

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1150

AN ACT

To ensure that federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education address high-priority concerns with national or multistate significance, to reform, extend, and eliminate certain agricultural research programs, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform
6 Act of 1997”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
 2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—PRIORITIES, SCOPE, AND REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL
 RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION

- Sec. 101. Standards for Federal funding of agricultural research, extension,
 and education.
 Sec. 102. Priority setting process.
 Sec. 103. Relevance and merit of federally funded agricultural research, exten-
 sion, and education.
 Sec. 104. Research formula funds for 1862 Institutions.
 Sec. 105. Extension formula funds for 1862 Institutions.
 Sec. 106. Research facilities.

TITLE II—OTHER REFORMS OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH,
 EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION

Subtitle A—Amendments to National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
 Teaching Policy Act of 1977

- Sec. 201. Advisory Board.
 Sec. 202. Grants and fellowships for food and agricultural sciences education.
 Sec. 203. Policy research centers.
 Sec. 204. International agricultural research, extension, and teaching.
 Sec. 205. General administrative costs.
 Sec. 206. Expansion of authority to enter into cost-reimbursable agreements.

Subtitle B—Amendments to Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act
 of 1990

- Sec. 211. National Agricultural Weather Information System.
 Sec. 212. National Food Genome Strategy.
 Sec. 213. Imported fire ant control, management, and eradication.
 Sec. 214. Agricultural telecommunications program.
 Sec. 215. Assistive technology program for farmers with disabilities.

Subtitle C—Amendments to Other Laws

- Sec. 221. 1994 Institutions.
 Sec. 222. Cooperative agricultural extension work by 1862, 1890, and 1994 In-
 stitutions.
 Sec. 223. Eligibility of certain colleges and universities for extension funding.
 Sec. 224. Integration of research and extension.
 Sec. 225. Competitive, special, and facilities research grants.
 Sec. 226. Fund for Rural America.
 Sec. 227. Honey research, promotion, and consumer information.
 Sec. 228. Office of Energy Policy and New Uses.
 Sec. 229. Kiwifruit research, promotion, and consumer information program.
 Sec. 230. National aquaculture policy, planning, and development.

Subtitle D—New Programs

- Sec. 231. Biobased products.
 Sec. 232. Precision agriculture.
 Sec. 233. Formosan termite eradication program.
 Sec. 234. Nutrient composition data.
 Sec. 235. Consolidated administrative and laboratory facility.
 Sec. 236. National Swine Research Center.
 Sec. 237. Coordinated program of research, extension, and education to improve viability of small and medium size dairy and livestock operations.
 Sec. 238. Support for research regarding diseases of wheat and barley caused by *Fusarium graminearum*.
 Sec. 239. Food animal residue avoidance database program.
 Sec. 240. Financial assistance for certain rural areas.

Subtitle E—Studies and Miscellaneous

- Sec. 241. Evaluation and assessment of agricultural research, extension, and education programs.
 Sec. 242. Study of federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education.
 Sec. 243. Sense of Congress on State match for 1890 Institutions.

TITLE III—INITIATIVE FOR FUTURE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

- Sec. 301. Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems.

TITLE IV—EXTENSION OR REPEAL OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES; TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 401. Extensions of authorities.
 Sec. 402. Repeal of authorities.
 Sec. 403. Short titles for Smith-Lever Act and Hatch Act of 1887.
 Sec. 404. Technical corrections to research provisions of Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996.

TITLE V—AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM SAVINGS

- Sec. 501. Nutrition programs.
 Sec. 502. Information technology funding.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) 1862 INSTITUTION.—The term “1862 Insti-
 4 tution” means a college or university eligible to re-
 5 ceive funds under the Act of July 2, 1862 (12 Stat.
 6 503, chapter 130; 7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.).

7 (2) 1890 INSTITUTION.—The term “1890 Insti-
 8 tution” means a college or university eligible to re-

1 ceive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (26
2 Stat. 419, chapter 841; 7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), in-
3 cluding Tuskegee University.

4 (3) 1994 INSTITUTION.—The term “1994 Insti-
5 tution” means a 1994 Institution (as defined in sec-
6 tion 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant
7 Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C.
8 301 note)).

9 (4) ADVISORY BOARD.—The term “Advisory
10 Board” means the National Agricultural Research,
11 Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory
12 Board established under section 1408 of the Na-
13 tional Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teach-
14 ing Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123).

15 (5) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
16 means the Department of Agriculture.

17 (6) HATCH ACT OF 1887.—The term “Hatch
18 Act of 1887” means the Hatch Act of 1887 (as des-
19 ignated by section 403(b)).

20 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
21 the Secretary of Agriculture.

22 (8) SMITH-LEVER ACT.—The term “Smith-
23 Lever Act” means the Smith-Lever Act (as des-
24 ignated by section 403(a)).

1 (9) **STAKEHOLDER.**—The term “stakeholder”
2 means a person who conducts or uses agricultural
3 research, extension, or education.

4 **TITLE I—PRIORITIES, SCOPE,**
5 **AND REVIEW OF AGRICUL-**
6 **TURAL RESEARCH, EXTEN-**
7 **SION, AND EDUCATION**

8 **SEC. 101. STANDARDS FOR FEDERAL FUNDING OF AGRI-**
9 **CULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND**
10 **EDUCATION.**

11 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall ensure that
12 agricultural research, extension, or education activities de-
13 scribed in subsection (b) address a concern that—

14 (1) is a priority, as determined under section
15 102(a); and

16 (2) has national or multistate significance.

17 (b) **APPLICATION.**—Subsection (a) applies to—

18 (1) research activities conducted by the Agricul-
19 tural Research Service; and

20 (2) research, extension, or education activities
21 administered, on a competitive basis, by the Cooper-
22 ative State Research, Education, and Extension
23 Service.

1 **SEC. 102. PRIORITY SETTING PROCESS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Consistent with section 1402 of
3 the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
4 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3101), the Sec-
5 retary shall establish priorities for agricultural research,
6 extension, and education activities conducted or funded by
7 the Department.

8 (b) INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—In establishing priorities for
10 agricultural research, extension, and education ac-
11 tivities conducted or funded by the Department, the
12 Secretary shall solicit and consider input and rec-
13 ommendations from stakeholders.

14 (2) 1862, 1890, AND 1994 INSTITUTIONS.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning Oc-
16 tober 1, 1998, to obtain agricultural research,
17 extension, or education formula funds from the
18 Secretary, each 1862 Institution, 1890 Institu-
19 tion, and 1994 Institution shall establish and
20 implement a process for obtaining stakeholder
21 input concerning the use of the funds.

22 (B) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall
23 promulgate regulations that prescribe—

24 (i) the requirements for an Institution
25 to comply with subparagraph (A); and

1 (ii) the consequences for an Institu-
2 tion of not complying with subparagraph
3 (A), which may include the withholding
4 and redistribution of funds to which the
5 Institution may be entitled until the Insti-
6 tution complies with subparagraph (A).

7 (c) **MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES.**—Section 1402 of the
8 National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
9 Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3101) is amended—

10 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND**
11 **MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES**” after “**PURPOSES**”;

12 (2) by inserting “(a) **PURPOSES.**—” before
13 “**The purposes**”; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(b) **MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES.**—To the maximum
16 extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that feder-
17 ally supported and conducted agricultural research, edu-
18 cation, and extension activities are accomplished in a man-
19 ner that—

20 “(1) integrates agricultural research, education,
21 and extension functions to better link research to
22 technology transfer and information dissemination
23 activities;

1 “(2) encourages regional and multistate pro-
2 grams to address relevant issues of common concern
3 and to better leverage scarce resources;

4 “(3) achieves agricultural research, education,
5 and extension objectives through multi-institutional
6 and multifunctional approaches and by conducting
7 research at facilities and institutions best equipped
8 to achieve those objectives; and

9 “(4) requires accountability to be measured
10 against shared national goals of the research, edu-
11 cation, and economics mission area agencies of the
12 Department and their partners that receive Federal
13 research, extension, and higher education funds,
14 consistent with the Government Performance and
15 Results Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–62) and
16 amendments made by that Act.”.

17 (d) NOTIFICATION OF ADVISORY BOARD AND CON-
18 GRESS.—Section 1408 of the National Agricultural Re-
19 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
20 U.S.C. 3123) is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating subsections (d) through (g)
22 as subsections (e) through (h), respectively; and

23 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the follow-
24 ing:

1 “(d) NOTIFICATION OF ADVISORY BOARD AND CON-
2 GRESS.—

3 “(1) ADVISORY BOARD.—The Secretary shall
4 provide a written response to the Advisory Board re-
5 garding the implementation of any written rec-
6 ommendations made by the Advisory Board to the
7 Secretary under subsection (c).

8 “(2) CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall provide
9 to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of
10 Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture,
11 Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a copy of the
12 response of the Secretary to an Advisory Board rec-
13 ommendation concerning the priority mission areas
14 of the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food
15 Systems established under section 301(c)(2)(B) of
16 the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education
17 Reform Act of 1997.”.

18 **SEC. 103. RELEVANCE AND MERIT OF FEDERALLY FUNDED**
19 **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND**
20 **EDUCATION.**

21 (a) REVIEW OF CSREES RESEARCH.—The Sec-
22 retary shall establish procedures that ensure—

23 (1) scientific peer review of each agricultural re-
24 search grant administered, on a competitive basis,

1 by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and
2 Extension Service; and

3 (2) merit review of each agricultural extension
4 or education grant administered, on a competitive
5 basis, by the Cooperative State Research, Education,
6 and Extension Service.

7 (b) ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW.—The Advisory Board
8 shall review, on an annual basis, the relevance to the Sec-
9 retary’s priorities established under section 102(a), and
10 adequacy, of the funding of all agricultural research, ex-
11 tension, or education activities of the Department.

12 (c) REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS.—

13 (1) REVIEW RESULTS.—As soon as practicable
14 after the initial review is conducted under subsection
15 (b) for a fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter,
16 the Secretary shall consider the results of the annual
17 review when formulating each request for proposals,
18 and evaluating proposals, involving an agricultural
19 research, extension, or education activity funded, on
20 a competitive basis, by the Department.

21 (2) STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—In formulating a
22 request for proposals described in paragraph (1), the
23 Secretary shall solicit and consider input from stake-
24 holders on the prior year’s request for proposals.

1 (d) SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW OF ARS RE-
2 SEARCH.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
4 procedures that ensure scientific peer review of re-
5 search activities of the Agricultural Research Serv-
6 ice.

7 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The procedures shall re-
8 quire that—

9 (A) at least once every 5 years, a review
10 panel verify that a research activity referred to
11 in paragraph (1) and research conducted by
12 each scientist employed by the Agricultural Re-
13 search Service—

14 (i) has scientific merit and relevance
15 to the priorities established under section
16 102(a); and

17 (ii) has national or multistate signifi-
18 cance, as required under section 101(a)(2);

19 (B) a review panel comprised of individuals
20 with scientific expertise, a majority of whom are
21 not employees of the Agricultural Research
22 Service; and

23 (C) the results of the panel reviews are
24 transmitted to—

1 (i) the Committee on Agriculture of
2 the House of Representatives;

3 (ii) the Committee on Agriculture,
4 Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate; and

5 (iii) the Advisory Board.

6 (e) MERIT REVIEW.—

7 (1) 1862 AND 1890 INSTITUTIONS.—Effective
8 beginning October 1, 1998, to obtain agricultural re-
9 search or extension funds from the Secretary for an
10 activity, each 1862 Institution and 1890 Institution
11 shall—

12 (A) establish a process for merit review of
13 the activity; and

14 (B) review the activity in accordance with
15 the process.

16 (2) 1994 INSTITUTIONS.—Effective beginning
17 October 1, 1998, to obtain agricultural extension
18 funds from the Secretary for an activity, each 1994
19 Institution shall—

20 (A) establish a process for merit review of
21 the activity; and

22 (B) review the activity in accordance with
23 the process.

24 (f) REPEAL OF PROVISIONS FOR WITHHOLDING
25 FUNDS.—

1 (1) SMITH-LEVER ACT.—Section 6 of the
2 Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 346) is repealed.

