

FY2019 AGRICULTURE MANAGER'S PACKAGE

Bill language for Senators Collins, Coons, Feinstein, Graham, Reed, Shaheen, and Udall regarding horse slaughter.

Report language for Senator Durbin regarding urban agriculture.

Report language for Senator Murkowski regarding floriculture crops.

Report language for Senator Collins regarding aquaculture research.

Report language for Senator Udall regarding the extension service.

Report language for Senator Udall regarding the Rural Housing Service.

Report language for Senators Merkley and Shaheen regarding the Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program.

Report language for Senator Murkowski regarding the Summer Food Service Program.

Report language for Senator Collins regarding added sugar labeling.

Report language for Senators Durbin and Graham regarding dietary supplements.

Report language for Senator Alexander regarding opioids.

Report language for Senator Durbin regarding youth tobacco use prevention.

On page 102 of the bill, at the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 758. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel—

- (1) to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603);
- (2) to inspect horses under section 903 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104–127); or
- (3) to implement or enforce section 352.19 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

On page 8 of the report, after the paragraph titled “State Rural Development Councils,” insert the following:

Urban Agriculture.—The Committee is aware of a steady increase in urban garden initiatives taking place in metropolitan areas across the country. The Committee strongly supports such initiatives and recognizes that successful, robust urban gardens can positively impact urban communities and residents in a variety of ways by providing education, entrepreneurial opportunities, and job training; addressing shortages of fresh fruits and vegetables; increasing health and wellness of pregnant women and young children; and reducing obesity rates, recidivism, and urban blight. The Committee commends the Department’s efforts to foster such initiatives and encourages the Secretary to increase support and outreach for urban agriculture, including grants, loans, and technical assistance for these innovative urban horticulture projects.

On page 17 of the report, at the end of the paragraph titled “Floriculture Crops Report,” insert the following:

The Committee directs NASS to include data from Alaska in compiling the report.

On page 26 of the report, after the paragraph titled “Sugarcane Variety Development,” insert the following:

Sustainable Aquaculture.—The Committee notes that aquaculture is the fastest growing food production industry in the world and encourages ARS, in partnership with universities, to support rapid response research on sustainable aquaculture for coldwater and warmwater production environments, with an emphasis on workforce education.

On page 36 of the report, after the paragraph titled “Food and Nutrition Education,” insert the following:

Minority Outreach.—The Committee is concerned that extension service resources do not reach minority, socially disadvantaged, and tribal communities in proportion to their participation in the agricultural sector. All institutions that receive extension activity funding should seek to ensure that an equitable percentage of their overall extension work reaches minority, socially disadvantaged, and tribal communities. The Committee directs NIFA to evaluate distribution of extension resources to these three populations and report to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

On page 66 of the report, before the header “Rental Assistance Program,” insert the following:

Rural Housing.—The Committee is concerned that Rural Housing Service resources do not reach minority, socially disadvantaged, and tribal communities in proportion to their rural populations. For example in fiscal year 2016, of the 7,113 direct loans made nationally by the Rural Housing Service, only 12 went to American Indians or Alaska Natives on tribal land. The Committee believes that the use of Rural Housing loans or funding should support minority, socially disadvantaged, tribal communities, and all other eligible applicants, so as to ensure they have equal access to Rural Housing programs. The Committee directs the Secretary to work with

tribal governments and native community development financial institutions (Native CDFIs) to better prepare American Indians or Alaska Natives applicants on tribal land. The Committee further directs USDA Rural Housing Service to report to the Committee on the distribution of loans and resources to these three populations no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

On page 67 of the report, at the end of the page, insert the following:

Multi-Family Housing Preservation.—The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report within 120 days of enactment of this Act to estimate the cost of providing rural housing vouchers to all low income households currently receiving USDA rental assistance and residing in a property financed with a Section 515 loan that are set to mature in the subsequent fiscal year and subsequent ten fiscal years. In addition, the Secretary is directed to provide quarterly reports to the Committee on transfers between vouchers and the housing preservation demonstration program within the Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account.

