,130,000
Summer Food Service Program .....	2015	Such sums	495,521,000	551,928,000
WIC .....	2015	Such sums	6,623,000,000	6,000,000,000
Multi-Family Revitalization Program .....	2016	Such sums	41,400,000	75,000,000
Broadband Telecommunications Grants	2016	Such sums	34,500,000	50,000,000

#### COMPARISON WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the following table compares the levels of new budget authority provided in the bill with the appropriate allocation under section 302(b) of the Budget Act:

[In millions of dollars]

	302 (b) Allocation		This Bill	
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget Authority	Outlays
Comparison of amounts in the bill with Committee allocations to its subcommittees: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies				
Discretionary .....	24,310	22,900	24,310 <sup>1</sup>	22,787
Mandatory .....	104,784	97,151	104,784 <sup>1</sup>	97,151

<sup>1</sup> Includes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

NOTE—The amounts in this report do not include \$75,000,000 in discretionary budget authority and \$64,000,000 in associated outlays provided for the purposes specified in the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114–255) Pursuant to title I of that act, such funding does not count for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

1In addition, the amounts in this report do not include \$8,000,000 in discretionary budget authority, and \$1,848,000,000 in discretionary outlays from funding provided by the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019, that was designated as being for emergency requirements pursuant to section 251 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. Consistent with the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, in the House of Representatives such amounts do not count against the Committee's allocation

### FIVE-YEAR OUTLAY PROJECTIONS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(B) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the following table contains five-year projections associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill as provided to the Committee by the Congressional Budget Office:

[In millions of dollars]

Outlays Projection of outlays associated with the recommendation:	
2020 <sup>1</sup> .....	102,992
2021 .....	6,986
2022 .....	1,661
2023 .....	866
2024 and future years .....	582

<sup>1</sup> Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

### ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Congressional Budget Office has provided the following estimates of the amounts of financial assistance to State and local governments is as follows:

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays
Financial assistance to State and local governments for 2020 .....	40,171/1/	24,463

<sup>1</sup> Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

### COMMITTEE HEARINGS

For the purposes of section 103(i) of H. Res. 6 of the 116th Congress—

The following hearings were used to develop or consider the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020:

The Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies (Subcommittee) held an oversight hearing on February 27, 2019, entitled “Food and Drug Administration—Status of Operations”. The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Scott Gottlieb, MD, Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration

The Subcommittee held an oversight hearing on March 12, 2019, entitled “USDA Office of Inspector General.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Phyllis Fong, Inspector General, USDA
- Gil Harden, Assistant Inspector General, USDA

- Ann Coffey, Assistant Inspector General, USDA

The Subcommittee held a hearing on March 26, 2019, entitled “Member Day.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- The Honorable Neal P. Dunn, Member of Congress
- The Honorable Jennifer González-Colón, Member of Congress
- The Honorable Shelia Jackson Lee, Member of Congress
- The Honorable James P. McGovern, Member of Congress
- The Honorable Bill Posey, Member of Congress
- The Honorable Glenn Thompson, Member of Congress

The Subcommittee held an oversight hearing on March 27, 2019, entitled “USDA’s Proposed Relocation of the Economic Research Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Kristi J. Boswell, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA
- Gale A. Buchanan, Ph.D., former Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, USDA
- Katherine Smith Evans, Ph.D., for Administrator for the Economic Research Service, USDA
- John E. Lee, Jr., Ph.D., for Administrator for the Economic Research Service, USDA
- Catherine E. Woteki, Ph.D., former Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, USDA

The Subcommittee held an oversight hearing on April 2, 2019, entitled “The Rural Economy”. The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Jeffery S. Hall, Board Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation
- Rod Hebrink, President and CEO, Compeer Farm Credit, Sun Prairie, WI
- Mark Jensen, President and CEO, FCS of America/Frontier Farm Credit, Omaha, NE
- Paxton Poitevint, President and CEO, Southwest Georgia Farm Credit, Bainbridge, GA
- Dallas P. Tonsager, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration

The Subcommittee held a budget hearing on April 3, 2019, entitled “Food and Drug Administration Budget Request for FY 2020”. The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Scott Gottlieb, M.D., Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration

The Subcommittee held a budget hearing on April 9, 2019, entitled “Department of Agriculture Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2020”. The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- The Honorable Sonny Perdue, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Ms. Erica Navarro, Budget Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture

The Subcommittee held a hearing on April 10, 2019, entitled “Economic Opportunities for Farmers through Sustainable Agricultural Practices”. The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Kevin Norton, Acting Associate Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA
- Nate Powell-Palm, Certified Organic Farmer, Montana

- Jason Weller, Senior Director of Sustainability, Land O' Lakes SUSTAIN, Minnesota

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUDGETARY RESOURCES



PART I. STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS					
Processing, Research, and Marketing					
Staff Offices					
Office of the Secretary					
Office of the Secretary.....	5,051	4,850	4,850	-201	---
Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development.....	800	800	---	-800	-800
Office of Homeland Security.....	1,496	1,448	1,448	-48	---
Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement.....	4,711	1,672	6,211	+1,500	+4,539
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration...	875	875	875	---	---
Departmental Administration.....	22,301	21,376	21,376	-925	---
Subtotal.....	23,176	22,251	22,251	-925	---
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs.....					
Office of Communications.....	3,869	3,091	3,091	-778	---
	7,500	7,261	7,261	-239	---
Total, Office of the Secretary.....	46,603	41,373	45,112	-1,491	+3,739
Executive Operations					
Office of the Chief Economist.....	21,286	18,513	21,013	-273	+2,500
Office of Hearings and Appeals.....	15,222	13,474	15,222	---	+1,748

