

109TH CONGRESS }
1st Session } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
109-255

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES PRO-
GRAMS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2006, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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OCTOBER 26, 2005.—Ordered to be printed
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Mr. BONILLA, from the committee of conference,
submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 2744]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2744) “making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes”, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, \$5,127,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$11,000 of this amount shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

CHIEF ECONOMIST

For necessary expenses of the Chief Economist, including economic analysis, risk assessment, cost-benefit analysis, energy and new uses, and the functions of the World Agricultural Outlook Board, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622g), \$10,539,000.

NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

For necessary expenses of the National Appeals Division, \$14,524,000.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, \$8,298,000.

HOMELAND SECURITY STAFF

For necessary expenses of the Homeland Security Staff, \$934,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, \$16,462,000.

COMMON COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT

For necessary expenses to acquire a Common Computing Environment for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service, and Rural Development mission areas for information technology, systems, and services, \$110,072,000, to remain available until expended, for the capital asset acquisition of shared information technology systems, including services as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 6915-16 and 40 U.S.C. 1421-28: Provided, That obligation of these funds shall be consistent with the Department of Agriculture Service Center Modernization Plan of the county-based agencies, and shall be with the concurrence of the Department's Chief Information Officer: Provided further, That of the funds provided under this section, the Secretary shall acquire one meter natural color digital ortho-imagery of the entire state of Utah.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, \$5,874,000: Provided, That hereafter the Chief Financial Officer shall actively market and expand cross-servicing activities of the National Finance Center: Provided further, That no funds made available by this appropriation may be obligated for FAIR Act or Circular A-76 activities until the Secretary has submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress and the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives a report on the Department's contracting out policies, including agency budgets for contracting out.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, \$821,000.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, \$20,109,000.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, \$676,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES AND RENTAL PAYMENTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 486, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for alterations and other actions needed for the Department and its agencies to consolidate unneeded space into configurations suitable for release to the Administrator of General Services, and for the operation, maintenance, improvement, and repair of Agriculture buildings and facilities, and for related costs, \$187,734,000, to remain available until expended, as follows: for payments to the General Services Administration and the Department of Homeland Security for building security, \$147,734,000, and for buildings operations and maintenance, \$40,000,000: Provided, That amounts which are made available for space rental and related costs for the Department of Agriculture in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations to cover the costs of additional, new, or replacement space 15 days after notice thereof is transmitted to the Appropriations Committees of both Houses of Congress.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Materials Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For Departmental Administration, \$23,103,000, to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and

alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department: Provided, That this appropriation shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551-558.

*OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONGRESSIONAL
RELATIONS*

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch, \$3,821,000: Provided, That these funds may be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: Provided further, That no funds made available by this appropriation may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency: Provided further, That no other funds appropriated to the Department by this Act shall be available to the Department for support of activities of congressional relations.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out services relating to the coordination of programs involving public affairs, for the dissemination of agricultural information, and the coordination of information, work, and programs authorized by Congress in the Department, \$9,509,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$2,000,000 may be used for farmers' bulletins.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$80,336,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, and including not to exceed \$125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95-452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97-98.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, \$39,351,000.

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

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics to administer the

laws enacted by the Congress for the Economic Research Service, the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the Agricultural Research Service, and the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, \$598,000.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service in conducting economic research and analysis, \$75,931,000: Provided, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used by the Department of Agriculture to publish, disseminate, or distribute, internally or externally, Agriculture Information Bulletin Number 787: Provided further, That of the funds provided to the Economic Research Service, the Secretary of Agriculture shall use \$350,000 to enter into an agreement for a comprehensive report on the economic development and current status of the sheep industry in the United States to be prepared by the National Academy of Sciences.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service in conducting statistical reporting and service work, \$140,700,000, of which up to \$29,115,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to enable the Agricultural Research Service to perform agricultural research and demonstration relating to production, utilization, marketing, and distribution (not otherwise provided for); home economics or nutrition and consumer use including the acquisition, preservation, and dissemination of agricultural information; and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, \$1,135,004,000: Provided, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed \$375,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to \$1,200,000, and except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed \$750,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or \$375,000, whichever is greater: Provided further, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricul-

tural Research Center: Provided further, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): Provided further, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to the purchase of land at Florence, South Carolina: Provided further, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law: Provided further, That the Secretary, through the Agricultural Research Service, or successor, is authorized to lease approximately 40 acres of land at the Central Plains Experiment Station, Nunn, Colorado, to the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System, for its Shortgrass Steppe Biological Field Station, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems in the public interest: Provided further, That the Secretary understands that it is the intent of the University to construct research and educational buildings on the subject acreage and to conduct agricultural research and educational activities in these buildings: Provided further, That as consideration for a lease, the Secretary may accept the benefits of mutual cooperative research to be conducted by the Colorado State University and the Government at the Shortgrass Steppe Biological Field Station: Provided further, That the term of any lease shall be for no more than 20 years, but a lease may be renewed at the option of the Secretary on such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems in the public interest: Provided further, That the Agricultural Research Service may convey all rights and title of the United States, to a parcel of land comprising 19 acres, more or less, located in Section 2, Township 18 North, Range 14 East in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, originally conveyed by the Board of Trustees of the Institution of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi, and described in instruments recorded in Deed Book 306 at pages 553-554, Deed Book 319 at page 219, and Deed Book 33 at page 115, of the public land records of Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, including facilities, and fixed equipment, to the Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi, in their "as is" condition, when vacated by the Agricultural Research Service: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available to carry out research related to the production, processing, or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture, where not otherwise provided, \$131,195,000, to remain available until expended.

COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, \$676,849,000, as follows: to carry out the provisions of the Hatch

Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361a-i), \$178,757,000; for grants for cooperative forestry research (16 U.S.C. 582a through a-7), \$22,230,000; for payments to the 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State University (7 U.S.C. 3222), \$37,591,000, of which \$1,507,496 shall be made available only for the purpose of ensuring that each institution shall receive no less than \$1,000,000; for special grants for agricultural research (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)), \$128,223,000; for special grants for agricultural research on improved pest control (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)), \$14,798,000; for competitive research grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)), \$183,000,000; for the support of animal health and disease programs (7 U.S.C. 3195), \$5,057,000; for supplemental and alternative crops and products (7 U.S.C. 3319d), \$1,187,000; for grants for research pursuant to the Critical Agricultural Materials Act (7 U.S.C. 178 et seq.), \$1,102,000, to remain available until expended; for the 1994 research grants program for 1994 institutions pursuant to section 536 of Public Law 103-382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), \$1,039,000, to remain available until expended; for rangeland research grants (7 U.S.C. 3333), \$1,000,000; for higher education graduate fellowship grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(6)), \$3,738,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); for a veterinary medicine loan repayment program pursuant to section 1415A of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.), \$500,000; for higher education challenge grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)), \$5,478,000; for a higher education multicultural scholars program (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(5)), \$998,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); for an education grants program for Hispanic-serving Institutions (7 U.S.C. 3241), \$6,000,000; for noncompetitive grants for the purpose of carrying out all provisions of 7 U.S.C. 3242 (section 759 of Public Law 106-78) to individual eligible institutions or consortia of eligible institutions in Alaska and in Hawaii, with funds awarded equally to each of the States of Alaska and Hawaii, \$3,250,000; for a secondary agriculture education program and 2-year post-secondary education (7 U.S.C. 3152(j)), \$1,000,000; for aquaculture grants (7 U.S.C. 3322), \$3,968,000; for sustainable agriculture research and education (7 U.S.C. 5811), \$12,400,000; for a program of capacity building grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(4)) to colleges eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C. 321-326 and 328), including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State University, \$12,312,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); for payments to the 1994 Institutions pursuant to section 534(a)(1) of Public Law 103-382, \$2,250,000; for resident instruction grants for insular areas under section 1491 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3363), \$500,000; and for necessary expenses of Research and Education Activities, \$50,471,000, of which \$2,587,000 for the Research, Education, and Economics Information System and \$2,051,000 for the Electronic Grants Information System, are to remain available until expended: Provided, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available to carry out research related to the production, processing, or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products: Provided further, That this paragraph shall not apply to research on the medical, biotechnological, food, and industrial uses of tobacco.

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund authorized by Public Law 103-382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

For payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, and American Samoa, \$455,955,000, as follows: payments for cooperative extension work under the Smith-Lever Act, to be distributed under sections 3(b) and 3(c) of said Act, and under section 208(c) of Public Law 93-471, for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents, \$275,730,000; payments for extension work at the 1994 Institutions under the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3)), \$3,273,000; payments for the nutrition and family education program for low-income areas under section 3(d) of the Act, \$62,634,000; payments for the pest management program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$9,960,000; payments for the farm safety program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$4,563,000; payments for New Technologies for Ag Extension under section 3(d) of the Act, \$1,500,000; payments to upgrade research, extension, and teaching facilities at the 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State University, as authorized by section 1447 of Public Law 95-113 (7 U.S.C. 3222b), \$16,777,000, to remain available until expended; payments for youth-at-risk programs under section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act, \$7,728,000; for youth farm safety education and certification extension grants, to be awarded competitively under section 3(d) of the Act, \$444,000; payments for carrying out the provisions of the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1671 et seq.), \$4,060,000; payments for Indian reservation agents under section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act, \$1,996,000; payments for sustainable agriculture programs under section 3(d) of the Act, \$4,067,000; payments for rural health and safety education as authorized by section 502(i) of Public Law 92-419 (7 U.S.C. 2662(i)), \$1,965,000; payments for cooperative extension work by the colleges receiving the benefits of the second Morrill Act (7 U.S.C. 321-326 and 328) and Tuskegee University and West Virginia State University, \$33,868,000, of which \$1,724,884 shall be made available only for the purpose of ensuring that each institution shall receive no less than \$1,000,000; for grants to youth organizations pursuant to section 7630 of title 7, United States Code, \$2,000,000; and for necessary expenses of Extension Activities, \$25,390,000.

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

For the integrated research, education, and extension grants programs, including necessary administrative expenses, \$55,792,000, as follows: for competitive grants programs authorized under section 406 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7626), \$45,792,000, including \$12,867,000 for the water quality program, \$14,847,000 for the food safety program, \$4,167,000 for the regional pest management centers program, \$4,464,000 for the Food Quality Protection Act risk mitigation program for major food crop systems, \$1,389,000 for the

crops affected by Food Quality Protection Act implementation, \$3,106,000 for the methyl bromide transition program, and \$1,874,000 for the organic transition program; for a competitive international science and education grants program authorized under section 1459A of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3292b), to remain available until expended, \$1,000,000; for grants programs authorized under section 2(c)(1)(B) of Public Law 89-106, as amended, \$744,000, to remain available until September 30, 2007 for the critical issues program, and \$1,334,000 for the regional rural development centers program; and \$10,000,000 for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative authorized under section 1484 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Act of 1977, to remain available until September 30, 2007.

OUTREACH FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279), \$6,000,000, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs to administer programs under the laws enacted by the Congress for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; the Agricultural Marketing Service; and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; \$724,000.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary to prevent, control, and eradicate pests and plant and animal diseases; to carry out inspection, quarantine, and regulatory activities; and to protect the environment, as authorized by law, \$815,461,000, of which \$4,140,000 shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions; of which \$39,000,000 shall be used for the boll weevil eradication program for cost share purposes or for debt retirement for active eradication zones; of which \$33,340,000 shall be available for a National Animal Identification program: Provided, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed four, of which two shall be for replacement only: Provided further, That, in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available

only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

In fiscal year 2006, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, \$4,996,000, to remain available until expended.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses to carry out services related to consumer protection, agricultural marketing and distribution, transportation, and regulatory programs, as authorized by law, and for administration and coordination of payments to States, \$75,376,000, including funds for the wholesale market development program for the design and development of wholesale and farmer market facilities for the major metropolitan areas of the country: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701).

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$65,667,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: Provided, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

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

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, including not less than \$20,000,000 for replacement of a system to support commodity purchases, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of August 8, 1956; (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than \$16,055,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961.

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), \$3,847,000, of which not less than \$2,500,000 shall be used to make a grant under this heading.

GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the United States Grain Standards Act, for the administration of the Packers and Stockyards Act, for certifying procedures used to protect purchasers of farm products, and the standardization activities related to grain under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, \$38,443,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$42,463,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: Provided, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, \$602,000.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, including not to exceed \$50,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to

section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$837,756,000, of which no less than \$753,252,000 shall be available for Federal food safety inspection; and in addition, \$1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1327 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 138f): Provided, That no fewer than 63 full time equivalent positions above the fiscal year 2002 level shall be employed during fiscal year 2006 for purposes dedicated solely to inspections and enforcement related to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act: Provided further, That of the amount available under this heading, notwithstanding section 704 of this Act \$4,000,000, available until September 30, 2007, shall be obligated to include the Humane Animal Tracking System as part of the Field Automation and Information Management System following notification to the Committees on Appropriations, which shall include a detailed explanation of the components of such system: Provided further, That of the total amount made available under this heading, no less than \$20,653,000 shall be obligated for regulatory and scientific training: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

*OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES*

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services to administer the laws enacted by Congress for the Farm Service Agency, the Foreign Agricultural Service, the Risk Management Agency, and the Commodity Credit Corporation, \$635,000.

*FARM SERVICE AGENCY
SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs administered by the Farm Service Agency, \$1,030,000,000: Provided, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: Provided further, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: Provided further, That none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture to close any local or county office of the Farm Service Agency unless the Secretary of Agriculture, not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary proposed the closure, holds a public meeting about the proposed closure in the county in which the local or county office is located, and, after the public meeting but not later than 120 days before the date on which the Secretary approves the closure, notifies the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-

representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the members of Congress from the State in which the local or county office is located of the proposed closure.

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5101-5106), \$4,250,000.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out wellhead or groundwater protection activities under section 12400 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb-2), \$3,750,000, to remain available until expended.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers and manufacturers of dairy products under a dairy indemnity program, \$100,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such program is carried out by the Secretary in the same manner as the dairy indemnity program described in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106-387, 114 Stat. 1549A-12).

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed farm ownership (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) and operating (7 U.S.C. 1941 et seq.) loans, Indian tribe land acquisition loans (25 U.S.C. 488), and boll weevil loans (7 U.S.C. 1989), to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$1,608,000,000, of which \$1,400,000,000 shall be for guaranteed loans and \$208,000,000 shall be for direct loans; operating loans, \$2,074,632,000, of which \$1,150,000,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans, \$274,632,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans and \$650,000,000 shall be for direct loans; Indian tribe land acquisition loans, \$2,020,000; and for boll weevil eradication program loans, \$100,000,000: Provided, That the Secretary shall deem the pink bollworm to be a boll weevil for the purpose of boll weevil eradication program loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$17,370,000, of which \$6,720,000 shall be for guaranteed loans, and \$10,650,000 shall be for direct loans; operating loans, \$133,849,000, of which \$34,845,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans, \$34,329,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans, and \$64,675,000 shall be for direct loans; and Indian tribe land acquisition loans, \$81,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$312,591,000, of which

\$304,591,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership and operating direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs: Provided, That the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

For administrative and operating expenses, as authorized by section 226A of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6933), \$77,048,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).

CORPORATIONS

The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1516), such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

For the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11): Provided, That of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i) for the conduct of its business with the Foreign Agricultural Service, up to \$5,000,000 may be transferred to and used by the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service that are not related to Commodity Credit Corporation business.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

For the current fiscal year, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than \$5,000,000 for site investigation and cleanup expenses, and operations and maintenance expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C.

9607(g)), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6961).

TITLE II

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, \$744,000.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for carrying out the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 428a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, \$839,519,000, to remain available until May 31, 2007, of which not less than \$10,650,000 is for snow survey and water forecasting, and not less than \$10,547,000 is for operation and establishment of the plant materials centers, and of which not less than \$27,500,000 shall be for the grazing lands conservation initiative: Provided, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed \$250,000: Provided further, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for technical assistance and related expenses to carry out programs authorized by section 202(c) of title II of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act of 1974 (43 U.S.C. 1592(c)): Provided further, That qualified local engineers may be temporarily employed at per diem rates to perform the technical planning work of the Service.

WATERSHED SURVEYS AND PLANNING

For necessary expenses to conduct research, investigation, and surveys of watersheds of rivers and other waterways, and for small watershed investigations and planning, in accordance with the Wa-

tershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001–1009), \$6,083,000.

WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out preventive measures, including but not limited to research, engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, rehabilitation of existing works and changes in use of land, in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001–1005 and 1007–1009), the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a–f), and in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to the activities of the Department, \$75,000,000, to remain available until expended; of which up to \$10,000,000 may be available for the watersheds authorized under the Flood Control Act (33 U.S.C. 701 and 16 U.S.C. 1006a): Provided, That not to exceed \$30,000,000 of this appropriation shall be available for technical assistance: Provided further, That not to exceed \$1,000,000 of this appropriation is available to carry out the purposes of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Public Law 93–205), including cooperative efforts as contemplated by that Act to relocate endangered or threatened species to other suitable habitats as may be necessary to expedite project construction.

WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out rehabilitation of structural measures, in accordance with section 14 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012), and in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to the activities of the Department, \$31,561,000, to remain available until expended.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses in planning and carrying out projects for resource conservation and development and for sound land use pursuant to the provisions of sections 31 and 32 of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010–1011; 76 Stat. 607); the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a–f); and subtitle H of title XV of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3451–3461), \$51,300,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Secretary shall enter into a cooperative or contribution agreement, within 45 days of enactment of this Act, with a national association regarding a Resource Conservation and Development program and such agreement shall contain the same matching, contribution requirements, and funding level, set forth in a similar cooperative or contribution agreement with a national association in fiscal year 2002: Provided further, That not to exceed \$3,411,000 shall be available for national headquarters activities.

TITLE III

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development to administer programs under the

laws enacted by the Congress for the Rural Housing Service, the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and the Rural Utilities Service, \$635,000.

RURAL COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1926, 1926a, 1926c, 1926d, and 1932, except for sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$701,941,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$82,620,000 shall be for rural community programs described in section 381E(d)(1) of such Act; of which \$530,100,000 shall be for the rural utilities programs described in sections 381E(d)(2), 306C(a)(2), and 306D of such Act, of which not to exceed \$500,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306(a)(2)(B) of such Act, and of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306E of such Act; and of which \$89,221,000 shall be for the rural business and cooperative development programs described in sections 381E(d)(3) and 310B(f) of such Act: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated in this account, \$25,000,000 shall be for loans and grants to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, including grants for drinking water and waste disposal systems pursuant to section 306C of such Act, of which \$4,464,000 shall be available for community facilities grants to tribal colleges, as authorized by section 306(a)(19) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, and of which \$250,000 shall be available for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated for rural community programs, \$6,350,000 shall be available for a Rural Community Development Initiative: Provided further, That such funds shall be used solely to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas: Provided further, That such funds shall be made available to qualified private, nonprofit and public intermediary organizations proposing to carry out a program of financial and technical assistance: Provided further, That such intermediary organizations shall provide matching funds from other sources, including Federal funds for related activities, in an amount not less than funds provided: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated for the rural business and cooperative development programs, not to exceed \$500,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development; \$2,000,000 shall be for grants to the Delta Regional Authority (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) for any purpose under this heading: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated for rural utilities programs, not to exceed \$25,000,000 shall be for water and waste disposal systems to benefit the Colonias along the United States/Mexico border, including grants pursuant to section 306C of

such Act; \$25,000,000 shall be for water and waste disposal systems for rural and native villages in Alaska pursuant to section 306D of such Act, with up to 2 percent available to administer the program and/or improve interagency coordination may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses", of which \$100,000 shall be provided to develop a regional system for centralized billing, operation, and management of rural water and sewer utilities through regional cooperatives, of which 25 percent shall be provided for water and sewer projects in regional hubs, and the State of Alaska shall provide a 25 percent cost share, and grantees may use up to 5 percent of grant funds, not to exceed \$35,000 per community, for the completion of comprehensive community safe water plans; not to exceed \$18,250,000 shall be for technical assistance grants for rural water and waste systems pursuant to section 306(a)(14) of such Act, unless the Secretary makes a determination of extreme need, of which \$5,600,000 shall be for Rural Community Assistance Programs and not less than \$850,000 shall be for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for tribal communities; and not to exceed \$13,750,000 shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$21,367,000 shall be available through June 30, 2006, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones; of which \$1,067,000 shall be for the rural community programs described in section 381E(d)(1) of such Act, of which \$12,000,000 shall be for the rural utilities programs described in section 381E(d)(2) of such Act, and of which \$8,300,000 shall be for the rural business and cooperative development programs described in section 381E(d)(3) of such Act: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated for rural community programs, \$18,000,000 shall be to provide grants for facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression (Public Law 106-387), with 5 percent for administration and capacity building in the State rural development offices: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated, \$26,000,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the "Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account" to provide grants authorized under section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a): Provided further, That any prior year balances for high cost energy grants authorized by section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901(19)) shall be transferred to and merged with the "Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Costs Grants Account".

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs in the Rural Development mission area, including activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements; \$164,625,000: Provided, That of the funds appropriated under this title for salaries and expenses, \$11,147,000, to remain

available until September 30, 2007, shall be used to complete the consolidation of Rural Development activities in St. Louis, Missouri: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this section may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the Rural Development mission area: Provided further, That not more than \$10,000 may be expended to provide modest nonmonetary awards to non-USDA employees: Provided further, That any balances available from prior years for the Rural Utilities Service, Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Business-Cooperative Service salaries and expenses accounts shall be transferred to and merged with this appropriation.

RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: \$4,821,832,000 for loans to section 502 borrowers, as determined by the Secretary, of which \$1,140,799,000 shall be for direct loans, and of which \$3,681,033,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; \$35,000,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; \$100,000,000 for section 515 rental housing; \$100,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; \$5,000,000 for section 524 site loans; \$11,500,000 for credit sales of acquired property, of which up to \$1,500,000 may be for multi-family credit sales; and \$5,048,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, \$170,837,000, of which \$129,937,000 shall be for direct loans, and of which \$40,900,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; section 504 housing repair loans, \$10,238,000; repair, rehabilitation, and new construction of section 515 rental housing, \$45,880,000; section 538 multi-family housing guaranteed loans, \$5,420,000; multi-family credit sales of acquired property, \$681,000; and section 523 self-help housing and development loans, \$52,000: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated in this paragraph, \$2,500,000 shall be available through June 30, 2006, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones: Provided further, That any funds under this paragraph initially allocated by the Secretary for housing projects in the State of Alaska that are not obligated by September 30, 2006, shall be carried over until September 30, 2007, and made available for such housing projects only in the State of Alaska.