On page 83 of the report, at the end of the paragraph titled “Summer Food Service Program,” insert the following:

In addition, the Committee requests USDA submit a report within one year of enactment describing how many Summer Food Service Program grantees, in which states, put in place innovative methods of food delivery by non-congregate means and in non-congregate settings, what innovative methods were used, and how many additional youth were served as a result.

On page 98 of the report, strike the paragraph titled “Added Sugar Labeling” and replace it with the following:

Added Sugar Labeling.—The Committee remains concerned about potential consumer confusion over the new FDA nutritional labeling requirements for added sugar for single ingredient products like maple syrup and honey, where sugar is naturally occurring in the product rather than added to the product. The Committee is aware that the FDA has had discussions with maple and honey producers regarding their concerns that the labeling requirement as currently drafted could mislead consumers to think that sugar has been added to a pure single-ingredient maple or honey product. The Committee directs the FDA to continue working with the pure maple syrup and honey industries to ensure appropriate labeling for those single-ingredient products where sugar is naturally occurring in the product rather than added to the product. The Committee is aware of a proposed alternative Nutrition Facts labeling approach that would clearly delineate between “Added Sugars” and “Naturally Occurring Sugars” in a product, as well as another proposed alternative that would permit labeling denoting “No Added Sugars” on applicable products, and directs the FDA to evaluate such proposals. The Committee further directs the FDA to submit a report within 60 days of enactment of this Act describing the research that was conducted prior to issuance of a final rule updating the Nutrition Facts label for packaged foods on May 27, 2016, to determine consumer perception regarding mandatory “added sugar” labeling on single ingredient products in which no sugar is added during processing, including pure maple syrup and honey.

On page 101 of the report, strike the eighth and ninth sentences in the paragraph titled “Dietary Supplements” and replace them with the following:

The Committee urges the FDA to issue guidance on new dietary ingredients (NDIs) for dietary supplements that is consistent with the DSHEA while continuing to use current statutory authorities to remove unsafe ingredients and products. The Committee further encourages the FDA to take industry standards and marketplace disruption into consideration when issuing any guidance on NDIs.

On page 105 of the report, strike the fourth paragraph and insert the following:

The Committee notes that, even with recent decreases, opioid prescribing rates dramatically exceed current standards for accepted and effective medical use, with nearly 14 billion opioid doses put on the United States market each year. Therefore, the Committee believes that it is imperative that FDA, consistent with its own Advisory Committee recommendations, take any and all steps necessary to require continuing medical education, aligned with the most recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain, for providers who write opioid prescriptions, including through the Risk Evaluations and Mitigation Strategy.

On page 108 of the report, after the paragraph titled “White Oak Expansion,” insert the following:

Youth Tobacco Use Prevention.—While FDA has recently announced a new Youth Tobacco Prevention Plan to attempt to curb the use of e-cigarettes among youth, the Committee is concerned with the irresponsible marketing by some manufacturers, as well as the role characterizing flavors play in youth initiation of tobacco products. In March 2018, FDA issued an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to examine regulatory options for tobacco product flavorings. The Committee strongly encourages the agency to complete the regulatory process in an expeditious manner, ideally within one year, and in a way that supports prevention of youth tobacco initiation. The agency is instructed to provide the Committee with a timeframe for when the regulatory process will be completed. Additionally, the Committee is concerned that FDA is not fully enforcing their prohibition of new or changed e-cigarettes and other nicotine products after August 8, 2016, without prior FDA review and authorization. Therefore, the Committee directs FDA to order the removal of any “deemed tobacco products” introduced after the August 8, 2016 deadline without first seeking the required FDA authorization. Finally, the Committee is concerned about the lack of adequate age verification rules to prevent internet sales of e-cigarette tobacco products to children, and directs FDA to establish these rules within one year, both at the time of sale and delivery of the product.