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of Budget and Program Analysis.....	9,525	8,199	9,525	---	+1,326
Subtotal.....	46,033	40,186	45,760	-273	+5,574
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	55,630	101,400	101,400	+45,770	---
Office of the Chief Financial Officer.....	6,028	13,500	6,028	---	-7,472
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights....	901	800	901	---	+101
Office of Civil Rights.....	24,206	21,228	24,206	---	+2,978
Agriculture Buildings and Facilities.....	59,967	331,114	331,114	+271,147	---
Hazardous materials management.....	3,503	3,290	5,288	+1,785	+1,998
Office of Inspector General.....	98,208	98,208	98,208	---	---
Office of the General Counsel.....	45,146	41,242	41,242	-3,904	---
Office of Ethics.....	4,136	2,752	4,136	---	+1,384
Total, Executive Operations.....	343,758	653,720	658,283	+314,525	+4,563
Total, Staff Offices.....	390,361	695,093	703,395	+313,034	+8,302
Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.....	800	800	800	---	---
Economic Research Service.....	86,757	60,500	87,757	+1,000	+27,257
National Agricultural Statistics Service.....	174,517	163,000	180,794	+6,277	+17,794
Census of Agriculture.....	(45,300)	(45,300)	(45,300)	---	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<b>Agricultural Research Service</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,303,266	1,203,491	1,347,516	+44,250	+144,025
Buildings and facilities.....	381,200	50,000	50,000	-331,200	---
Total, Agricultural Research Service.....	1,684,466	1,253,491	1,397,516	-286,950	+144,025
<b>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</b>					
Research and education activities.....	927,649	974,715	1,033,007	+105,358	+58,292
Native American Institutions Endowment Fund.....	(11,880)	(11,857)	(11,880)	---	(+23)
Extension activities.....	505,692	415,274	541,086	+35,394	+125,812
Integrated activities.....	38,000	1,697	40,000	+2,000	+38,303
Total, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.....	1,471,341	1,391,686	1,614,093	+142,752	+222,407
<b>Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs</b>					
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	901	800	800	-101	---
Salaries and expenses.....	1,011,136	981,893	1,034,011	+22,875	+52,118
Buildings and facilities.....	3,175	2,709	3,175	---	+466
Total, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.....	1,014,311	984,602	1,037,186	+22,875	+52,584

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<b>Agricultural Marketing Service</b>					
Marketing Services.....	159,095	115,143	182,888	+23,793	+67,745
(Limitation on administrative expenses, from fees collected).....	(61,227)	(60,982)	(61,227)	---	(+245)
Funds for strengthening markets, income, and supply (Section 32):					
Permanent, Section 32.....	1,374,000	1,404,000	1,404,000	+30,000	---
Marketing agreements and orders (transfer from Section 32).....	(20,705)	(20,705)	(20,705)	---	---
Payments to States and Possessions.....	1,235	1,109	1,235	---	+126
Limitation on inspection and weighing services....	(55,000)	(80,000)	(55,000)	---	(-25,000)
Total, Agricultural Marketing Service program.	1,650,557	1,661,234	1,704,350	+53,793	+43,116
Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety.....	800	800	800	---	---
Food Safety and Inspection Service.....	1,049,344	1,045,320	1,054,344	+5,000	+9,024
Lab accreditation fees.....	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	---	---
Total, title I, Agricultural Programs.....	7,407,928	7,116,344	7,665,608	+257,680	+549,264
(By transfer).....	(20,705)	(20,705)	(20,705)	0	0
(Limitation on administrative expenses).....	(116,227)	(140,982)	(116,227)	---	(-24,755)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
-----					
TITLE II - Farm Production and Conservation Programs					
Farm Production Programs					
Office of the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation.....	901	875	901	---	+26
Farm Production and Conservation Business Center.....	216,350	206,530	206,530	-9,820	---
(by transfer from CCC).....	(60,228)	(60,228)	(60,228)	---	---
(by transfer from ACIF).....	(16,081)	(16,081)	(16,081)	---	---
-----					
Total, FPAC Business Center (including transfers).....	(292,659)	(282,839)	(282,839)	(-9,820)	---
Farm Service Agency					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,081,655	1,012,008	1,122,837	+41,182	+110,829
(by transfer from Food for Peace (P.L. 480)).....	(142)	(135)	(142)	---	(+7)
(by transfer from export loans).....	(2,463)	(316)	(2,463)	---	(+2,145)
(by transfer from ACIF).....	(290,917)	(294,114)	(290,917)	---	(-3,197)
-----					
Subtotal, transfers.....	(293,522)	(294,567)	(293,522)	---	(-1,045)
-----					
Total, Salaries and expenses (including transfers).....	(1,375,177)	(1,306,575)	(1,416,359)	(+41,182)	(+109,784)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
State mediation grants.....	3,904	3,067	5,000	+1,096	+1,933
Grassroots source water protection program.....	6,500	---	6,500	---	+6,500
Dairy indemnity program.....	500	500	500	---	---
Subtotal, Farm Service Agency.....	1,092,559	1,015,575	1,134,837	+42,278	+119,262
Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund (ACIF) Program					
Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Farm ownership loans:					
Direct.....	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	---	---
Guaranteed.....	(2,750,000)	(2,750,000)	(2,750,000)	---	---
Subtotal.....	(4,250,000)	(4,250,000)	(4,250,000)	---	---
Farm operating loans:					
Direct.....	(1,530,000)	(1,550,133)	(1,550,133)	(+20,133)	---
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	(1,960,000)	(1,614,953)	(1,960,000)	---	(+345,047)
Subtotal.....	(3,490,000)	(3,165,086)	(3,510,133)	(+20,133)	(+345,047)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Emergency loans.....	(37,668)	(29,181)	(37,668)	---	(+8,487)
Indian tribe land acquisition loans.....	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	---	---
Conservation loans:					
Guaranteed.....	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans.....	(10,000)	---	(10,000)	---	(+10,000)
Boll weevil eradication loans.....	(30,000)	(60,000)	(20,000)	(-10,000)	(-40,000)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(7,987,668)	(7,674,267)	(7,997,801)	(+10,133)	(+323,534)
Loan subsidies:					
Farm operating loans:					
Direct.....	59,670	58,440	58,440	-1,230	---
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	21,168	17,280	20,972	-196	+3,692
Subtotal.....	80,838	75,720	79,412	-1,426	+3,692
Emergency Loans.....	1,567	1,567	2,023	+456	+456
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans.....	2,134	---	2,745	+611	+2,745
Boll weevil eradication loans.....	---	60	20	+20	-40
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	84,539	77,347	84,200	-339	+6,853