For additional costs to conduct a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the section 515 multi-family rental housing properties, \$9,000,000: Provided, That funding made available under this heading shall be used to restructure existing section 515 loans, as the Secretary deems appropriate, expressly for the purposes of ensuring the project has sufficient resources to pre-

serve the project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for low-income residents including reducing or eliminating interest; deferring loan payments, subordinating, reducing or re-amortizing loan debt; and other financial assistance including advances and incentives required by the Secretary.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$454,809,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses", of which not less than \$1,000,000 shall be made available for the Secretary to contract with third parties to acquire the necessary automation and technical services needed to restructure section 515 mortgages.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) or agreements entered into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, \$653,102,000; and, in addition, such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: Provided, That of this amount, up to \$8,000,000 shall be available for debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Act, and not to exceed \$50,000 per project for advances to nonprofit organizations or public agencies to cover direct costs (other than purchase price) incurred in purchasing projects pursuant to section 502(c)(5)(C) of the Act: Provided further, That agreements entered into or renewed during the current fiscal year shall be funded for a four-year period: Provided further, That any unexpended balances remaining at the end of such four-year agreements may be transferred and used for the purposes of any debt reduction; maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation of any existing projects; preservation; and rental assistance activities authorized under title V of the Act: Provided further, That rental assistance that is recovered from projects that are subject to prepayment shall be deobligated and re-allocated for vouchers and debt forgiveness or payments consistent with the requirements of this Act for purposes authorized under section 542 and section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended.

RURAL HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM

For the rural housing voucher program as authorized under section 542 of the Housing Act of 1949, (without regard to section 542(b)), \$16,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such vouchers shall be available to any low-income household (including those not receiving rental assistance) residing in a property financed with a section 515 loan which has been prepaid after September 30, 2005: Provided further, That the amount of the voucher shall be the difference between comparable market rent for the section 515 unit and the tenant paid rent for such unit: Provided further, That funds made available for such vouchers, shall be subject to the availability of annual appropriations: Provided further, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, administer such vouchers with current regulations and ad-

ministrative guidance applicable for section 8 housing vouchers administered by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (including the ability to pay administrative costs related to delivery of the voucher funds).

MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), \$34,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,000,000 shall be available through June 30, 2006, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For grants and contracts for very low-income housing repair, supervisory and technical assistance, compensation for construction defects, and rural housing preservation made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, 1479(c), 1490e, and 1490m, \$43,976,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That \$2,976,000 shall be made available for loans to private non-profit organizations, or such non-profit organizations' affiliate loan funds and State and local housing finance agencies, to carry out a housing demonstration program to provide revolving loans for the preservation of low-income multi-family housing projects: Provided further, That loans under such demonstration program shall have an interest rate of not more than 1 percent direct loan to the recipient: Provided further, That the Secretary may defer the interest and principal payment to the Rural Housing Service for up to 3 years and the term of such loans shall not exceed 30 years: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,200,000 shall be available through June 30, 2006, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.

FARM LABOR PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, grants, and contracts, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1484 and 1486, \$31,168,000, to remain available until expended, for direct farm labor housing loans and domestic farm labor housing grants and contracts.

RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by the Rural Development Loan Fund (42 U.S.C. 9812(a)), \$34,212,000.

For the cost of direct loans, \$14,718,000, as authorized by the Rural Development Loan Fund (42 U.S.C. 9812(a)), of which \$1,724,000 shall be available through June 30, 2006, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes and of which \$3,449,000 shall be available through June 30, 2006, for Mississippi Delta Region counties (as determined in accordance with Public Law 100-460): Provided, That of such amount made available, the Secretary may

provide up to \$1,500,000 for the Delta Regional Authority (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.): Provided further, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, \$887,000 shall be available through June 30, 2006, for the cost of direct loans for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, \$4,793,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, \$25,003,000.

For the cost of direct loans, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, \$4,993,000, to remain available until expended.

Of the funds derived from interest on the cushion of credit payments, as authorized by section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, \$170,000,000 shall not be obligated and \$170,000,000 are rescinded.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), \$29,488,000, of which \$500,000 shall be for a cooperative research agreement with a qualified academic institution to conduct research on the national economic impact of all types of cooperatives; and of which \$2,500,000 shall be for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program: Provided, That not to exceed \$1,488,000 shall be for cooperatives or associations of cooperatives whose primary focus is to provide assistance to small, minority producers and whose governing board and/or membership is comprised of at least 75 percent minority; and of which \$20,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for value-added agricultural product market development grants, as authorized by section 6401 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note).

RURAL EMPOWERMENT ZONES AND ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES
GRANTS

For grants in connection with second and third rounds of empowerment zones and enterprise communities, \$11,200,000, to remain available until expended, for designated rural empowerment zones and rural enterprise communities, as authorized by the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 and the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-277): Provided, That of the funds appropriated, \$1,000,000 shall be

made available to third round empowerment zones, as authorized by the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act (Public Law 106-554).

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM

For the cost of a program of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants, under the same terms and conditions as authorized by section 9006 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8106), \$23,000,000 for direct and guaranteed renewable energy loans and grants: Provided, That the cost of direct loans and loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

*RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS
PROGRAM ACCOUNT*

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Insured loans pursuant to the authority of section 305 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935) shall be made as follows: 5 percent rural electrification loans, \$100,000,000; municipal rate rural electric loans, \$100,000,000; loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural electric, \$2,700,000,000; Treasury rate direct electric loans, \$1,000,000,000; guaranteed underwriting loans pursuant to section 313A, \$1,500,000,000; 5 percent rural telecommunications loans, \$145,000,000; cost of money rural telecommunications loans, \$424,000,000; and for loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural telecommunications loans, \$125,000,000.

For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, including the cost of modifying loans, of direct and guaranteed loans authorized by sections 305 and 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935 and 936), as follows: cost of rural electric loans, \$6,160,000, and the cost of telecommunications loans, \$212,000: Provided, That notwithstanding section 305(d)(2) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, borrower interest rates may exceed 7 percent per year.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$38,784,000 which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

RURAL TELEPHONE BANK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The Rural Telephone Bank is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available to such corporation in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as may be necessary in carrying out its authorized programs.

For administrative expenses, including audits, necessary to continue to service existing loans, \$2,500,000, which shall be trans-

ferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

Of the unobligated balances from the Rural Telephone Bank Liquidating Account, \$2,500,000 shall not be obligated and \$2,500,000 are rescinded.

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

For the principal amount of direct distance learning and telemedicine loans, \$25,000,000; and for the principal amount of broadband telecommunication loans, \$500,000,000.

For the cost of direct loans and grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., \$30,375,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$375,000 shall be for direct loans: Provided, That the cost of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That \$5,000,000 shall be made available to convert analog to digital operation those non-commercial educational television broadcast stations that serve rural areas and are qualified for Community Service Grants by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting under section 396(k) of the Communications Act of 1934, including associated translators and repeaters, regardless of the location of their main transmitter, studio-to-transmitter links, and equipment to allow local control over digital content and programming through the use of high-definition broadcast, multi-casting and datacasting technologies.

For the cost of broadband loans, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 901 et seq., \$10,750,000, to remain available until September 30, 2007: Provided, That the interest rate for such loans shall be the cost of borrowing to the Department of the Treasury for obligations of comparable maturity: Provided further, That the cost of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, \$9,000,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant program to finance broadband transmission in rural areas eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program benefits authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa.

TITLE IV

DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

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

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Food and Nutrition Service, \$599,000.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutri-

tion Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; \$12,660,829,000, to remain available through September 30, 2007, of which \$7,473,208,000 is hereby appropriated and \$5,187,621,000 shall be derived by transfer from funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c): Provided, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That up to \$5,235,000 shall be available for independent verification of school food service claims.

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

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), \$5,257,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2007, of which such sums as are necessary to restore the contingency reserve to \$125,000,000 shall be placed in reserve, to remain available until expended, to be allocated as the Secretary deems necessary, notwithstanding section 17(i) of such Act, to support participation should cost or participation exceed budget estimates: Provided, That of the total amount available, the Secretary shall obligate not less than \$15,000,000 for a breastfeeding support initiative in addition to the activities specified in section 17(h)(3)(A): Provided further, That only the provisions of section 17(h)(10)(B)(i) and section 17(h)(10)(B)(ii) shall be effective in 2006; including \$14,000,000 for the purposes specified in section 17(h)(10)(B)(i) and \$20,000,000 for the purposes specified in section 17(h)(10)(B)(ii): Provided further, That funds made available for the purposes specified in section 17(h)(10)(B)(ii) shall only be made available upon a determination by the Secretary that funds are available to meet caseload requirements without the use of the contingency reserve funds: Provided further, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay administrative expenses of WIC clinics except those that have an announced policy of prohibiting smoking within the space used to carry out the program: Provided further, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of such Act: Provided further, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other Federal Government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of such Act.

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food Stamp Act (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), \$40,711,395,000, of which \$3,000,000,000 to remain available through September 30, 2007, shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: Provided, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading and not already appropriated to the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) es-

established under section 4(b) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2013(b)), not less than \$3,000,000 shall be used to purchase bison meat for the FDPIR from Native American bison producers as well as from producer-owned cooperatives of bison ranchers: Provided further, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food Stamp Act: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: Provided further, That funds made available for Employment and Training under this heading shall remain available until expended, as authorized by section 16(h)(1) of the Food Stamp Act: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 5(d) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, any additional payment received under chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, by a member of the United States Armed Forces deployed to a designated combat zone shall be excluded from household income for the duration of the member's deployment if the additional pay is the result of deployment to or while serving in a combat zone, and it was not received immediately prior to serving in the combat zone.

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out disaster assistance and the commodity supplemental food program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983; special assistance (in a form determined by the Secretary of Agriculture) for the nuclear affected islands, as authorized by section 103(f)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-188); and the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, \$179,366,000, to remain available through September 30, 2007: Provided, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the program: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective with funds made available in fiscal year 2006 to support the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 4402 of Public Law 107-171, such funds shall remain available through September 30, 2007: Provided further, That of the funds made available under section 27(a) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), the Secretary may use up to \$10,000,000 for costs associated with the distribution of commodities.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary administrative expenses of the domestic nutrition assistance programs funded under this Act, \$140,761,000.

TITLE V

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including carrying out title VI of the Agricultural Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1761–1768), market development activities abroad, and for enabling the Secretary to coordinate and integrate activities of the Department in connection with foreign agricultural work, including not to exceed \$158,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$147,901,000: Provided, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1737) and the foreign assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development.

PUBLIC LAW 480 TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND FOOD FOR PROGRESS
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of agreements under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, including the cost of modifying credit arrangements under said Acts, \$65,040,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Secretary of Agriculture may implement a commodity monetization program under existing provisions of the Food for Progress Act of 1985 to provide no less than \$5,000,000 in local-currency funding support for rural electrification development overseas.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the credit program of title I, Public Law 83–480, and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, to the extent funds appropriated for Public Law 83–480 are utilized, \$3,385,000, of which \$168,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses”, and of which \$3,217,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses”.

PUBLIC LAW 480 TITLE I OCEAN FREIGHT DIFFERENTIAL GRANTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For ocean freight differential costs for the shipment of agricultural commodities under title I of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 and under the Food for Progress Act of 1985, \$11,940,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds made available for the cost of agreements under title I of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of

1954 and for title I ocean freight differential may be used interchangeably between the two accounts with prior notice to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

PUBLIC LAW 480 TITLE II GRANTS

For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under title II of said Act, \$1,150,000,000, to remain available until expended.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's export guarantee program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, \$5,279,000; to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, of which \$3,440,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses", and of which \$1,839,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

MC GOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1), \$100,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Commodity Credit Corporation is authorized to provide the services, facilities, and authorities for the purpose of implementing such section, subject to reimbursement from amounts provided herein.

TITLE VI

RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$25,000; and notwithstanding section 521 of Public Law 107-188; \$1,838,567,000: Provided, That of

the amount provided under this heading, \$305,332,000 shall be derived from prescription drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379h, shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended, and shall not include any fees pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 379h(a)(2) and (a)(3) assessed for fiscal year 2007 but collected in fiscal year 2006; \$40,300,000 shall be derived from medical device user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; and \$11,318,000 shall be derived from animal drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: Provided further, That fees derived from prescription drug, medical device, and animal drug assessments received during fiscal year 2006, including any such fees assessed prior to the current fiscal year but credited during the current year, shall be subject to the fiscal year 2006 limitation: Provided further, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated: (1) \$443,153,000 shall be for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (2) \$520,564,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (3) \$178,714,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (4) \$99,787,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (5) \$245,770,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (6) \$41,152,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) \$58,515,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which \$21,974,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (8) \$134,853,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; and (9) \$116,059,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner; the Office of Management; the Office of External Relations; the Office of Policy and Planning; and central services for these offices: Provided further, That funds may be transferred from one specified activity to another with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263b may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

In addition, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381 may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, \$8,000,000, to remain available until expended.

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, \$98,386,000, including not to exceed \$3,000 for official reception and representation expenses.

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$44,250,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions and from the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: Provided, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations made for the Department of Agriculture for the current fiscal year under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed 320 passenger motor vehicles, of which 320 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles.

SEC. 702. Hereafter, funds appropriated by this or any other Appropriations Act to the Department of Agriculture (excluding the Forest Service) shall be available for uniforms or allowances as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 703. Hereafter, funds appropriated by this or any other Appropriations Act to the Department of Agriculture (excluding the Forest Service) shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225) and 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 704. New obligational authority provided for the following appropriation items in this Act shall remain available until expended: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the contingency fund to meet emergency conditions, information technology infrastructure, fruit fly program, emerging plant pests, boll weevil program, low pathogen avian influenza program, up to \$33,340,000 in animal health monitoring and surveillance for the animal identification system, up to \$1,500,000 in the scrapie program for indemnities, up to \$3,000,000 in the emergency management systems program for the vaccine bank, up to \$1,000,000 for wildlife services methods development, up to \$1,000,000 of the wildlife services operations program for aviation safety, and up to 25 percent of the screwworm program; Food Safety and Inspection Service, field automation and information management project; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, funds for competitive re-

search grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)), funds for the Research, Education, and Economics Information System, and funds for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund; Farm Service Agency, salaries and expenses funds made available to county committees; Foreign Agricultural Service, middle-income country training program, and up to \$2,000,000 of the Foreign Agricultural Service appropriation solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service.

SEC. 705. The Secretary of Agriculture may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated by this Act or other available unobligated discretionary balances of the Department of Agriculture to the Working Capital Fund for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture: Provided, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the prior approval of the agency administrator: Provided further, That none of the funds transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to this section shall be available for obligation without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 706. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 707. Hereafter, not to exceed \$50,000 in each fiscal year of the funds appropriated by this or any other Appropriations Act to the Department of Agriculture (excluding the Forest Service) shall be available to provide appropriate orientation and language training pursuant to section 606C of the Act of August 28, 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1766b).

SEC. 708. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SEC. 709. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs charged against competitive agricultural research, education, or extension grant awards issued by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service that exceed 20 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award: Provided, That notwithstanding section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310), funds provided by this Act for grants awarded competitively by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service shall be available to pay full allowable indirect costs for each grant awarded under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

SEC. 710. Hereafter, loan levels provided in this or any other Appropriations Act to the Department of Agriculture shall be considered estimates, not limitations.

SEC. 711. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to cover obligations made in the current fiscal year for the following accounts: the Rural Development Loan Fund program account, the Rural Electrification and Telecommunication Loans program account, and the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account.

SEC. 712. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than \$1,800,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.

SEC. 713. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to carry out section 410 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 679a) or section 30 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 471).

SEC. 714. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 715. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture or the Food and Drug Administration shall be used to transmit or otherwise make 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.

SEC. 716. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Information Officer without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: Provided further, That none of the funds available to the Department of Agriculture for information technology shall be obligated for projects over \$25,000 prior to receipt of written approval by the Chief Information Officer.

SEC. 717. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds which—

(1) creates new programs;

- (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;
- (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;
- (4) relocates an office or employees;
- (5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or
- (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; unless the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that: (1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities; (2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or (3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before implementing a program or activity not carried out during the previous fiscal year unless the program or activity is funded by this Act or specifically funded by any other Act.

SEC. 718. With the exception of funds needed to administer and conduct oversight of grants awarded and obligations incurred in prior fiscal years, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the provisions of section 401 of Public Law 105-185, the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (7 U.S.C. 7621).

SEC. 719. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's Budget submission to the Congress of the United States for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the Budget unless such Budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2007 appropriations Act.

SEC. 720. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to close or relocate a State Rural Development of-

rice unless or until cost effectiveness and enhancement of program delivery have been determined.

SEC. 721. In addition to amounts otherwise appropriated or made available by this Act, \$2,500,000 is appropriated for the purpose of providing Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowships, through the Congressional Hunger Center.

SEC. 722. Hereafter, notwithstanding section 412 of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1736f), any balances available to carry out title III of such Act as of the date of enactment of this Act, and any recoveries and reimbursements that become available to carry out title III of such Act, may be used to carry out title II of such Act.

SEC. 723. There is hereby appropriated \$1,250,000 for a grant to the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 724. The Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(1) as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, conduct an evaluation of any impacts of the court decision in *Harvey v. Veneman*, 396 F.3d 28 (1st Cir. Me. 2005); and

(2) not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to Congress a report that—

(A) describes the results of the evaluation conducted under paragraph (1);

(B) includes a determination by the Secretary on whether restoring the National Organic Program, as in effect on the day before the date of the court decision described in paragraph (1), would adversely affect organic farmers, organic food processors, and consumers;

(C) analyzes issues regarding the use of synthetic ingredients in processing and handling;

(D) analyzes the utility of expedited petitions for commercially unavailable agricultural commodities and products; and

(E) considers the use of crops and forage from land included in the organic system plan of dairy farms that are in the third year of organic management.

SEC. 725. Hereafter, of any shipments of commodities made pursuant to section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431(b)), the Secretary of Agriculture shall, to the extent practicable, direct that tonnage equal in value to not more than \$25,000,000 shall be made available to foreign countries to assist in mitigating the effects of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome on communities, including the provision of—

(1) agricultural commodities to—

(A) individuals with Human Immunodeficiency Virus or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in the communities; and

(B) households in the communities, particularly individuals caring for orphaned children; and

(2) agricultural commodities monetized to provide other assistance (including assistance under microcredit and microenterprise programs) to create or restore sustainable livelihoods among individuals in the communities, particularly individuals caring for orphaned children.

SEC. 726. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Natural Resources Conservation Service shall provide financial and technical assistance—

(1) from funds available for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program—

(A) to the Kane County, Illinois, Indian Creek Watershed Flood Prevention Project, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000;

(B) for the Muskingam River Watershed, Mohican River, Jerome and Muddy Fork, Ohio, obstruction removal projects, in an amount not to exceed \$1,800,000;

(C) to the Hickory Creek Special Drainage District, Bureau County, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000; and

(D) to the Little Red River Irrigation project, Arkansas, in an amount not to exceed \$210,000;

(2) through the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program for—

(A) the Matanuska River erosion control project in Alaska;

(B) the Little Otter Creek project in Missouri;

(C) the Manoa Watershed project in Hawaii;

(D) the West Tarkio project in Iowa;

(E) the Steeple Run and West Branch DuPage River Watershed projects in DuPage County, Illinois; and

(F) the Coal Creek project in Utah;

(3) through the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program to carry out the East Locust Creek Watershed Plan Revision in Missouri, including up to 100 percent of the engineering assistance and 75 percent cost share for construction cost of site RW1; and

(4) through funds of the Conservation Operations program provided for the Utah Conservation Initiative for completion of the American Fork water quality and habitat restoration project in Utah.

SEC. 727. Hereafter, none of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this or any other appropriation Act.

SEC. 728. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds made available in this Act for competitive research grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)), the Secretary may use up to 22 percent of the amount provided to carry out a competitive grants program under the same terms and conditions as those provided in section 401 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621).

SEC. 729. None of the funds appropriated or made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 14(h)(1) of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012(h)(1)).

SEC. 730. None of the funds made available to the Food and Drug Administration by this Act shall be used to close or relocate, or to plan to close or relocate, the Food and Drug Administration

Division of Pharmaceutical Analysis in St. Louis, Missouri, outside the city or county limits of St. Louis, Missouri.

SEC. 731. None of the funds appropriated or made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out subtitle I of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009dd through dd-7).

SEC. 732. Hereafter, agencies and offices of the Department of Agriculture may utilize any unobligated salaries and expenses funds to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel for salaries and expenses of personnel, and for other related expenses, incurred in representing such agencies and offices in the resolution of complaints by employees or applicants for employment, and in cases and other matters pending before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Federal Labor Relations Authority, or the Merit Systems Protection Board with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 733. None of the funds appropriated or made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 6405 of Public Law 107-171 (7 U.S.C. 2655).

SEC. 734. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to enroll in excess of 150,000 acres in the calendar year 2006 wetlands reserve program as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 3837.

SEC. 735. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who carry out an environmental quality incentives program authorized by chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa et seq.) in excess of \$1,017,000,000.

SEC. 736. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to expend the \$23,000,000 made available by section 9006(f) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8106(f)).

SEC. 737. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to expend the \$80,000,000 made available by section 601(j)(1) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb(j)(1)).

SEC. 738. None of the funds made available in fiscal year 2006 or preceding fiscal years for programs authorized under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.) in excess of \$20,000,000 shall be used to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for the release of eligible commodities under section 302(f)(2)(A) of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f-1): Provided, That any such funds made available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation shall only be used pursuant to section 302(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act.

SEC. 739. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to expend the \$120,000,000 made available by section 6401(a) of Public Law 107-171.

SEC. 740. Notwithstanding subsections (c) and (e)(2) of section 313A of the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 940c(c) and (e)(2)) in implementing section 313A of that Act, the Secretary shall, with the consent of the lender, structure the schedule for payment of the annual fee, not to exceed an average of 30 basis points per year for the term of the loan, to ensure that sufficient funds are available to pay the subsidy costs for note guarantees under that section.

SEC. 741. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a Conservation Security Program authorized by 16 U.S.C. 3838 et seq., in excess of \$259,000,000.

SEC. 742. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 2502 of Public Law 107-171 in excess of \$43,000,000.

SEC. 743. Of the unobligated balances available in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children reserve account, \$32,000,000 is hereby rescinded.

SEC. 744. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 2503 of Public Law 107-171 in excess of \$73,500,000.

SEC. 745. With the exception of funds provided in fiscal year 2005, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to carry out section 6029 of Public Law 107-171.

SEC. 746. Hereafter, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act shall be expended to violate Public Law 105-264.

SEC. 747. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a ground and surface water conservation program authorized by section 2301 of Public Law 107-171 in excess of \$51,000,000.

SEC. 748. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to issue a final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise implement, the proposed rule on cost-sharing for animal and plant health emergency programs of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service published on July 8, 2003 (Docket No. 02-062-1; 68 Fed. Reg. 40541).

SEC. 749. Hereafter, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Agriculture may use appropriations available to the Secretary for activities authorized under sections 426-426c of title 7, United States Code, under this or any other Act, to enter into cooperative agreements, with a State, political subdivision, or agency thereof, a public or private agency, organization, or any other person, to lease aircraft if the Secretary determines that the objectives of the agreement will: (1) serve a mutual interest of the parties to the agreement in carrying out the programs administered by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services; and (2) all parties will contribute resources to the accomplishment of these objectives; award of a cooperative agreement authorized by the Secretary may be made for an initial term not to exceed 5 years.

