

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3513

To provide for grants to assist value-added agricultural businesses.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 1999

Mr. TALENT (for himself and Mr. THUNE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To provide for grants to assist value-added agricultural businesses.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Value-Added Develop-
5 ment Act for American Agriculture”.

6 **SEC. 2. AGRICULTURE INNOVATION CENTER DEMONSTRA-
7 TION PROGRAM.**

8 (a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are to
9 carry out a demonstration program under which agricul-
10 tural producers are provided—

6 (2) marketing, market development, and busi-
7 ness planning;

12 (b) NATURE OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Agri-
13 culture (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”)
14 shall—

15 (1) make grants to eligible applicants for the
16 purposes of enabling the applicants to obtain the as-
17 sistance described in subsection (a); and

21 (c) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—An applicant shall be eligible
23 for a grant and assistance described in subsection
24 (b) to establish an Agriculture Innovation Center
25 if—

22 (A) The 2 general agricultural organiza-
23 tions with the greatest number of members in
24 the State in which the applicant is located.

4 (C) Organizations representing the 4 high-
5 est grossing commodities produced in the State,
6 according to annual gross cash sales.

7 (d) GRANTS AND ASSISTANCE.—

19 (A) Missouri.

20 (B) Mississippi.

21 (C) Ohio.

22 (D) New Mexico.

23 (E) South Dakota

24 (F) Texas

25 (G) Wisconsin

11 (e) USE OF FUNDS.—An entity to which a grant is
12 made under this section may use the grant only for the
13 following purposes:

14 (1) Applied research.

15 (2) Consulting services.

16 (3) Office equipment.

24 (f) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
25 TIONS.—For grants and assistance under this section,

- 1 there are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
- 2 not more than—
 - 3 (1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2001;
 - 4 (2) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and
 - 5 (3) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

6 (g) REPORT ON BEST PRACTICES.—Not later than
7 3 years after the first 10 grants are made under this sec-
8 tion, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Com-
9 mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Sen-
10 ate and to the Committee on Agriculture of the House
11 of Representatives a written report on the effectiveness of
12 the demonstration program conducted under this section
13 at improving the production of value-added agricultural
14 products and on the effects of the program on the eco-
15 nomic viability of the producers, which shall include the
16 best practices and innovations found at each of the Agri-
17 culture Innovation Centers established under the dem-
18 onstration program under this section, and detail the
19 number and type of agricultural projects assisted, and the
20 type of assistance provided, under this section.

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