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
ACIF administrative expenses:					
Administrative Expenses.....	317,068	319,762	317,068	---	-2,694
(Program Loan Cost Expenses).....	(10,070)	(9,567)	(10,070)	---	(+503)
(Transfer out to FSA Salaries and expenses).	(-290,917)	(-294,114)	(-290,917)	---	(+3,197)
(Transfer out to FPAC Business Center Salaries and expenses).....	(-16,081)	(-16,081)	(-16,081)	---	---
Total, Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account.....	401,607	397,109	401,268	-339	+4,159
(Loan authorizations).....	(7,987,668)	(7,674,267)	(7,997,801)	(+10,133)	(+323,534)
Total, Farm Service Agency.....	1,494,166	1,412,684	1,536,105	+41,939	+123,421
Risk Management Agency					
RMA Salaries and Expenses.....	58,361	56,045	58,361	---	+2,316
Total, Farm Production Programs.....	1,769,778	1,676,134	1,801,897	+32,119	+125,763
Natural Resources Conservation Service:					
Private Lands Conservation Operations.....	819,492	755,000	829,628	+10,136	+74,628
(by transfer from FSRI).....	---	(1,230,000)	---	---	(-1,230,000)



COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<b>Farm Security and Rural Investment Program:</b>					
Technical assistance (transfer out).....	---	(-1,230,000)	---	---	(+1,230,000)
Administrative expenses-FPAC Business Center (transfer out).....	(-60,228)	(-60,228)	(-60,228)	---	---
<b>Total, Conservation operations.....</b>	<b>819,492</b>	<b>755,000</b>	<b>829,628</b>	<b>+10,136</b>	<b>+74,628</b>
<b>Watershed flood and prevention operations.....</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>155,000</b>	<b>+5,000</b>	<b>+155,000</b>
<b>Watershed rehabilitation program.....</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>+2,000</b>	<b>+12,000</b>
<b>Total, Natural Resources Conservation Service...</b>	<b>979,492</b>	<b>755,000</b>	<b>996,628</b>	<b>+17,136</b>	<b>+241,628</b>
<b>Corporations</b>					
<b>Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:</b>					
Federal crop insurance corporation fund.....	15,410,629	8,936,000	8,936,000	-6,474,629	---
<b>Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:</b>					
Reimbursement for net realized losses.....	15,410,000	25,553,096	25,553,096	+10,143,096	---
Hazardous waste management (limitation on expenses).....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
<b>Total, Corporations.....</b>	<b>30,820,629</b>	<b>34,489,096</b>	<b>34,489,096</b>	<b>+3,668,467</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>Total, title II, Farm Production and Conservation Programs.....</b>	<b>33,569,899</b>	<b>36,920,230</b>	<b>37,287,621</b>	<b>+3,717,722</b>	<b>+367,391</b>
(By transfer).....	(369,831)	(1,600,876)	(369,831)	---	(-1,231,045)
(Transfer out).....	(-367,226)	(-1,600,423)	(-367,226)	---	(+1,233,197)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE III - RURAL DEVELOPMENT					
Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development...	---	---	800	+800	+800
Rural Development					
Rural development expenses:					
Salaries and expenses.....	236,835	192,343	255,835	+19,000	+63,492
(by transfer from RHIF).....	(412,254)	(244,249)	(412,254)	---	(+168,005)
(by transfer from RCFP).....	---	(147,591)	---	---	(-147,591)
(by transfer from RDLFP).....	(4,468)	---	(4,468)	---	(+4,468)
(by transfer from RETLP).....	(33,270)	(38,027)	(33,270)	---	(-4,757)
(by transfer from B&I).....	---	(7,035)	---	---	(-7,035)
(by transfer from RWDP).....	---	(18,149)	---	---	(-18,149)
Subtotal, transfers from program accounts.....	449,992	455,051	449,992	---	-5,059
Total, Rural development expenses.....	686,827	647,394	705,827	+19,000	+58,433
Rural Housing Service					
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502).....	(1,000,000)	---	(1,000,000)	---	(+1,000,000)
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	---	---
Subtotal, Single family.....	25,000,000	24,000,000	25,000,000	---	+1,000,000