3 (2) HATCH ACT OF 1887.—Section 7 of the
4 Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361g) is amended by
5 striking the last paragraph.

6 (3) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EX-
7 TENSION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT OF 1977.—
8 Section 1468 of the National Agricultural Research,
9 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
10 U.S.C. 3314) is repealed.

11 **SEC. 104. RESEARCH FORMULA FUNDS FOR 1862 INSTITU-**
12 **TIONS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Hatch Act of
14 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361c) is amended—

15 (1) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (3)
16 and inserting the following:

17 “(3) Not less than 25 percent shall be allotted
18 to the States for cooperative research employing
19 multidisciplinary approaches in which a State agri-
20 cultural experiment station, working with another
21 State agricultural experiment station, the Agricul-
22 tural Research Service, a college, or a university, co-
23 operates to solve problems that concern more than
24 1 State. The funds available under this paragraph,
25 together with the funds available under subsection

1 (b) for a similar purpose, shall be designated as the
2 ‘Multistate Research Fund, State Agricultural Ex-
3 periment Stations’.

4 “(4) Research carried out under paragraph (3)
5 shall be subject to scientific peer review. A project
6 review under this paragraph shall be considered to
7 satisfy the merit review requirements of section
8 103(e) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and
9 Education Reform Act of 1997.”; and

10 (2) in subsection (d), by striking “regional re-
11 search fund, State agricultural experiment stations,”
12 and inserting “Multistate Research Fund, State Ag-
13 ricultural Experiment Stations,”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5 of the
15 Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361e) is amended in the
16 first sentence by striking “regional research fund” and in-
17 serting “Multistate Research Fund, State Agricultural
18 Experiment Stations”.

19 **SEC. 105. EXTENSION FORMULA FUNDS FOR 1862 INSTITU-**
20 **TIONS.**

21 Section 3 of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343) is
22 amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(h) MULTISTATE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AC-
24 TIVITIES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than the applica-
2 ble percentage specified under paragraph (2) of the
3 amounts that are made available to carry out sub-
4 sections (b) and (c) during a fiscal year shall be al-
5 lotted to States for cooperative extension activities in
6 which 2 or more States cooperate to solve problems
7 that concern more than 1 State (referred to in this
8 subsection as ‘multistate activities’).

9 “(2) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGES.—

10 “(A) CURRENT EXPENDITURES ON
11 MULTISTATE ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of
12 Agriculture shall determine the percentage of
13 Federal formula funds described in paragraph
14 (1) that each State expended for fiscal year
15 1997 for multistate activities.

16 “(B) PLANNED EXPENDITURES ON
17 MULTISTATE ACTIVITIES.—For fiscal year 2000
18 and each subsequent fiscal year, a State shall
19 expend for multistate activities a percentage of
20 the Federal formula funds described in para-
21 graph (1) for a fiscal year that is at least equal
22 to the lesser of—

23 “(i) 25 percent; or

24 “(ii) twice the percentage for the
25 State determined under subparagraph (A).

1 “(C) REDUCTION BY SECRETARY.—The
 2 Secretary may reduce the minimum percentage
 3 required to be allotted for multistate activities
 4 under subparagraph (B) in a case of hardship,
 5 infeasibility, or other similar circumstance be-
 6 yond the control of the State, as determined by
 7 the Secretary.

8 “(D) PLAN OF WORK.—The State shall in-
 9 clude in the plan of work of the State a descrip-
 10 tion of the manner in which the State will meet
 11 the requirements of this paragraph.

12 “(3) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection does not
 13 apply to funds provided—

14 “(A) by a State or local government pursu-
 15 ant to a matching requirement;

16 “(B) to a 1994 Institution (as defined in
 17 section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-
 18 Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-
 19 382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note)); or

20 “(C) to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
 21 the Virgin Islands, or Guam.

22 “(i) MERIT REVIEW.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning Octo-
 24 ber 1, 1998, extension activity carried out under
 25 subsection (h) shall be subject to merit review.

1 “(2) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—An extension ac-
2 tivity that is merit reviewed under paragraph (1)
3 shall be considered to have been reviewed under sec-
4 tion 103(e) of the Agricultural Research, Extension,
5 and Education Reform Act of 1997.”.

6 **SEC. 106. RESEARCH FACILITIES.**

7 (a) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—Section
8 3(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C.
9 390a(c)(2)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking “regional needs”
10 and inserting “national or multistate needs”.

11 (b) NATIONAL OR MULTISTATE NEEDS SERVED BY
12 ARS FACILITIES.—Section 3 of the Research Facilities
13 Act (7 U.S.C. 390a) is amended by adding at the end the
14 following:

15 “(e) NATIONAL OR MULTISTATE NEEDS SERVED BY
16 ARS FACILITIES.—The Secretary shall ensure that each
17 research activity conducted by a facility of the Agricultural
18 Research Service serves a national or multistate need.”.

19 (c) 10-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN.—Section 4(d) of the
20 Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390b(d)) is amended by
21 striking “regional” and inserting “multistate”.

22 (d) COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH CAPACITY.—Section
23 4 of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390b) is amend-
24 ed by adding at the end the following:

1 “(g) COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH CAPACITY.—After
 2 submission of the 10-year strategic plan required under
 3 subsection (d), the Secretary shall continue to review peri-
 4 odically each operating agricultural research facility con-
 5 structed in whole or in part with Federal funds, and each
 6 planned agricultural research facility proposed to be con-
 7 structed in whole or in part with Federal funds, pursuant
 8 to criteria established by the Secretary, to ensure that a
 9 comprehensive research capacity is maintained.”.

10 (e) PRIORITY RESEARCH.—The Competitive, Special,
 11 and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) is
 12 amended in subsection (b)(2) by striking “regional” and
 13 inserting “multistate”.

14 **TITLE II—OTHER REFORMS OF**
 15 **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH,**
 16 **EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION**
 17 **Subtitle A—Amendments to Na-**
 18 **tional Agricultural Research,**
 19 **Extension, and Teaching Policy**
 20 **Act of 1977**

21 **SEC. 201. ADVISORY BOARD.**

22 Section 1408(b) of the National Agricultural Re-
 23 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
 24 U.S.C. 3123(b)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 25 lowing:

1 “(7) EQUAL REPRESENTATION OF PUBLIC AND
 2 PRIVATE SECTOR MEMBERS.—In appointing mem-
 3 bers to serve on the Advisory Board, the Secretary
 4 shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable,
 5 equal representation of public and private sector
 6 members.”.

7 **SEC. 202. GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOOD AND AGRI-
 8 CULTURAL SCIENCES EDUCATION.**

9 Section 1417 of the National Agricultural Research,
 10 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
 11 3152) is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), (e),
 13 (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) as subsections (d), (f), (g),
 14 (h), (i), (j), (k), and (l), respectively;

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the follow-
 16 ing:

17 “(c) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants under sub-
 18 section (b), the Secretary shall give priority to—

19 “(1) applications for teaching enhancement
 20 projects that demonstrate enhanced coordination
 21 among all types of institutions eligible for funding
 22 under this section; and

23 “(2) applications for teaching enhancement
 24 projects that focus on innovative, multidisciplinary
 25 education programs, material, and curricula.”; and

1 (3) by inserting after subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

2 “(e) **FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION INFORMATION SYSTEM.**—From amounts made available for grants authorized under this section, the Secretary may maintain a national food and agricultural education information system that contains information on enrollment, degrees awarded, faculty, and employment placement in the food and agricultural sciences and such other information as the Secretary considers appropriate.”.

11 **SEC. 203. POLICY RESEARCH CENTERS.**

12 Section 1419A(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3155(a)) is amended by inserting “and trade agreements” after “public policies”.

16 **SEC. 204. INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND TEACHING.**

17 (a) **TEACHING.**—

18 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1458 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3291) is amended—

23 (A) in the section heading, by striking
24 “**RESEARCH AND EXTENSION**” and inserting
25 “**RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND TEACHING**”;

- 1 (B) in subsection (a)—
- 2 (i) in paragraph (1)—
- 3 (I) by striking “related research
- 4 and extension” and inserting “related
- 5 research, extension, and teaching”;
- 6 and
- 7 (II) in subparagraph (B), by
- 8 striking “research and extension on”
- 9 and inserting “research, extension,
- 10 and teaching initiatives addressing”;
- 11 (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking
- 12 “education” and inserting “teaching”;
- 13 (iii) in paragraph (4), by striking
- 14 “scientists and experts” and inserting
- 15 “science and education experts”;
- 16 (iv) in paragraph (5), by inserting
- 17 “teaching,” after “development,”;
- 18 (v) in paragraph (6), by striking
- 19 “education” and inserting “teaching”;
- 20 (vi) in paragraph (7), by striking “re-
- 21 search and extension” and inserting “re-
- 22 search, extension, and teaching”; and
- 23 (vii) in paragraph (8), by striking “re-
- 24 search capabilities” and inserting “re-

1 search, extension, and teaching capabili-
2 ties”; and

3 (C) in subsection (b), by striking “counter-
4 part agencies” and inserting “counterpart re-
5 search, extension, and teaching agencies”.

6 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The subtitle
7 heading of subtitle I of title XIV of the National Ag-
8 ricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy
9 Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3291 et seq.) is amended by
10 striking “Research and Extension” and inserting
11 “Research, Extension, and Teaching”.

12 (b) GRANTS FOR COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS.—Sec-
13 tion 1458(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Ex-
14 tension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
15 3291(a)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (7), by striking “and” at the
17 end;

18 (2) in paragraph (8), by striking the period at
19 the end and inserting “; and”; and

20 (3) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(9) make competitive grants for collaborative
22 projects that—

23 “(A) involve Federal scientists or scientists
24 from land-grant colleges and universities or
25 other colleges and universities with scientists at

1 international agricultural research centers in
2 other nations, including the international agri-
3 cultural research centers of the Consultative
4 Group on International Agriculture Research;

5 “(B) focus on developing and using new
6 technologies and programs for—

7 “(i) increasing the production of food
8 and fiber, while safeguarding the environ-
9 ment worldwide and enhancing the global
10 competitiveness of United States agri-
11 culture; or

12 “(ii) training scientists;

13 “(C) are mutually beneficial to the United
14 States and other countries; and

15 “(D) encourage private sector involvement
16 and the leveraging of private sector funds.”.

17 (c) REPORTS.—Section 1458 of the National Agricul-
18 tural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of
19 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3291) is amended by adding at the end
20 the following:

21 “(d) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall provide biennial
22 reports to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of
23 Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-
24 tion, and Forestry of the Senate on efforts of the Federal
25 Government to—

1 “(1) coordinate international agricultural re-
2 search within the Federal Government; and

3 “(2) more effectively link the activities of do-
4 mestic and international agricultural researchers,
5 particularly researchers of the Agricultural Research
6 Service.”.

7 **SEC. 205. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle K of the National Agri-
9 cultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of
10 1977 is amended by inserting before section 1463 (7
11 U.S.C. 3311) the following:

12 **“SEC. 1461. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in
14 law, indirect costs charged against a grant described in
15 subsection (b) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total Fed-
16 eral funds provided under the grant award, as determined
17 by the Secretary.

18 “(b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) shall apply
19 to—

20 “(1) a competitive research grant made under
21 subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Fa-
22 cilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)); and

23 “(2) except as otherwise provided in law, a com-
24 petitive research, extension, or education grant made
25 under—

1 “(A) section 793 of the Federal Agri-
2 culture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996
3 (7 U.S.C. 2204f); or

4 “(B) section 301 of the Agricultural Re-
5 search, Extension, and Education Reform Act
6 of 1997.”.

7 (b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 1469 of the
8 National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
9 Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3315) is amended—

10 (1) by striking the section heading and all that
11 follows through “Except as” and inserting the fol-
12 lowing:

13 **“SEC. 1469. AUDITING, REPORTING, BOOKKEEPING, AND**
14 **ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS.**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as”;

16 (2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(3) the Secretary may retain up to 4 percent
19 of amounts appropriated for agricultural research,
20 extension, and teaching assistance programs for the
21 administration of those programs authorized under
22 this or any other Act; and”;

23 (3) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(b) COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS.—The Secretary
25 may retain, for the administration of community food

1 projects under section 25 of the Food Stamp Act of 1977
 2 (7 U.S.C. 2034), 4 percent of amounts available for the
 3 projects, notwithstanding the availability of any appro-
 4 priation for administrative expenses of the projects.”.

