

SUBCHAPTER I—FINDINGS, PURPOSES,
AND DEFINITIONS

§ 3101. Purposes of agricultural research, extension, and education

The purposes of federally supported agricultural research, extension, and education are to—

- (1) enhance the competitiveness of the United States agriculture and food industry in an increasingly competitive world environment;
- (2) increase the long-term productivity of the United States agriculture and food industry while maintaining and enhancing the natural resource base on which rural America and the United States agricultural economy depend;
- (3) develop new uses and new products for agricultural commodities, such as alternative fuels, and develop new crops;
- (4) support agricultural research and extension to promote economic opportunity in rural communities and to meet the increasing demand for information and technology transfer throughout the United States agriculture industry;
- (5) improve risk management in the United States agriculture industry;
- (6) improve the safe production and processing of, and adding of value to, United States food and fiber resources using methods that maintain the balance between yield and environmental soundness;
- (7) support higher education in agriculture to give the next generation of Americans the knowledge, technology, and applications necessary to enhance the competitiveness of United States agriculture;
- (8) maintain an adequate, nutritious, and safe supply of food to meet human nutritional needs and requirements; and
- (9) support international collaboration that leverages resources and advances priority food and agricultural interests of the United States, such as—

(A) addressing emerging plant and animal diseases;

(B) improving crop varieties and animal breeds; and

(C) developing safe, efficient, and nutritious food systems.

(Pub. L. 95–113, title XIV, § 1402, as added Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, § 1602(a), Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3705; amended Pub. L. 104–127, title VIII, § 801, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1156; Pub. L. 115–334, title VII, § 7101, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4779.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3101, Pub. L. 95–113, title XIV, § 1402, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 981; Pub. L. 97–98, title XIV, § 1402, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1294; Pub. L. 99–198, title XIV, § 1402, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1542, stated Congressional findings, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, § 1601(f)(1)(A), Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3704.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Par. (9). Pub. L. 115–334 added par. (9).

1996—Pub. L. 104–127 amended section generally, substituting present provisions for provisions which set

out six purposes of federally funded agricultural research and extension programs.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108–465, § 1, Dec. 21, 2004, 118 Stat. 3882, provided that: “This Act [enacting sections 3123a, 7712a, and 8321 of this title, amending section 5925 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1621 and 5925 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 2003 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108–161, § 1, Dec. 6, 2003, 117 Stat. 2014, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 3151a of this title] may be cited as the ‘National Veterinary Medical Service Act’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1985 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 99–198, title XIV, § 1401, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1542, provided that: “This title [enacting sections 1632, 3224, 3292, 3319a to 3319d, and 4701 to 4710 of this title, amending this section and sections 178c, 342, 343, 390 to 390d, 390f, 390h, 390i, 390j, 2266, 2662, 2663, 3103, 3121 to 3123, 3124a, 3125, 3151, 3152, 3157, 3194 to 3196, 3221 to 3223, 3291, 3311, 3312, 3318, 3319, 3322, 3324, 3335, and 3336 of this title, repealing sections 390e, 390g, 3174, 3177, 3301 to 3304, and 3323 of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 343, 390, 390c, 3157, 3173, 3292, 3311, 3312, and 4701 of this title, amending provisions set out as a note under section 3222 of this title, and repealing provisions set out as a note under section 2281 of this title] may be cited as the ‘National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments of 1985’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 97–98, title XIV, § 1401, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1294, provided that: “This title [enacting sections 2271, 2661 to 2667, 3124a, 3223, 3317 to 3319, 3321 to 3324, and 3331 to 3336 of this title, amending this section and sections 322, 361c, 390c, 3102, 3103, 3121 to 3124, 3125 to 3128, 3151 to 3154, 3157, 3175, 3177, 3191, 3192, 3194 to 3196, 3221, 3222, 3263, 3282, 3291, 3311, and 3312 of this title, section 5315 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, sections 582a, 582a–1, and 582a–3 to 582a–5 of Title 16, Conservation, section 483 of former Title 40, Public Buildings, Property, and Works, and sections 6651 and 8852 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, repealing sections 2670 and 3176 of this title, omitting section 2668 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 2281 and 3176 of this title] may be cited as the ‘National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments of 1981’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1935 AMENDMENT

Act June 29, 1935, ch. 338, 49 Stat. 436 (see Tables for classification), is popularly known as the “Agricultural Research Act” and also as the “Bankhead-Jones Act”.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 95–113, title XIV, § 1401, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 981, provided that: “This title [enacting this chapter and sections 2669 and 2670 of this title, amending sections 341, 342, 343, 361c, 390 to 390j, 1923, 1942, 2662, 2663, 2667, 3104, and 3157 of this title and section 6651 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and repealing section 390k of this title] may be cited as the ‘National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977’.”

REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Pub. L. 107–171, title VII, § 7404, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 457, as amended by Pub. L. 108–11, title II, § 2101(b), Apr. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 589; Pub. L. 110–234, title VII, § 7511(c)(7), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1267; Pub. L. 110–246, § 4(a), title VII, § 7511(c)(7), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664,

2029, which provided for the establishment of a task force to review the Agricultural Research Service and to evaluate the merits of establishing one or more National Institutes related to food and agricultural science, was repealed by Pub. L. 115-334, title VII, §7506, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4823.

§ 3102. Additional purposes of agricultural research and extension

The purposes of this chapter are to—

(1) establish firmly the Department of Agriculture as the lead agency in the Federal Government for the food and agricultural sciences, and to emphasize that agricultural research, extension, and teaching are distinct missions of the Department of Agriculture;

(2) undertake the special measures set forth in this chapter to improve the coordination and planning of agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs, identify needs and establish priorities for these programs, assure that national agricultural research, extension, and teaching objectives are fully achieved, and assure that the results of agricultural research are effectively communicated and demonstrated to farmers, processors, handlers, consumers, and all other users who can benefit therefrom;

(3) increase cooperation and coordination in the performance of agricultural research by Federal departments and agencies, the States, State agricultural experiment stations, colleges and universities, and user groups;

(4) enable the Federal Government, the States, colleges and universities, and others to implement needed agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs, through the establishment of new programs and the improvement of existing programs, as provided for in this chapter;

(5) establish a new program of grants for high-priority agricultural research to be awarded on the basis of competition among research workers and all colleges and universities;

(6) establish a new program of grants for facilities and instrumentation used in agricultural research; and

(7) establish a new program of education grants and fellowships to strengthen research, extension, and teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences, to be awarded on the basis of competition.

(Pub. L. 95-113, title XIV, §1403, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 983; Pub. L. 97-98, title XIV, §1403, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1296; Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1602(b), Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3705.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original this “title”, meaning title XIV of Pub. L. 95-113, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 981, which enacted this chapter and sections 2669 and 2670 of this title, amended sections 341, 342, 343, 361c, 390 to 390j, 1923, 1942, 2662, 2663, 2667, 3104, and 3157 of this title and section 6651 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and repealed section 390k of this title. For complete classification of such title to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 3101 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1990—Pub. L. 101-624 amended section catchline generally.

1981—Par. (2). Pub. L. 97-98, §1403(1), inserted “extension, and teaching programs,” and substituted “these programs” for “such research, assure that high priority research is given adequate funding”.

Par. (4). Pub. L. 97-98, §1403(2), substituted “programs through” for “programs, including the initiatives specified in section 3101(8) of this title, through”.

Par. (5). Pub. L. 97-98, §1403(3), substituted “among research workers” for “among scientific research workers”.

Par. (7). Pub. L. 97-98, §1403(4), substituted “research, extension, and teaching” for “training and research”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-98 effective Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1801 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as an Effective Date note under section 4301 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1977, see section 1901 of Pub. L. 95-113, set out as an Effective Date of 1977 Amendment note under section 1307 of this title.

§ 3103. Definitions

When used in this chapter:

(1) The term “Advisory Board” means the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

(2) The term “agricultural research” means research in the food and agricultural sciences.

(3) The term “aquaculture” means the propagation and rearing of aquacultural species, including, but not limited to, any species of finfish, mollusk, or crustacean (or other aquatic invertebrate), amphibian, reptile, ornamental fish, or aquatic plant, in controlled or selected environments.

(4) COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The terms “college” and “university” mean an educational institution in any State which (i) admits as regular students only persons having a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate, (ii) is legally authorized within such State to provide a program of education beyond secondary education, (iii) provides an educational program for which a bachelor’s degree or any other higher degree is awarded, (iv) is a public or other nonprofit institution, and (v) is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The terms “college” and “university” include a research foundation maintained by a college or university described in subparagraph (A).

(5) COOPERATING FORESTRY SCHOOL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “cooperating forestry school” means an institution—

(i) that is eligible to receive funds under Public Law 87-788 (commonly known as the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act; 16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.); and

(ii) with respect to which the Secretary has not received a declaration of the intent of that institution to not be considered a cooperating forestry school.