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Housing repair (Sec. 504).....	(28,000)	---	(28,000)	---	(+28,000)
Rental housing (Sec. 515).....	(40,000)	---	(45,000)	(+5,000)	(+45,000)
Multi-family housing guarantees (Sec. 538)....	(230,000)	(250,000)	(250,000)	(+20,000)	---
Site development loans (Sec. 524).....	(5,000)	---	(5,000)	---	(+5,000)
Single family housing credit sales.....	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
Self-help housing land development housing loans (Sec. 523).....	(5,000)	---	(5,000)	---	(+5,000)
Farm Labor Housing (Sec.514).....	(27,500)	---	(30,000)	(+2,500)	(+30,000)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	25,345,500	24,260,000	25,373,000	+27,500	+1,113,000
Loan subsidies:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502).....			112,900	+45,200	+112,900
Housing repair (Sec. 504).....	67,700	---	4,679	+1,260	+4,679
Rental housing (Sec. 515).....	3,419	---	13,662	+4,178	+13,662
Farm labor housing (Sec.514).....	9,484	---	9,363	+2,510	+9,363
Self-Help Land Development Housing Loans (Sec.523).....	6,853	---	577	+146	+577
Site Development Loans (Sec.524).....	431	---	546	+370	+546
Total, Loan subsidies.....	176	---	141,727	+53,664	+141,727
Farm labor housing grants.....	88,063	---	10,000	---	+10,000
RHIF administrative expenses.....	10,000	---	412,254	---	+168,005
(transfer out to Rural Development).....	412,254	244,249	(-412,254)	---	(-168,005)
Total, Rural Housing Insurance Fund program.....	(-412,254)	(-244,249)			
(Loan authorization).....	510,317	244,249	563,981	+53,664	+319,732
	(25,345,500)	(24,260,000)	(25,373,000)	(+27,500)	(+1,113,000)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Rental assistance program:					
Rental assistance (Sec. 521).....	1,331,400	1,375,000	1,375,000	+43,600	---
Rural housing vouchers.....	---	32,000	---	---	-32,000
Subtotal, Rental Assistance Program.....	1,331,400	1,407,000	1,375,000	+43,600	-32,000
Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account:					
Rural housing voucher program.....	27,000	---	35,000	+8,000	+35,000
Multi-family housing revitalization program.....	24,500	---	40,000	+15,500	+40,000
Mutual and self-help housing grants.....	30,000	---	32,000	+2,000	+32,000
Rural housing assistance grants.....	45,000	---	45,000	---	+45,000
Rural community facilities program account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Community facility:					
Direct.....	(2,800,000)	(2,500,000)	(2,800,000)	---	(+300,000)
Guaranteed.....	(148,287)	(500,000)	(250,000)	(+101,713)	(-250,000)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	2,948,287	3,000,000	3,050,000	+101,713	+50,000
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Community facility:					
Guaranteed.....	4,285	---	---	-4,285	---
Grants.....	30,000	50,000	50,000	+20,000	---
Rural community development initiative.....	6,000	---	8,000	+2,000	+8,000
Economic impact initiative grants.....	5,778	---	6,000	+222	+6,000
Tribal college grants.....	4,000	10,000	7,000	+3,000	-3,000

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
RCFP administrative expenses.....	---	147,591	---	---	-147,591
(transfer to Rural Development).....	---	(-147,591)	---	---	(+147,591)
Subtotal, Loan subsidies and grants.....	50,063	207,591	71,000	+20,937	-136,591
Total, grants and payments.....	125,063	207,591	148,000	+22,937	-59,591
Total, Rural Housing Service.....	2,018,280	1,858,840	2,161,981	+143,701	+303,141
(Loan authorization).....	(28,293,787)	(27,260,000)	(28,423,000)	(+129,213)	(+1,163,000)
Rural Business--Cooperative Service:					
Rural Business Program Account:					
(Guaranteed business and industry loan authorization).....	(950,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,200,000)	(+250,000)	(+200,000)
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Guaranteed business and industry subsidy...	22,040	20,500	24,600	+2,560	+4,100
Rural business development grants.....	35,000	---	35,000	---	+35,000
Delta Regional Authority and Appalachian Regional Commission.....	8,000	---	8,000	---	+8,000
Administrative expenses.....	---	7,035	---	---	-7,035
(transfer out to Rural Development).	---	(-7,035)	---	---	(+7,035)
Total, RBP loan subsidies and grants.....	65,040	27,535	67,600	+2,560	+40,065
Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(18,889)	---	(18,889)	---	(+18,889)
Loan subsidy.....	4,157	---	5,219	+1,062	+5,219