5 **SEC. 206. EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO**
 6 **COST-REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENTS.**

7 Section 1473A of the National Agricultural Research,
 8 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
 9 3319a) is amended in the first sentence by inserting “or
 10 other colleges and universities” after “institutions”.

11 **Subtitle B—Amendments to Food,**
 12 **Agriculture, Conservation, and**
 13 **Trade Act of 1990**

14 **SEC. 211. NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL WEATHER INFORMA-**
 15 **TION SYSTEM.**

16 Title XVI of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
 17 and Trade Act of 1990 is amended by striking subtitle
 18 D (7 U.S.C. 5851 et seq.) and inserting the following:

19 **“Subtitle D—National Agricultural**
 20 **Weather Information System**

21 **“SEC. 1637. SHORT TITLE; PURPOSES.**

22 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subtitle may be cited as
 23 the ‘National Agricultural Weather Information System
 24 Act of 1997’.

25 “(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this subtitle are—

1 “(1) to facilitate the management and coordina-
2 tion of a national agricultural weather and climate
3 station network for Federal and State agencies, col-
4 leges and universities, and the private sector;

5 “(2) to ensure that timely and accurate infor-
6 mation is obtained and disseminated; and

7 “(3) to aid research and education that requires
8 a comprehensive agricultural weather and climate
9 database.

10 **“SEC. 1638. AGRICULTURAL WEATHER SYSTEM.**

11 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Agri-
12 culture may establish the National Agricultural Weather
13 Information System (referred to in this subtitle as the
14 ‘System’). The System shall be comprised of the oper-
15 ational and research activities of the Federal, State, and
16 regional agricultural weather information systems.

17 “(b) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding chapter 63 of
18 title 31, United States Code, to carry out this subtitle,
19 the Secretary may—

20 “(1) enter into contracts, grants, cooperative
21 agreements and interagency agreements without re-
22 gard to competitive requirements, except as other-
23 wise provided in this subtitle, with other Federal and
24 State agencies to—

1 “(A) support operational weather and cli-
2 mate data observations, analysis, and derived
3 products;

4 “(B) preserve historical data records for
5 research studies useful in agriculture;

6 “(C) jointly develop improved computer
7 models and computing capacity for storage, re-
8 trieval, dissemination and analysis of agricul-
9 tural weather and climate information;

10 “(D) enhance the quality and availability
11 of weather and climate information needed by
12 the private sector for value-added products and
13 agriculturalists for decisionmaking; and

14 “(E) sponsor joint programs to train pri-
15 vate sector meteorologists and agriculturalists
16 about the optimum use of agricultural weather
17 and climate data;

18 “(2) obtain standardized weather observation
19 data collected in near real time through regional and
20 State agricultural weather information systems;

21 “(3) coordinate the activities of the Chief Mete-
22 orologist of the Department of Agriculture and
23 weather and climate research activities of the De-
24 partment of Agriculture with other Federal agencies
25 and the private sector;

1 “(4) make grants to plan and administer State
2 and regional agricultural weather information sys-
3 tems, including research in atmospheric sciences and
4 climatology;

5 “(5) encourage private sector participation in
6 the System through cooperation with the private sec-
7 tor, including cooperation in the generation of
8 weather and climate data useful for site-specific ag-
9 ricultural weather forecasting; and

10 “(6) make competitive grants to carry out re-
11 search in all aspects of atmospheric sciences and cli-
12 matology regarding the collection, retention, and dis-
13 semination of agricultural weather and climate ob-
14 servations and information with priority given to
15 proposals that emphasize—

16 “(A) techniques and processes that relate
17 to—

18 “(i) weather- or climate-induced agri-
19 cultural losses; and

20 “(ii) improvement of information on
21 weather and climate extremes (such as
22 drought, floods, freeze, and storms) well in
23 advance of their occurrence;

24 “(B) the improvement of site-specific
25 weather data collection and forecasting;

1 “(C) the impact of weather on economic
2 and environmental costs in agricultural produc-
3 tion; or

4 “(D) the preservation and management of
5 the ecosystem.

6 **“SEC. 1639. FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION.**

7 “(a) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMIN-
8 ISTRATION WORK.—Not more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the funds made
9 available for a fiscal year to carry out this subtitle shall
10 be used for work with the National Oceanic and Atmos-
11 pheric Administration.

12 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary of Ag-
13 riculture may retain for administration of the System up
14 to 4 percent of the amounts made available to carry out
15 this subtitle, notwithstanding the availability of any appro-
16 priation for administrative expenses to carry out this sub-
17 title.

18 “(c) LIMITATIONS.—

19 “(1) BUILDINGS OR FACILITIES.—Funds made
20 available to carry out this subtitle shall not be used
21 for the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition,
22 or construction of a building or facility.

23 “(2) EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.—Of funds made
24 available under a grant award under this subtitle, a

1 grantee may use for equipment purchases not more
2 than the lesser of—

3 “(A) \$15,000; or

4 “(B) $\frac{1}{3}$ of the amount of the grant award.

5 **“SEC. 1640. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 “There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
7 this subtitle \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1998
8 through 2002.”.

9 **SEC. 212. NATIONAL FOOD GENOME STRATEGY.**

10 Section 1671 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
11 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5924) is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 **“SEC. 1671. NATIONAL FOOD GENOME STRATEGY.**

14 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

15 “(1) to expand the knowledge of public and pri-
16 vate sector entities and persons concerning genomes
17 for species of importance to the food and agriculture
18 sectors in order to maximize the return on the in-
19 vestment in plant, animal, and microbial genomics;

20 “(2) to focus on the species that will yield early,
21 scientifically important results that will enhance the
22 usefulness of many plant, animal, and microbial spe-
23 cies;

24 “(3) to build on genomic research, such as the
25 Human Genome Initiative and the Arabidopsis Ge-

1 nome Project, to understand gene structure and
2 function that is expected to have considerable pay-
3 offs in crop species ranging from corn to soybean to
4 cotton and animal species ranging from cattle to
5 swine to poultry;

6 “(4) to develop improved bioinformatics to en-
7 hance both sequence or structure determination and
8 analysis of the biological function of genes and gene
9 products;

10 “(5) to develop, within the National Food Ge-
11 nome Strategy required under subsection (b) for ag-
12 riculturally important plants, animals, and microbes,
13 a Plant Genome Initiative under which—

14 “(A) the Plant Genome Initiative will be
15 an interagency activity conducted with—

16 “(i) as the lead Federal agency—

17 “(I) the Department of Agri-
18 culture; or

19 “(II) if funding provided for the
20 Plant Genome Initiative through the
21 Department of Agriculture is substan-
22 tially less than funding provided for
23 the Initiative through another Federal
24 agency, the other Federal agency, as
25 determined by the President; and

1 “(ii) the National Science Foundation
2 and the Department of Energy as partici-
3 pants; and

4 “(B) the National Institutes of Health will
5 continue to invest in the underlying critical
6 technologies through its Human Genome Initia-
7 tive and other genetics research;

8 “(6) to establish, within the National Food Ge-
9 nome Strategy, an Animal Genome Initiative—

10 “(A) to address the obstacles limiting the
11 development and implementation of gene-based
12 approaches for animal improvement, such as
13 high-resolution genomic maps; and

14 “(B) to take advantage of complementary
15 work of the Human Genome Initiative, the Ag-
16 ricultural Research Service, and State agricul-
17 tural experiment stations;

18 “(7) to encourage Federal Government partici-
19 pants to maximize the utility of public and private
20 partnerships for food genome research;

21 “(8) to allow resources developed under this
22 section, including data, software, germplasm, and
23 other biological materials, to be openly accessible to
24 all persons, subject to any confidentiality require-
25 ments imposed by law; and

1 “(9) to encourage international partnerships
2 with each partner country responsible for financing
3 its own strategy for food genome research.

4 “(b) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—The Secretary of Ag-
5 riculture (referred to in this section as the ‘Secretary’)
6 shall develop and carry out a National Food Genome
7 Strategy to—

8 “(1) study and map agriculturally significant
9 genes to achieve sustainable and secure agricultural
10 production;

11 “(2) ensure that current gaps in existing agri-
12 cultural genetics knowledge are filled;

13 “(3) identify and develop a functional under-
14 standing of genes responsible for economically im-
15 portant traits in plants, animals, and microbes of
16 importance to agriculture;

17 “(4) ensure future genetic improvement of agri-
18 culturally important species;

19 “(5) support preservation of diverse germplasm;

20 “(6) ensure preservation of biodiversity to
21 maintain access to genes that may be of importance
22 in the future; and

23 “(7) otherwise carry out the purposes of this
24 section.

1 “(c) CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND COOPERATIVE
2 AGREEMENTS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter
4 into or make contracts, grants, or cooperative agree-
5 ments with individuals and organizations in accord-
6 ance with section 1472 of the National Agricultural
7 Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of
8 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3318).

9 “(2) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—A grant under this
10 subsection shall be made on a competitive basis.

11 “(d) ADMINISTRATION.—

12 “(1) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall pro-
13 mulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry
14 out this section.

15 “(2) CONSULTATION WITH THE NATIONAL
16 ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Secretary may use
17 funds made available under this section to consult
18 with the National Academy of Sciences regarding
19 the administration of the National Food Genome
20 Strategy.

21 “(3) INDIRECT COSTS.—Indirect costs under
22 this section shall be allowable at the rate indirect
23 costs are allowable for contracts, grants, or coopera-
24 tive agreements entered into or made by the Na-
25 tional Science Foundation for genomic research.”.

1 **SEC. 213. IMPORTED FIRE ANT CONTROL, MANAGEMENT,**
 2 **AND ERADICATION.**

3 Section 1672 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
 4 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925) is amended—

5 (1) by striking subsections (a), (d), (e), and (f);

6 (2) by redesignating subsections (b), (c), and
 7 (g) as subsections (a), (b), and (c), respectively; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(d) IMPORTED FIRE ANT CONTROL, MANAGEMENT,
 10 AND ERADICATION.—

11 “(1) NATIONAL ADVISORY AND IMPLEMENTA-
 12 TION BOARD ON IMPORTED FIRE ANT CONTROL,
 13 MANAGEMENT, AND ERADICATION.—

14 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of
 15 Agriculture may establish a National Advisory
 16 and Implementation Board on Imported Fire
 17 Ant Control, Management, and Eradication (re-
 18 ferred to in this subsection as the ‘Board’).

19 “(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Board shall con-
 20 sist of 12 members who are experts in ento-
 21 mology, ant ecology, wildlife biology, electrical
 22 engineering, economics, or agribusiness and
 23 who are appointed by the Secretary from aca-
 24 demia, research institutes, and the private sec-
 25 tor.

26 “(C) COMPENSATION.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—A member of the
2 Board shall not receive any compensation
3 by reason of service on the Board.

4 “(ii) EXPENSES.—A member of the
5 Board shall be reimbursed for travel, sub-
6 sistence, and other necessary expenses in-
7 curred by the member in the performance
8 of a duty of the member.

9 “(D) TERMINATION.—The Board shall ter-
10 minate 60 days after the date on which the na-
11 tional plan is submitted to the Board under
12 paragraph (4)(B).

13 “(2) INITIAL GRANTS.—

14 “(A) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
16 shall publish a request for proposals for
17 grants for research or demonstration
18 projects related to the control, manage-
19 ment, and possible eradication of imported
20 fire ants.

21 “(ii) INPUT FROM BOARD.—In devel-
22 oping a request for proposals under clause
23 (i), the Secretary shall solicit and consider
24 input from the Board.

1 “(B) SELECTION.—Not later than 1 year
2 after the date of publication of the request for
3 proposals, the Secretary shall evaluate and se-
4 lect meritorious research or demonstration
5 projects related to the control, management,
6 and possible eradication of imported fire ants.