SEC. 750. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 9010 of Public Law 107-171 in excess of \$60,000,000.

SEC. 751. Hereafter, agencies and offices of the Department of Agriculture may utilize any available discretionary funds to cover the costs of preparing, or contracting for the preparation of, final agency decisions regarding complaints of discrimination in employment or program activities arising within such agencies and offices.

SEC. 752. Funds made available under section 1240I and section 1241(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to cover obligations made in the current fiscal year, and are not available for new obligations.

SEC. 753. There is hereby appropriated \$750,000, to remain available until expended, for the Denali Commission to address deficiencies in solid waste disposal sites which threaten to contaminate rural drinking water supplies.

SEC. 754. Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) the City of Palmer, Alaska shall be eligible to receive a water and waste disposal grant under section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)) in an amount that is equal to not more than 75 percent of the total cost of providing water and sewer service to the proposed hospital in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska;

(2) or any percentage of cost limitation in current law or regulations, the construction projects known as the Tri-Valley Community Center addition in Healy, Alaska; the Cold Climate Housing Research Center in Fairbanks, Alaska; and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Allied Health Learning Center skill labs/classrooms shall be eligible to receive Community Facilities grants in amounts that are equal to not more than 75 percent of the total facility costs: Provided, That for the purposes of this paragraph, the Cold Climate Housing Research Center is designated an "essential community facility" for rural Alaska;

(3) for any fiscal year and hereafter, in the case of a high cost isolated rural area in Alaska that is not connected to a road system, the maximum level for the single family housing assistance shall be 150 percent of the median household income level in the nonmetropolitan areas of the State and 115 percent of all other eligible areas of the State; and

(4) any former RUS borrower that has repaid or prepaid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan under the Rural Electrification Act, or any not-for-profit utility that is eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under such Act, shall be eligible for assistance under Section 313(b)(2)(B) of such Act in the same manner as a borrower under such Act.

SEC. 755. There is hereby appropriated \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant to the Ohio Livestock Expo Center in Springfield, Ohio.

SEC. 756. Hereafter, notwithstanding the provisions of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (including the associated regulations) governing the Community Facilities Program, the Secretary may allow all Community Facility Program facility bor-

rowers and grantees to enter into contracts with not-for-profit third parties for services consistent with the requirements of the Program, grant, and/or loan: Provided, That the contracts protect the interests of the Government regarding cost, liability, maintenance, and administrative fees.

SEC. 757. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out an Agricultural Management Assistance Program as authorized by section 524 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act in excess of \$6,000,000 (7 U.S.C. 1524).

SEC. 758. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make funding and other assistance available through the emergency watershed protection program under section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2203) to repair and prevent damage to non-Federal land in watersheds that have been impaired by fires initiated by the Federal Government and shall waive cost sharing requirements for the funding and assistance.

SEC. 759. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a Biomass Research and Development Program in excess of \$12,000,000, as authorized by Public Law 106-224 (7 U.S.C. 7624 note).

SEC. 760. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used for salaries and expenses to carry out any regulation or rule insofar as it would make ineligible for enrollment in the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.) land that is planted to hardwood trees as of the date of enactment of this Act and was enrolled in the conservation reserve program under a contract that expired prior to calendar year 2002.

SEC. 761. Notwithstanding 40 U.S.C. 524, 571, and 572, the Secretary of Agriculture may sell the U.S. Water Conservation Laboratory, Phoenix, Arizona, and credit the net proceeds of such sale as offsetting collections to its Agricultural Research Service Buildings and Facilities account. Such funds shall be available until September 30, 2007 to be used to replace these facilities and to improve other USDA-owned facilities.

SEC. 762. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used for salaries and expenses to draft or implement any regulation or rule insofar as it would require recertification of rural status for each electric and telecommunications borrower for the Rural Electrification and Telecommunication Loans program.

SEC. 763. The Secretary of Agriculture may use any unobligated carryover funds made available for any program administered by the Rural Utilities Service (not including funds made available under the heading "Rural Community Advancement Program" in any Act of appropriation) to carry out section 315 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940e).

SEC. 764. There is hereby appropriated \$650,000, to remain available until expended, to carry out provisions of section 751 of division A of Public Law 108-7.

SEC. 765. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and until the receipt of the decennial Census in the year 2010, the Secretary of Agriculture shall consider—

(1) *the City of Bridgeton, New Jersey, the City of Kinston, North Carolina, and the City of Portsmouth, Ohio as rural areas for the purposes of Rural Housing Service Community Facilities Program loans and grants;*

(2) *the Township of Bloomington, Illinois (including individuals and entities with projects within Township) shall be eligible for Rural Housing Service Community Facilities Programs loans and grants;*

(3) *the City of Lone Grove, Oklahoma (including individuals and entities with projects within the city) shall be eligible for Rural Housing Service Community Facilities Program loans and grants;*

(4) *the City of Butte/Silverbow, Montana, rural areas for purposes of eligibility for Rural Utilities Service water and waste water loans and grants and Rural Housing Service Community Facilities Program loans and grants;*

(5) *Cleburne County, Arkansas, rural areas for purposes of eligibility of Rural Utilities Service water and waste water loans and grants;*

(6) *the designated Census tract areas for the Upper Kanawha Valley Enterprise Community, West Virginia, rural areas for purposes of eligibility for rural empowerment zones and enterprise community programs in the rural development mission area;*

(7) *the Municipality of Carolina, Puerto Rico, as meeting the eligibility requirements for Rural Utilities Service water and waste water loans and grants;*

(8) *the Municipalities of Vega Baja, Manati, Guayama, Fajardo, Humacao, and Naguabo, Puerto Rico, (including individuals and entities with projects within the Municipalities) shall be eligible for Rural Community Advancement Program loans and grants and intermediate relending programs;*

(9) *the City of Hidalgo, Texas as a rural area for the purpose of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program;*

(10) *the City of Elgin, Oklahoma (including individuals and entities with projects within the city) shall be eligible for Rural Utilities Service water and waste water loans and grants; and*

(11) *the City of Lodi, California, the City of Atchison, Kansas, and the City of Belle Glade, Florida as rural areas for the purposes of the Rural Utilities Service water and waste water loans and grants.*

SEC. 766. There is hereby appropriated \$200,000 for a grant to Alaska Village Initiatives for the purpose of administering a private lands wildlife management program in Alaska.

SEC. 767. There is hereby appropriated \$2,250,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant to the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives for pilot Wisconsin-Minnesota health care cooperative purchasing alliances.

SEC. 768. The counties of Burlington and Camden, New Jersey (including individuals and entities with projects within these counties) shall be eligible for loans and grants under the Rural Community Advancement Program for fiscal year 2006 to the same extent they were eligible for such assistance during the fiscal year 2005

under section 106 of Chapter 1 of Division B of Public Law 108–324 (188 Stat. 1236).

SEC. 769. Hereafter, notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available to States administering the Child and Adult Care Food Program, for the purpose of conducting audits of participating institutions, funds identified by the Secretary as having been unused during the initial fiscal year of availability may be recovered and reallocated by the Secretary: Provided, That States may use the reallocated funds until expended for the purpose of conducting audits of participating institutions.

SEC. 770. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to quitclaim to the City of Elkhart, Kansas, all rights, title and interests of the United States in that tract of land comprising 151.7 acres, more or less, located in Morton County, Kansas, and more specifically described in a deed dated March 11, 1958, from the United States of America to the City of Elkhart, State of Kansas, and filed of record April 4, 1958 at Book 34 at Page 520 in the office of the Register of Deeds of Morton County, Kansas.

SEC. 771. There is hereby appropriated \$2,500,000 to carry out the Healthy Forests Reserve Program authorized under Title V of Public Law 108–148 (16 U.S.C. 6571–6578).

SEC. 772. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this Act, may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 773. In addition to other amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act, there is hereby appropriated to the Secretary of Agriculture \$7,000,000, of which not to exceed 5 percent may be available for administrative expenses, to remain available until expended, to make specialty crop block grants under section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–465; 7 U.S.C. 1621 note).

SEC. 774. The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 is amended by inserting after section 315 (7 U.S.C. 940e) the following:

“SEC. 316. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF EXISTING GUARANTEE. (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitations in this section and the provisions of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, as amended, a borrower of a loan made by the Federal Financing Bank and guaranteed under this Act may request an extension of the final maturity of the outstanding principal balance of such loan or any loan advance thereunder. If the Secretary and the Federal Financing Bank approve such an extension, then the period of the existing guarantee shall also be considered extended.

“(b) LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) FEASIBILITY AND SECURITY.—Extensions under this section shall not be made unless the Secretary first finds and certifies that, after giving effect to the extension, in his judgment the security for all loans to the borrower made or guaranteed under this Act is reasonably adequate and that all such loans will be repaid within the time agreed.

“(2) *EXTENSION OF USEFUL LIFE OR COLLATERAL.*—Extensions under this section shall not be granted unless the borrower first submits with its request either—

“(A) evidence satisfactory to the Secretary that a Federal or State agency with jurisdiction and expertise has made an official determination, such as through a licensing proceeding, extending the useful life of a generating plant or transmission line pledged as collateral to or beyond the new final maturity date being requested by the borrower, or

“(B) a certificate from an independent licensed engineer concluding, on the basis of a thorough engineering analysis satisfactory to the Secretary, that the useful life of the generating plant or transmission line pledged as collateral extends to or beyond the new final maturity date being requested by the borrower.

“(3) *AMOUNT ELIGIBLE FOR EXTENSION.*—Extensions under this section shall not be granted if the principal balance extended exceeds the appraised value of the generating plant or transmission line referred to in subsection paragraph (2).

“(4) *PERIOD OF EXTENSION.*—Extensions under this section shall in no case result in a final maturity greater than 55 years from the time of original disbursement and shall in no case result in a final maturity greater than the useful life of the plant.

“(5) *NUMBER OF EXTENSIONS.*—Extensions under this section shall not be granted more than once per loan advance.

“(c) *FEES.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—A borrower that receives an extension under this section shall pay a fee to the Secretary which shall be credited to the Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program account. Such fees shall remain available without fiscal year limitation to pay the modification costs for extensions.

“(2) *AMOUNT.*—The amount of the fee paid shall be equal to the modification cost, calculated in accordance with section 502 of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, as amended, of such extension.

“(3) *PAYMENT.*—The borrower shall pay the fee required under this section at the time the existing guarantee is extended by making a payment in the amount of the required fee.”

SEC. 775. (a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, on behalf of the United States may, whenever the Secretary deems desirable, relinquish to the State of Arkansas all or part of the jurisdiction of the United States over the lands and properties encompassing the Jefferson Labs campus in the State of Arkansas that are under the supervision or control of the Secretary.

(b) *TERMS.*—Relinquishment of jurisdiction under this section may be accomplished, under terms and conditions that the Secretary deems advisable,

(1) by filing with the Governor of the State of Arkansas a notice of relinquishment to take effect upon acceptance thereof; or

(2) as the laws of such State may otherwise provide.

(c) *DEFINITION.*—In this section, the term “Jefferson Labs campus” means the lands and properties of the National Center for Toxicological Research and the Arkansas Regional Laboratory.

SEC. 776. Section 204(b)(3)(A) of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 781; 42 U.S.C. 1751 note) is amended by striking “July 1, 2006” and inserting “October 1, 2005”.

SEC. 777. (a) Section 18(f)(1)(B) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(f)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking “April 2004” and inserting “June 2005”; and
(2) in clause (ii), by striking “66.67” and inserting “75”.

(b) The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on January 1, 2006.

SEC. 778. None of the funds in this Act may be used to retire more than 5 percent of the Class A stock of the Rural Telephone Bank, except in the event of liquidation or dissolution of the telephone bank during fiscal year 2006, pursuant to section 411 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended, or to maintain any account or subaccount within the accounting records of the Rural Telephone Bank the creation of which has not specifically been authorized by statute: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer to the Treasury or to the Federal Financing Bank any unobligated balance of the Rural Telephone Bank telephone liquidating account which is in excess of current requirements and such balance shall receive interest as set forth for financial accounts in section 505(c) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990.

SEC. 779. There is hereby appropriated \$6,000,000 to carry out Section 120 of Public Law 108–265 in Utah, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Texas, Connecticut, and Idaho.

SEC. 780. Section 508(a)(4)(B) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(a)(4)(B)) is amended by inserting “or similar commodities” after “the commodity”.

SEC. 781. (a) Notwithstanding subtitles B and C of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.), during fiscal year 2006, the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board may obligate and expend funds for any activity to improve the environment and public health.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall review the impact of any expenditures under subsection (a) and include the review in the 2007 report of the Secretary to Congress on the dairy promotion program established under subtitle B of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.).

SEC. 782. The Federal facility located at the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station in Poplarville, Mississippi, and known as the “Southern Horticultural Laboratory”, shall be known and designated as the “Thad Cochran Southern Horticultural Laboratory”: Provided, That any reference in law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to such Federal facility shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Thad Cochran Southern Horticultural Laboratory”.

SEC. 783. As soon as practicable after the Agricultural Research Service operations at the Western Cotton Research Laboratory located at 4135 East Broadway Road in Phoenix, Arizona, have ceased, the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey, without consideration, to the Arizona Cotton Growers Association and Supima all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the real property at that location, including improvements.

SEC. 784. (a) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out a livestock assistance, compensation, or feed program, the Secretary of Agriculture shall include horses and deer within the definition of “livestock” covered by the program.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 602(2) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1471(2)) is amended—

(A) by inserting “horses, deer,” after “bison,”; and

(B) by striking “equine animals used for food or in the production of food,”

(2) Section 806 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–387; 114 Stat. 1549A–51) is amended by inserting “(including losses to elk, reindeer, bison, horses, and deer)” after “livestock losses”.

(3) Section 10104(a) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1472(a)) is amended by striking “and bison” and inserting “bison, horses, and deer”.

(4) Section 203(d)(2) of the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–7; 117 Stat. 541) is amended by striking “and bison” and inserting “bison, horses, and deer”.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—This section and the amendments made by this section apply to losses resulting from a disaster that occurs on or after July 28, 2005.

(2) PRIOR LOSSES.—This section and the amendments made by this section do not apply to losses resulting from a disaster that occurred before July 28, 2005.

SEC. 785. Amounts made available for the Plant Materials Center in Fallon, Nevada, under the heading “CONSERVATION OPERATIONS” under the heading “NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE” of title II of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–447; 118 Stat. 2823) shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 786. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to study, complete a study of, or enter into a contract with a private party to carry out, without specific authorization in a subsequent Act of Congress, a competitive sourcing activity of the Secretary of Agriculture, including support personnel of the Department of Agriculture, relating to rural development or farm loan programs.

SEC. 787. None of the funds made available under this Act shall be available to pay the administrative expenses of a State agency that, after the date of enactment of this Act and prior to receiving certification in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 17(h)(11)(E) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, authorizes any new for-profit vendor(s) to transact food instruments under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) if it is expected that more than 50 percent of the annual revenue of the vendor from the sale of food items will be derived from the sale of supplemental foods that are obtained with WIC food instruments, except that the Secretary may approve the authorization of such a vendor if the approval is necessary to assure participant access to program benefits.

SEC. 788. Of the unobligated balances under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, \$37,601,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 789. None of the funds provided in this Act may be obligated or expended for any activity the purpose of which is to require a recipient of any grant that was funded in Public Law 102-368 and Public Law 103-50 for "Rural Housing for Domestic Farm Labor" in response to Hurricane Andrew to pay the United States any portion of any interest earned with respect to such grants: Provided, That such funds are expended by the grantee within 18 months of the date of enactment of this section for the purposes of providing farm labor housing consistent with the purpose authorized in Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 790. There is hereby appropriated \$140,000 to remain available until expended, for a grant to the University of Nevada at Reno; \$400,000 to remain available until expended for a grant to the Ohio Center for Farmland Policy Innovation at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; \$200,000 to remain available until expended, for a grant to Utah State University for a farming and dairy training initiative; \$500,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant to the Nueces County, Texas Regional Fairground; and \$350,000 to provide administrative support for a world hunger organization: Provided, That none of the funds may be used for a monetary award to an individual.

SEC. 791. There is hereby appropriated \$1,000,000 to establish a demonstration intermediate relending program for the construction and rehabilitation of housing for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians: Provided, That the interest rate for direct loans shall be 1 percent: Provided further, That no later than one year after the establishment of this program the Secretary shall provide the Committees on Appropriations with a report providing information on the program structure, management, and general demographic information on the loan recipients.

SEC. 792. Section 285 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1638d) is amended by striking "2006" and inserting "2008".

SEC. 793. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay salaries and expenses of personnel who implement or administer section 508(e)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(e)(3)) or any regulation, bulletin, policy or agency guidance issued pursuant to section 508(e)(3) of such Act for the 2007 reinsurance year.

SEC. 794. Effective 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603) or under the guidelines issued under section 903 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104-127).

SEC. 795. (a) Subject to subsection (b), none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to—

(1) grant a waiver of a financial conflict of interest requirement pursuant to section 505(n)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(n)(4)) for any voting member

of an advisory committee or panel of the Food and Drug Administration; or

(2) make a certification under section 208(b)(3) of title 18, United States Code, for any such voting member.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a waiver or certification if—

(1) not later than 15 days prior to a meeting of an advisory committee or panel to which such waiver or certification applies, the Secretary of Health and Human Services discloses on the Internet website of the Food and Drug Administration—

(A) the nature of the conflict of interest at issue; and

(B) the nature and basis of such waiver or certification (other than information exempted from disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (popularly known as the Freedom of Information Act)); or

(2) in the case of a conflict of interest that becomes known to the Secretary less than 15 days prior to a meeting to which such waiver or certification applies, the Secretary shall make such public disclosure as soon as possible thereafter, but in no event later than the date of such meeting.

(c) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to make a new appointment to an advisory committee or panel of the Food and Drug Administration unless the Commissioner of Food and Drugs submits a quarterly report to the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the efforts made to identify qualified persons for such appointment with minimal or no potential conflicts of interest.

SEC. 796. Section 274(a)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) It is not a violation of clauses (ii) or (iii) of subparagraph (A), or of clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) except where a person encourages or induces an alien to come to or enter the United States, for a religious denomination having a bona fide nonprofit, religious organization in the United States, or the agents or officers of such denomination or organization, to encourage, invite, call, allow, or enable an alien who is present in the United States to perform the vocation of a minister or missionary for the denomination or organization in the United States as a volunteer who is not compensated as an employee, notwithstanding the provision of room, board, travel, medical assistance, and other basic living expenses, provided the minister or missionary has been a member of the denomination for at least one year.”

SEC. 797. (a) Section 2111(a)(1) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6510(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “not appearing on the National List” after “ingredient”.

(b) Section 2118 of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6517) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by inserting “IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND HANDLING OPERATIONS” after “SUBSTANCES”;

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting “or” at the end; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “or” at the end and inserting “and”; and

(C) by striking clause (iii); and

(2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

“(6) *EXPEDITED PETITIONS FOR COMMERCIALLY UNAVAILABLE ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS CONSTITUTING LESS THAN 5 PERCENT OF AN ORGANIC PROCESSED PRODUCT.*—The Secretary may develop emergency procedures for designating agricultural products that are commercially unavailable in organic form for placement on the National List for a period of time not to exceed 12 months.”.

(c) Section 2110(e)(2) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6509(e)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “A dairy” and inserting the following:

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a dairy”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) *TRANSITION GUIDELINE.*—Crops and forage from land included in the organic system plan of a dairy farm that is in the third year of organic management may be consumed by the dairy animals of the farm during the 12-month period immediately prior to the sale of organic milk and milk products.”.

SEC. 798. (a) *AMENABLE SPECIES.*—The Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking “cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, and other equines” each place it appears and inserting “amenable species”;

(2) in section 1, by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(w) The term ‘amenable species’ means—

“(1) those species subject to the provisions of the Act on the day before the date of the enactment of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006; and

“(2) any additional species of livestock that the Secretary considers appropriate.”; and

(3) in section 19—

(A) by striking “horses, mules, or other equines” and inserting “species designated by regulations in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006”; and

(B) by striking “cattle, sheep, swine, or goats” and inserting “other amenable species”.

(b) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the day after the effective date of section 794 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006.

SEC. 799. Public Law 109–54, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 is amended as follows:

(a) Under the heading *National Park Service, Construction* by—

(1) striking “of which” after “\$301,291,000, to remain available until expended,” and inserting in lieu thereof “and”;

(2) in the sixth proviso, striking “hereinafter” and inserting in lieu thereof “hereafter” and, after “Annex”, inserting “and the Blue Ridge Parkway Regional Destination Visitor Center”; and

(3) in the seventh proviso, striking “solicitation and contract” and inserting in lieu thereof “solicitations and contracts”;

(b) Under the heading *National Park Service, Land Acquisition and State Assistance* by striking “\$74,824,000” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$64,909,000”;

(c) Under the heading *Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses* by striking “\$127,183,000” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$117,183,000”;

(d) Under the heading *Title II—Environmental Protection Agency, State and Tribal Assistance Grants* by—

(1) before the period at the end of the first paragraph, inserting “: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading in Division I of Public Law 108–447, \$300,000 is for the Haleyville, AL, North Industrial Area Water Storage Tank project: Provided further, That the referenced statement of the managers under the heading *Environmental Protection Agency, State and Tribal Assistance Grants* in Public Law 107–73, in reference to item 184, is deemed to be amended by striking ‘\$2,000,000’ and inserting in lieu thereof ‘\$29,945’ and by inserting after ‘improvements’: ‘, \$500,000 to the City of Sheridan for water system improvements, \$500,000 to Meagher County/Martinsdale Water and Sewer District for Martinsdale Water System Improvements, and \$970,055 to the City of Bozeman for Hyalite Waterline and Intake’”; and

(2) in the second paragraph, striking the word “original”;

(e) Under the heading *Forest Service, Land Acquisition* by striking “land that are encumbered” and all that follows through “under this section,” and inserting in lieu thereof “lands that are encumbered by unpatented claims acquired under this section, or with previously appropriated funds.”; and

(f) At the end of *Title IV—General Provisions*, insert the following:

“SEC. 440. REDESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS.

“(a) **REDESIGNATION.**—Section 140(c)(4) of Division E of Public Law 108–447 is amended by striking ‘National’.

“(b) **REFERENCES.**—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the ‘Gaylord A. Nelson National Wilderness’ shall be deemed to be a reference to the ‘Gaylord A. Nelson Wilderness’.”

This Act may be cited as the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006”.

And the Senate agree to the same.

HENRY BONILLA,
JACK KINGSTON,
TOM LATHAM,
JO ANN EMERSON,
VIRGIL GOODE, Jr.,
RAY LAHOOD,

JOHN T. DOOLITTLE,
RODNEY ALEXANDER,
JERRY LEWIS,

Managers on the Part of the House.