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Administrative expenses.....	4,468	---	4,468	---	+4,468
(transfer out to Rural Development).....	(-4,468)	---	(-4,468)	---	(-4,468)
Total, Intermediary Relending Program Account.....	8,625	---	9,687	+1,062	+9,687
Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(50,000)	---	(50,000)	---	(+50,000)
Limit cushion of credit interest spending.....	(50,000)	---	(50,000)	---	(+50,000)
Rural Cooperative Development Grants:					
Cooperative development.....	5,800	---	5,800	---	+5,800
Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas.....	2,800	---	3,000	+200	+3,000
Grants to assist minority producers.....	3,000	---	3,000	---	+3,000
Value-added agricultural product market development.....	17,500	---	18,000	+500	+18,000
Total, Rural Cooperative development grants.....	29,100	---	29,800	+700	+29,800
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program.....	---	---	6,000	+6,000	+6,000
Rural Energy for America Program:					
(Loan authorization).....	(7,500)	---	(10,000)	(-2,500)	(+10,000)
Loan subsidy and grants.....	335	---	353	+18	+353
Total, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.....	103,100	27,535	113,440	+10,340	+85,905
(Loan authorization).....	(1,026,389)	(1,000,000)	(1,278,889)	(+252,500)	(+278,889)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Rural Utilities Service:					
Rural water and waste disposal program account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Direct.....	(1,400,000)	(1,200,000)	(1,400,000)	---	(+200,000)
Guaranteed.....	(50,000)	---	(50,000)	---	(+50,000)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	1,450,000	1,200,000	1,450,000	---	+250,000
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Direct subsidy.....	---	54,720	63,840	+63,840	+9,120
Guaranteed subsidy.....	190	---	70	-120	+70
Water and waste revolving fund.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Water well system grants.....	1,500	993	15,000	+13,500	+14,007
Colonias and AK/HI grants.....	68,000	68,000	70,000	+2,000	+2,000
Water and waste technical assistance.....	30,000	40,000	30,000	---	-10,000
Circuit rider program.....	19,000	19,000	19,570	+570	+570
Solid waste management grants.....	4,000	4,000	4,000	---	---
High energy cost grants.....	10,000	---	---	-10,000	---
Water and waste disposal grants.....	400,000	324,917	500,000	+100,000	+175,083
306A(i)(2) grants.....	15,000	15,000	15,000	---	---
WMDP Administrative expenses.....	---	18,149	---	---	-18,149
(transfer out to Rural Development).....	---	(-18,149)	---	---	(+18,149)
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	548,690	545,779	718,480	+169,790	+172,701

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<b>Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans</b>					
Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Electric:					
Direct, FFB.....	(5,500,000)	(5,500,000)	(5,500,000)	---	---
Guaranteed underwriting.....	(750,000)	---	(750,000)	---	(+750,000)
Subtotal, Electric.....	6,250,000	5,500,000	6,250,000	---	+750,000
Telecommunications:					
Direct, Treasury rate.....	(345,000)	(175,727)	(345,000)	---	(+169,273)
Direct, FFB.....	(345,000)	(514,273)	(345,000)	---	(-169,273)
Subtotal, Telecommunications.....	690,000	690,000	690,000	---	---
Total, Loan authorizations.....	6,940,000	6,190,000	6,940,000	---	+750,000
Loan Subsidy:					
Telecommunications Direct, Treasury Rate	1,725	1,933	3,795	+2,070	+1,862
RETLP administrative expenses.....	33,270	38,027	33,270	---	-4,757
(transfer out to Rural Development).....	(-33,270)	(-38,027)	(-33,270)	---	(+4,757)
Total, Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account.....	34,995	39,960	37,065	+2,070	-2,895
(Loan authorization).....	(6,940,000)	(6,190,000)	(6,940,000)	---	(+750,000)



COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<b>Broadband Program:</b>					
Loan authorizations:					
Broadband telecommunications.....	(29,851)	---	(29,851)	---	(+29,851)
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Distance learning and telemedicine:					
Grants.....	34,000	43,600	50,000	+16,000	+6,400
Broadband telecommunications:					
Direct.....	5,830	---	5,830	---	+5,830
Grants.....	30,000	30,000	50,000	+20,000	+20,000
Broadband E-Connect:					
Loan subsidies and grants.....	---	186,000	---	---	-186,000
Technical assistance and administrative expenses.....	---	14,000	---	---	-14,000
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	69,830	273,600	105,830	+36,000	-167,770
Total, Rural Utilities Service.....					
(Loan authorization).....	653,515 (8,419,851)	859,339 (7,390,000)	861,375 (8,419,851)	+207,860 ---	+2,036 (+1,029,851)
Total, title III, Rural Development Programs.....					
(By transfer).....	3,011,730 (449,992)	2,938,057 (455,051)	3,393,431 (449,992)	+381,701 ---	+455,374 (-5,059)
(Transfer out).....	(-449,992)	(-455,051)	(-449,992)	---	(-5,059)
(Loan authorizations).....	(37,740,027)	(35,650,000)	(38,121,740)	(+381,713)	(+2,471,740)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE IV - DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services.....	800	800	800	---	---
Food and Nutrition Service:					
Child nutrition programs .....	23,082,781	23,943,216	23,955,885	+873,104	+12,669
School breakfast program equipment grants.....	30,000	---	35,000	+5,000	+35,000
Demonstration projects (Summer EBT).....	28,000	---	50,000	+22,000	+50,000
Total, Child nutrition programs.....	23,140,781	23,943,216	24,040,885	+900,104	+97,669
Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC).....	6,075,000	5,750,000	6,000,000	-75,000	+250,000
Supplemental nutrition assistance program: (Food stamp program).....	70,475,923	66,069,910	66,092,910	-4,383,013	+23,000
Reserve.....	3,000,000	3,000,000	5,000,000	+2,000,000	+2,000,000
FDP/IR nutrition education services.....	998	---	998	---	+998
Total, Food stamp program.....	73,476,921	69,069,910	71,093,908	-2,383,013	+2,023,998
Commodity assistance program:					
Commodity supplemental food program.....	222,891	---	245,000	+22,109	+245,000
Farmers market nutrition program.....	18,548	---	18,548	---	+18,548
Emergency food assistance program.....	79,630	54,401	79,630	---	+25,229
Pacific island and disaster assistance.....	1,070	1,070	1,070	---	---
Total, Commodity assistance program.....	322,139	55,471	344,248	+22,109	+288,777