7 “(C) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award
8 a total of \$6,000,000 for each fiscal year in
9 grants to colleges, universities, research insti-
10 tutes, Federal laboratories, or private entities
11 selected under subparagraph (B), for a term of
12 not to exceed 5 years, for the purpose of con-
13 ducting research or demonstration projects re-
14 lated to the control, management, and possible
15 eradication of imported fire ants. Each project
16 shall be completed not later than the end of the
17 term of the grant.

18 “(3) SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—

19 “(A) EVALUATION; SELECTION.—If the
20 Secretary awards grants under paragraph
21 (2)(C), the Secretary shall—

22 “(i) evaluate all of the research or
23 demonstration projects conducted under
24 paragraph (2)(C) for their use as the basis
25 of a national plan for the control, manage-

1 ment, and possible eradication of imported
2 fire ants by the Federal Government, State
3 and local governments, and owners and op-
4 erators of land; and

5 “(ii) on the basis of the evaluation, se-
6 lect the projects the Secretary considers
7 most promising for additional research or
8 demonstration related to the control, man-
9 agement, and possible eradication of im-
10 ported fire ants and notify the Board of
11 the selection.

12 “(B) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award
13 a grant of up to \$4,000,000 for each fiscal year
14 to each of the colleges, universities, research in-
15 stitutes, Federal laboratories, or private entities
16 selected under subparagraph (A)(ii) for the pur-
17 pose of conducting research or demonstration
18 projects for the preparation of a national plan
19 for the control, management, and possible
20 eradication of imported fire ants. Each project
21 shall be completed not later than 2 years after
22 the grant is made.

23 “(4) NATIONAL PLAN.—

1 “(A) EVALUATION; SELECTION.—If the
2 Secretary awards grants under paragraph
3 (3)(B), the Secretary shall—

4 “(i) evaluate all of the research or
5 demonstration projects conducted under
6 paragraph (3)(B) for their use as the basis
7 of a national plan for the control, manage-
8 ment, and possible eradication of imported
9 fire ants by the Federal Government, State
10 and local governments, and owners and op-
11 erators of land; and

12 “(ii) on the basis of the evaluation, se-
13 lect 1 project funded under paragraph
14 (3)(B), or a combination of grant projects,
15 as the basis for the plan and notify the
16 Board of the selection.

17 “(B) GRANT.—The Secretary may award a
18 grant of up to \$5,000,000 to the sponsor or
19 sponsors of the grant project selected under
20 subparagraph (A)(ii) for the purpose of the
21 final preparation of the national plan for the
22 control, management, and possible eradication
23 of imported fire ants that is based on the
24 project. If the Secretary awards a grant under
25 this subparagraph, the national plan shall be

1 completed, and submitted to the Board, not
2 later than 1 year after the grant is made.

3 “(C) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later
4 than 60 days after the plan is submitted to the
5 Board under subparagraph (B), the Secretary
6 shall submit to Congress the national plan for
7 the control, management, and possible eradi-
8 cation of imported fire ants.

9 “(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
10 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
11 as are necessary to carry out this subsection for
12 each of fiscal years 1998 through 2002.”.

13 **SEC. 214. AGRICULTURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS PRO-**
14 **GRAM.**

15 Section 1673 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
16 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5926) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (c)—

18 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
19 through (5) as paragraphs (2) through (6), re-
20 spectively;

21 (B) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as
22 so redesignated) the following:

23 “(1) A*DEC.—The term ‘A*DEC’ means the
24 distance education consortium known as A*DEC.”;
25 and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(7) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
3 the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through
4 A*DEC.”;

5 (2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “The Sec-
6 retary shall establish a program, to be administered
7 by the Assistant Secretary for Science and Edu-
8 cation,” and inserting “The Secretary of Agriculture
9 shall establish a program, to be administered
10 through a grant provided to A*DEC under terms
11 and conditions established by the Secretary of Agri-
12 culture,”; and

13 (3) in the first sentence of subsection (f)(2), by
14 striking “the Assistant Secretary for Science and
15 Education” and inserting “A*DEC”.

16 **SEC. 215. ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR FARM-**
17 **ERS WITH DISABILITIES.**

18 Section 1680 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
19 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5933) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (6);

21 (2) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) in striking “DISSEMINATION.—” and
23 all that follows through “GENERAL.—The” and
24 inserting “DISSEMINATION.—The”; and

25 (B) by striking paragraph (2); and

1 (3) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
4 there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
5 this section \$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1998
6 through 2002.

7 “(2) NATIONAL GRANT.—Not more than 15
8 percent of the amounts made available under para-
9 graph (1) for a fiscal year shall be used to carry out
10 subsection (b).”.

11 **Subtitle C—Amendments to Other** 12 **Laws**

13 **SEC. 221. 1994 INSTITUTIONS.**

14 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 532 of the Equity in Edu-
15 cational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law
16 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note) is amended by adding at
17 the end the following:

18 “(30) Little Priest Tribal College.”.

19 (b) ACCREDITATION.—Section 533(a) of the Equity
20 in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public
21 Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note) is amended by adding
22 at the end the following:

23 “(3) ACCREDITATION.—To receive funding
24 under sections 534 and 535, a 1994 Institution shall
25 certify to the Secretary that the Institution is—

1 “(A) accredited by a nationally recognized
2 accrediting agency or association determined by
3 the Secretary, in consultation with the Sec-
4 retary of Education, to be a reliable authority
5 as to the quality of training offered; or

6 “(B) as determined by the agency or asso-
7 ciation, making progress toward the accredita-
8 tion.”.

9 **SEC. 222. COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK**
10 **BY 1862, 1890, AND 1994 INSTITUTIONS.**

11 Section 3(b)(3) of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C.
12 343(b)(3)) is amended in the last sentence by striking
13 “State institutions” and all that follows through the pe-
14 riod at the end and inserting “1994 Institutions (in ac-
15 cordance with regulations that the Secretary may promul-
16 gate) and may be administered by the Institutions through
17 cooperative agreements with colleges and universities eligi-
18 ble to receive funds under the Act of July 2, 1862 (12
19 Stat. 503, chapter 130; 7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), or the Act
20 of August 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 419, chapter 841; 7 U.S.C.
21 321 et seq.), including Tuskegee University, located in any
22 State.”.

1 **SEC. 223. ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN COLLEGES AND UNI-**
2 **VERSITIES FOR EXTENSION FUNDING.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Smith-Lever Act
4 (7 U.S.C. 343) is amended by striking subsection (d) and
5 inserting the following:

6 “(d) FUNDING OF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall receive
8 such amounts as Congress shall determine for ad-
9 ministrative, technical, and other services and for co-
10 ordinating the extension work of the Department
11 and the several States, territories, and possessions of
12 the United States.

13 “(2) ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN COLLEGES AND
14 UNIVERSITIES FOR EXTENSION FUNDING.—

15 “(A) COMPETITIVE AWARDS.—Colleges
16 and universities (as defined in section 1404 of
17 the National Agricultural Research, Extension,
18 and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
19 3103)), including a foundation established by
20 the colleges or universities, shall be eligible for
21 extension funding awarded under paragraph (1)
22 on a competitive basis.

23 “(B) NONCOMPETITIVE AWARDS.—

24 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An entity de-
25 scribed in clause (ii) shall be eligible for

1 extension funding awarded under para-
2 graph (1) on a noncompetitive basis.

3 “(ii) APPLICABILITY.—Clause (i) shall
4 apply to—

5 “(I) a college or university eligi-
6 ble to receive funds under the Act of
7 July 2, 1862 (12 Stat. 503, chapter
8 130; 7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.);

9 “(II) a college or university eligi-
10 ble to receive funds under the Act of
11 August 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 419, chap-
12 ter 841; 7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), includ-
13 ing Tuskegee University;

14 “(III) a 1994 Institution (as de-
15 fined in section 532 of the Equity in
16 Educational Land-Grant Status Act
17 of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7
18 U.S.C. 301 note)); and

19 “(IV) a foundation established by
20 a college, university, or Institution de-
21 scribed in this clause.

22 “(3) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, COOP-
23 ERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND REIMBURSABLE AGREE-
24 MENTS.—To maximize the use of Federal resources,
25 the Secretary of Agriculture shall, to the maximum

1 extent practicable, enter into memoranda of under-
2 standing, cooperative agreements, or reimbursable
3 agreements with other Federal agencies under which
4 the agencies provide funds, facilities, and other re-
5 sources of the agencies to the Department of Agri-
6 culture to assist the Department in carrying out ex-
7 tension work.”.

8 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 3 of the
9 Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343) is amended—

10 (1) in subsections (b)(1) and (c), by striking
11 “Federal Extension Service” each place it appears
12 and inserting “Secretary of Agriculture”; and

13 (2) in subsection (g)(1), by striking “through
14 the Federal Extension Service”.

15 **SEC. 224. INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Hatch Act of
17 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361c) is amended by adding at the end
18 the following:

19 “(h) INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH AND EXTEN-
20 SION.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than the applica-
22 ble percentage specified under paragraph (2) of the
23 Federal formula funds that are made available to
24 carry out this Act and subsections (b) and (c) of sec-
25 tion 3 of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343), to

1 colleges and universities eligible to receive funds
 2 under the Act of July 2, 1862 (12 Stat. 503, chap-
 3 ter 130; 7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), during a fiscal year
 4 shall be allotted to activities that integrate coopera-
 5 tive research and extension (referred to in this sub-
 6 section as ‘integrated activities’).

7 “(2) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGES.—

8 “(A) CURRENT EXPENDITURES ON INTE-
 9 GRATED ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of Agri-
 10 culture shall determine the percentage of the
 11 Federal formula funds described in paragraph
 12 (1) that each State expended for fiscal year
 13 1997 for integrated activities.

14 “(B) PLANNED EXPENDITURES ON INTE-
 15 GRATED ACTIVITIES.—For fiscal year 2000 and
 16 each subsequent fiscal year, a State shall ex-
 17 pend for integrated activities a percentage of
 18 the Federal formula funds described in para-
 19 graph (1) for a fiscal year that is at least equal
 20 to the lesser of—

21 “(i) 25 percent; or

22 “(ii) twice the percentage for the
 23 State determined under subparagraph (A).

24 “(C) REDUCTION BY SECRETARY.—The
 25 Secretary may reduce the minimum percentage

1 required to be allotted for integrated activities
2 under subparagraph (B) in a case of hardship,
3 infeasibility, or other similar circumstance be-
4 yond the control of the State, as determined by
5 the Secretary.

6 “(D) COMPLIANCE.—The State shall pro-
7 vide to the Secretary a description of the man-
8 ner in which the State will meet the require-
9 ments of this paragraph.

10 “(3) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection does not
11 apply to funds provided—

12 “(A) by a State or local government pursu-
13 ant to a matching requirement;

14 “(B) to a 1994 Institution (as defined in
15 section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-
16 Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–
17 382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note)); or

18 “(C) to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
19 the Virgin Islands, or Guam.

20 “(4) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Funds that are
21 used in accordance with paragraph (2)(B) may also
22 be used to satisfy the requirements of subsection
23 (c)(3) and the requirements of section 3(h) of the
24 Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(h)).”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3 of the
 2 Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343) (as amended by section
 3 105(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(j) REFERENCE TO OTHER LAW.—Section 3(h) of
 5 the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361c(h)) shall apply to
 6 amounts made available to carry out this Act.”.

7 **SEC. 225. COMPETITIVE, SPECIAL, AND FACILITIES RE-**
 8 **SEARCH GRANTS.**

9 (a) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—The Competitive, Spe-
 10 cial, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i)
 11 is amended in subsection (b)—

12 (1) in the first sentence of paragraph (1), by
 13 inserting “national laboratories,” after “Federal
 14 agencies,”; and

15 (2) in the second sentence of paragraph (3)(E),
 16 by striking “an individual shall have less than” and
 17 all that follows through “research experience” and
 18 inserting “an individual shall be within 5 years of
 19 the individual’s initial career track position”.

20 (b) SPECIAL GRANTS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Competitive, Special,
 22 and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i)
 23 is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting
 24 the following:

25 “(c) SPECIAL GRANTS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agri-
2 culture may make grants, for periods not to exceed
3 3 years, to colleges, universities, other research insti-
4 tutions and organizations, Federal agencies, private
5 organizations or corporations, and individuals for
6 the purpose of conducting research to address—

7 “(A) agricultural research needs of imme-
8 diate importance, by themselves or in conjunc-
9 tion with extension or education; or

10 “(B) new or emerging areas of agricultural
11 research, by themselves or in conjunction with
12 extension or education.