R.F. BENNETT,
THAD COCHRAN,
ARLEN SPECTER,
CHRIS BOND,
MITCH MCCONNELL,
TED STEVENS,
HERB KOHL,
DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
RICHARD DURBIN,
MARY LANDRIEU,
ROBERT C. BYRD,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to bill (H.R. 2744), making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006 and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report.

CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

The statement of the managers remains silent on provisions that were in both the House and Senate bills that remain unchanged by this conference agreement, except as noted in this statement of the managers.

The conferees agree that executive branch wishes cannot substitute for Congress' own statements as to the best evidence of congressional intentions—that is, the official reports of the Congress. The conferees further point out that funds in this Act must be used for the purposes for which appropriated, as required by section 1301 of title 31 of the United States Code, which provides: "Appropriations shall be applied only to the objects for which the appropriations were made except as otherwise provided by law."

The House and Senate report language that is not changed by the conference is approved by the committee of conference. The statement of the managers, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

In cases in which the House or the Senate have directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

TITLE I—AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The conference agreement provides \$5,127,000 for the Office of the Secretary as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement provides the fiscal year 2005 funding level for cross-cutting trade negotiations and biotechnology resources in the following accounts: Office of the Secretary; Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; and the Foreign Agricultural Service.

The conferees appreciate receiving the detailed information provided in the Explanatory Notes prepared by the Department and rely heavily on this information when considering budget proposals. These materials have traditionally been prepared for the sole use of the Committees on Appropriations in a format consistent with the organization and operation of the programs and the structure of the Appropriations Act. At the direction of the Office of Management and Budget, the Department has changed the format and content of these materials to focus on broader goals and objectives rather than the major program structure followed in the Act, and in the actual conduct of the programs. The new organization and content does not present budget information in a format useful to the deliberations of the Committees. For fiscal year 2007 and future years, the Department is directed to present Explanatory Notes in a format consistent with the presentation used for the fiscal year 2002 Budget. Any deviations from that format are to be approved in advance by the Committees.

The conferees direct the Secretary to advise the Committees on Appropriations in writing of the status of all reports requested of the Department by the committees, at the time of submission of the fiscal year 2007 budget and quarterly thereafter.

The conferees are concerned by protocols employed by various food aid agencies related to measuring the quality of food products offered for international humanitarian assistance. The Secretary is encouraged to work with appropriate organizations to determine what actions may be proper to improve the nutritional integrity of food aid commodities and the consistency of testing methods. The Secretary is further encouraged, if appropriate, to work with groups experienced in food aid quality and tracking systems to carry out authorities provided in section 3013 of Public Law 107-171. The Committees on Appropriations expect a report on this subject no later than March 1, 2006.

The conferees are aware of the various USDA agencies that were affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and other storm events in recent months. As a result of the dislocation of many individuals employed by these agencies, the conferees expect the Department to initiate all safe harbor means available to ensure safe and adequate relief and recovery for these employees until full restoration of agency facilities is complete and agency personnel are able to return to their homes. The conferees expect the Secretary to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on actions taken in this regard by March 1, 2006.

The conferees take note of the heightened awareness and concern surrounding the potential for an avian flu pandemic. The Secretary is directed to instruct all agencies with jurisdiction over possible introduction of foreign animal disease into this country to take all necessary steps, including increased surveillance and ensuring they have all the necessary authorities to provide the greatest level of safeguard against the introduction of highly pathogenic avian flu into the United States. The Secretary is further directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on this subject by March 1, 2006.

The conferees remain committed to provide funding for federal, state university, and other arenas of research and development ac-

tivities to support U.S. agriculture. Given current budget constraints, this conference agreement provides the highest levels of funding possible for various research programs under the jurisdiction of this Act. In addition, the conferees urge the Secretary, and others in the Executive Branch, to increase public sector investment in this important area.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate which would have conditioned imports of beef from Japan until that country takes steps toward opening its market to U.S. beef products. Nonetheless, the conferees strongly urge the Secretary to continue ongoing negotiations with the Japanese government to open this important market. The conferees are encouraged by recent movement in these negotiations, but clearly reserve the right to impose restrictions similar to those suggested by the Senate if there is not a swift resolution to this issue.

The conferees direct the Secretary to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, as a supplement to the President's fiscal year 2007 budget request, a report on measures identified to address bark beetle infestations. This report should include information regarding resources identified in the fiscal year 2007 budget request, including assistance under the authorities of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003, relating to bark beetles. It is expected that the Secretary of Agriculture shall coordinate these activities with the Secretary of the Interior.

The conferees remain aware of public attention to animal health issues, especially those that have implications for food safety and other aspects of human public health issues. Following the discovery of a BSE-infected cow in Washington State in December of 2003, the Secretary of Agriculture imposed a ban on the entry of non-ambulatory beef cattle into the food supply. The conferees note the continuing strong interest among the American consuming public regarding this policy and direct the Secretary to notify and closely confer with the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, and appropriate authorizing committees, before the Department takes any actions that would weaken this safeguard. In addition, the conferees encourage the Secretary to initiate an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on this subject. Finally, the conferees urge the Secretary to continue efforts for enhanced surveillance of animal health through sampling tissues and other materials retrieved from rendering facilities or places where non-ambulatory animals are otherwise disposed.

The conferees recognize the importance of public and private contributions to relieve world hunger. Human suffering related to food shortages resulting from famine, natural disaster, civil unrest, and similar circumstances is one of the greatest tragedies of current times. Further, world hunger complicates international relations where civil unrest leads to national destabilization and sympathies toward terrorist organizations. The conferees are aware of the organization which annually awards the World Food Prize for outstanding work in the field of humanitarian food assistance, and encourages the Secretary to work with this organization in any form appropriate to support its activities and to further its goal of relieving world hunger. The Secretary is directed to report to the

Committees by March 1, 2006, on ways in which the Department can participate in support of this organization.

The conferees are aware that the Department intends to release an interim report on a feasibility study on converting sugar into ethanol by December 15, 2005. The conferees encourage the Department to release the interim report to Congress by December 15, 2005 and a final report not later than July 1, 2006.

The conferees are aware that the State of Texas has recently entered into a contract to privatize certain operations of the Food Stamp program. It is the conferees' understanding that USDA has worked with the State in order to ensure that this contract will not result in a higher food stamp error rate or reduced access to the program. Therefore, the conferees direct the Secretary to provide quarterly reports, beginning 30 days after enactment of this Act, on the status of this contract, including the effects it is having on program access, error rates, and spending on administrative expenses.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

CHIEF ECONOMIST

The conference agreement provides \$10,539,000 for the Office of the Chief Economist as proposed by the House and the Senate.

NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

The conference agreement provides \$14,524,000 for the National Appeals Division, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

The conference agreement provides \$8,298,000 for the Office of Budget and Program Analysis as proposed by the House and the Senate.

HOMELAND SECURITY STAFF

The conference agreement provides \$934,000 for Homeland Security Staff as proposed by the House instead of \$1,166,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

The conference agreement provides \$16,462,000 for the Office of the Chief Information Officer as proposed by the House instead of \$16,726,000 as proposed by the Senate.

COMMON COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT

The conference agreement provides \$110,072,000 for common computing environment instead of \$60,725,000 as proposed by the House and \$118,072,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees direct the Department to continue reporting to the Committees on Appropriations on a quarterly basis on the implementation of the common computing environment.

Since fiscal year 2000, Congress has appropriated over \$500,000,000 for the modernization and integration of information systems in USDA's county field offices. The conferees have fully supported this effort, but will expect to see reduced or level funding

levels for this account in future budget submissions as a result of anticipated efficiencies and economies of scale.

The following table reflects the conference agreement's recommendation:

	[Dollars in thousands]	
CCE base infrastructure		\$ 19,735
FSA specific		74,000
NRCS specific		11,137
RD specific		4,000
Interagency e-Gov		1,200
		\$110,072

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The conference agreement provides \$5,874,000 for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conferees direct USDA to work with the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Personnel Management to investigate the feasibility of creating a public/private partnership to help leverage scarce federal resources to expand upon the existing e-payroll program to include such functions as automated data processing, cross-servicing capabilities, and other beneficial services to federal agencies. The conferees encourage the Secretary to continue these expansions and to give close consideration for the continuity of National Finance Center (NFC) operations in Louisiana.

The conferees commend the employees of the NFC in suburban New Orleans for their outstanding work in continuing the payrolls and cross-servicing operations of more than 130 government agencies during the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. The conferees note that several hundred NFC employees have been relocated to other work sites because of hurricane damage and direct the Secretary to report to the Committees on Appropriations by January 31, 2006 on the continuity of operations of the NFC and the reestablishment of payroll and cross-servicing operations and functions in New Orleans and plans for back-up facilities.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The conference agreement includes a general provision that authorizes the Secretary to transfer unobligated balances of other accounts to the Working Capital Fund.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

The conference agreement provides \$821,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights as proposed by the Senate instead of \$811,000 as proposed by the House.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

The conference agreement provides \$20,109,000 for the Office of Civil Rights as proposed by the House and the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement provides \$676,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration as proposed by the House and the Senate.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES AND RENTAL PAYMENTS

The conference agreement provides \$187,734,000 for agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments as proposed by the Senate instead of \$183,133,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement provides an increase of \$4,601,000 for building operations and maintenance to be applied to the highest priority needs for which additional funding was requested.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

The conference agreement provides \$12,000,000 for Hazardous Materials Management as proposed by the Senate instead of \$15,644,000 as proposed by the House.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement provides \$23,103,000 for Departmental Administration as proposed by the House and the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

The conference agreement provides \$3,821,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations as proposed by the House instead of \$3,846,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

The conference agreement provides \$9,509,000 for the Office of Communications as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conferees direct the Office of Communications to continue providing the Committees with copies of open source news material made available to USDA officials through the use of appropriated funds.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The conference agreement provides \$80,336,000 for the Office of the Inspector General instead of \$79,626,000 as proposed by the House and \$81,045,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes a program increase of \$1,010,000, for computer forensics evidence storage and other high priority budgeted increases.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

The conference agreement provides \$39,351,000 for the Office of the General Counsel instead of \$38,439,000 as proposed by the House and \$40,263,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides an increase of \$2,908,000 for 2 staff years for additional legal services for the Marketing and

Regulatory Programs and for the highest priority needs for which additional funding was requested.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND
ECONOMICS

The conference agreement provides \$598,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics as proposed by the House and the Senate.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

The conference agreement provides \$75,931,000 for the Economic Research Service as proposed by the House instead of \$78,549,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides an increase of \$1,000,000, of which \$350,000 is for an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehensive report on the economic development and current status of the sheep industry in the United States and \$650,000 is to be applied to the highest priority needs for which additional funding was requested.

Also, within the funds provided, the conferees expect not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Secretary of Energy, to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, a report that describes the impact of increased prices of gas, natural gas, and diesel on agricultural producers, ranchers, and rural communities.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

The conference agreement provides \$140,700,000 for the National Agricultural Statistics Service instead of \$136,241,000 as proposed by the House and \$145,159,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides an increase of \$5,367,000 for agricultural estimates to be applied to the highest priority needs for which additional funding was requested.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$1,135,004,000 for the Agricultural Research Service, Salaries and Expenses, instead of \$1,035,475,000 as proposed by the House and \$1,109,981,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees note that the Agricultural Research Service has had the authority to construct certain buildings provided by 7 U.S.C. 2250 for several years. The conferees direct the Agricultural Research Service to notify the Committees on Appropriations on the use of this authority on a semi-annual basis beginning January 1, 2006.

The conferees expect the agency to promptly implement programs and allocate funds provided for the purposes identified by the Congress.

In complying with the conferees' directives, ARS is expected not to redirect support for programs from one State to another without prior notification to and approval of the Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the reprogramming procedures specified in this Act. Unless otherwise directed, the agency shall implement appropriations by programs, projects, and activities as specified by the Appropriations Committees. Unspecified reductions necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act are to be implemented in accordance with the definitions contained in the "Program, Project, and Activity" section of this Act.

The conference agreement continues the fiscal year 2005 level of funding for all research projects proposed to be terminated in the President's budget as provided in House Report 109-102 and Senate Report 109-92 accompanying the fiscal year 2006 Agriculture Appropriations bills, including hyperspectral imaging in New Orleans, LA.

The conferees have agreed to fund budgeted increases for the following areas of research:

Emerging Diseases of Livestock/Crops—Develop Systems for Rapid Response to Bioterrorism Agents—Laramie, WY, \$250,000; Athens, GA, \$175,000; Vaccinology Research for Control and Eradication of Biological Threat Agents—Ames, IA, \$450,000; Plum Island, NY, (Antigen Delivery Systems) \$250,000; Plum Island, NY, (Foot and Mouth Disease) \$150,000; Advance Intervention Strategies for Emerging Diseases of Livestock and Poultry—Ames, IA, \$300,000; Develop Diagnostics for Rapid, Practical, Identification of Pathogens—Parlier, CA, \$150,000; Ft. Pierce, FL, \$150,000; Salinas, CA, \$175,000; Develop Taxonomy, Biology, and Genetics of Pathogens—St. Paul, MN, Pullman, WA, others (Wheat Stripe Initiative), \$500,000; Pullman, WA (Rust Disease of Wheat), \$175,000; Ft. Pierce, FL, \$300,000; Develop Science-Based Forecasting Systems for Each Pathogen/Crop Combination—Ft. Detrick, MD, \$250,000; Develop Integrated Disease Management Strategies and Tools—Stoneville, MS, \$240,000; Ames, IA, \$150,000; Raleigh, NC, \$150,000; Urbana, IL, \$150,000; Charleston, SC, \$50,000; and, Tifton, GA, \$50,000.

Food Safety—Develop Food Animal Surveillance and Epidemiology Programs for Early Detection of Epizootic Pathogens and Antibiotic Resistance—Athens, GA, \$250,000; Beltsville, MD, \$250,000; Genomics to Analyze Microbial Communities to Control Food Pathogens in Preharvest Stage—Clay Center, NE, \$50,000; College Station, TX, \$50,000; Fungal Genomics to Identify Improved Control Strategies for Mycotoxins—New Orleans, LA, \$150,000; Develop Sampling Systems and Protocols in Detecting Intentional Contamination—Beltsville, MD, \$150,000; Develop Rapid Systems to Maximize Detection Potential of Pathogens in Foods—Albany, CA, \$50,000; Develop Detection and Processing Intervention Systems for Liquid Egg Products—Wyndmoor, PA, \$250,000; Athens, GA, \$150,000; Identification of Toxic Chemical Residues and Heavy Metals—Beltsville, MD, \$125,000; and, Biological Toxins—Albany, CA, \$150,000.

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Research—Implement an Integrated Zoonotic Research Program (BSE) in Pathogenesis, Diagnostics, and Intervention—Ames, IA, (Risk Assess-

ment of BSE) \$900,000; Albany, CA, (Pathophysiology of BSE) \$450,000; Pullman, WA, \$500,000; Ames, IA, (Pre-Clinical Live Animal Test) \$250,000; and, Albany, CA, (Prion Deactivation for Decontamination of Feed) \$250,000.

Obesity/Nutrition—Understanding Dietary Patterns That Contribute to Obesity in Low Socioeconomic and Minority Populations in the U.S.—Beltsville, MD, \$250,000; Determine the Energy and Nutrient Content of Foods Consumed by U.S. Minority Populations—Grand Forks, ND, \$200,000; Address the Obesity Epidemic and Promote a Healthier Lifestyle—Davis, CA, \$150,000; Boston, MA, \$150,000; Little Rock, AR, \$150,000; Houston, TX, \$200,000; Baton Rouge, LA, \$200,000; and, Grand Forks, ND, \$70,000.

Invasive Species—Conduct Research to Control Sudden Oak Death, Tamarisk, Emerald Ash Borer, Yellow Starthistle, Asian Long Horned Beetle, Lobate Lac Scale, Swallow—Worts, and Teasel—Corvallis, OR, \$150,000; Ft. Detrick, MD, \$150,000; Newark, DE, \$137,500; Ithaca, NY, \$150,000; Ft. Lauderdale, FL, \$75,000; Reno, NV, \$200,000; Develop IPM Components and Systems for Invasive Insects—Mt. Pellier, France, \$100,000; Peoria, IL, \$100,000; Columbia, MO, \$100,000; Improve Taxonomic Knowledge of Invasive Species—Beltsville, MD, \$150,000; and, Identify the Genes in the Red Invasive Fire Ant and Develop Better Bait Controls—Gainesville, FL, \$150,000.

Air and Water Quality—Reduce Gaseous Particulate Matter Emissions from Animal Feeding Operations—Bushland, TX, \$150,000.

Biobased Products/Bioenergy Research—Improve the Quality and Quantity of Agricultural Biomass Feedstock for Production of Energy and Biobased Products—Peoria, IL, \$250,000; Develop Technologies to Produce Biofuels and Co products from Agricultural Commodities and Byproducts—Beltsville, MD, \$150,000; Wyndmoor, PA, \$150,000; and, Develop Technologies Leading to New Value Added Products from Food Animal Byproducts—Wyndmoor, PA, \$162,500.

Genetic Resources—Genetic Resource Enhancement—Aberdeen, ID, \$100,000; Miami, FL, \$125,000; Raleigh, NC, \$125,000; Madison, WI, \$125,000; Genetic Resource Acquisition, Maintenance, and Characterization—Stuttgart, AR, \$125,000; Ft. Collins, CO, \$125,000; and, Ithaca, NY, \$125,000.

Genomics—Collect Phenotypic Data and Use Genome Sequence-Derived Markers to Characterize Available Germplasm of Economic Importance in Food Animals—Miles City, MT, \$150,000; Identify and Characterize Genes That Affect Feed Efficiency, Reproduction, Animal Well-being, Disease Resistance Product Quality, and Other Economically Important Production Traits in Food Animals—Clay Center, NE, \$350,000; Discover, Characterize and Localize Genes that Mediate Expression of Economically Important Traits in Plants—Salinas, CA, \$112,500; St. Paul, MN, \$200,000; and Baton Rouge, LA, \$375,000.

Characterize Functional Products of Important Genes That Influence Productivity and Product Quality in Plants—Manhattan, KS, \$150,000.

Agricultural Information—Ensure Long-term Access to National Digital Library for Agriculture—Beltsville, MD, \$200,000.

The conference agreement includes increased funding in fiscal year 2006 to expand the following research projects: Agroforestry (Shiitake Mushroom, \$50,000), Booneville, AR—\$130,000; Animal Vaccines, Greenport, NY—\$60,000; Appalachian Horticulture (University of TN/TN State), Poplarville, MS—\$150,000; Arid Lands, Las Cruces, NM—\$120,000; Barley Yellow Dwarf, West Lafayette, IN—\$75,000; Binational Agricultural Research and Development Program, \$32,000; Bioinformatics, Santa Fe, NM—\$100,000; Biological Weed Control, Sidney, MT—\$120,000; Bioremediation, \$120,000; Bovine Genetics, Beltsville, MD (University of CT/University of IL)—\$300,000; Broomweed, Albany, CA—\$100,000; Catfish Genome, Auburn, AL—\$75,000; Center for Food Safety and Post-Harvest Technology, \$449,000; Cereal Crops Research, Madison, WI—\$250,000; Chloroplast Genetic Engineering, Urbana, IL (University of Central FL)—\$80,000; Coffee/Cocoa, Beltsville, MD(H/S)/Miami, FL(S)—\$120,000; Corn Rootworm, Ames, IA—\$100,000; Cotton Ginning, Stoneville, MS—\$50,000; Cropping Systems Research, Stoneville, MS (University of TN/Western TN Ag Experiment Station)—\$150,000; Dairy Forage, Madison, WI—\$510,000; Delta Human Nutrition Research, Stoneville, MS—\$300,000; Delta Human Nutrition Research Initiative, Little Rock, AR—\$100,000; Floriculture and Nursery Crops, \$250,000; Forage and Range Research, Logan, UT—\$250,000; Formosan Termites, New Orleans, LA—\$120,000; Ft. Pierce Horticulture Research Lab, Ft. Pierce, FL—\$250,000; Grape Genetics, Geneva, NY—\$100,000; Grapefruit Juice/Drug Interaction, Winterhaven, FL—\$80,000; Great Lakes Aquaculture, Madison, WI—\$30,000; Greenhouse Lettuce Germplasm, Salinas, CA—\$150,000; Improved Forage and Livestock Production, Lexington, KY (University of KY)—\$120,000; Invasive Aquatic Weeds, Ft. Lauderdale, FL—\$100,000; Invasive Ludwigia, Davis, CA—\$100,000; Karnal Bunt, Manhattan, KS—\$80,000; Medicinal and Bioactive Crops, Steven F. Austin State University/University of MD—\$240,000; Mid-west/Mid-South Irrigation, Columbia, MO (Delta Center, University of MO)—\$68,000; Mosquito Biological Control, (Stoneville, MS)—\$210,000; National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture, Franklin, ME—\$160,000; National Sclerotinia Initiative, \$300,000; National Soil Dynamics, Auburn, AL—\$120,000; Natural Products, Oxford, MS—\$180,000; Northeast Plant Soil and Water Lab, Orono, ME—\$80,000; NutriCore, National Center for Excellence in Foods and Nutrition Research—\$42,000; Ogallala Aquifer, Bushland, TX (Texas A&M, Texas Tech, & Kansas State University)—\$1,375,000; Peanut Production, Dawson, GA—\$75,000; Peanut Variety, Stillwater, OK—\$180,000; Pear Thrips, Ithaca, NY (University of Vermont)—\$50,000; Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter, Parlier, CA—\$25,000; Plant Genetic Diversity and Gene Discovery, Logan, UT—\$180,000; Plant Protein Grazing Livestock, El Reno, OK—\$100,000; Potato Blight, Orono, ME—\$80,000; Quantify Basin Water Budget Components in the Southwest, Tucson, AZ—\$200,000; Range and Forage Management (Sage Grouse), Burns, OR—\$180,000; Regional Grains Genotyping Research, Raleigh, NC—\$178,000; Salmonella, Listeria, E. coli, and Other Food Pathogens, Wyndmoor, PA—\$100,000; Seafood Waste, Fairbanks, AK—\$75,000; Seasonal Grazing, Coshocton, OH—\$100,000; Soybean Re-

search South, Stoneville, MS—\$240,000; Sugarcane Breeding and Harvesting, Houma, LA—\$100,000; Sustainable Aquaculture Feeds, Aberdeen, ID—\$100,000; Swine Lagoon Alternatives, Florence, SC—\$100,000; Turf Grass Research, Beaver, WV—\$180,000; U.S. National Arboretum (Germplasm/Ornamental Horticulture), Washington, D.C.—\$250,000; Vaccines and Microbe Control for Fish Health, Auburn, AL—\$80,000; Viticulture, Corvallis, OR—\$150,000; Waste Management, Bowling Green, KY (Western KY University)—\$120,000; and, Winter Grain Legume, Pullman, WA—\$120,000.