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Nutrition programs administration.....	164,688	152,041	154,041	-10,647	+2,000
Congressional Hunger Center.....	(2,000)	---	(2,000)	---	(+2,000)
Total, Food and Nutrition Service.....	103,179,529	98,970,638	101,633,082	-1,546,447	+2,662,444
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title IV, Domestic Food Programs.....	103,180,329	98,971,438	101,633,882	-1,546,447	+2,662,444
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

TITLE V - FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

Office of the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs.....	875	875	875	---	---
Office of Codex Alimentarius.....	3,976	4,775	4,775	+799	---
Foreign Agricultural Service					
Salaries and expenses.....	213,890	192,824	215,513	+1,623	+22,689
(By transfer from export loans).....	(6,382)	(6,063)	(6,382)	---	(+319)
Total, Salaries and expenses (including transfers).....	220,272	198,887	221,895	+1,623	+23,008
Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account:					
Administrative expenses.....	142	135	142	---	+7
FSA Salaries and expenses (transfer out).....	(-142)	(-135)	(-142)	---	(-7)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Food for Peace Title II Grants:					
Expenses.....	1,500,000	---	1,850,000	+350,000	+1,850,000
Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Program					
Account:					
Administrative expenses.....	8,845	6,381	8,845	---	+2,464
Foreign Agriculture Service, Salaries and					
expenses (transfer out).....	(-6,382)	(-6,063)	(-6,382)	---	(-319)
Farm Service Agency Salaries and expenses					
(transfer out).....	(-2,463)	(-318)	(-2,463)	---	(-2,145)
Total, CCC Export Loans Program Account...	8,845	6,381	8,845	---	+2,464
McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and					
Child Nutrition program grants.....	210,255	---	235,000	+24,745	+235,000
Total, title V, Foreign Assistance and Related					
Programs.....	1,937,983	204,990	2,315,150	+377,167	+2,110,160
(By transfer).....	(6,382)	(6,063)	(6,382)	---	(+319)
(Transfer out).....	(-8,987)	(-6,516)	(-8,987)	---	(-2,471)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE VI - RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION					
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
Food and Drug Administration					
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation.....	3,068,678	3,239,524	3,253,939	+185,261	+14,415
Prescription drug user fees.....	(1,010,323)	(1,062,367)	(1,062,367)	(+52,044)	---
Medical device user fees.....	(204,730)	(219,527)	(219,527)	(+14,797)	---
Human generic drug user fees.....	(501,721)	(511,682)	(511,682)	(+9,961)	---
Biosimilar biological products user fees.....	(38,847)	(39,618)	(39,618)	(+771)	---
Animal drug user fees.....	(30,331)	(30,524)	(30,524)	(+193)	---
Animal generic drug user fees.....	(18,335)	(18,700)	(18,700)	(+365)	---
Tobacco product user fees.....	(712,000)	(712,000)	(712,000)	---	---
Subtotal, user fees (appropriated).....	(2,516,287)	(2,594,418)	(2,594,418)	(+78,131)	---
Subtotal (including appropriated user fees).....	(5,584,965)	(5,833,942)	(5,848,357)	(+263,392)	(+14,415)
Mammography user fees.....	(20,522)	(21,351)	(21,351)	(+829)	---
Export user fees.....	(4,696)	(4,696)	(4,696)	---	---
Color certification user fees.....	(10,062)	(10,534)	(10,534)	(+472)	---
Food and Feed Recall user fees.....	(1,434)	(1,492)	(1,492)	(+58)	---
Food Reinspection fees.....	(6,414)	(6,673)	(6,673)	(+259)	---
Voluntary qualified importer program fees.....	(5,300)	(5,515)	(5,515)	(+215)	---
Pharmacy compounding fees.....	(1,446)	(1,676)	(1,676)	(+230)	---
Priority review vouchers (PRV) pediatric disease..	(7,686)	(7,997)	(7,997)	(+311)	---
Third party auditor.....	(712)	(742)	(742)	(+30)	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Over-the-Counter Monograph fees .....	(22,000)	(28,400)	(28,400)	(+6,400)	---
Increased export certification fees (legislative proposal) .....	---	(4,280)	---	---	(-4,280)
Innovative food products fees (legislative proposal) .....	---	(28,000)	---	---	(-28,000)
Expand tobacco products fees (legislative proposal) .....	---	(100,000)	---	---	(-100,000)
Subtotal, FDA user fees.....	(2,596,559)	(2,815,774)	(2,683,494)	(+86,935)	(-132,280)
Subtotal, FDA (including user fees).....	(5,665,237)	(6,055,298)	(5,937,433)	(+272,196)	(-117,865)
Buildings and facilities.....	11,788	11,788	11,788	---	---
FDA Innovation account.....	70,000	75,000	75,000	+5,000	---
Offset of appropriation pursuant to Section 1002 (b)(3)(B) of the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114-255).....	-70,000	-75,000	-75,000	-5,000	---
Spending of FDA innovation account (transfer) .....	70,000	75,000	75,000	+5,000	---
Total, FDA (w/enacted user fees only).....	(5,677,025)	(6,067,086)	(5,949,221)	(+272,196)	(-117,865)
Total, FDA (excluding user fees).....	3,080,466	3,251,312	3,265,727	+185,261	+14,415