13 “(2) LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may not
14 make a grant under this subsection—

15 “(A) for any purpose for which a grant
16 may be made under subsection (d); or

17 “(B) for the planning, repair, rehabilita-
18 tion, acquisition, or construction of a building
19 or facility.

20 “(3) REVIEW REQUIREMENTS.—

21 “(A) RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—The Sec-
22 retary shall make a grant under this subsection
23 for a research activity only if—

24 “(i) the activity has undergone sci-
25 entific peer review arranged by the grantee

1 in accordance with regulations promul-
2 gated by the Secretary; and

3 “(ii) except in the case of a grant
4 awarded competitively under this sub-
5 section, the grantee provides to the Sec-
6 retary a proposed plan for graduation from
7 noncompetitive Federal funding for grants
8 under this subsection.

9 “(B) EXTENSION AND EDUCATION ACTIVI-
10 TIES.—The Secretary shall make a grant under
11 this subsection for an extension or education
12 activity only if—

13 “(i) the activity has undergone merit
14 review arranged by the grantee in accord-
15 ance with regulations promulgated by the
16 Secretary; and

17 “(ii) except in the case of a grant
18 awarded competitively under this sub-
19 section, the grantee provides to the Sec-
20 retary a proposed plan for graduation from
21 noncompetitive Federal funding for grants
22 under this subsection.

23 “(4) PARTNERSHIPS.—

24 “(A) IMMEDIATE NEEDS.—Except in the
25 case of a grant awarded competitively under

1 this subsection, to receive a grant under para-
2 graph (1)(A), a recipient of a grant shall enter
3 into a partnership to carry out the grant with
4 another entity referred to in paragraph (1).

5 “(B) NEW AND EMERGING AREAS.—Ex-
6 cept in the case of a grant awarded competi-
7 tively under this subsection, after a recipient
8 has received a grant under paragraph (1)(B)
9 for 3 consecutive years, to receive such a grant
10 for an additional year, the recipient shall enter
11 into a partnership to carry out the grant with
12 2 or more entities referred to in paragraph (1).

13 “(5) REPORTS.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A recipient of a grant
15 under this subsection shall—

16 “(i) prepare on an annual basis a re-
17 port describing the results of the research,
18 extension, or education activity and the
19 merit of the results; and

20 “(ii) submit the report to the Sec-
21 retary.

22 “(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—

23 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
24 vided in clause (ii), on request, the Sec-

1 retary shall make the report available to
2 the public.

3 “(ii) EXCEPTIONS.—Clause (i) shall
4 not apply to the extent that making the re-
5 port, or a part of the report, available to
6 the public is not authorized or permitted
7 by section 552 of title 5, United States
8 Code, or section 1905 of title 18, United
9 States Code.

10 “(6) SET ASIDE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—
11 Of the amounts made available for a fiscal year to
12 carry out this subsection, not more than 4 percent
13 of the amounts may be retained by the Secretary to
14 pay administrative costs incurred by the Secretary to
15 carry out this subsection.”.

16 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
17 by paragraph (1) takes effect on October 1, 1998.

18 **SEC. 226. FUND FOR RURAL AMERICA.**

19 Section 793(b) of the Federal Agriculture Improve-
20 ment and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 2204f(b)) is
21 amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “January 1,
23 1997, October 1, 1998, and October 1, 1999” and
24 inserting “October 1, 1997, and each October 1
25 thereafter through October 1, 2001”; and

1 (2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(3) PURPOSES.—Subject to subsection (d), of
4 the amounts transferred to the Account for a fiscal
5 year, the Secretary shall make available—

6 “(A) for activities described in subsection
7 (c)(1), not less than 50 percent, and not more
8 than 67 percent, of the funds in the Account;
9 and

10 “(B) for activities described in subsection
11 (c)(2), all funds in the Account not made avail-
12 able under subparagraph (A).”.

13 **SEC. 227. HONEY RESEARCH, PROMOTION, AND CONSUMER**
14 **INFORMATION.**

15 (a) FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.—Section 2 of the
16 Honey Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information
17 Act (7 U.S.C. 4601) is amended—

18 (1) by striking the section heading and “SEC.
19 2. The Congress” and inserting the following:

20 **“SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

21 “(a) FINDINGS.—Congress”; and

22 (2) in subsection (a) (as designated by para-
23 graph (1)), by adding at the end the following:

24 “(8) Research directed at improving the cost-ef-
25 fectiveness and efficiency of beekeeping and develop-

1 ing better means of dealing with pest and disease
2 problems is essential to keeping honey and honey
3 product prices competitive, facilitating market
4 growth, and maintaining the financial well-being of
5 the honey industry.

6 “(9) Research involving the quality, safety, and
7 image of honey and honey products, and how that
8 quality, safety, and image may be affected during
9 the extraction, processing, packaging, marketing,
10 and other stages of the honey and honey product
11 production and distribution process, is highly impor-
12 tant to building and maintaining markets for honey
13 and honey products.”.

14 (b) RESEARCH PROJECTS.—Section 7(f) of the
15 Honey Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information
16 Act (7 U.S.C. 4606(f)) is amended—

17 (1) by striking “(f) Funds” and inserting the
18 following:

19 “(f) USE OF FUNDS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds”;

21 (2) by striking “The Secretary shall” and in-
22 sserting the following:

23 “(3) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Secretary shall”;

24 and

1 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) (as des-
2 ignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

3 “(2) RESEARCH PROJECTS.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Honey Board
5 shall reserve at least 8 percent of all assess-
6 ments collected during a year for expenditure
7 on approved research projects designed to ad-
8 vance the cost-effectiveness, competitiveness, ef-
9 ficiency, pest and disease control, and other
10 management aspects of beekeeping and honey
11 production.

12 “(B) SUBSEQUENT AVAILABILITY.—If all
13 funds reserved under subparagraph (A) are not
14 allocated to approved research projects in a
15 year, any unallocated reserved funds shall be
16 carried forward for allocation and expenditure
17 under subparagraph (A) in subsequent years.”.

18 **SEC. 228. OFFICE OF ENERGY POLICY AND NEW USES.**

19 Subtitle A of the Department of Agriculture Reorga-
20 nization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6911 et seq.) is amended
21 by adding at the end the following:

22 **“SEC. 220. OFFICE OF ENERGY POLICY AND NEW USES.**

23 “An Office of Energy Policy and New Uses of the
24 Department shall be established in the Office of the Sec-
25 retary.”.

1 **SEC. 229. KIWIFRUIT RESEARCH, PROMOTION, AND**
2 **CONSUMER INFORMATION PROGRAM.**

3 (a) AMENDMENTS TO ORDERS.—Section 554(c) of
4 the National Kiwifruit Research, Promotion, and
5 Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 7463(c)) is amended
6 in the second sentence by inserting before the period at
7 the end the following: “, except that an amendment to an
8 order shall not require a referendum to become effective”.

9 (b) NATIONAL KIWIFRUIT BOARD.—Section 555 of
10 the National Kiwifruit Research, Promotion, and
11 Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 7464) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraphs
13 (1) through (3) and inserting the following:

14 “(1) 10 members who are producers, exporters,
15 or importers (or their representatives), based on a
16 proportional representation of the level of domestic
17 production and imports of kiwifruit (as determined
18 by the Secretary).

19 “(2) 1 member appointed from the general pub-
20 lic.”;

21 (2) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) by striking “MEMBERSHIP.—” and all
23 that follows through “paragraph (2), the” and
24 inserting “MEMBERSHIP.—Subject to the 11-
25 member limit, the”; and

26 (B) by striking paragraph (2); and

1 (3) in subsection (c)—

2 (A) in paragraph (2), by inserting “who
3 are producers” after “members”;

4 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “who
5 are importers or exporters” after “members”;

6 and

7 (C) in the second sentence of paragraph
8 (5), by inserting “and alternate” after “mem-
9 ber”.

10 **SEC. 230. NATIONAL AQUACULTURE POLICY, PLANNING,**
11 **AND DEVELOPMENT.**

12 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the National Aqua-
13 culture Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2802) is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “the propaga-
15 tion” and all that follows through the period at the
16 end and inserting the following: “the commercially
17 controlled cultivation of aquatic plants, animals, and
18 microorganisms, but does not include private for-
19 profit ocean ranching of Pacific salmon in a State
20 in which the ranching is prohibited by law.”;

21 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “or aquatic
22 plant” and inserting “aquatic plant, or microorga-
23 nism”;

1 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through
2 (9) as paragraphs (8) through (10), respectively;
3 and

4 (4) by inserting after paragraph (6) the follow-
5 ing:

6 “(7) PRIVATE AQUACULTURE.—The term ‘pri-
7 vate aquaculture’ means the commercially controlled
8 cultivation of aquatic plants, animals, and micro-
9 organisms other than cultivation carried out by the
10 Federal Government, any State or local government,
11 or an Indian tribe recognized by the Bureau of In-
12 dian Affairs.”.

13 (b) NATIONAL AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT
14 PLAN.—Section 4 of the National Aquaculture Act of
15 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2803) is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (c)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (A), by adding “and”
18 at the end;

19 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “;
20 and” and inserting a period; and

21 (C) by striking subparagraph (C);

22 (2) in the second sentence of subsection (d), by
23 striking “Secretaries determine that” and inserting
24 “Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of
25 Commerce, the Secretary of the Interior, and the

1 heads of such other agencies as the Secretary deter-
2 mines are appropriate, determines that”; and

3 (3) in subsection (e), by striking “Secretaries”
4 and inserting “Secretary, in consultation with the
5 Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Inte-
6 rior, and the heads of such other agencies as the
7 Secretary determines are appropriate,”.

8 (c) FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF SECRETARIES.—
9 Section 5(b)(3) of the National Aquaculture Act of 1980
10 (16 U.S.C. 2804(b)(3)) is amended by striking “Secretar-
11 ies deem” and inserting “Secretary, in consultation with
12 the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Interior,
13 and the heads of such other agencies as the Secretary de-
14 termines are appropriate, consider”.

15 (d) COORDINATION OF NATIONAL ACTIVITIES RE-
16 GARDING AQUACULTURE.—The first sentence of section
17 6(a) of the National Aquaculture Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C.
18 2805(a)) is amended by striking “(f)” and inserting “(e)”.

19 (e) NATIONAL POLICY FOR PRIVATE AQUA-
20 CULTURE.—The National Aquaculture Act of 1980 (16
21 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) is amended—

22 (1) by redesignating sections 7, 8, 9, 10, and
23 11 as sections 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, respectively; and

24 (2) by inserting after section 6 (16 U.S.C.
25 2805) the following:

1 **“SEC. 7. NATIONAL POLICY FOR PRIVATE AQUACULTURE.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with the Sec-
3 retary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior, the
4 Secretary shall coordinate and implement a national policy
5 for private aquaculture in accordance with this section. In
6 developing the policy, the Secretary may consult with
7 other agencies and organizations.

8 “(b) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AQUACULTURE
9 PLAN.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop
11 and implement a Department of Agriculture Aqua-
12 culture Plan (referred to in this section as the ‘De-
13 partment plan’) for a unified aquaculture program
14 of the Department of Agriculture (referred to in this
15 section as the ‘Department’) to support the develop-
16 ment of private aquaculture.

17 “(2) ELEMENTS OF DEPARTMENT PLAN.—The
18 Department plan shall address—

19 “(A) programs of individual agencies of
20 the Department related to aquaculture that are
21 consistent with Department programs related to
22 other areas of agriculture, including livestock,
23 crops, products, and commodities under the ju-
24 risdiction of agencies of the Department;

1 “(B) the treatment of cultivated aquatic
2 animals as livestock and cultivated aquatic
3 plants as agricultural crops; and

4 “(C) means for effective coordination and
5 implementation of aquaculture activities and
6 programs within the Department, including in-
7 dividual agency commitments of personnel and
8 resources.

9 “(c) NATIONAL AQUACULTURE INFORMATION CEN-
10 TER.—In carrying out section 5, the Secretary may main-
11 tain and support a National Aquaculture Information
12 Center at the National Agricultural Library as a reposi-
13 tory for information on national and international aqua-
14 culture.