The conference agreement provides an increase of \$200,000 above the fiscal year 2005 level for additional research at the Southwest Watershed Research Center at Tucson, Arizona instead of at the ARS Research Laboratory at Maricopa, Arizona and at the University of Arizona as proposed by the House.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The conference agreement provides \$131,195,000 for the Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities, instead of \$87,300,000 as proposed by the House and \$160,645,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The following items reflect the conference agreement: National Center for Animal Health (Ames, Iowa), \$58,800,000; Grape Genomics Research Center (Davis, California), \$3,625,000; U.S. Agricultural Research Station (Salinas, California), \$3,625,000; U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center (Hilo, Hawaii), \$3,625,000; Aquaculture Facility (Aberdeen/Bilingsley Creek, Idaho) \$1,000,000; National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research (Peoria, Illinois), \$3,625,000; Animal Waste Management Research Laboratory (Bowling Green, Kentucky), \$3,000,000; Forage-Animal Research Laboratory (Lexington, Kentucky) \$4,000,000; ARS Sugarcane Research Laboratory (Houma, Louisiana), \$3,625,000; National Marine Cold Water Aquaculture Research Center (Orono/Franklin, Maine), \$2,500,000; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (Beltsville, Maryland), \$3,625,000; Biotechnology Laboratory, Alcorn State (Lorman, MS), \$2,000,000; Poultry Science Research Facility (Starkville, Mississippi), \$5,000,000; National Plant and Genetics Security Center (Columbia, Missouri), \$3,725,000; Animal Bioscience Facility (Bozeman, Montana), \$4,000,000; Center for Grape Genetics (Geneva, New York), \$3,625,000; Center for Crop-based Health Genomics (Ithaca, New York), \$3,625,000; University of Toledo (Toledo, Ohio), \$1,600,000; U.S. Vegetable Laboratory (Charleston, South Carolina), \$2,000,000; ARS Research Laboratory (Pullman, Washington), \$3,625,000; Appalachian Fruit Laboratory (Kearneysville, West Virginia), \$2,045,000; Nutrient Management Research Laboratory (Leetown, West Virginia), \$900,000; and, Nutrient Management Laboratory (Marshfield, Wisconsin), \$8,000,000.

COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION
SERVICE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides \$676,849,000 for research and education activities instead of \$662,546,000 as proposed by the House and \$652,231,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$500,000 for resident instruction grants for insular areas.

The conference agreement provides \$500,000 for the implementation of the National Veterinary Medical Services Act.

The following table reflects the conference agreement:

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service	
Research and Education Activities	
(Dollars in Thousands)	
	2006
	Conference
Hatch Act.....	\$178,757
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry.....	22,230
Evans-Allen Program.....	37,591
National Research Initiative.....	183,000
State Agricultural Experiment Station Competitive Grants Program (SAES).....	0
Special Research Grants.....	143,021
Animal Health and Disease (Sec. 1433).....	5,057
1994 Institutions Research Program.....	1,039
Joe Skeen Institute for Rangeland Restoration (NM, TX, MT).....	1,000
Graduate Fellowship Grants.....	3,738
Institution Challenge Grants.....	5,478
Multicultural Scholars Program.....	998
Hispanic Education Partnership Grants.....	6,000
Secondary/2-year Post-secondary.....	1,000
Capacity Building Grants (1890 Institutions).....	12,312
Payments to the 1994 Institutions.....	2,250
Alaska Native-serving and Native Hawaiian-serving Education Grants.....	3,250
Resident Instruction Grants for Insular Areas.....	500
Veterinary Medical Services Act.....	500
Subtotal.....	607,721
Federal Administration:	
Ag-based Industrial Lubricants (IA).....	549
Agriculture Development in the American Pacific.....	486
Agriculture Waste Utilization (WV).....	690
Agriculture Water Policy (GA).....	891
Alternative Fuels Characterization Laboratory (ND).....	282
Animal Waste Management (OK).....	396
Applied Agriculture and Environmental Research (CA).....	1,000
Aquaculture (OH).....	900
Aquaculture (PA).....	220
Biodesign and Processing Research Center (VA).....	950
Biotechnology Research (MS).....	687
Botanical Research (UT).....	900
Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (IA).....	595
Center for Food Industry Excellence (TX).....	1,367
Center for Innovative Food Technology (OH).....	1,145
Center for North American Studies (TX).....	1,000
Climate Forecasting (FL).....	3,602
Cotton Research (TX).....	2,500
Council for Agriculture Science and Technology.....	149
Data Information System (REEKS).....	2,587
Dietary Intervention (OH).....	1,250
Electronic Grants Administration System.....	2,051

Feed Efficiency (WV).....	160
Global Environmental Management.....	1,000
High Value Horticultural Crops (VA).....	725
Hispanic Leadership in Agriculture (TX).....	546
Greenhouse Nurseries (OH).....	726
Income Enhancement Demonstration (OH).....	0
Information Technology (GA).....	369
Livestock Marketing Information Center (CO).....	174
Mariculture (NC).....	317
Mississippi Valley State University, Curriculum Development.....	1,433
Monitoring Agricultural Sewage Sludge Application (OH).....	1,287
NE Center for Invasive Plants (CT, VT, ME).....	425
Office of Extramural Programs (Grants).....	423
Pasteurization of Shell Eggs (MI).....	1,350
Pay Costs and FERS.....	3,112
Peer Panels.....	310
Phytoremediation Plant Research (OH).....	779
PM-10 Study (WA).....	387
Precision Agriculture, Tennessee Valley Research Center (AL).....	599
Produce Pricing (AZ).....	100
Rio Grande/Rio Bravo (TX) Physical Assessment.....	350
Rural Systems (MS).....	308
Salmon Quality Standards (AK).....	166
Shrimp Aquaculture (AZ, HI, MS, MA, SC, LA, TX).....	4,200
Sustainable Agricultural Freshwater Conservation (TX).....	1,850
University of Hawaii.....	3,000
Urban Silviculture (NY).....	270
Vitis Gene Discovery (MO).....	608
Water Pollutants (WV).....	600
Water Quality (ND).....	500
Wetland Plants (WV).....	200
Total, Federal Administration.....	50,471
Other:	
Alternative Crops.....	1,187
Aquaculture Centers (Sec. 1475).....	3,968
Critical Agricultural Materials Act.....	1,102
Sustainable Agriculture.....	12,400
Total, Other.....	18,657
Total, Research and Education Activities.....	676,849

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service	
Research and Education Activities	
Special Research Grants	
(Dollars in Thousands)	
	2006
	Conference
Advanced Computing Research and Education (UT).....	\$545
Advanced Genetic Technologies (KY).....	645
Advanced Spatial Technologies (MS).....	936
Aegilops Cylindricum (Jointed Goatgrass) (WA, ID).....	355
Agricultural Diversification (HI).....	221
Agricultural Diversity/Red River Corridor (MN, ND).....	622
Agriculture Science (OH).....	570
Agriculture Water Usage (GA).....	0
Agroecology (MD).....	406
Air Quality (CA).....	300
Air Quality (TX, KS).....	1,574
Alliance for Food Protection (NE).....	157
Alternative Nutrient Management (VT).....	182
Alternative Salmon Products (AK).....	1,099
Alternative Uses for Tobacco (MD).....	332
Animal Disease Research (WY).....	350
Animal Science Food Safety Consortium (AR, KS, IA).....	1,432
Apple Fire Blight (MI, NY).....	500
Aquaculture (AR).....	205
Aquaculture (FL, CA, TX).....	600
Aquaculture (WA, ID).....	764
Aquaculture (LA).....	329
Aquaculture (MS).....	517
Aquaculture (NC).....	325
Aquaculture (VA).....	200
Aquaculture Product and Marketing Development (WV).....	750
Armillaria Root Rot (MI).....	151
Asparagus Technology and Production (WA).....	248
Avian Bioscience (DE).....	190
Babcock Institute (WI).....	600
Barley for Rural Development (MT, ID).....	735
Beef Technology Transfer (MO).....	259
Beef Improvement Research (TX, MO).....	1,000
Berry Research (AK).....	1,300
Biobased Nanocomposite Research (ND).....	177
Biomass-based Energy Research (OK, MS).....	1,200
Biotechnology (NC).....	287
Biotechnology Research (IL).....	100
Biotechnology Test Production (IA).....	465
Bovine Tuberculosis (MI).....	356
Brucellosis Vaccine (MT).....	440
Center for Public Lands and Rural Economies (UT).....	300
Center for Rural Studies (VT).....	365
Chesapeake Bay Agroecology (MD).....	314
Childhood Obesity and Nutrition (VT).....	201
Citrus Canker (FL).....	500
Citrus Tristeza (WA).....	691
Competitiveness of Agricultural Products (WA).....	679
Computational Agriculture (NY).....	239
Cool Season Legume Research (ID, WA, ND).....	564
Cotton Fiber Quality (GA).....	0
Cotton Insect Management (GA).....	494
Cranberry/Blueberry (MA).....	160
Cranberry/Blueberry Disease and Breeding (NJ).....	650
Crop Integration and Production (SD).....	300
Crop Diversification Center (MO).....	375
Crop Pathogens (NC).....	325
Dairy and Meat Goat Research (TX).....	150
Dairy Farm Profitability (PA).....	500

Delta Rural Revitalization (MS).....	250
Designing Foods for Health (TX).....	2,000
Diaprepes Root Weevil (FL).....	500
Drought Mitigation (NE).....	222
Drought Management (UT).....	800
Efficient Irrigation (NM, TX).....	1,675
Environmental Biotechnology (RI).....	643
Environmental Research (NY).....	373
Environmental Risk Factors/Cancer (NY).....	217
Environmentally Safe Products (VT).....	750
Ethnobotany Research (AK).....	250
Exotic Pest Diseases (CA).....	1,929
Expanded Wheat Pasture (OK).....	323
Farm Injuries and Illnesses (NC).....	0
Feed Barley for Rangeland Cattle (MT).....	0
Feed Efficiency in Cattle (FL).....	400
Feedstock Conversion (SD).....	675
Fish and Shellfish Technologies (VA).....	476
Food Chain Economic Analysis (IA).....	416
Floriculture (HI).....	352
Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute (IA, MO).....	1,612
Food Marketing Policy Center (CT).....	579
Food Quality (AK).....	275
Food Safety (AL).....	1,146
Food Safety (OK, ME).....	552
Food Safety (TX).....	200
Food Safety Research Consortium (NY).....	1,000
Food Safety Initiatives (ND).....	1,425
Food Security (WA).....	398
Food Systems Research Group (WI).....	550
Forages for Advancing Livestock Production (KY).....	390
Forestry Research (AR).....	461
Fruit and Berry Crop Trials for Rural Villages (AK).....	500
Fruit and Vegetable Market Analysis (AZ, MO).....	350
Functional Genomics (UT).....	1,485
Future Foods (IL).....	666
Generic Commodity Promotions, Research and Evaluation (NY).....	191
Genetically Enhanced Plants for Micro-nutrients and Bio-renewable Oils (MO).....	740
Genomics (MS).....	1,140
Geographic Information System.....	1,802
Global Change/ Ultraviolet Radiation.....	2,184
Grain Sorghum (KS, TX).....	736
Grapefruit Juice/Drug Interaction (FL).....	344
Grass Seed Cropping for Sustainable Agriculture (WA, OR, ID).....	450
Grazing Research (WI).....	260
Greenhouse Crop Production (AK).....	300
Hardwood Scanning (IN).....	300
Horn Fly Research (AL).....	200
Human Nutrition (IA).....	650
Human Nutrition (LA).....	706
Human Nutrition (NY).....	580
Hydroponic Tomato Production (OH).....	179
Illinois-Missouri Alliance for Biotechnology.....	1,170
Improved Dairy Management Practices (PA).....	352
Improved Fruit Practices (MI).....	212
Increasing Shelf Life of Agricultural Commodities (ID).....	863
Infectious Disease Research (CO).....	817
Institute for Biobased Products and Food Science (MT).....	563
Institute for Food Science and Engineering (AR).....	1,119
Integrated Fruit and Vegetable Research (GA).....	256
Integrated Production Systems (OK).....	255
International Arid Lands Consortium (AZ).....	579
Iowa Biotechnology Consortium.....	1,775
Leopold Center Hypoxia Project (IA).....	222
Livestock and Dairy Policy (NY, TX).....	1,000
Livestock Genome Sequencing (IL).....	815
Livestock Waste (IA).....	266

Lowbush Blueberry Research (ME).....	246
Maple Research (VT).....	139
Meadow Foam (OR).....	260
Michigan Biotechnology Consortium.....	555
Midwest Advanced Food Manufacturing Alliance (NE).....	500
Midwest Agricultural Products (IA).....	612
Midwest Poultry Consortium (IA).....	682
Milk Safety (PA).....	788
Minor Use Animal Drugs.....	588
Molluscan Shellfish (OR).....	365
Montana Sheep Institute.....	597
Multi-commodity Research (OR).....	353
Multi-cropping Strategies for Aquaculture (HI).....	0
National Beef Cattle Genetic Evaluation Consortium (NY, CO, GA).....	880
National Biological Impact Assessment Program (VA).....	264
National Center for Soybean Biotechnology (MO).....	987
Nematode Resistance Genetic Engineering (NM).....	139
Nevada Arid Rangelands Initiative (NV).....	504
New Crop Opportunities (AK).....	443
New Crop Opportunities (KY).....	760
Nursery, Greenhouse, Turf Specialties (AL).....	0
Oil Resources from Desert Plants (NM).....	211
Organic Cropping (WA).....	359
Organic Waste Utilization (NM).....	93
Oyster Post Harvest Treatment (FL).....	446
Ozone Air Quality (CA).....	401
Pasture and Forage Research (UT).....	225
Peach Tree Short Life (SC).....	278
Perennial Wheat (WA).....	141
Pest Control Alternatives (SC).....	282
Phytophthora Research (GA).....	258
Phytophthora Research (MI).....	500
Phytophthora Root Rot (NM).....	182
Pierce's Disease (CA).....	2,211
Plant, Drought, and Disease Resistance Gene Cataloging (NM).....	233
Potato Research.....	1,497
Precision Agriculture (KY).....	675
Preharvest Food Safety (KS).....	202
Preservation and Processing Research (OK).....	250
Protein Utilization (IA).....	845
Rangeland Ecosystems (NM).....	282
Regional Barley Gene Mapping Project (OR).....	682
Regionalized Implications of Farm Programs (MO, TX).....	860
Rice Agronomy (MO).....	250
Ruminant Nutrition Consortium (MT, ND, SD, WY).....	494
Rural Development Centers (LA, ND).....	230
Rural Obesity (NY).....	187
Rural Policies Institute (NE, IA, MO).....	1,205
Russian Wheat Aphid (CO).....	306
Seafood Harvesting, Processing and Marketing (AK).....	0
Seafood and Aquaculture Harvesting, Processing and Marketing (MS).....	0
Seafood Safety (MA).....	458
Seed Research (AK).....	0
Seed Technology (SD).....	360
Small Fruit Research (OR, WA, ID).....	443
Soil and Environmental Quality (DE).....	295
Southwest Consortium for Plant Genetics and Water Resources (NM).....	392
Soybean Cyst Nematode (MO).....	802
Soybean Research (IL).....	1,076
STEEP III -- Water Quality in Northwest.....	640
Sudden Oak Death (CA).....	98
Sustainable Agriculture (CA).....	515
Sustainable Agriculture (MI).....	384
Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources (PA).....	190
Sustainable Beef Supply (MT).....	984
Sustainable Engineered Materials from Renewable Sources (VA).....	700
Swine and Other Animal Waste Management (NC).....	489
Tick Borne Disease Prevention (RJ).....	150

Tillage, Silviculture, Waste Management (LA).....	500
Tri-state Joint Peanut Research (AL).....	591
Tropical Aquaculture (FL).....	211
Tropical and Subtropical Research/T-Star.....	9,548
Uniform Farm Management Program (MN).....	298
Value-added Product Development from Agricultural Resources (MT).....	405
Virtual Plant Database Enhancement Project (MO).....	705
Viticulture Consortium (NY, CA, PA).....	2,100
Water Conservation, (KS).....	74
Water Use Efficiency and Water Quality Enhancements (GA).....	494
Weed Control (ND).....	384
West Nile Virus (IL).....	0
Wetland Plants (LA).....	563
Wheat Genetic Research (KS).....	344
Wheat Sawfly Research (MT).....	521
Wine Grape Foundation Block (WA).....	322
Wood Utilization (OR, MS, NC, MN, ME, MI, ID, TN, AK, WV).....	6,435
Wool Research (TX, MT, WY).....	298
Subtotal, Special Research Grants.....	128,223
Improved Pest Control:	
Expert IPM Decision Support System.....	157
Integrated Pest Management.....	2,420
Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4).....	10,785
Pest Management Alternatives.....	1,436
Total, Improved Pest Control.....	14,798
Total, Special Research Grants.....	143,021

The conference agreement does not provide funding, within the National Research Initiative, for the competitive grants program as authorized under section 406 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement provides \$1,000,000 for Applied Agricultural and Environmental Research of which \$150,000 shall be for California State–Poly, and the remaining funds shall be equally divided among California State–Fresno, California State–San Luis Obispo, California State–Pomona, and California State–Chico.

The conference agreement provides \$350,000 to continue physical assessments of the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo watershed to evaluate the hydrological feasibility of water management improvements.

The conference agreement provides \$300,000 for air quality research of which \$150,000 each shall be for the University of California at Davis and Fresno State University to supplement existing research initiatives for bovine emissions and manure lagoon emissions.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the House regarding Polymer-based University Research.

The conference agreement provides \$1,612,000 for the Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute. Of that amount, the conferees provide an increase of \$75,000 above the fiscal year 2005 level for the Center for Agricultural and Trade Policies for the Northern Plains Region at North Dakota State University.

The conference agreement provides \$736,000 for grain sorghum research of which \$210,000 is for Texas Tech, \$149,000 is for Texas A&M, and \$377,000 is for Kansas State.

The conference agreement provides \$9,548,000 for the Tropical and Subtropical Research program for Florida and Hawaii as proposed by the House instead of \$4,699,000 for Hawaii as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$600,000 for aquaculture research of which \$300,000 shall be for Florida, and \$150,000 each for California (Hubbs Research Institute) and Texas (Mote Marine Laboratory/University of Texas).

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

The conference agreement provides \$12,000,000 for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund as proposed by both the House and Senate.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides \$455,955,000 for extension activities instead of \$444,871,000 as proposed by the House and \$453,438,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes \$2,000,000 for grants to youth organizations instead of \$2,646,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees note that the Extension Indian Reservation Program supports extension agents on large American Indian reservations to address the unique needs and problems of American Indian tribal nations. The funds provided are managed by the 1862 land-grant university in the state in which the reservation is located,

providing access to the university's knowledge base and structure to deliver needed information and programs. The conferees recognize the need for additional Indian extension agents, and urge the Department to work with tribal nations to develop a benchmark for appropriate staffing levels.

The following table reflects the conference agreement:

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service	
Extension Activities	
(Dollars in Thousands)	
	2006 Conference
Smith-Lever Sections 3(b) and 3(c).....	\$275,730
Smith-Lever Section 3(d):	
Farm Safety.....	4,563
Food and Nutrition Education (EFNEP).....	62,634
Indian Reservation Agents.....	1,996
New Technologies for Ag Extension.....	1,500
Pest Management.....	9,960
Sustainable Agriculture.....	4,067
Youth at Risk.....	7,728
Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification.....	444
Total Section 3(d) Programs.....	92,892
1890 Colleges and Tuskegee.....	33,868
1890 Facilities Grants (Sec. 1447).....	16,777
Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA).....	4,060
Rural Health and Safety Education.....	1,965
Extension Services at the 1994 Institutions.....	3,273
Grants to Youth Organizations.....	2,000
Subtotal.....	430,565
Federal Administration and Special Grants:	
Ag in the Classroom.....	865
Agricultural and Entrepreneurship Education (WI).....	250
Alabama Beef Connection.....	850
Beef Producers Improvement (AR).....	180
Conservation Technology Transfer (WI).....	486
Dairy Education (IA).....	229
Dairy Industry Revitalization (WI).....	298
Diabetes Detection, Prevention (WA).....	1,093
E-commerce (MS).....	331
Efficient Irrigation (NM, TX).....	2,325
Entrepreneurial Alternatives (PA).....	333
Extension Specialist (MS).....	132
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database (FARAD).....	806
Food Preparation and Marketing (AK).....	331
Food Product Development (AK).....	350
General Administration.....	6,922
Health Education Leadership (KY).....	843
Income Enhancement Demonstration (OH).....	1,247
Iowa Vitality Center.....	248
National Center for Agriculture Safety (LA).....	241
National Wild Turkey Federation.....	234
Northern Aquaculture Demonstration (WI).....	500
Nursery Production (RI).....	295
Nutrition Enhancement (WI).....	1,100
Ohio-Israel Agriculture Initiative.....	593
Oquirrh Institute.....	300
Pilot Technology Transfer (OK, MS).....	300
Pilot Technology Transfer (WI).....	250
Potato Pest Management (WI).....	400
Range Improvement (NM).....	244
Resilient Communities (NY).....	0
Rural Business Enhancement (WI).....	190
Rural Development (AK).....	683
Rural Development Through Tourism (NM).....	348
Rural Technologies (HI, WI).....	315

Urban Horticulture (WI).....	817
Urban Market Development (NY).....	273
Web-based Agriculture Classes (MO).....	0
Wood Biomass as an Alternative Farm Product (NY).....	188
Total, Federal Administration.....	25 390
Total, Extension Activities.....	\$455,955

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides \$55,792,000 for integrated activities instead of \$15,513,000 as proposed by the House and \$55,784,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The following table reflects the conference agreement:

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service	
Integrated Activities	
(Dollars in Thousands)	
2006	
<u>Conference</u>	
Water Quality.....	\$12,867
Food Safety.....	14,847
Regional Pest Management Centers.....	4,167
Crops at Risk from FQPA Implementation.....	1,389
FQPA Risk Mitigation Program for Major Food Crop Systems.....	4,464
Methyl Bromide Transition Program.....	3,106
Organic Transition Program.....	1,874
International Science and Education Grants Program.....	1,000
Critical Issues Program.....	744
Regional Rural Development Centers Program.....	1,334
Homeland Security, Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative.....	10,000
Total, Integrated Activities.....	\$55,792

OUTREACH FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS

The conference agreement provides \$6,000,000 for Outreach for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers instead of \$7,810,000 as proposed by the House and \$5,888,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND
REGULATORY PROGRAMS

The conference agreement provides \$724,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs as proposed by the House and the Senate.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$815,461,000 for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) instead of \$842,520,000 as proposed by the House and \$807,768,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides specific amounts for each program administered by APHIS, and directs appropriations for a number of projects and activities within the programs. Unless otherwise directed, APHIS shall implement appropriations by program, projects, and activities as specified by the Committees on Appropriations. The conferees expect APHIS to provide the specified amount for each program or activity, and expect that there will not be any redirection of funds without prior notification to and approval by the Committees on Appropriations, in accordance with the reprogramming procedures specified in this Act.