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
AND BUDGET REQUESTS AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 2020  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<b>INDEPENDENT AGENCIES</b>					
Commodity Futures Trading Commission 1/.....	268,000	250,000	315,000	+47,000	+65,000
Farm Credit Administration (limitation on administrative expenses).....	(74,600)	(76,000)	(76,000)	(+1,400)	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title VI, Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration.....	3,348,466	3,501,312	3,580,727	+232,261	+79,415
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>					
Rural Energy Savings Program.....	10,000	---	15,000	+5,000	+15,000
Farm to School.....	5,000	---	5,000	---	+5,000
Healthy Food Financing Initiative.....	2,000	---	10,000	+8,000	+10,000
Citrus Greening.....	8,500	---	8,500	---	+8,500
Broadband Pilot.....	125,000	---	483,000	+338,000	+463,000
Section 313 funds.....	(425,000)	---	(87,000)	(-338,000)	(+87,000)
NIFA Military Veteran Grants.....	5,000	---	5,000	---	+5,000
Centers of Excellence.....	5,000	---	10,000	+5,000	+10,000
Rural Hospital Technical Assistance.....	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
Protecting Animals with Shelter Grants.....	---	---	2,000	+2,000	+2,000
Tribal Demonstration Projects.....	---	---	3,000	+3,000	+3,000
International Agricultural Education Fellowship.....	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
School Breakfast Expansion Grants.....	---	---	10,000	+10,000	+10,000
Urban Agriculture Office.....	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
Food Loss Liaison.....	---	---	400	+400	+400

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Healthy Fluid Milk.....	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
Pollinator Research Coordinator.....	---	---	400	+400	+400
Farm Opportunities Training and Outreach.....	---	---	10,000	+10,000	+10,000
Tribal Student Scholarships.....	---	---	2,500	+2,500	+2,500
Genome to Phenome.....	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
Farm and Relending Program.....	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
Farm Ownership Report.....	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
Nutrition Assistance Program Study.....	---	---	7,000	+7,000	+7,000
Micro-grants for Food Security.....	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
Water and Waste.....	75,000	---	---	-75,000	---
RMAP.....	3,000	---	---	-3,000	---
Food for Progress.....	10,000	---	---	-10,000	---
Food for Progress.....	6,000	---	---	-6,000	---
Water Bank program.....	4,000	---	---	-4,000	---
Geographic Disadvantaged farmers.....	1,996	---	---	-1,996	---
Food for Peace.....	216,000	---	---	-216,000	---
Maturing mortgage pilot.....	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
FSA ARC pilot.....	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---
Conservation Reserve Program Pilot.....	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
REDLG Reprogramming (Sec. 766).....	---	---	---	---	---
Distance Learning Telemedicine.....	16,000	---	---	-16,000	---
Fruit Fly Quarantine.....	9,000	---	---	-9,000	---
Treasury symbol 128/90600 (rescission).....	-5,000	---	---	+5,000	---
WIC (rescission).....	-500,000	-1,000,000	-800,000	-300,000	+200,000
NIFA Relocation Expenses (rescission).....	---	---	-5,830	-5,830	-5,830
Rental Assistance Program (rescission).....	---	-40,000	---	---	+40,000
Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account (rescission).....	---	-100,000	---	---	+100,000
RCFP (rescission).....	---	-4,200	---	---	+4,200



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	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Foreign Agricultural Service S&E (rescission).....	---	-8,800	---	---	+8,800
Total, title VII, General Provisions.....	3,496	-1,153,000	-234,030	-237,526	+918,970

OTHER APPROPRIATIONS

ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR  
DISASTER RELIEF ACT, 2019

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary (emergency).....	3,005,442	---	---	-3,005,442	---
Emergency Forest Restoration Program (emergency).....	480,000	---	---	-480,000	---
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (emergency).....	435,000	---	---	-435,000	---
Rural Community Facilities Program Account (emergency).....	150,000	---	---	-150,000	---
Grant for Puerto Rico (emergency).....	600,000	---	---	-600,000	---
Grant for Northern Marianas (emergency).....	25,200	---	---	-25,200	---
Crop insurance purchasing requirement (emergency).....	8,000	7,000	7,000	-1,000	---
Revenue protection insurance for hemp (emergency).....	---	1,000	1,000	+1,000	---
Exempt AGI provisions (emergency).....	15,000	---	---	-15,000	---
Independent study for Puerto Rico (emergency).....	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 2019  
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	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2020 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Grant for American Samoa (emergency).....	18,000	---	---	-18,000	---
Emergency Conservation Program (emergency).....	558,000	---	---	-558,000	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act.....	5,299,642	8,000	8,000	-5,291,642	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Grand total.....	157,759,473	148,507,371	155,650,389	-2,109,084	+7,143,018
Appropriations.....	(152,964,831)	(149,652,371)	(156,448,219)	(+3,483,388)	(+6,795,848)
Emergency appropriations.....	(5,299,642)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(-5,291,642)	---
Rescissions.....	(-505,000)	(-1,153,000)	(-805,830)	(-300,830)	(+347,170)
(By transfer).....	(1,652,410)	(4,123,980)	(1,652,410)	---	(-2,471,570)
(Transfer out).....	(-1,652,410)	(-4,123,980)	(-1,652,410)	---	(+2,471,570)
(Loan authorization).....	(45,727,695)	(43,324,267)	(46,119,541)	(+391,846)	(+2,795,274)
(Limitation on administrative expenses).....	(195,827)	(221,982)	(197,227)	(+1,400)	(-24,755)