15 “(d) TREATMENT OF AQUACULTURE.—The Sec-
16 retary shall treat—

17 “(1) private aquaculture as agriculture; and

18 “(2) commercially cultivated aquatic animals,
19 plants, and microorganisms, and products of the ani-
20 mals, plants, and microorganisms, produced by pri-
21 vate persons and transported or moved in standard
22 commodity channels as agricultural livestock, crops,
23 and commodities.

24 “(e) PRIVATE AQUACULTURE POLICY COORDINA-
25 TION, DEVELOPMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION.—

1 “(1) RESPONSIBILITY.—The Secretary shall
2 have responsibility for coordinating, developing, and
3 carrying out policies and programs for private aqua-
4 culture.

5 “(2) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall—

6 “(A) coordinate all intradepartmental func-
7 tions and activities relating to private aqua-
8 culture; and

9 “(B) establish procedures for the coordina-
10 tion of functions, and consultation with, the co-
11 ordinating group.

12 “(f) LIAISON WITH DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE
13 AND THE INTERIOR.—The Secretary of Commerce and
14 the Secretary of the Interior shall each designate an offi-
15 cer or employee of the Department of the Secretary to be
16 the liaison of the Department to the Secretary of Agri-
17 culture.”.

18 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
19 11 of the National Aquaculture Act of 1980 (as redesi-
20 gnated by subsection (e)(1)) is amended by striking “the
21 fiscal years 1991, 1992, and 1993” each place it appears
22 and inserting “fiscal years 1991 through 2002”.

1 **Subtitle D—New Programs**

2 **SEC. 231. BIOBASED PRODUCTS.**

3 (a) DEFINITION OF BIOBASED PRODUCT.—In this
4 section, the term “biobased product” means a product
5 that is produced from a renewable agricultural or forestry
6 product.

7 (b) COORDINATION OF BIOBASED PRODUCT ACTIVI-
8 TIES.—The Secretary shall—

9 (1) coordinate the research, technical expertise,
10 economic information, and market information re-
11 sources and activities of the Department to develop,
12 commercialize, and promote the use of biobased
13 products;

14 (2) solicit input from private sector persons who
15 produce, or are interested in producing, biobased
16 products;

17 (3) provide a centralized contact point for ad-
18 vice and technical assistance for promising and inno-
19 vative biobased products; and

20 (4) submit an annual report to Congress de-
21 scribing the coordinated research, marketing, and
22 commercialization activities of the Department relat-
23 ing to biobased products.

24 (c) RESEARCH AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR
25 BIOBASED PRODUCTS.—

1 (1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE CONTRACTOR.—

2 In this subsection, the term “eligible contractor”
3 means—

4 (A) a party that has entered into a cooper-
5 ative research and development agreement with
6 the Department under section 12 of the Steven-
7 son-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980
8 (15 U.S.C. 3710a);

9 (B) a recipient of funding from the Alter-
10 native Agricultural Research and Commer-
11 cialization Corporation established under sec-
12 tion 1658 of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
13 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5902);

14 (C) a recipient of funding from the Bio-
15 technology Research and Development Center;

16 or

17 (D) a recipient of funding from the De-
18 partment under a Small Business Innovation
19 Research Program established under section 9
20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

21 (2) RESEARCH.—The Secretary may use the
22 funds, facilities, and technical expertise of the Agri-
23 cultural Research Service, cooperative research and
24 development agreement funds, or other funds—

1 (A) to enter into cooperative agreements
2 with eligible contractors to operate pilot plants
3 and other large-scale preparation facilities to
4 promote the practical application of biobased
5 technologies; and

6 (B) to conduct—

7 (i) research on environmental impacts
8 of the technologies;

9 (ii) research on lowering the cost of
10 manufacturing biobased products; or

11 (iii) other appropriate research.

12 (3) SALE OF BIOBASED PRODUCTS.—For the
13 purpose of determining the market potential for
14 biobased products, an eligible contractor who enters
15 into a cooperative agreement may sell biobased prod-
16 ucts produced at a pilot plant or other large-scale
17 preparation facility under paragraph (2).

18 (d) PILOT PROJECT.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
20 through the Agricultural Research Service, shall es-
21 tablish and carry out a pilot project under which
22 grants are provided, on a competitive basis, to sci-
23 entists of the Agricultural Research Service to—

24 (A) encourage innovative and collaborative
25 science; and

1 (B) during each of fiscal years 1999
2 through 2001, develop biobased products with
3 promising commercial potential.

4 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
6 this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years
7 1999 through 2002.

8 **SEC. 232. PRECISION AGRICULTURE.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) AGRICULTURAL INPUTS.—The term “agri-
11 cultural inputs” includes all farm management, ag-
12 ronomic, and field-applied agricultural production in-
13 puts, such as machinery, labor, time, fuel, irrigation
14 water, commercial nutrients, livestock waste, crop
15 protection chemicals, agronomic data and informa-
16 tion, application and management services, seed, and
17 other inputs used in agricultural production.

18 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible en-
19 tity” means—

20 (A) a State agricultural experiment sta-
21 tion;

22 (B) a college or university;

23 (C) a research institution or organization;

24 (D) a Federal agency;

25 (E) a national laboratory;

1 (F) a private organization or corporation;

2 or

3 (G) an individual.

4 (3) PRECISION AGRICULTURE.—The term “pre-
5 cision agriculture” means an integrated information-
6 and production-based farming system that is de-
7 signed to increase long-term site-specific and whole-
8 farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profit-
9 ability while minimizing unintended impacts on wild-
10 life and the environment by—

11 (A) combining agricultural sciences, agri-
12 cultural inputs and practices, agronomic pro-
13 duction databases, and precision agriculture
14 technologies to efficiently manage agronomic
15 systems;

16 (B) gathering on-farm information pertain-
17 ing to the variation and interaction of site-spe-
18 cific spatial and temporal factors affecting crop
19 production;

20 (C) integrating the information with ap-
21 propriate data derived from remote sensing and
22 other precision agriculture technologies in a
23 timely manner in order to facilitate on-farm de-
24 cisionmaking; or

1 (D) using the information to prescribe and
2 deliver site-specific application of agricultural
3 inputs and management practices in agricul-
4 tural production systems.

5 (4) PRECISION AGRICULTURE TECH-
6 NOLOGIES.—The term “precision agriculture tech-
7 nologies” includes—

8 (A) instrumentation and techniques rang-
9 ing from sophisticated sensors and software
10 systems to manual sampling and data collection
11 tools that measure, record, and manage spatial
12 and temporal data;

13 (B) technologies for searching out and as-
14 sembling information necessary for sound agri-
15 cultural production decisionmaking;

16 (C) open systems technologies for data
17 networking and processing that produce valued
18 systems for farm management decisionmaking,
19 including high bandwidth networks, distributed
20 processing, spatial databasing, object tech-
21 nology, global positioning systems, data model-
22 ing, high performance image processing, high
23 resolution satellite imagery, digital
24 orthophotogrammetry simulation, geographic in-

1 formation systems, computer aided design, and
2 digital cartography; or

3 (D) machines that deliver information
4 based management practices, including global
5 positioning satellites, digital field mapping, on-
6 the-go yield monitoring, automated pest scout-
7 ing, and site-specific agricultural input applica-
8 tion to accomplish the objectives of precision
9 agriculture.

10 (5) SYSTEMS RESEARCH.—The term “systems
11 research” means an integrated, coordinated, and it-
12 erative investigative process that considers the mul-
13 tiple interacting components and aspects of precision
14 agriculture systems, including synthesis of new
15 knowledge regarding the physical-chemical-biological
16 processes and complex interactions with cropping
17 and natural resource systems, precision agriculture
18 technologies development and implementation, data
19 and information collection and interpretation, pro-
20 duction scale planning, production-scale implementa-
21 tion, and farm production efficiencies, productivity,
22 and profitability.

23 (b) GRANTS.—After consultation with the Advisory
24 Board, the Secretary may make competitive grants, for
25 periods not to exceed 5 years, to eligible entities to carry

1 out research, education, and information dissemination
2 projects for the development and promotion of precision
3 agriculture. The projects shall address 1 or more of the
4 following:

5 (1) The study and promotion of components of
6 precision agriculture technologies using a systems
7 research approach designed to increase long-term
8 site-specific and whole-farm production efficiencies,
9 productivity, and profitability.

10 (2) The improvement in the understanding of
11 agronomic systems, including soil, water, land cover,
12 and meteorological variability.

13 (3) The development, demonstration, and dis-
14 semination of information regarding precision agri-
15 culture technologies and systems into an integrated
16 program.

17 (4) The promotion of systems research and edu-
18 cation projects focusing on the integration of the
19 multiple aspects of precision agriculture, including
20 development, production-scale implementation, and
21 farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profit-
22 ability.

23 (5) The education of agricultural producers and
24 consumers regarding the costs and benefits of preci-
25 sion agriculture as it relates to increased long-term

1 farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profit-
2 ability, as well as the maintenance of the environ-
3 ment and improvements in international trade.

4 (6) The provision of training and educational
5 programs for State cooperative extension services
6 agents, agricultural producers, agricultural input
7 machinery, product, and service providers, and cer-
8 tified crop advisers and other professionals involved
9 in agricultural production and the transfer of inte-
10 grated precision agriculture technology.

11 (7) The study of whether precision agriculture
12 technologies are applicable and accessible to small
13 and medium size farms and the study of methods of
14 improving the applicability of precision agriculture
15 technologies to the farms.

16 (c) EDUCATION AND INFORMATION DISSEMINA-
17 TION.—Of the funds allocated for grants under this sec-
18 tion, the Secretary shall reserve a portion of the funds
19 for education and information dissemination grants re-
20 garding precision agriculture.

21 (d) PRECISION AGRICULTURE PARTNERSHIPS.—

22 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—In carrying out this sec-
23 tion, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory
24 Board, shall encourage the establishment of appro-

1 appropriate multistate and national partnerships or con-
2 sortia among—

3 (A) land-grant colleges and universities;

4 (B) State agricultural experiment stations;

5 (C) State cooperative extension services;

6 (D) other colleges and universities with de-
7 monstrable expertise regarding precision agri-
8 culture;

9 (E) agencies of the Department;

10 (F) national laboratories;

11 (G) agribusinesses;

12 (H) agricultural equipment and input man-
13 ufacturers and retailers;

14 (I) certified crop advisers;

15 (J) commodity organizations;

16 (K) other Federal or State government en-
17 tities and agencies;

18 (L) nonagricultural industries and non-
19 profit organizations with demonstrable expertise
20 regarding precision agriculture; and

21 (M) agricultural producers and other land
22 managers.

23 (2) AGREEMENT BETWEEN SECRETARY OF EN-
24 ERGY AND SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.—The
25 partnerships established pursuant to this subsection

1 may include the agreement entered into (before the
2 date of enactment of this Act) by the Secretary of
3 Energy (on behalf of the national laboratories of the
4 Department of Energy) and the Secretary of Agri-
5 culture (on behalf of agencies of the Department) to
6 promote cooperation and coordination between the
7 national laboratories of the Department of Energy
8 and agencies of the Department of Agriculture in
9 the areas of systems research, technology research
10 and development, and the transfer, utilization, and
11 private-sector commercialization of technology.

12 (3) ROLE OF PARTNERSHIPS.—Partnerships de-
13 scribed in paragraph (1) shall be eligible grantees
14 for conducting systems research (including on-farm
15 research) regarding precision agriculture and preci-
16 sion agriculture technologies.

17 (e) LIMITATION.—A grant made under this section
18 may not be used for the planning, repair, rehabilitation,
19 acquisition, or construction of a building or facility.

20 (f) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Secretary may not take
21 the offer or availability of matching funds into consider-
22 ation in making a grant under this section.

23 (g) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than January 1 of
24 each year, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress an an-
25 nual report describing the policies, priorities, and oper-

1 ations of the grant program authorized by this section
2 during the preceding fiscal year.

3 (h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate
4 such regulations as the Secretary considers necessary to
5 carry out this section.