The conference agreement does not assume Animal Welfare Act user fees of \$10,858,000, as proposed in the President's budget request. Such fees are not authorized.

The following table reflects the conference agreement:

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

[In thousands of dollars]

<i>Program</i>	<i>FY 2006 Conference Recommendation</i>
Pest and Disease Exclusion:	
Agricultural quarantine inspection	27,524
Cattle ticks	7,627
Foreign animal diseases/FMD	8,743
Fruit fly exclusion and detection	59,976
Import-export inspection	12,493
Screwworm	28,000
Trade issues resolution management	12,583
Tropical bont tick	426
 Total, Pest and Disease Exclusion	 157,372
Plant and Animal Health Monitoring:	
Animal health monitoring and surveillance	147,449
Animal and plant health regulatory enforcement	10,399
Bio Surveillance	2,007
Emergency management systems	13,686
Pest detection	27,316
Select Agents	3,519

<i>Program</i>	<i>FY 2006 Conference Recommendation</i>
Wildlife Disease Monitoring and Surveillance	—
Total, Plant and Animal Health Monitoring	204,376
Pest and Disease Management:	
Aquaculture	1,262
Biological control	9,579
Boll weevil	39,000
Brucellosis	10,453
Chronic wasting disease	18,710
Emerging plant pests	100,217
Golden nematode	808
Grasshopper and Mormon cricket	5,555
Gypsy moth	4,818
Imported fire ant	2,154
Johnes disease	13,189
Low pathogen avian influenza	13,837
Noxious weeds	1,920
Pink bollworm	5,221
Plum pox	2,216
Pseudorabies	4,391
Scrapie	18,600
Tuberculosis	15,001
Wildlife services operations	77,927
Witchweed	1,527
Total, Pest and Disease Management	346,385
Animal Care:	
Animal welfare	17,478
Horse protection	497
Total, Animal Care	17,975
Scientific and Technical Services:	
Biosecurity	1,972
Information technology infrastructure	4,552
Biotechnology regulatory services	10,574
Environmental compliance	2,653
Plant methods development labs	8,535
Veterinary biologics	15,647
Veterinary diagnostics	22,890
Wildlife services methods development	17,390
Total, Scientific and Technical Services	84,213
Contingency fund	4,140
Physical security	1,000
Total, Salaries and Expenses	\$815,461

For fiscal year 2006, the conferees provide \$27,524,000 for the AQI appropriated account, which includes an increase of \$52,000 over the fiscal year 2005 funding level for interline activities in Hawaii. The conference agreement includes \$2,514,000 for the National Germplasm and Biotechnology Laboratory to operate its biosecurity level 3 greenhouse, and support detection of high-risk plant pathogens to protect the agriculture sector.

The conferees include \$59,976,000 for fruit fly exclusion and detection. Of that amount, \$2,758,000 is for fruit fly control in Texas, as requested.

The conferees are aware of the development of a strategic plan to address the threat of multiple fruit fly species to U.S. agriculture. While APHIS does participate in sterile fly production relating to the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, there are three other fruit fly species in Hawaii which pose serious threats to agricultural production in that and other states. The conferees are aware of an ex-

isting agency facility located on the island of Oahu which has been used to produce sterile fruit flies, and the Secretary is directed to take no action toward the dismantling or demolition of that facility since it may play a role in developing a multi-species fruit fly strategy for U.S. tropical and subtropical agriculture. The Secretary is also directed to work with representatives of the Hawaii agriculture sector in developing such a strategy and for possible inclusion of the existing APHIS facility in that regard.

The conferees provide \$12,493,000 for import-export inspection, including \$1,000,000 for a cooperative agreement with the California County Pest Detection Augmentation Program.

The conference agreement includes \$147,449,000 for Animal Health Monitoring and Surveillance. Within that amount, the conference agreement provides \$33,340,000 for the National Animal Identification System (NAIS), as requested. The conference agreement also includes an increase of \$2,500,000 for the Comprehensive Surveillance System.

The conference agreement provides the full amount requested, \$17,184,000, for surveillance and other activities related to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).

The conference agreement includes: \$600,000 for the Farm Animal Identification and Records (FAIR) program; funding of the New Mexico Rapid Syndrome Validation Program at \$547,000 to support early detection of pathogens in animals and prevent their spread; \$375,000 for Iowa State's work regarding risk assessments of genetically modified agricultural products; \$325,000 to address bio-safety issues relating to antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria in Vermont; \$50,000 for animal tracking in Washington; and \$50,000 for the Population Management Center, a collaboration between the Lincoln Park Zoo and the Davee Center for Epidemiology in Chicago, Illinois.

The conference agreement includes \$3,571,000 for cooperative agreements with states, \$1,900,000 for cooperative agreements as part of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, and \$8,930,000 for FMD/FAD surveillance.

The conference agreement includes \$13,686,000 for emergency management systems, which includes a total of \$4,307,000 for emergency coordinators and a total of \$3,000,000 for the vaccine bank.

The conference agreement includes \$27,316,000 for pest detection, including \$200,000 for a remote sensing, hyperspectral imaging and light detection and ranging project; an increase of \$100,000 for a cooperative agreement with California; and an increase of \$1,546,000 for surveys through the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Surveys system.

The conference agreement provides a total of \$3,519,000 for the Select Agents program. The funding for this program was transferred from the Import/Export and Pest Detection line items, as proposed in the President's budget request.

The conferees provide an increase of \$50,000 above the fiscal year 2005 level for the Greater Yellowstone Interagency Brucellosis Committee and an increase of \$50,000 for Montana.

For chronic wasting disease, the conferees provide \$18,710,000. The program provides funding to states in which the disease has

been found, including West Virginia. The conferees direct that of the total, \$1,750,000 is for Wisconsin; \$246,000 for Utah; \$247,000 for the Conservation Medicine Center of Chicago; \$50,000 for Colorado; and \$150,000 for Alaska to monitor chronic wasting disease.

The conferees direct the Secretary to publish in the Federal Register proposed regulations relating to the control of chronic wasting disease. The Secretary is further directed to provide notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate if this directive has not been achieved within 90 days of enactment and such notice shall include a description of actions taken and a timetable for publication in the Federal Register.

The conference agreement includes \$100,217,000 for plant pests. The conferees provide \$36,629,000 for citrus canker eradication; \$24,250,000 for Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged sharpshooter; \$10,000,000 for Emerald Ash borer; \$1,500,000 for Karnal Bunt; and \$3,076,000 for Sudden Oak Death. The conferees provide \$500,000 for hydrilla eradication around Lake Gaston in Virginia and North Carolina. Funding for olive fruit fly is continued at the fiscal year 2005 level.

The conference agreement includes \$20,000,000 for Asian longhorned beetle activities. The conferees direct that no less than the fiscal year 2005 level be provided for activities in Chicago, Illinois. The conferees also direct that sufficient resources be allocated for activities in New York.

The conferees note their continued concern regarding the devastation caused by citrus canker. The conference agreement includes \$36,629,000 for eradication and control activities. Additional funds have recently been made available by the Administration. In September 2005, the Secretary announced that USDA had provided \$53,750,000 in emergency funding for eradication and control, and in October 2005, he announced \$200,000,000 in disaster relief funding to compensate commercial growers for losses. Although the conferees understand that these funds do not cover total needs, particularly since the hurricanes that hit Florida in 2004 contributed to the spread of disease, the investment to date has been substantial. In total, over \$740,000,000 in federal funding has been provided to address needs related to citrus canker. The conferees will continue to monitor the situation, and encourage the Administration to continue its support of the industry.

The conferees expect the Secretary of Agriculture to continue to utilize his authority to transfer funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to assist states with the arrest and eradication of animal and plant pests and diseases that threaten American agriculture.

The conference agreement provides \$13,189,000 for Johne's Disease. Of that amount, no less than the fiscal year 2005 level shall be available for activities in Wisconsin.

The conferees note that a total of \$28,337,000 is available for activities related to the prevention, control, and eradication of avian influenza, including \$12,000,000 in carryover funds for indemnities. A program increase of \$3,000,000 for detection, control, and eradication activities is provided in the conference agreement.

The conferees provide \$1,920,000 for the noxious weeds account. This amount includes \$50,000 for weed management in Nevada.

The conference agreement includes the amount requested, \$2,216,000, for surveillance and control of the plum pox virus. In addition, approximately \$600,000 is available for the program from carryover funds. The conferees understand that the virus has not moved beyond the borders of Pennsylvania, but are concerned about recent positive findings in the state. The conferees expect that if the incidence of plum pox virus increases, APHIS will use its authorities for emergency funding to support surveillance and removal and destruction of infected trees.

The conferees are aware of an outbreak of bovine tuberculosis in New Mexico and, in response, that an MOU has been executed between USDA and that state. The conferees urge the Secretary to use authorities and resources of the Department to provide testing, monitoring, surveillance, and other services, as needed, toward the control and eradication of this disease.

The conferees direct that, other than funding for the specific items noted in this statement, the funds provided in the Wildlife Services Operations line item are available for general operations needs.

The conferees do not concur with the President's request to reduce funding in the Wildlife Services account to allow cooperators to assume a larger share of the costs associated with these activities.

The conferees provide \$1,200,000 for wolf predation management, of which \$1,050,000 is for Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan, and \$150,000 is for New Mexico and Arizona.

The conference agreement continues funding for the following projects: \$300,000 for beaver management in North Carolina; \$250,000 for crop and aquaculture losses in Southeast Missouri; \$625,000 for game bird predation work with the University of Georgia; \$150,000 for predation wildlife services in western and south-side Virginia; \$135,000 for blackbird control in Louisiana; \$1,337,000 for predator control programs in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming; \$1,000,000 for wildlife services in Texas; \$225,000 for beaver management and damage in Wisconsin; \$50,000 for control of feral hogs in Missouri; \$1,000,000 for cormorant control in New York; \$200,000 for cormorant control in Michigan; \$150,000 for cormorant control in the Lake Champlain basin; \$750,000 for wildlife service operations with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks; \$539,000 for the management of beavers in Mississippi; \$380,000 to continue control measures for minimizing blackbird damage to sunflowers in North Dakota and South Dakota; \$172,000 for Kansas blackbird control; \$342,000 for the Jack Berryman Institute, Utah; \$247,000 for Kentucky State operations; \$321,000 for Delta states operations; \$196,000 for geese control in New York; and \$250,000 for the New Hampshire State operations. The conference agreement does not include \$100,000 increases for state operations in Alaska, Tennessee or Pennsylvania, as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes \$10,700,000 for wildlife control in Western states.

The conference agreement provides \$404,000 for activities in Hawaii and Guam. The conferees expect these funds to be used to enhance activities for control of pest species. In addition, the conference agreement provides \$950,000 for brown tree snake control.

The conference agreement includes \$23,580,000 for a cooperative oral rabies vaccination program, an increase of \$2,000,000 over the fiscal year 2005 level. The conferees encourage APHIS to make use of existing funds to appropriately address rabies in Broward County, Florida.

Within the amount provided for wildlife surveillance, the conference agreement provides an increase of \$100,000 for remote diagnostics and wildlife disease surveillance activities with North Dakota State University and Dickinson State University.

The conferees provide an increase of \$1,900,000 for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, as requested. Within the total, \$375,000 is included for an agriculture biosecurity center in Kansas.

The conference agreement includes \$17,390,000 for wildlife services methods development. Within that amount, the conferees provide \$419,000 in funding for the National Wildlife Research Station in Kingsville, Texas, to address emerging infectious disease issues associated with wildlife populations; an increase of \$175,000 for the Jack Berryman Institute, Mississippi; and an increase of \$118,000 for the Utah Predator Research Station.

The conferees support the microchipping of pets for identification under a system of open microchip technology in which all scanners can read all chips. The conferees direct APHIS to develop the appropriate regulations that allow for universal reading ability and best serve the interests of pet owners. The conferees also direct APHIS to take into consideration the effect such regulation may have on the current practice of microchipping pets in this country, and to report to the Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act on progress toward that end.

The conferees are aware of the scientific achievements that have been made possible through the use of laboratory animals. However, the conferees also strongly support strict enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, including regulatory oversight of the trade by Class B animal dealers. The Secretary is directed to report to the Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate by March 1, 2006, on enforcement actions taken in the regulation of Class B animal dealers. Such report should also include information regarding the frequency of inspection of Class B dealers, the allocation of resources for that purpose, and other actions of the Department.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The conference agreement provides \$4,996,000 for Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Buildings and Facilities as proposed by the House and the Senate.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

The conference agreement provides \$75,376,000 for the Agricultural Marketing Service instead of \$78,032,000 as proposed by

the House and \$76,643,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement does not include \$2,918,000 in standardization fees, as proposed in the President's budget. These fees are not currently authorized in law.

The conference agreement does not include funding under this account for a web-based supply chain management system, but does provide funding for the system under the Funds for Strengthening Markets, Income, and Supply (section 32) Account.

The conferees provide \$2,026,000 for activities relating to organic standards, \$15,262,000 for the Pesticide Data Program, and \$2,927,000 for Pesticide Recordkeeping, as requested in the budget, and an increase of \$1,000,000 for activities related to country of origin labeling enforcement.

The conference agreement includes \$1,000,000 for the Farmers' Market Promotion Program, to make grants to eligible entities for the purposes of establishing, expanding, and promoting farmers' markets. The conferees direct that no entity shall receive more than \$75,000 in funding from the program, and request a report on the grants made, including the entity, purpose, and location, and administrative costs of the program within 180 days of enactment.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$65,667,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate.

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

The conference agreement provides \$16,055,000 for Funds for Strengthening Markets, Income, and Supply as proposed by the House and the Senate.

In addition, the conferees provide not less than \$20,000,000 for the first phase of development of the Web-based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) system, which will benefit the programs of the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Farm Service Agency, and the Food and Nutrition Service, as well as enhancing food distribution to schools and other feeding outlets. The conferees note that administrative expenses to support commodity purchases are expressly allowed in the authorizing legislation, and Section 32 funds, accordingly, should be used to fund the development of the WBSCM system.

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

The conference agreement provides \$3,847,000 for Payments to States and Possessions as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,347,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes bill language and funding for a specialty markets grant as proposed by the Senate.

GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$38,443,000 for the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration as proposed by the Senate instead of \$38,400,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement fully funds the requested increase for pay costs and the development of an information disaster recovery program, and provides an increase of \$225,000 for other high priority budgeted increases. The conference agreement does not include \$24,701,000 in grain standardization and Packers and Stockyards licensing fees, as proposed in the President's budget. These fees are not currently authorized in law.

The conferees remain very interested in the study on marketing arrangements that GIPSA has undertaken with \$4,500,000 provided in fiscal year 2003 for that purpose. Although the study was delayed, the conferees have been informed that it is scheduled for completion in mid-2006 and that the total cost is not affected. The conferees direct GIPSA to provide quarterly updates and report the study findings to the Committees on Appropriations by June 30, 2006.

The conference agreement includes \$500,000 to continue the product verification protocols pilot program, in conjunction with the Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa Corn Growers Associations. The pilot program is to establish controls for regulated seed varieties and augment grain marketing.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$42,463,000 for Limitation on Inspection and Weighing Services Expenses as proposed by the House and Senate.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

The conference agreement provides \$602,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety as proposed by the Senate instead of \$590,000 as proposed by the House.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

The conference agreement provides \$837,756,000 for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, instead of \$837,264,000 as proposed by the House and \$836,818,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement does not assume Food Safety Inspection user fees of \$139,000,000, as proposed in the President's budget request. Such fees are not authorized.

The conferees include bill language, as proposed by the Senate, regarding full-time equivalent positions for inspections and enforcement of laws and regulations related to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act.

The conference agreement provides \$4,000,000 for FSIS to continue the incorporation of the Humane Activities Tracking (HAT) system into the Field Automation and Information Management (FAIM) system at slaughter plants throughout the country. This system will assist in connecting the HAT data into FSIS' broader

food safety and food security communications infrastructure. In addition, this will provide FSIS with access to real-time information, assisting in the detection and prevention of potential food safety problems at FSIS-inspected facilities throughout the country.

The conference agreement provides the following increases: \$2,236,000 for frontline inspection improvement; \$1,008,000 for food safety employee training; \$417,000 for biosurveillance; and \$2,500,000 for laboratory capacity. The conference agreement also provides \$2,976,000 for BSE surveillance, as requested, and \$2,000,000 for microbiological baseline studies.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE, FUNDING BY ACTIVITY

[In thousands of dollars]

Food Safety & Inspection:	
Federal	\$753,252
State	53,790
International	19,551
Codex	3,002
FAIM Project	8,161
Total	837,756

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

The conference agreement provides \$635,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services as proposed by the House and the Senate.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$1,030,000,000 for the Farm Service Agency instead of \$1,023,738,000 as proposed by the House and \$1,043,555,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes the following increases: \$15,944,000 for pay cost; \$15,018,000 to maintain staffing levels being funded from carryover balances in fiscal year 2005; \$2,900,000 for the National Agricultural Imagery Program, of which \$300,000 is for a pilot Automated Crop Cultivation Assessment Tool; and \$1,500,000 for the enhancement and management of the agriculture imagery catalog repositories and data warehouses as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees direct that of the funds available to the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency, \$24,000,000 shall be for the National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP). This amount is in addition to any provided by cooperating funds from any other federal, state, or local government funding for NAIP.

The conferees note that USDA has set aside the FSA Tomorrow plan and expect USDA to exercise a cautious approach toward any county or local office closures.

The conferees are aware of the successful partnership between FSA and the National Tribal Development Authority in providing credit outreach to American Indian producers, which offers tribal members an equal opportunity to participate in farm loan programs. The National FSA American Indian Credit Outreach initiative reaches tribal members across the country, and has dem-

onstrated continued success in increasing participation and reducing defaults since its inception in 2001. Recent funding concerns have created some uncertainty for the future of this program. The conferees encourage FSA to continue its partnership with NTDA for its credit outreach initiatives.

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

The conference agreement provides \$4,250,000 for State Mediation Grants, as proposed by the House and Senate.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$3,750,000 for the Grassroots Source Water Protection Program instead of no funding as proposed by the House and \$4,250,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Funding for this program in previous fiscal years has been provided through the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$100,000 for the Dairy Indemnity Program, as proposed by the House and Senate.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The following table reflects the conference agreement:

Farm Ownership Loans:	
Direct	(\$208,000,000)
Subsidy	10,650,000
Guaranteed	(1,400,000,000)
Subsidy	6,720,000
Farm Operating Loans:	
Direct	(650,000,000)
Subsidy	64,675,000
Unsubsidized Guaranteed	(1,150,000,000)
Subsidy	34,845,000
Subsidized Guaranteed	(274,632,000)
Subsidy	34,329,000
Indian Tribe Land Acquisition	(2,020,000)
Subsidy	81,000
Boll Weevil Eradication	(100,000,000)
Subsidy	0
ACIF Expenses:	
Salaries and Expenses	304,591,000
Administrative Expenses	8,000,000

The conference agreement provides for a transfer of \$304,591,000 to salaries and expenses instead of \$297,127,000 as proposed by the House and \$309,137,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of this amount, \$4,194,000 shall be used for increased salary costs, \$7,483,000 shall be used for the highest priority operating expenses, and no less than \$1,500,000 shall be used to hire and train additional farm loan officers and managers.

The conference agreement provides no new budget authority for the emergency loan program. Currently, this loan program has over \$152,000,000 available for eligible producers. Based on historical loan activity, this amount should meet all needs for emergency loans in this fiscal year.

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The conference agreement provides \$77,048,000 for the Risk Management Agency instead of \$77,806,000 as proposed by the House and \$73,448,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$3,600,000 in discretionary funds for data mining and data warehousing activities to address the program compliance and integrity functions of the federal crop insurance program. The conferees will only provide one-time funding for these activities within discretionary funds, and recommend the Agency seek mandatory funds as previously authorized under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. §§ 1501–1524) as proposed by the House.

Within the total funding for the Risk Management Agency, the conference agreement provides an increase of \$1,000,000 for the Agency's Emerging Information Technology Architecture initiative, instead of \$1,463,000 as proposed by the House.

The conferees urge the Risk Management Agency to initiate a pilot program that would evaluate the effectiveness of lamb price insurance for sheep producers of all size operations and geography as proposed by the House, and a second that would conduct an actuarial study, in conjunction with North Dakota State University, addressing an optional insurance program in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota on wheat, barley, soybeans, and corn as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees are aware of aerial platform multi-spectral digital imaging and its potential application in facilitating the accurate measurement of crop insurance claims. The conferees encourage the Secretary to consider the development of a pilot program with the University of Minnesota to advance the application of this technology to the claims process.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

The conference agreement provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund (estimated to be \$3,159,379,000 in the President's fiscal year 2006 Budget Request), as proposed by the House and Senate.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

The conference agreement provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses of the Commodity Credit Corporation (estimated to be \$25,690,000,000 in the President's fiscal year 2006 Budget Request), as proposed by the House and Senate.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

The conference agreement provides a limitation of \$5,000,000 for Hazardous Waste Management, as proposed by the House and Senate.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

The conference agreement provides \$744,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conferees note that the Natural Resources Conservation Service underwent a reorganization in early 2004. In discussions about the reorganization with the Committees on Appropriations, the Department agreed to revisit the reorganization in two to three years to determine its effectiveness and address any concerns of the Committees. The conferees direct the Department to consult with the Committees prior to conducting an analysis of the reorganization, and describing how it has met the needs of the Service, Congress, and stakeholders.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

The conference agreement includes \$839,519,000 for Conservation Operations, instead of \$773,640,000 as proposed by the House and \$819,561,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$27,500,000 for the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative, \$10,650,000 for snow surveys, \$10,547,000 for Plant Materials Centers, and \$88,149,000 for the Soil Surveys Program. The budget authority provided for the Plant Materials Centers does not include funds for completion of the Alaska Plant Materials Center, as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement requires funds appropriated for Conservation Operations be available until May 31, 2007. The conferees direct the Secretary to report to the Committees no later than July 1, 2006, on any projects or activities for which funds have been specifically provided by this Act that have not been obligated by that date. Such a report shall include the reasons for which the obligations have not been made and a timetable indicating when those obligations shall occur.

