consumers, the Secretary shall provide that funds appropriated to carry out this section be utilized by State departments of agriculture and the Secretary for the purpose of conducting or facilitating activities which will initiate, encourage, develop, or coordinate methods of direct marketing from farmers to consumers within or among the States. Such funds shall be allocated to a State on the basis of the feasibility of direct marketing from farmers to consumers within that State as compared to other States and shall be allocated within a State to the Secretary on the basis of the types of activities which are needed in the State, as determined by the Secretary. The activities shall include, but shall not be limited to—

(1) sponsoring conferences which are designed to facilitate the sharing of information (among farm producers, consumers, and other interested persons or groups) concerning the establishment and operation of direct marketing from farmers to consumers;

(2) compiling laws and regulations relevant to the conduct of the various methods of such direct marketing within the State, formulating drafts of enabling legislation needed to facilitate such direct marketing, determining feasible locations for additional facilities for such direct marketing, and preparing and disseminating practical information on the establishment and operation of such direct marketing; and

(3) providing technical assistance for the purpose of aiding interested individuals or groups in the establishment of arrangements for direct marketing from farmers to consumers.

(b) Development of farmers’ markets

The Secretary shall—

(1) work with the Governor of a State, and a State agency designated by the Governor, to develop programs to train managers of farmers’ markets;

(2) develop opportunities to share information among managers of farmers’ markets;

(3) establish a program to train cooperative extension service employees in the development of direct marketing techniques; and

(4) work with producers to develop farmers’ markets.

(c) Consideration of consumer preferences

In the implementation of this section, the Secretary shall take into account consumer preferences and needs which may bear upon the establishment and operation of arrangements for direct marketing from farmers to consumers.


AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a), Pub. L. 107–171, §10605(b)(2)(A), substituted “Secretary for the purpose of” for “Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose”, “Secretary on the basis for “Extension Service on the basis”, and “as determined by the Secretary” for “and on the basis of which of these two agencies, or combination thereof, can best perform these activities”.


§ 3007. Seniors farmers’ market nutrition program

(a) Funding

Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary of Agriculture shall use to carry out and expand the seniors farmers’ market nutrition program $20,600,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2023.

(b) Program purposes

The purposes of the seniors farmers’ market nutrition program are—

(1) to provide resources in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, honey, and herbs from farmers’ markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs to low-income seniors;

(2) to increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic farmers’ markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs; and

(3) to develop or aid in the development of new and additional farmers’ markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs.

(c) Exclusion of benefits in determining eligibility for other programs

The value of any benefit provided to any eligible seniors farmers’ market nutrition program recipient under this section shall not be considered to be income or resources for any purposes under any Federal, State, or local law.

(d) Prohibition on collection of sales tax

Each State shall ensure that no State or local tax is collected within the State on a purchase of food with a benefit distributed under the seniors farmers’ market nutrition program.

(e) Regulations

The Secretary may promulgate such regulations as the Secretary considers to be necessary to carry out the seniors farmers’ market nutrition program.

(f) Federal law not applicable

Section 1693o–2 of title 15 shall not apply to electronic benefit transfer systems established under this section.

Codification


Section was enacted as part of the Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002 and also as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1997 which comprises this chapter.

Amendments


The Congress.


Codification


Section was enacted as part of the Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002 and also as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1997 which comprises this chapter.

Amendments


The Congress.


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Amendments


The Congress.