6 (i) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.—The Federal
7 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) and title XVIII
8 of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2281
9 et seq.) shall not apply to a panel or board created for
10 the purpose of reviewing applications or proposals submit-
11 ted under this section.

12 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
14 appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry
15 out this section for each of fiscal years 1998 through
16 2002, of which, for each fiscal year—

17 (A) not less than 30 percent shall be avail-
18 able to make grants for research to be con-
19 ducted by multidisciplinary teams;

20 (B) not less than 40 percent shall be avail-
21 able to make grants for research to be con-
22 ducted by eligible entities conducting mission-
23 linked systems research; and

24 (C) not more than 4 percent may be re-
25 tained by the Secretary to pay administrative

1 costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out
2 this section.

3 (2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds made
4 available under paragraph (1) shall be available for
5 obligation for a 2-year period beginning on October
6 1 of the fiscal year for which the funds are made
7 available.

8 **SEC. 233. FORMOSAN TERMITE ERADICATION PROGRAM.**

9 (a) RESEARCH PROGRAM.—The Secretary may make
10 competitive research grants for terms of not to exceed 5
11 years to regional and multijurisdictional entities, local gov-
12 ernment planning organizations, and local governments
13 for the purpose of conducting research for the control,
14 management, and possible eradication of Formosan ter-
15 mites in the United States.

16 (b) ERADICATION PROGRAM.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter
18 into cooperative agreements with regional and multi-
19 jurisdictional entities, local government planning or-
20 ganizations, and local governments for the purposes
21 of—

22 (A) conducting projects for the control,
23 management, and possible eradication of For-
24 mosan termites in the United States; and

1 (B) collecting data on the effectiveness of
2 the projects.

3 (2) FUNDING PRIORITY.—In allocating funds
4 made available to carry out this subsection, the Sec-
5 retary shall provide a higher priority for regions or
6 locations with the highest historical rates of infesta-
7 tion of Formosan termites.

8 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
9 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
10 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2002.

11 **SEC. 234. NUTRIENT COMPOSITION DATA.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall update, on a
13 periodic basis, nutrient composition data.

14 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
15 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to
16 the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representa-
17 tives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and
18 Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

19 (1) the method the Secretary will use to update
20 nutrient composition data, including the quality as-
21 surance criteria that will be used and the method for
22 generating the data; and

23 (2) the timing for updating the data.

1 **SEC. 235. CONSOLIDATED ADMINISTRATIVE AND LABORA-**
2 **TORY FACILITY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the Federal
4 Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40
5 U.S.C. 471 et seq.), the Public Buildings Act of 1959 (40
6 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), or section 5 of the Public Buildings
7 Amendments of 1972 (40 U.S.C. 602a), the Secretary, in
8 consultation with the Administrator of General Services,
9 may enter into contracts for the design, construction, and
10 operation of a consolidated administrative and laboratory
11 facility of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
12 to be located in or near Ames, Iowa.

13 (b) AWARDING OF CONTRACT.—

14 (1) SOLICITATION.—The Secretary may solicit
15 contract proposals from interested parties to carry
16 out subsection (a).

17 (2) PRIORITY.—In awarding contracts under
18 subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

19 (A) review the proposals; and

20 (B) provide a higher priority to proposals
21 that—

22 (i) are—

23 (I) the most cost effective for the
24 Federal Government; or

25 (II) safer, based on the relative
26 safety of the proposed facility in com-

1 parison to facilities of the Animal and
2 Plant Health Inspection Service lo-
3 cated in Ames, Iowa, in existence on
4 the date of enactment of this Act; and
5 (ii) allow for the use of donated land,
6 federally owned property, or lease-purchase
7 arrangements.

8 (c) DONATIONS.—In carrying out this section, the
9 Secretary may, in connection with real property, buildings,
10 and facilities, accept on behalf of the Animal and Plant
11 Health Inspection Service such gifts or donations of serv-
12 ices or property, real or personal, as the Secretary deter-
13 mines necessary.

14 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
16 essary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years
17 1998 through 2002, to remain available until expended.

18 **SEC. 236. NATIONAL SWINE RESEARCH CENTER.**

19 Subject to the availability of appropriations to carry
20 out this section, or through a reprogramming of funds
21 provided for swine research to carry out this section pur-
22 suant to established procedures, during the period begin-
23 ning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending De-
24 cember 31, 1998, the Secretary, acting through the Agri-
25 cultural Research Service, may accept as a gift, and ad-

1 minister, the National Swine Research Center located in
2 Ames, Iowa.

3 **SEC. 237. COORDINATED PROGRAM OF RESEARCH, EXTEN-**
4 **SION, AND EDUCATION TO IMPROVE VIABIL-**
5 **ITY OF SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZE DAIRY AND**
6 **LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out a
8 coordinated program of research, extension, and education
9 to improve the competitiveness, viability, and sustain-
10 ability of small and medium size dairy and livestock oper-
11 ations (referred to in this section as “operations”).

12 (b) COMPONENTS.—To the extent the Secretary
13 elects to carry out the program, the Secretary shall con-
14 duct—

15 (1) research, development, and on-farm exten-
16 sion and education concerning low-cost production
17 facilities and practices, management systems, and
18 genetics that are appropriate for the operations;

19 (2) research and extension on management-in-
20 tensive grazing systems for livestock and dairy pro-
21 duction to realize the potential for reduced capital
22 and feed costs through greater use of management
23 skills, labor availability optimization, and the natural
24 benefits of grazing pastures;

1 (3) research and extension on integrated crop
2 and livestock systems that increase efficiencies, re-
3 duce costs, and prevent environmental pollution to
4 strengthen the competitive position of the oper-
5 ations;

6 (4) economic analyses and market feasibility
7 studies to identify new and expanded opportunities
8 for producers on the operations that provide tools
9 and strategies to meet consumer demand in domestic
10 and international markets, such as cooperative mar-
11 keting and value-added strategies for milk and meat
12 production and processing; and

13 (5) technology assessment that compares the
14 technological resources of large specialized producers
15 with the technological needs of producers on the op-
16 erations to identify and transfer existing technology
17 across all sizes and scales and to identify the specific
18 research and education needs of the producers.

19 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary may use the
20 funds, facilities, and technical expertise of the Agricultural
21 Research Service and the Cooperative State Research,
22 Education, and Extension Service and other funds avail-
23 able to the Secretary (other than funds of the Commodity
24 Credit Corporation) to carry out this section.

1 **SEC. 238. SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH REGARDING DISEASES**
2 **OF WHEAT AND BARLEY CAUSED BY FUSAR-**
3 **IUM GRAMINEARUM.**

4 (a) RESEARCH GRANT AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary
5 may make a grant to a consortium of land-grant colleges
6 and universities to enhance the ability of the consortium
7 to carry out a multi-State research project aimed at un-
8 derstanding and combating diseases of wheat and barley
9 caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related fungi (re-
10 ferred to in this section as “wheat scab”).

11 (b) RESEARCH COMPONENTS.—Funds provided
12 under this section shall be available for the following col-
13 laborative, multi-State research activities:

14 (1) Identification and understanding of the epi-
15 demiology of wheat scab and the toxicological prop-
16 erties of vomitoxin, a toxic metabolite commonly oc-
17 ccurring in wheat and barley infected with wheat
18 scab.

19 (2) Development of crop management strategies
20 to reduce the risk of wheat scab occurrence.

21 (3) Development of—

22 (A) efficient and accurate methods to mon-
23 itor wheat and barley for the presence of wheat
24 scab and resulting vomitoxin contamination;

1 (B) post-harvest management techniques
2 for wheat and barley infected with wheat scab;
3 and

4 (C) milling and food processing techniques
5 to render contaminated grain safe.

6 (4) Strengthening and expansion of plant-breed-
7 ing activities to enhance the resistance of wheat and
8 barley to wheat scab, including the establishment of
9 a regional advanced breeding material evaluation
10 nursery and a germplasm introduction and evalua-
11 tion system.

12 (5) Development and deployment of alternative
13 fungicide application systems and formulations to
14 control wheat scab and consideration of other chemi-
15 cal control strategies to assist farmers until new
16 more resistant wheat and barley varieties are avail-
17 able.

18 (c) COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS.—Funds provided
19 under this section shall be available for efforts to con-
20 centrate, integrate, and disseminate research, extension,
21 and outreach-orientated information regarding wheat
22 scab.

23 (d) MANAGEMENT.—To oversee the use of a grant
24 made under this section, the Secretary may establish a
25 committee composed of the directors of the agricultural

1 experiment stations in the States in which land-grant col-
2 leges and universities that are members of the consortium
3 are located.

4 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
5 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
6 \$5,200,000 for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2002.

7 **SEC. 239. FOOD ANIMAL RESIDUE AVOIDANCE DATABASE**
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 (a) CONTINUATION OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary
10 shall continue operation of the Food Animal Residue
11 Avoidance Database program (referred to in this section
12 as the “FARAD program”) through contracts with appro-
13 priate colleges or universities.

14 (b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the FARAD pro-
15 gram, the Secretary shall—

16 (1) provide livestock producers, extension spe-
17 cialists, scientists, and veterinarians with informa-
18 tion to prevent drug, pesticide, and environmental
19 contaminant residues in food animal products;

20 (2) maintain up-to-date information concern-
21 ing—

22 (A) withdrawal times on FDA-approved
23 food animal drugs and appropriate withdrawal
24 intervals for drugs used in food animals in the
25 United States, as established under section

1 512(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cos-
2 metic Act (21 U.S.C. 360b(a));

3 (B) official tolerances for drugs and pes-
4 ticides in tissues, eggs, and milk;

5 (C) descriptions and sensitivities of rapid
6 screening tests for detecting residues in tissues,
7 eggs, and milk; and

8 (D) data on the distribution and fate of
9 chemicals in food animals;

10 (3) publish periodically a compilation of food
11 animal drugs approved by the Food and Drug Ad-
12 ministration;

13 (4) make information on food animal drugs
14 available to the public through handbooks and other
15 literature, computer software, a telephone hotline,
16 and the Internet;

17 (5) furnish producer quality-assurance pro-
18 grams with up-to-date data on approved drugs;

19 (6) maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date,
20 residue avoidance database;

21 (7) provide professional advice for determining
22 the withdrawal times necessary for food safety in the
23 use of drugs in food animals; and

24 (8) engage in other activities designed to pro-
25 mote food safety.

1 (c) CONTRACTS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall offer to
3 enter into contracts with appropriate colleges and
4 universities to operate the FARAD program.

5 (2) TERM.—The term of a contract under sub-
6 section (a) shall be 3 years, with options to extend
7 the term of the contract triennially.

8 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
9 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
10 \$1,000,000 for each fiscal year.

11 **SEC. 240. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN RURAL**
12 **AREAS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide finan-
14 cial assistance to a nationally recognized organization to
15 promote educational opportunities at the primary and sec-
16 ondary levels in rural areas with a historic incidence of
17 poverty and low academic achievement, including the
18 Lower Mississippi River Delta.

19 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
20 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section up
21 to \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year.

1 **Subtitle E—Studies and**
2 **Miscellaneous**

3 **SEC. 241. EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT OF AGRICUL-**
4 **TURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDU-**
5 **CATION PROGRAMS.**

6 (a) **EVALUATION.**—The Secretary shall conduct a
7 performance evaluation to determine whether federally
8 funded agricultural research, extension, and education
9 programs result in public goods that have national or
10 multistate significance.

11 (b) **CONTRACT.**—

12 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall enter
13 into a contract with an expert in research assess-
14 ment and performance evaluation to provide input
15 and recommendations to the Secretary with respect
16 to federally funded agricultural research, extension,
17 and education programs.

18 (2) **GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMANCE MEASURE-**
19 **MENT.**—

20 (A) **IN GENERAL.**—The contractor under
21 paragraph (1) shall develop and propose to the
22 Secretary practical guidelines for measuring
23 performance of federally funded agricultural re-
24 search, extension, and education programs.

1 (B) CONSISTENCY WITH GPRA.—The
2 guidelines shall be consistent with the Govern-
3 ment Performance and Results Act of 1993
4 (Public Law 103–62) and amendments made by
5 that Act.