Funding for fiscal year 2005 projects is not continued in fiscal year 2006 unless specifically mentioned in this statement of the managers. The following funds are directed to be used in cooperative agreements continued with the same cooperator entities as in the fiscal year 2005 agreements, except as noted: Cooperative agreement between the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Alabama Wildlife Federation for conservation education (AL)—\$446,000; Cooperative agreement with the Alabama Association of Conservation Districts (AL)—\$100,000; Obtain/evaluate materials for cold region seeds of plants in conjunction w/Alaska Division of Agriculture (AK)—\$300,000; Native Plant Materials (commercialization) (AK)—\$300,000; NRI pilot development (AK)—\$500,000; Cooperative agreement w/Soil and Water Conservation Districts (AK)—\$1,488,000; National Water Management Center (AR)—\$2,750,000; Study to determine logistics of transportation/coordination of excess nutrients (AR)—\$225,000; Small Farm Wetlands Management Center w/University of Arkan-

sas at Pine Bluff (AR)—\$125,000; East Valley Conservation District/Santa Ana Watershed Authority Plant Removal (CA)—\$1,000,000; Monterey Bay Sanctuary (CA)—\$600,000; Cooperative agreement with the Municipal Water District of Orange County California (CA)—\$200,000; Cooperative agreement w/Tufts University to improve conservation practices (CT)—\$500,000; Pilot projects for technology systems resulting in nutrient reduction (FL)—\$6,000,000; Manatee Agriculture Reuse System (FL)—\$2,000,000; Lake Okeechobee Watershed project planning (FL)—\$350,000; Suwannee, Dixie, and Lafayette Counties dairy and poultry waste treatment (FL)—\$1,000,000; Cooperative agreement w/Green Institute (FL)—\$400,000; Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission Cooperative Agreement (GA)—\$3,700,000; Community nutrient management facilities (GA)—\$350,000; Cooperative agreement w/GSU for the Altamaha River Basin water quality project (GA)—\$100,000; Agricultural development/resource conservation (HI)—\$900,000; Idaho One Plan (ID)—\$200,000; cooperative agreement w/the College of S. Idaho (ID)—\$125,000; Trees Forever Program (IL)—\$100,000; Illinois River Agricultural Conservation Project w/ Ducks Unlimited (IL)—\$242,000; Wildlife habitat education program in conjunction w/ National Wild Turkey Federation (IL)—\$242,000; Kane County, Smart Growth Floodplain Monitoring Project (IL)—\$600,000; Planning/ops in Illinois River watershed w/ Peoria County (IL)—\$175,000; Illinois River Basin (IL)—\$600,000 through EQIP; Hungry Canyon/Loess Hills Erosion Control/Western Iowa (IA)—\$1,200,000; Trees Forever Program (IA)—\$100,000; CEMSA w/Iowa Soybean Association (IA)—\$432,000; Cooperative agreement w/ Northern Iowa University (IA)—\$446,000; Soil erosion control cost-share program/soil survey program (KY)—\$3,000,000; Technical assistance to provide grants to Soil Conservation Districts (KY)—\$1,000,000; Cooperative agreement w/ Western Ky. University (KY)—\$396,000; Dairy waste remediation-Lake Ponchartrain Basin (LA)—\$295,000; Cooperative agreement w/ LSU on effectiveness of agriculture and forestry (LA)—\$400,000; False River sedimentation/Bayou Grosse (LA)—\$200,000; Union-Lincoln Parish Regional Water Conservation w/Lincoln Parish (LA)—\$125,000; Chesapeake Bay activities (MD)—\$6,000,000; Conservation related to cranberry production (MA/WI)—\$600,000; Weed It Now-Taconic Mountains (MA/NY/CT)—\$200,000; Great Lakes pilot program for conservation (MI)—\$600,000; Conservation in the Driftless area w/Southwest Badger RC&D (MN/WI)—\$263,000; Mississippi Conservation Initiative (MS)—\$10,000,000; Delta Water Resources Study (MS)—\$694,000; Delta Conservation Demonstration Center, Washington County (MS)—\$1,389,000; Soil erosion/Alcorn State (MS)—\$192,000; Cattle and nutrient management in stream crossings (MS)—\$893,000; Choctaw County feasibility study for surface impoundment (MS)—\$250,000; Wildlife Habitat Management Institute (MS)—\$5,766,000; Alluvial Floodplain Conservation (MS)—\$750,000; Soil Monitoring Pilot Project (MT)—\$150,000; Upper White River Water Quality Project in southern MO—\$431,000; Carson City Erosion Control Project w/ Carson City (NV)—\$375,000; Rangeland Conservation w/ Nevada Fire Safety Council (NV)—\$125,000; State conservation cost share program (NJ)—\$1,000,000; Riparian restoration activities along Rio

Grande and Pecos (NM)—\$537,000; Pastureland Management/Rotational Grazing (NY)—\$600,000; Best management practices/Skaneateles and Owasco Watersheds (NY)—\$325,000; Address non-point pollution in Onondaga and Oneida Lake Watersheds (NY)—\$500,000; Watershed Agriculture Council in Walton (NY)—\$720,000; Pace University Land Use Law Center (NY)—\$200,000; New York State Agriculture and Environment Program (NY)—\$800,000; Long Island Sound watershed initiative (NY)—\$200,000; Erosion control/stabilization for Hudson River shoreline at Tarrytown (NY)—\$250,000; Technical assistance to livestock/poultry industry (NC)—\$450,000; West Cary Watershed and Farmland Protection Project (NC)—\$298,000; North Central Planning Council water utilization/ Devil's Lake (ND)—\$350,000; Maumee Watershed Hydrological Study and Flood Mitigation Plan (OH)—\$1,000,000; Lake Erie Wetlands Conservation Corridors Project (OH)—\$125,000; Cooperative agreement with Chemeketa Community College for the Oregon Garden, Silverton (OR) —\$325,000; Conservation in Klamath and Lake Co. w/ Klamath County Economic Development Association (OR)—\$175,000; Soil Survey Work in the State w/ MapCoast Partnership (RI)—\$100,000; Study to characterize land use change while preserving natural resources in cooperation with Clemson University (SC)—\$1,190,000; Bexar, Medina, Uvalde Counties irrigation in Edwards Aquifer (TX)—\$500,000; Field office telecommunications pilot program/advanced soil survey methods (TX)—\$2,400,000; Range vegetation pilot project, Ft. Hood (TX)—\$500,000; Texas Water Resources Institute cooperative agreement for Tarrant County (\$500,000) and Hood County (\$100,000) (TX)—\$600,000; AFO/CAFO Pilot Project (UT)—\$300,000; Study to examine effects of vegetative manipulation on water yields w/ Utah State (UT)—\$800,000; Washington Fields (UT)—\$3,000,000; Utah Conservation Initiative (UT)—\$5,000,000; Reduce phosphorus loading into Lake Champlain (VT)—\$300,000; Pilot farm viability program project (VT)—\$300,000; Walla Walla watershed alliance (WA)—\$500,000; Design/implement natural stream restoration initiatives (WV)—\$800,000; Soil survey geographic database in the Mid-Atlantic Highlands (WV)—\$200,000; Poultry Litter Composting (WV)—\$160,000; Potomac and Ohio River Basin Soil Nutrient Project (WV)—\$300,000; Appalachian Small Farmer Outreach Program (WV)—\$860,000; GIS Center of Excellence, West Virginia University (WV)—\$4,500,000; Multiflora Rose Control w/ West Virginia State Conservation Agency (WV)—\$750,000; Grazing Lands Initiative/Wisconsin Department of Agriculture (WI)—\$950,000; Conservation land internship program (WI)—\$120,000; Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Committee cooperative agreement (WI)—\$300,000; Cooperative agreement with Sand County Foundation (WI)—\$1,200,000; University of Wisconsin cooperative agreement on conservation tech transfer (WI)—\$300,000; Cooperative agreement Pioneer Farm (WI)—\$300,000; Soil survey mapping project (WY)—\$300,000; Audubon at Home Pilot Program—\$500,000; Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil & Erosion Sediment—\$2,500,000; On-Farm Management Systems Evaluation Network—\$250,000; Watershed management demo program/NPPC—\$548,000; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Partnerships—\$3,000,000; and Operation Oak to restore

hardwoods—\$400,000. The conference agreement includes funding for the Grassroots Source Water Protection Program in a separate account.

The conferees direct that the funding included in this account for the Community Nutrient Management Facilities project and the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission Cooperative Agreement be provided to the Commission through the state NRCS office in a timely manner and in total, not in part, so that vital water projects in Georgia are not delayed. Of the funds provided for the Community Nutrient Management Facilities, \$100,000 is for a contract with the Georgia Rural Water Association to continue the Lagoon Waste Management Demonstration program at agricultural and municipal sludge disposal facilities.

The conference agreement provides \$6,000,000 for the continued implementation of pilot projects for innovative technology systems resulting in a 75 percent reduction in nutrients of waste stream discharged by animal feeding operations to be managed by Farm Pilot Project Coordination, Inc. The Secretary is directed to release these funds after submitting a report to the Committees on Appropriations that a satisfactory cooperative agreement between the NRCS and Farm Pilot Project Coordination, Inc. has been consummated.

The conference agreement provides \$27,500,000 for the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative. This is \$4,188,000 more than the fiscal year 2005 level. The conferees expect the additional funds will be used to enhance efforts to manage and prevent the spread of invasive species. The conferees encourage the agency to make western range lands a priority when allocating funding.

The conferees support the NRCS proposal to use Conservation Innovation Grants to support the goals of the Wildlife Habitat Management Institute.

WATERSHED SURVEYS AND PLANNING

The conference agreement provides \$6,083,000 for Watershed Surveys and Planning instead of \$7,026,000 as proposed by the House and \$5,141,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees direct that the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service evaluate and rank efforts currently underway in order to fund and complete the most promising projects, based upon merit, and notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the selected watershed projects. In addition, the agency is directed not to initiate any new planning starts for projects not otherwise specifically provided for by this Act.

WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

The conference agreement provides \$75,000,000 for Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations instead of \$60,000,000 as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conferees include bill language which limits the amount spent on technical assistance to not more than \$30,000,000.

WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$31,561,000 for the Watershed Rehabilitation Program instead of \$47,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$27,313,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees direct that funding under this program be provided for rehabilitation of structures determined to be of high priority need in order to protect property and ensure public safety.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement provides \$51,300,000 for Resource Conservation and Development instead of \$51,360,000 as proposed by the House and \$51,228,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees include bill language as proposed by the House that directs the Secretary to enter into an agreement with a national association related to the Resource Conservation and Development program, and directs that such an agreement must maintain the same matching, contribution requirements and funding set forth in previous agreements.

The conferees also include bill language that limits funding for national headquarters activities as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement restores this account, rather than accepting the budget proposal to defund the 189 Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils that have been in existence for twenty years or more. The conferees would expect any such budget proposal to be based on the effectiveness and performance of the Councils rather than on Council age. The conferees direct that NRCS work with the Councils to develop appropriate measures of effectiveness for both conservation and economic development.

TITLE III—RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement provides \$635,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development as proposed by the Senate instead of \$627,000 as proposed by the House.

The conferees direct the Under Secretary to give consideration to the following projects or organizations requesting financial and/or technical assistance, and grants and/or loans made available under the Rural Development mission area: Farm Counseling Project of Rural Services of Indiana (IN), to start a co-op; Northeast Texas (TX) Community College/Hanson-Sewell Center, to build a community outreach center; Navajo Tribal Utility Authority-Crownpoint Chapter (NM); a water and waste water system for Franklin County (ID); a water and waste water system for Franklin City (ID); a water and waste system for Dayton City (ID); a water and waste system for Preston City (ID); a water and waste system for Weston City (ID); Tuscarora Township (MI), Indian River wastewater system; Hartselle (AL), water works environmental education; Orangeburg County (SC), Felderville Church Road water project; Decatur County (IA), Decatur County Development Corporation; Franklin Furnace (OH), sewer and road improvements; Assumption Parish (LA), water and waste water infra-

structure; a water and waste system for Lodi (CA); Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (VT), farmers market; Scottsville Streetscape Project (VA); and the Chautauqua County (KS) Rural Water District No. 4.

The conferees expect the Under Secretary to approve these projects only when such applications are judged to be meritorious when subject to established review procedures.

The conferees are aware that the Department has previously provided funding for the National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP). The NRDP, and its associated State Rural Development Councils, facilitate interagency coordination and provide programmatic guidance for rural development at several levels. The State Rural Development Councils are uniquely positioned to support the work of the National Rural Development Coordinating Committee (NRDCC), which recently began operations. The conferees expect funds to be provided for the NRDP and State Rural Development Councils at a level comparable to fiscal year 2004. The Department is strongly encouraged to utilize funds outside of the Rural Development mission area and to solicit the participation of federal departments and agencies, nongovernmental organizations serving rural stakeholders, and State Rural Development Councils in support of the work of the NRDCC.

RURAL COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$701,941,000 for the Rural Community Advancement Program (RCAP) instead of \$657,389,000 as proposed by the House and \$705,106,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$82,620,000 for rural community programs; \$530,100,000 for rural utilities programs, of which \$1,000,000 is for grants to nonprofit organizations to finance construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individually-owned household water well systems in rural areas, and of which \$500,000 is for revolving funds for financing water and wastewater projects; and \$89,221,000 is for rural business and cooperative development programs.

The conference agreement provides \$25,000,000 for loans and grants to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes.

The conference agreement provides \$4,464,000 for community facilities grants to tribal colleges.

The conference agreement provides \$6,350,000 for the Rural Community Development Initiative.

The conference agreement does not include in this account, \$140,000 for a feasibility study for a cooperative sheep slaughter facility.

The conference agreement provides \$2,000,000 for grants to the Delta Regional Authority.

The conference agreement provides \$25,000,000 for rural and native villages in Alaska.

The conference agreement provides \$18,250,000 for technical assistance grants for rural water and waste systems, unless the Secretary makes a determination of extreme need.

The conference agreement provides \$5,600,000 for the Rural Community Assistance Programs and not less than \$850,000 shall

be for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for tribal communities.

The conference agreement provides \$13,750,000 for a circuit rider program.

The conference agreement provides \$18,000,000 for facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression.

The conference agreement provides \$26,000,000 to be transferred to the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account.

The following table indicates the distribution of funding for the RCAP:

Community:	
Community facility loan subsidies	\$10,806,000
Community facility grants	17,000,000
Economic impact initiative grants	18,000,000
High energy costs grants	26,000,000
Rural community development initiative	6,350,000
Tribal college grants	4,464,000
Subtotal, community	82,620,000
Business:	
Business and industry guaranteed loan subsidies	44,221,000
Rural business enterprise grants	40,000,000
Rural business opportunity grants	3,000,000
Delta regional authority	2,000,000
Subtotal, business	89,221,000
Utilities:	
Water and waste disposal direct loan subsidies	69,100,000
Water and waste disposal grants	456,000,000
Solid waste management grants	3,500,000
Well system grants	1,000,000
Water and wastewater revolving funds	500,000
Subtotal, utilities	530,100,000
Total, loan subsidies and grants	\$701,941,000
Directed spending:	
Federally Recognized Native American Tribes	25,000,000
Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation	750,000
Colonias	25,000,000
Alaska Villages	25,000,000
Technical Assistance	18,250,000
Circuit Rider	13,750,000
EZ/EC and REAP	21,367,000
RCAP	5,600,000

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$164,625,000 for Rural Development Salaries and Expenses instead of \$152,623,000 as proposed by the House and \$164,773,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides an increase of \$11,147,000 within the Rural Development Salaries and Expenses account to complete the consolidation of St. Louis Rural Development activities at the Goodfellow facility. Rural Development reported to the Committees on Appropriations on July 18, 2005, that this amount is based on revised numbers resulting from discussions between the General Services Administration and Rural Development to accomplish the move. The conferees request the Department to pro-

vide the Committees on Appropriations a report on the status of the consolidation within 60 days after enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter.

RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides a total subsidy of \$242,108,000 for activities under the Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account instead of \$233,391,000 as proposed by the House and \$228,983,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides for an estimated loan program level of \$5,078,380,000 instead of \$5,079,349,000 as proposed by the House and \$4,927,581,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides for a transfer of \$454,809,000 to salaries and expenses instead of \$455,242,000 as proposed by the House and \$465,886,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes a provision authorizing housing funds initially allocated to Alaska to be available until September 30, 2007.

The conference agreement includes bill language making the section 515 rental housing program available for repair, rehabilitation, and new construction.

The conference agreement provides \$9,000,000 to carry out a demonstration program for projects financed under the section 515 program. The conferees intend that the Department assist section 515 owners in revitalizing and preserving the section 515 portfolio through financial options provided in this demonstration and consistent with recommendations provided in the Comprehensive Property Assessment report released by the Department in 2004. The conferees expect that owners assisted under this demonstration program shall be required to maintain the housing assisted under this demonstration as affordable, as determined by the Secretary, for the remaining term of the original loan or the term of a restructured loan, whichever is longer.

The conference agreement provides \$1,000,000 for the Secretary to acquire the necessary automation and technical support needed to restructure section 515 mortgages. The conferees encourage the Secretary to contract with third parties with expertise in multifamily housing finance, mortgage restructuring, development, market analysis, management, finance, taxation and other requirements as determined by the Secretary.

The following table indicates loan and subsidy levels provided in the conference agreement:

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Loan authorizations:	
Single family direct (sec. 502)	(\$1,140,799,000)
Single family unsubsidized guaranteed	(3,681,033,000)
Housing repair (sec. 504)	(35,000,000)
Rental housing (sec. 515)	(100,000,000)
Site development loans (sec. 524)	(5,000,000)
Multi-family guarantees (sec. 538)	(100,000,000)
Multi-family housing credit sales	(1,500,000)
Single family housing credit sales	(10,000,000)

Self help housing land development	(5,048,000)
Total, Loan authorizations	(\$5,078,380,000)
<hr/>	
Loan subsidies:	
Single family direct (sec. 502)	\$129,937,000
Single family unsubsidized guaranteed	40,900,000
Housing repair (sec. 504)	10,238,000
Rental housing (sec. 515)	45,880,000
Site development loans (sec. 524)	—
Multi-family guarantees (sec. 538)	5,420,000
Multi-family housing credit sales	681,000
Single family housing credit sales	—
Self help housing land development	52,000
Subtotal, Loan subsidies	233,108,000
Multi-family housing preservation	9,000,000
Total, Loan subsidies	\$242,108,000
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RHIF administration expenses (transfer to RD)	\$454,809,000
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RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$653,102,000 for the Rental Assistance Program as proposed by the Senate instead of \$650,026,000 as proposed by the House. Of this amount, the conference agreement includes up to \$8,000,000 for debt forgiveness and payments to enhance preservation efforts and not to exceed \$50,000 per project for advances to nonprofit organizations or public agencies to cover direct costs incurred in purchasing projects.

The conference agreement provides additional funding above the budget request for debt forgiveness. The conference agreement also includes a provision that will deobligate the cost of rental assistance in section 515 projects that are subject to prepayment and reallocate these funds through a separate funding stream for the cost of the vouchers and debt forgiveness consistent with the requirements of this Act. These funds are in addition to funds otherwise provided for such activities in this Act.

RURAL HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$16,000,000 for the Rural Housing Voucher Program as proposed by the Senate. The House did not provide funding for this program.

The conference agreement provides adequate funding for vouchers as a safety net to prevent the displacement of low-income rural tenants that currently reside in section 515 projects that are subject to prepayment or foreclosure of their existing loans. The conference agreement does not alter prepayment restrictions or intend for vouchers to be used in a property that would not be eligible or able to prepay without the use of such voucher.

MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

The conference agreement provides \$34,000,000 for Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants as proposed by the House and Senate.

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The conference agreement provides \$43,976,000 for Rural Housing Assistance Grants as proposed by the Senate instead of \$41,000,000 as proposed by the House.

The conferees provide \$2,976,000 for the preservation of the section 515 multi-family housing portfolio.

FARM LABOR PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides \$31,168,000 for the Farm Labor Program Account instead of \$32,728,000 as proposed by the House and \$29,607,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides for an estimated loan program level of \$38,502,000, \$17,168,000 for loan subsidies, and \$14,000,000 for grants.

RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides an estimated loan program level of \$34,212,000 with a subsidy of \$14,718,000 for the Rural Development Loan Fund as proposed by the House and Senate.

The conference agreement provides for a transfer of \$4,793,000 to the Rural Development salaries and expense account instead of \$4,719,000 as proposed by the House and \$6,656,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes \$3,449,000 for Mississippi Delta Region counties, of which up to \$1,500,000 is for the Delta Regional Authority.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides an estimated loan program level of \$25,003,000 with a subsidy of \$4,993,000 for the Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account as proposed by the House and Senate.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The conference agreement provides \$29,488,000 for Rural Cooperative Development Grants instead of \$64,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$24,988,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$20,500,000 for value-added agricultural product market development grants.

The conference agreement provides \$1,488,000 for cooperatives or associations of cooperatives to assist minority producers.

The conference agreement provides \$500,000 for a cooperative research agreement with a qualified academic institution to conduct research on the national economic impact of all types of cooperatives.

RURAL EMPOWERMENT ZONES AND ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES GRANTS

The conference agreement provides \$11,200,000 for Rural Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities Grants instead of \$10,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$12,400,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Direct, FFB	(125,000,000)
Subtotal	(694,000,000)
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Total, loan authorizations	(6,094,000,000)
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Loan subsidies:	
Electric:	
Direct, 5 percent	920,000
Direct, Muni	5,050,000
Direct, Treasury rate	100,000
Guaranteed	90,000
Subtotal	6,160,000
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Telecommunications:	
Direct, Treasury rate	212,000
Total, loan subsidies	6,372,000
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RETLP administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	38,784,000

RURAL TELEPHONE BANK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides for a transfer of \$2,500,000 to the Rural Development salaries and expenses account as proposed by the House and the Senate.

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides for an estimated loan program level of \$25,000,000 for distance learning and telemedicine and \$500,000,000 for broadband telecommunications.

The conference agreement includes \$375,000 for distance learning and telemedicine loan subsidy and \$30,000,000 for distance learning and telemedicine grants, of which \$5,000,000 is for public broadcasting system grants.

The conference agreement includes \$10,750,000 for broadband telecommunications loan subsidy, and \$9,000,000 for broadband telecommunications grants.

TITLE IV—DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

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

The conference agreement provides \$599,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conferees encourage the Agency to conduct a feasibility study, in consultation with WIC State agencies, to explore a common cost effective strategy to implement the cash value voucher for fruits and vegetables that may be adopted in response to recommendations outlined in the Institute of Medicine report on the food packages provided by the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE
CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

The conference agreement provides \$12,660,829,000 for Child Nutrition Programs, instead of \$12,412,027,000 as proposed by the House and \$12,422,027,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included in the total is an appropriated amount of \$7,473,208,000 and a transfer from section 32 of \$5,187,621,000.

The conferees are aware that USDA, through its Team Nutrition program, recently updated its dietary guidelines and published My Pyramid and My Pyramid for Kids, which are updates to the former food guide pyramids. The conferees are also aware that FNS is currently working to publicize these nutrition standards. The conferees encourage FNS to use all available resources to ensure that funding for Team Nutrition remains at a level which will allow it to effectively provide this important nutrition information to both adults and children.

The conference agreement provides the following for Child Nutrition programs:

TOTAL OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY

Child Nutrition Programs:	
School lunch program	\$7,415,142,000
School breakfast program	2,076,141,000
Child and adult care food program	2,159,711,000
Summer food service program	300,226,000
Special milk program	14,499,000
State administrative expenses	156,061,000
Commodity procurement and computer support	522,732,000
School meals initiative/Team nutrition	10,025,000
Food safety education	1,000,000
Coordinated review effort	5,235,000
Program pay cost	57,000
 Total	 12,660,829,000

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

The conference agreement provides \$5,257,000,000 for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as proposed by both the House and Senate.