1/ The CFTC was funded in the Financial Services  
Appropriations bill in FY 2019. It is shown here  
for comparability purposes

## MINORITY VIEWS

We appreciate the collegial and collaborative efforts of Subcommittee Chair, Sanford Bishop, and the Full Committee Chair, Nita Lowey, in producing an Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill that addresses priorities of Members on both sides of the aisle. We have policy differences with the Majority in a limited number of circumstances, and a divergence in views over the level of funding necessary to address the critical needs of this bill, but we can and will continue to work together in a bipartisan, collaborative manner as the process moves forward.

We are most pleased by the continuation of the Republicans' previous commitment to work with the private sector in rebuilding or building the economic vitality of rural America through a \$3,400,000,000 investment in critical infrastructure and business programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Majority includes report language to encourage the USDA to consider the broader social benefits when the Department seeks applications for the \$680,000,000 of broadband resources in this bill. It is very important that we measure the impact of broadband in how it affects the ecosystem of livability. Not just more wires, but livability from enhanced telehealth, telecommuting, and precision agriculture, and other applications to make broadband an effective infrastructure investment.

We are also pleased to see an increase of \$185,000,000 for the Food and Drug Administration. Between investments in fiscal year 2019 and investments in this bill, the agency will receive an increase of \$27,000,000 to help expedite the approval of safe and effective generic drugs, increase competition, lower drug prices, and lessen the financial burden on the American consumer. The Majority also provided other agreed upon increases for the safety of new, innovative medical devices that will improve public health and allow U.S. businesses to remain competitive in this field. Lastly, we agree with investments in food safety by lessening the burden on our state health departments. These resources support our states who are the ones who often apply the FDA's high standard for production of foods across the country.

We are deeply concerned that the Majority party passed ten of twelve appropriations bills out of Committee without first reaching a bipartisan, bicameral agreement with the Senate and the Administration. This bill is \$1,000,000,000 above the fiscal year 2019 enacted level. No doubt there are critical programs in this bill deserving of strong Congressional support, but that sentiment in no way negates the need for an over-arching plan for fiscal responsibility. The House Democrats' budget framework would raise the discretionary spending caps and put the Federal government on track to add to the national debt, which is already above

\$22,000,000,000,000 and rising. We fear this is setting us up for a scenario that could end in a year-long continuing resolution at best—or another protracted government shutdown at worst.

In addition to overall funding concerns, Republican Members of the Committee were disappointed by several policy provisions. Some of the provisions encourage violation of federal law or Congressional intent, at a minimum. For example, the Majority included language under the heading of the Office of the Secretary relating to Grain Export Inspection. The language “strongly discourages USDA from requiring its grain inspectors to cross a picket line”. Such language is irresponsible when the Grain Inspections Act clearly obligates inspectors to conduct inspections unless the Secretary were to waive the requirement for safety reasons. Using USDA inspectors in a labor dispute and interfering with the export sales of U.S. product during an already turbulent international trade environment is completely unnecessary.

We are also disappointed to see language inserted throughout the bill that ties the hands of the Administration in many ways. The bill restricts the abilities of a Cabinet Secretary to reorganize agencies and transfer and reprogram funds. These changes will hinder the administration’s ability to improve operational efficiencies and respond quickly to changing resource needs. Such constraints are unreasonable, and we believe are being done purely to limit the ability of an Administration from an opposing political party to fulfill its responsibilities.

Starting with the fiscal year 2016 Omnibus appropriation act, the Committee acted to prevent any emerging science that would allow for the clinical germline gene editing. As of today, this prohibition is accepted by nearly every nation in the world due to known and unknown risks. Recognizing the bipartisan concern about the absence of this provision, the Committee wisely accepted the amendment by Republican Representative Robert Aderholt to restore this prohibition until the broader international community of public health experts can understand the science, ethics, and reason associated with this research and determine ways to reduce risks to the lives of future individuals and society. The agreement on this amendment represented a shining moment for the Committee as we came together for the good of all humanity.

Despite our disagreements over the issues discussed above, we appreciate the Majority’s willingness to address Member priorities in the bill and report and to include Minority Committee Members in the development of the bill. The Subcommittee has a long-standing tradition of bipartisanship, and we will continue to work in good faith with our colleagues as we proceed through the appropriations process. By working together, we can best address the needs of our rural communities, the safety of our food supply and medical products, the soundness of our commodity markets, and the strength of our Nation’s farmers, ranchers, and producers who serve as the foundation of America’s prosperity, stability, and economic vitality. We are fortunate to have such a diverse and plentiful food supply that is made possible through hard work and the programs in this bill that assist farmers and ranchers across the country and the world.

KAY GRANGER.