The conference agreement includes \$15,000,000 for continuation of the breastfeeding peer counselor program. In addition, the conference agreement provides \$20,000,000 for investments in management information systems, if the Secretary determines that those funds are not needed to maintain caseload and will not require use of the contingency fund.

The conference agreement does not include language regarding adjunct eligibility restrictions.

The conference agreement includes such sums as are necessary to restore the contingency reserve to \$125,000,000, to be allocated as the Secretary deems necessary, as proposed by the Senate.

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$40,711,395,000 for the Food Stamp Program, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Included in this amount is a reserve of \$3,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2007.

The conference agreement includes \$36,049,026,000 for program expenses, \$1,522,369,000 for grants to Puerto Rico and Samoa, and \$140,000,000 for commodity purchase for The Emergency Food Assistance Program.

The conference agreement includes a provision allowing for purchase of bison meat, in an amount not less than \$3,000,000, for the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

The conference agreement includes statutory language to exclude special pay for military personnel deployed to designated combat areas when determining food stamp eligibility.

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides \$179,366,000 for the Commodity Assistance Program instead of \$178,797,000 as proposed by the House and \$179,935,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$108,285,000 for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. According to the USDA's latest estimates, approximately \$6,020,000 in commodity inventory is expected to be available to CSFP in fiscal year 2006, making the total available for the program approximately \$114,305,000. The conferees strongly encourage USDA to make every effort to maintain the fiscal year 2005 caseload by making full use of CSFP inventory and carryover from preceding years, and to access all available resources from bonus commodity holdings and CCC stocks.

The conferees provide \$50,000,000 for administration—processing, storage, transport, and distribution—of The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). The conference agreement includes a provision that provides the Secretary authority to transfer up to an additional \$10,000,000 from TEFAP commodities for this purpose.

The conference agreement includes \$20,000,000 for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

The conferees note that \$15,000,000 in funding is available for the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program in fiscal year 2006 through the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement provides \$140,761,000 for Nutrition Programs Administration as proposed by the House and the Senate. The conference agreement does not include language regarding limitations on the amount specified for certain administrative activities.

The conferees direct the Department to promptly publish interim final regulations regarding WIC vendor cost containment, as described in the legislative history of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act. The conferees also expect the Department to work with the WIC State agencies to implement the interim final regulations regarding vendor cost containment in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 17(h)(11)(G) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966. In the event the WIC State agencies should fail to implement the interim final regulations before the enactment of this Act, the conferees have provided an extension of the morato-

rium on authorization of new 'WIC-only' stores until implementation of the regulations by the WIC State agencies. This moratorium is not intended to restrict the transfer or relocation of existing 'WIC-only' stores.

TITLE V—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$147,901,000 for the Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses instead of \$148,224,000 as proposed by the House and \$147,868,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes the following increases: \$1,788,000 for pay costs; \$1,200,000 for ICASS; \$4,000,000 to offset the increased costs in overseas wages and currency rates, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until expended; \$300,000 for increased FAS presence in Baghdad; \$2,743,000 for the capital surcharge being levied by the State Department; and \$200,000 for technical assistance for the promotion of specialty crop exports.

The conference agreement provides \$951,000 for administering Title I Food for Progress grant programs.

PUBLIC LAW 480 TITLE I AND TITLE II PROGRAM AND GRANT ACCOUNTS

The conference agreement provides \$65,040,000 for Title I loan subsidies for a loan level of \$74,032,000 as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing that the Secretary of Agriculture may implement a commodity monetization program under existing provisions of the Food for Progress Act of 1985 to provide no less than \$5,000,000 in local-currency funding support for rural electrification overseas as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$11,940,000 for Ocean Freight Differential as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$1,150,000,000 for international food assistance through PL 480 title II grants.

The conferees take the responsibilities of meeting humanitarian needs very seriously, and given current budget constraints, this conference agreement provides the highest levels of funding possible for various international food assistance programs. Under this conference agreement, title II grants under PL 480, one of the primary international food assistance programs, are funded at a level \$265,000,000 higher than the President's request. The conferees encourage the Executive Branch to restore, through future budget requests, funding levels for international food assistance under the jurisdiction of the appropriations subcommittees of the House and Senate which fund USDA programs, more closely in line with historic levels. The conferees further admonish the Executive Branch to refrain from proposals which place at risk a carefully balanced coalition of interests which have served the interests of international food assistance programs well for more than fifty years.

The following table reflects the conference agreement for Public Law 480 program accounts:

PUBLIC LAW 480

Title I—Program account:	
Loan authorization, direct	(\$74,032,000)
Loan subsidies	65,040,000
Ocean freight differential	11,940,000
Title II—Commodities for disposition abroad:	
Program level	(1,150,000,000)
Appropriation	1,150,000,000
Salaries and expenses:	
Foreign Agricultural Service (transfer)	168,000
Farm Service Agency (transfer)	3,217,000

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT LOANS PROGRAM
ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides \$5,279,000 for the Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Program Account as proposed by the House and the Senate.

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

The conference agreement provides \$100,000,000 for the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program as proposed by the House and the Senate.

TITLE VI—RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides total appropriations, including Prescription Drug User Fee Act, Medical Device User Fee Act, and Animal Drug User Fee Act collections, of \$1,838,567,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, instead of \$1,837,928,000, as proposed by the House and \$1,841,959,000 as proposed by the Senate, and provides specific amounts by FDA activity as reflected in the following table.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, SALARIES AND EXPENSES

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Budget authority	Prescription drug user fees	Medical device user fees	Animal drug user fees	Total
Foods	443,153	.....	.....	.....	443,153
Human Drugs	300,723	219,841	.....	.....	520,564
Biologics	122,238	47,675	8,801	.....	178,714
Animal Drugs and Feeds	90,486	.....	.....	9,301	99,787
Medical Devices	222,792	.....	22,978	.....	245,770
National Center for Toxicological Research	41,152	.....	.....	.....	41,152
Other Activities	85,762	25,116	4,535	646	116,059
Rent and Rent-related Activities	57,732	0	783	.....	58,515
Rental Payments to GSA	117,579	12,700	3,203	1,371	134,853

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, SALARIES AND EXPENSES—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

Program	Budget au- thority	Prescription drug user fees	Medical de- vice user fees	Animal drug user fees	Total
Total Recommendation	1,481,617	305,332	40,300	11,318	1,838,567

The conference agreement also makes mammography user fees and export certification user fees available to the agency. The conference agreement includes bill language related to the White Oak consolidation, as proposed by the House, and does not contain a provision relating to Congressional testimony, as proposed by the House.

Within the total funding for the Food and Drug Administration, the following increases above the fiscal year 2005 level are provided: \$10,000,000 for activities related to food safety and food defense; \$7,827,000 for medical device review; \$10,000,000 for drug safety activities; \$884,000 for activities related to direct-to-consumer advertising; \$750,000 to support research with the Critical Path Institute; \$200,000 for agricultural product testing at the Physical Science Laboratory at New Mexico State University; \$300,000 for the National Center for Natural Products Research; \$4,128,000 for relocation expenses related to the move to the consolidated White Oak campus; and \$4,100,000 in rent paid to GSA. The conference agreement assumes reductions of \$1,554,000 in administrative efficiencies and \$5,116,000 in IT reductions, as proposed in the request.

The conference agreement provides \$14,696,000 for Orphan Product grants, not less than \$4,000,000 for the Office of Women's Health, and not less than \$56,228,000 for the generic drug program.

The conference agreement provides the \$5,000,000 increase for the Office of Drug Safety as requested in the budget. In addition, the conference agreement provides an increase of \$5,000,000 for drug safety activities within CDER. The conferees intend that these increases be used for FDA's highest priority drug safety needs that were not funded in fiscal year 2005, such as hiring of additional scientists or the acquisition of databases to which FDA does not now have access to help track adverse drug events. The conferees direct FDA to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of enactment, setting forth its proposed use of these funds in detail, including an object class breakout for the \$10,000,000 increase.

The conference agreement provides no less than \$29,556,000 for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), as requested. The conferees understand that this funding will support agency-wide BSE activities including conducting yearly inspections of all renderers and feed mills processing products containing prohibited materials, extending BSE inspections into targeted segments of industries subject to the BSE Feed regulation, validating test methods for the detection of bovine-derived proteins in animal feed, and continuing to conduct research on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies in FDA's product centers.

Within the food safety and defense increase, the conference agreement provides increases of \$5,074,000 for food defense re-

search, \$3,926,000 for the Food Emergency Response Network, \$500,000 for food defense bio-surveillance, and \$500,000 to improve and increase import surveillance of food.

The conferees have serious concerns regarding seafood safety issues posed by banned antibiotic contamination in farm-raised shrimp imports. In addition, the conferees are concerned that the FDA inspects less than 2 percent of shrimp being imported into the United States. The conferees recommend that the FDA, in cooperation with any state testing programs, continue testing of farm-raised shrimp imports for chloramphenicol and other related harmful antibiotics.

The conference agreement includes total funding of \$5,360,000 for the CFSAN Adverse Events Reporting System, of which approximately \$1,500,000 is for dietary supplements. This is \$860,000 more than the amount in the budget request.

The conference agreement fully funds the amount designated for influenza in the budget request. The conferees encourage the Administration to develop a comprehensive response plan for dealing with potential human-to-human transmission of avian influenza, including the availability of vaccine and treatment. The conferees direct the agency to provide regular updates to the Committees on its involvement in influenza preparedness activities. Further, the conferees expect the Administration to provide a supplemental request should the need for additional influenza funding arise.

The conferees support the work of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) and its collaborative relationship between FDA, USDA, and the Centers for Disease Control. The conferees expect the coordination of activities among these three areas of government to result in the most unbiased presentation of timely, accurate data in the best interest of public health, and encourage FDA to equally divide research funding among the three branches of the program. Further, the conferees direct that FDA perform a review of all components of the NARMS program to analyze the program's scientific soundness and relevance to public health, the criteria utilized to evaluate the program, the transparency of the program, opportunities for public input, and report the result to the Committees.

The conference agreement provides an increase of \$300,000 to enhance the collaboration between FDA and the National Center for Natural Products Research and allow increased participation by FDA staff in the research on botanicals and dietary supplements being conducted at the National Center for Natural Products Research in Oxford, MS.

The conference agreement includes no more than \$13,026,357 for the Unified Financial Management System (UFMS). Of this amount, \$9,720,374 is for development and implementation, and \$3,305,953 is for operations and maintenance of UFMS. The conferees note that FDA has spent in excess of the amount expressly appropriated for UFMS in previous fiscal years, and direct FDA to provide quarterly reports on spending for this system to ensure this does not continue.

The conference agreement does not include funding for a foods research center or a pilot program for compounded drug monographs or directed inspection funding, as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees are aware of concerns about the regulation of imports of ethnic foods in the Los Angeles district. Concerns include the issues of communication to importers about shipments being held by FDA, the amount of time that shipments are held, and proper declaration of products. The conferees understand that in 2004 FDA's Los Angeles District implemented new operating procedures and held a public meeting on these issues. Since two years have elapsed, the conferees suggest that FDA now review the performance of the program and solicit input from the import community.

The conferees note that FDA may use available funds to support review and action on new drug applications and supplements seeking approval for replacement or alternative abuse-resistant formulations of currently-available drug products that include an active ingredient that is a listed chemical under the Controlled Substances Act. Further, it is the understanding of the conferees that these applications may be considered under the expedited, priority review process at FDA.

The conferees are aware that the FDA issued a monograph for sunscreen products in 2002, and the monograph was stayed shortly thereafter so that FDA could address the issue of measuring protection against UVA rays, which cause skin cancer. Since that time, no further official action has been taken by the FDA, although skin cancer rates continue to rise, especially among young persons and women. The conferees believe that a comprehensive monograph would be useful to consumers. Therefore, the conferees direct FDA to issue a comprehensive final monograph for over-the-counter sunscreen products, including UVA and UVB labeling requirements, within six months of enactment of this Act.

The conferees do not include language in the House bill that withheld five percent of the funds provided to FDA's central offices pending a public hearing with the agency head on the fiscal year 2006 budget, because this requirement was satisfied by former Commissioner Crawford's testimony before the House subcommittee in July. However, the conferees expect the head of the agency to testify before the House and Senate subcommittees on the fiscal year 2007 budget during the regular course of budget hearings.

The conferees appreciate the detailed information provided in the budget justification prepared by the Food and Drug Administration and rely heavily on this information when considering budget proposals. These materials have traditionally been prepared for the sole use of the Committees on Appropriations in a format consistent with the structure of the Appropriations Act. The account organization in the fiscal year 2006 budget request does not present information in a format that is useful to the Committees. Therefore, the conferees do not approve the proposed restructuring of FDA's budget for the field activities, rent activities, and other activities accounts. The conferees direct the Agency to submit the fiscal year 2007 budget request in a format that follows the same ac-

count structure as the fiscal year 2005 budget request unless otherwise approved by the Committees.

The conferees direct the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to include all anticipated consolidations that impact FDA in the FDA budget request submitted to Congress. Further, the conferees direct that none of the funds made available to FDA in this Act be used for any assessments, fee, or charges by HHS unless such assessments, fees, or charges are identified in the FDA budget justification and expressly provided by Congress, or approved by Congress in the official reprogramming process as required in the General Provisions of this Act. The conferees further direct HHS to include in the fiscal year 2007 budget submission all sources of funding projected to be received by FDA from all other federal agencies in fiscal years 2006 and 2007, by agency, with a brief description of the reason for which the funds are to be provided to FDA.

In its fiscal year 2006 budget, FDA requested \$146,213,000 for "research, development and evaluation" (RD&E) activities. This amounts to about 10 percent of the agency's discretionary request. FDA provided only general descriptions of its planned RD&E activities within the context of its strategic plan, without specifying the dollars requested, and provided only total proposed expenditures for each "research theme." The conferees direct FDA to provide the same level of budget justification for its research activities in the fiscal year 2007 budget as it does other activities, including a justification of both base spending and any proposed increases by activity within center or office.

The conference agreement provides \$750,000 to support collaborative research with the C-Path Institute and the University of Utah on cardiovascular biomarkers predictive of safety and clinical outcomes. The conferees understand the research would involve identifying candidate genes and proteins in University of Utah databases, designing and conducting genomic and proteomic biomarker validation experiments by the C-Path Institute, the University of Utah, FDA and manufacturers, determining which biomarkers identify heart failure patients who are most likely to respond favorably to drug therapy and those at highest risk of adverse events.

The conferees remain concerned about the legal and regulatory issues relating to approval of drugs as both prescription and over the counter products, and urge FDA to expedite rulemaking on this topic.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The conference agreement provides \$8,000,000 for the Food and Drug Administration Buildings and Facilities instead of \$5,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$7,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the total, \$4,000,000 is for the repair and improvement of existing buildings and facilities, and \$4,000,000 is to complete the final phase of the Arkansas Regional Laboratory.

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

The conference agreement provides \$98,386,000 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission as proposed by the House and the Senate. This is an increase of \$4,814,000 over the fiscal year 2005 level.

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes a limitation of \$44,250,000 on administrative expenses of the Farm Credit Administration (FCA), as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement does not include language allowing some expenses associated with terminations to exceed the limitation, as proposed by the Senate.

TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 704.—The conference agreement includes language regarding appropriation items, which shall remain available until expended.

Section 705.—The conference agreement includes language that allows for unobligated balances to be transferred to the Working Capital Fund.

Section 709.—The conference agreement limits indirect costs for grants awarded by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service to 20 percent.

Section 712.—The conference agreement includes language for funds to cover necessary expenses related to advisory committees.

Section 715.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the appropriations hearing process.

Section 716.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the transfer of funds to the Office of the Chief Information Officer and information technology funding obligations.

Section 717.—The conference agreement provides language regarding the reprogramming of funds.

Section 718.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems.

Section 723.—The conference agreement includes language that provides funding for the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.

Section 724.—The conference agreement includes language regarding conducting an evaluation of the impact of a court decision.

Section 725.—The conference agreement directs the Secretary to make commodity tonnage available, to the extent practicable, to assist foreign countries to mitigate the effects of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Section 726.—The conference agreement includes language regarding Natural Resources Conservation Service financial and technical assistance for certain projects in Illinois, Ohio, Arkansas, Alaska, Missouri, Hawaii, Iowa, and Utah.

Section 729.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Dam Rehabilitation Program.

Section 730.—The conference agreement includes language to prohibit funds from being used to close or relocate the Food and Drug Administration Division of Pharmaceutical Analysis.

Section 731.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Rural Strategic Investment Program.

Section 732.—The conference agreement allows unobligated balances within the Department of Agriculture to be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel for certain services provided.

Section 733.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Rural Firefighters and Emergency Personnel Grant Program.

Section 734.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Wetlands Reserve Program.

Section 735.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Section 736.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the renewable energy program.

Section 737.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the broadband telecommunications program.

Section 738.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act.

Section 739.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the value-added market development program.

Section 741.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Conservation Security Program.

Section 742.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program.

Section 743.—The conference agreement includes language that rescinds certain unobligated balances.

Section 744.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Farmland Protection Program.

Section 745.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Rural Business Investment Program.

Section 746.—The conference agreement includes language regarding Public Law 105–264.

Section 747.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the ground and surface water conservation program.

Section 748.—The conference agreement includes language related to final rulemaking on APHIS cost-sharing.

Section 749.—The conference agreement gives the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to enter into cooperative agreements to lease aircraft.

Section 750.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Bioenergy Program.

Section 751.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the use of discretionary funds for certain purposes.

Section 752.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the availability of funds for certain conservation programs.

Section 753.—The conference agreement provides funding for the Denali Commission.

Section 754.—The conference agreement includes language regarding eligibility for certain rural development programs.

Section 755.—The conference agreement includes funds for a certain grant.

Section 756.—The conference agreement includes a provision to allow Community Facility Program borrowers to enter into contracts with third parties for necessary services.

Section 757.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Agricultural Management Assistance program.

Section 758.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

Section 759.—The conference agreement includes language that limits the Biomass Research and Development Program.

Section 760.—The conference agreement includes language regarding eligibility for the Conservation Reserve Program for land planted in hardwood trees, and previously enrolled in the program, to remain enrolled.

Section 761.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the disposal of certain federal facilities in Phoenix, AZ.

Section 762.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the recertification of rural status.

Section 763.—The conference agreement includes language allowing use of unobligated balances in certain accounts within the Rural Utilities Service for the purposes of section 315 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936.

Section 764.—The conference agreement includes funds for a certain grant.

Section 765.—The conference agreement includes language that provides that certain locations shall be considered eligible for certain rural development programs.

Section 766.—The conference agreement includes funds for a certain grant.

Section 767.—The conference agreement includes funds for a certain grant.

Section 768.—The conference agreement includes language that provides that certain locations shall be considered eligible for certain rural development programs.

Section 769.—The conference agreement includes language regarding Child and Adult Care Food Program audit funds.

Section 770.—The conference agreement includes language in regard to the City of Elkhart, Kansas.

Section 771.—The conference agreement includes language to provide funding for the Healthy Forests Reserve program.

Section 772.—The conference agreement includes language that relates to government sponsored news stories.

Section 773.—The conference agreement includes funding for a specialty crops competitiveness program.

Section 774.—The conference agreement includes language in regard to the Federal Financing Bank.

Section 775.—The conference agreement includes language in regard to law enforcement at the National Center for Toxicological Research and the Arkansas Regional Laboratory.

Section 776.—The conference agreement includes a technical correction regarding the Child Nutrition Act.

Section 777.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Summer Food Service Program.

Section 778.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Rural Telephone Bank.

Section 779.—The conference agreement includes language in regard to the Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program.

Section 780.—The conference agreement includes language amending the Federal Crop Insurance Act.

Section 781.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board.

Section 782.—The conference agreement includes language renaming the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station.

Section 783.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the conveyance of certain federal facilities in Phoenix, AZ.

Section 784.—The conference agreement includes language amending the Agricultural Act of 1949.

Section 785.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the availability of funding for Conservation Operations.

Section 786.—The conference agreement includes language related to competitive sourcing of rural development or farm loan programs.

Section 787.—The conference agreement includes language regarding WIC-only vendors.

Section 788.—The conference agreement includes language that rescinds certain unobligated balances.

Section 789.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Rural Housing for Domestic Farm Labor Program.

Section 790.—The conference agreement includes funds for certain grants.

Section 791.—The conference agreement includes language in regard to a demonstration intermediate relending program.

Section 792.—The conference agreement includes language regarding country of origin labeling.

Section 793.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Federal Crop Insurance Act.

Section 794.—The conference agreement includes language regarding inspection activities under the Federal Meat Inspection Act or the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1966.

It is the understanding of the conferees that the Department is obliged under existing statutes to provide for the inspection of meat intended for human consumption (domestic and exported). The conferees recognize that the funding limitation in Section 794 prohibits the use of appropriated funds only for payment of salaries or expenses of personnel to inspect horses.

Section 795.—The conference agreement includes language in regard to Food and Drug Administration waivers of a financial conflict of interest.

Section 796.—The conference agreement includes language amending the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Section 797.—The conference agreement includes language regarding provisions of the Organic Foods Product Act.

Section 798.—The conference agreement includes language regarding the Federal Meat Inspection Act.

Section 799.—The conference agreement makes technical corrections to the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006. The corrections for the Department of the Interior involve the amounts appropriated for construction and land acquisition by the National Park Service and for departmental management. There is also a correction dealing with the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway Regional Destination Visitor Center. In the Environmental Protection Agency, there are technical corrections for two State and Tribal Assistance Grants projects and for language associated with the rescission of funds from various EPA accounts. In the Forest Service, there is a correction to language dealing with a land acquisition in the Thunder Mountain area of the Payette National Forest, ID. In Title IV—General Provisions, there is a correction to the name of the Gaylord A. Nelson Wilderness.

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2006 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2005 amount, the 2006 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2006 follow:

[In thousands of dollars]

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2005	\$89,439,376
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2006	100,132,911
House bill, fiscal year 2006	100,321,593
Senate bill, fiscal year 2006	100,722,949
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2006	100,981,758
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2005	+11,542,382
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year	
2006	+848,847
House bill, fiscal year 2006	+660,165
Senate bill, fiscal year 2006	+258,809

HENRY BONILLA,
 JACK KINGSTON,
 TOM LATHAM,
 JO ANN EMERSON,
 VIRGIL H. GOODE, Jr.,
 RAY LAHOOD,
 JOHN T. DOOLITTLE,
 RODNEY ALEXANDER,
 JERRY LEWIS,

Managers on the Part of the House.

R. F. BENNETT,
 THAD COCHRAN,
 ARLEN SPECTER,
 CHRIS BOND,
 MITCH MCCONNELL,
 TED STEVENS,
 HERB KOHL,
 DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
 RICHARD DURBIN,
 MARY LANDRIEU,
 ROBERT C. BYRD,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