6 **SEC. 242. STUDY OF FEDERALLY FUNDED AGRICULTURAL**
7 **RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION.**

8 (a) STUDY.—Not later than January 1, 1999, the
9 Secretary shall request the National Academy of Sciences
10 to conduct a study of the role and mission of federally
11 funded agricultural research, extension, and education.

12 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall—

13 (1) evaluate the strength of science conducted
14 by the Agricultural Research Service and the rel-
15 evance of the science to national priorities;

16 (2) examine how the work of the Agricultural
17 Research Service relates to the capacity of the agri-
18 cultural research, extension, and education system of
19 the United States;

20 (3) examine the formulas for funding agricul-
21 tural research and extension; and

22 (4) examine the system of competitive grants
23 for agricultural research, extension, and education.

24 (c) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall prepare and sub-
25 mit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-

1 representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition
2 and Forestry of the Senate—

3 (1) not later than 18 months after the com-
4 mencement of the study, a report that describes the
5 results of the study as it relates to paragraphs (1)
6 and (2) of subsection (b), including any appropriate
7 recommendations; and

8 (2) not later than 3 years after the commence-
9 ment of the study, a report that describes the results
10 of the study as it relates to paragraphs (3) and (4)
11 of subsection (b), including any appropriate rec-
12 ommendations.

13 **SEC. 243. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON STATE MATCH FOR 1890**
14 **INSTITUTIONS.**

15 It is the sense of Congress that States should provide
16 matching funds for agricultural research and extension
17 formula funds provided by the Federal Government to
18 1890 Institutions.

19 **TITLE III—INITIATIVE FOR FU-**
20 **TURE AGRICULTURE AND**
21 **FOOD SYSTEMS**

22 **SEC. 301. INITIATIVE FOR FUTURE AGRICULTURE AND**
23 **FOOD SYSTEMS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Treas-
25 ury of the United States an account to be known as the

1 Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (re-
2 ferred to in this section as the “Account”) to provide
3 funds for activities authorized under this section.

4 (b) FUNDING.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Out of any funds in the
6 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary
7 of the Treasury shall transfer to the Account—

8 (A) on October 1, 1997, \$100,000,000;

9 and

10 (B) on October 1, 1998, and each October
11 1 thereafter through October 1, 2001,
12 \$170,000,000.

13 (2) ENTITLEMENT.—The Secretary—

14 (A) shall be entitled to receive the funds
15 transferred to the Account under paragraph
16 (1);

17 (B) shall accept the funds; and

18 (C) shall use the funds to carry out this
19 section.

20 (c) PURPOSES.—

21 (1) CRITICAL EMERGING ISSUES.—The Sec-
22 retary shall use the funds in the Account—

23 (A) subject to paragraph (2), for research,
24 extension, and education grants (referred to in

1 this section as “grants”) to address critical
2 emerging agricultural issues related to—

- 3 (i) future food production;
- 4 (ii) environmental protection; or
- 5 (iii) farm income; and

6 (B) for activities carried out under the Al-
7 ternative Agricultural Research and Commer-
8 cialization Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5901 et seq.).

9 (2) PRIORITY MISSION AREAS.—

10 (A) FISCAL YEAR 1998.—In making grants
11 under this section for fiscal year 1998, the Sec-
12 retary shall address priority mission areas relat-
13 ed to—

- 14 (i) food genome;
- 15 (ii) food safety, food technology, and
16 human nutrition;
- 17 (iii) new and alternative uses and pro-
18 duction of agricultural commodities and
19 products;
- 20 (iv) agricultural biotechnology; and
- 21 (v) natural resource management, in-
22 cluding precision agriculture.

23 (B) FISCAL YEARS 1999 THROUGH 2002.—
24 In making grants under this section for each of

1 fiscal years 1999 through 2002, the Secretary
2 shall address—

3 (i) priority mission areas described in
4 subparagraph (A); or

5 (ii) after consultation with the Advi-
6 sory Board, new or different priority mis-
7 sion areas, including the viability and com-
8 petitiveness of small and medium sized
9 dairy, livestock, crop, and other commodity
10 operations.

11 (d) ELIGIBLE GRANTEES.—The Secretary may make
12 a grant under this section to—

13 (1) a Federal research agency;

14 (2) a national laboratory;

15 (3) a college or university or a research founda-
16 tion maintained by a college or university; or

17 (4) a private research organization with an es-
18 tablished and demonstrated capacity to perform re-
19 search or technology transfer.

20 (e) USE OF GRANTS.—

21 (1) SMALLER INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary
22 may award grants under this section to ensure that
23 the faculty of small and mid-sized institutions who
24 have not previously been successful in obtaining
25 competitive grants awarded by the Secretary under

1 subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Fa-
2 cilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)) re-
3 ceive a portion of the grants.

4 (2) PRIORITIES.—In making grants under this
5 section, the Secretary shall provide a higher priority
6 to—

7 (A) a project that is multistate, multi-insti-
8 tutional, or multidisciplinary; or

9 (B) a project that integrates agricultural
10 research, extension, and education.

11 (f) ADMINISTRATION.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—In making grants under this
13 section, the Secretary shall—

14 (A) seek and accept proposals for grants;

15 (B) determine the relevance and merit of
16 proposals through a system of peer review in
17 accordance with section 103;

18 (C) award grants on the basis of merit,
19 quality, and relevance to advancing the pur-
20 poses and priority mission areas established
21 under subsection (c); and

22 (D) solicit and consider input from stake-
23 holders in accordance with section 102(b)(1).

24 (2) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—A grant under this
25 section shall be awarded on a competitive basis.

1 (3) TERM.—A grant under this section shall
2 have a term that does not exceed 5 years.

3 (4) MATCHING FUNDS.—As a condition of mak-
4 ing a grant under this section, the Secretary shall
5 require the funding of the grant be matched with
6 equal matching funds from a non-Federal source if
7 the grant is—

8 (A) for applied research that is commodity-
9 specific; and

10 (B) not of national scope.

11 (5) DELEGATION.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ad-
13 minister this section through the Cooperative
14 State Research, Education, and Extension Serv-
15 ice of the Department.

16 (B) INSTITUTES.—The Secretary may es-
17 tablish 1 or more institutes to carry out all or
18 part of the activities authorized under this sec-
19 tion.

20 (6) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds for
21 grants under this section shall be available for obli-
22 gation for a 2-year period.

23 (7) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary
24 may use not more than 4 percent of the funds made
25 available for grants under this section for adminis-

1 trative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying
2 out this section.

3 (8) BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES.—Funds made
4 available for grants under this section shall not be
5 used for the construction of a new building or facil-
6 ity or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or al-
7 teration of an existing building or facility (including
8 site grading and improvement and architect fees).

9 **TITLE IV—EXTENSION OR RE-**
10 **PEAL OF CERTAIN AUTHORI-**
11 **TIES; TECHNICAL AMEND-**
12 **MENTS**

13 **SEC. 401. EXTENSIONS OF AUTHORITIES.**

14 (a) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTEN-
15 SION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT OF 1977.—The Na-
16 tional Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
17 Policy Act of 1977 is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (l) of section 1417 (7 U.S.C.
19 3152) (as redesignated by section 202(1)), by strik-
20 ing “1997” and inserting “2002”;

21 (2) in section 1419(d) (7 U.S.C. 3154(d)), by
22 striking “1997” and inserting “2002”;

23 (3) in section 1419A(d) (7 U.S.C. 3155(d)), by
24 striking “fiscal years 1996 and 1997” and inserting
25 “each of fiscal years 1996 through 2002”;

1 (4) in section 1424(d) (7 U.S.C. 3174(d)), by
2 striking “fiscal years 1996 and 1997” and inserting
3 “each of fiscal years 1996 through 2002”;

4 (5) in section 1425(c)(3) (7 U.S.C. 3175(c)(3)),
5 by striking “and 1997” and inserting “through
6 2002”;

7 (6) in the first sentence of section 1433(a) (7
8 U.S.C. 3195(a)), by striking “1997” and inserting
9 “2002”;

10 (7) in section 1434(a) (7 U.S.C. 3196(a)), by
11 striking “1997” and inserting “2002”;

12 (8) in section 1447(b) (7 U.S.C. 3222b(b)), by
13 striking “and 1997” and inserting “through 2002”;

14 (9) in section 1448 (7 U.S.C. 3222c)—

15 (A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “and
16 1997” and inserting “through 2002”; and

17 (B) in subsection (f), by striking “1997”
18 and inserting “2002”;

19 (10) in section 1455(c) (7 U.S.C. 3241(c)), by
20 striking “fiscal year 1997” and inserting “each of
21 fiscal years 1997 through 2002”;

22 (11) in section 1463 (7 U.S.C. 3311), by strik-
23 ing “1997” each place it appears in subsections (a)
24 and (b) and inserting “2002”;

1 (12) in section 1464 (7 U.S.C. 3312), by strik-
2 ing “1997” and inserting “2002”;

3 (13) in section 1473D(a) (7 U.S.C. 3319d(a)),
4 by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”;

5 (14) in the first sentence of section 1477 (7
6 U.S.C. 3324), by striking “1997” and inserting
7 “2002”; and

8 (15) in section 1483(a) (7 U.S.C. 3336(a)), by
9 striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.

10 (b) FOOD, AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION, AND
11 TRADE ACT OF 1990.—The Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
12 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 is amended—

13 (1) in section 1635(b) (7 U.S.C. 5844(b)), by
14 striking “1997” and inserting “2002”;

15 (2) in section 1673(h) (7 U.S.C. 5926(h)), by
16 striking “1997” and inserting “2002”;

17 (3) in section 1676(e) (7 U.S.C. 5929(e)), by
18 striking “fiscal year 1997” and inserting “each of
19 fiscal years 1997 through 2002”;

20 (4) in section 2381(e) (7 U.S.C. 3125b(e)), by
21 striking “1997” and inserting “2002”; and

22 (5) in section 2412 (7 U.S.C. 6710), by striking
23 “1997” and inserting “2002”.

24 (c) CRITICAL AGRICULTURAL MATERIALS ACT.—
25 Section 16(a) of the Critical Agricultural Materials Act

1 (7 U.S.C. 178n(a)) is amended by striking “1997” and
2 inserting “2002”.

3 (d) RESEARCH FACILITIES ACT.—Section 6(a) of the
4 Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390d(a)) is amended by
5 striking “fiscal years 1996 and 1997” and inserting “each
6 of fiscal years 1996 through 2002”.

7 (e) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTEN-
8 SION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT AMENDMENTS OF
9 1985.—Section 1431 of the National Agricultural Re-
10 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments
11 of 1985 (99 Stat. 1566) is amended by striking “1997”
12 and inserting “2002”.

13 (f) COMPETITIVE, SPECIAL, AND FACILITIES RE-
14 SEARCH GRANT ACT.—Subsection (b)(10) of the Competi-
15 tive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C.
16 450i(b)(10)) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting
17 “2002”.

18 (g) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTEN-
19 SION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT AMENDMENTS OF
20 1981.—Section 1432(b)(5) of the National Agricultural
21 Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amend-
22 ments of 1981 (Public Law 97–98; 7 U.S.C. 3222 note)
23 is amended by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.

24 (h) EQUITY IN EDUCATIONAL LAND-GRANT STATUS
25 ACT OF 1994.—Sections 533(b) and 535 of the Equity

1 in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public
2 Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note) are amended by strik-
3 ing “2000” each place it appears and inserting “2002”.

4 (i) RENEWABLE RESOURCES EXTENSION ACT OF
5 1978.—Section 6 of the Renewable Resources Extension
6 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1675) is amended in the first sen-
7 tence by striking “the fiscal year ending September 30,
8 1988,” and all that follows through the period at the end
9 and inserting “each of fiscal years 1987 through 2002.”.

10 **SEC. 402. REPEAL OF AUTHORITIES.**

11 (a) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTEN-
12 SION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT OF 1977.—Sections
13 1424A and 1476 of the National Agricultural Research,
14 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
15 3174a, 3323) are repealed.

16 (b) FOOD, AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION, AND
17 TRADE ACT OF 1990.—Subtitle G of title XIV and sec-
18 tions 1670 and 1675 of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
19 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5501 et seq., 5923,
20 5928) are repealed.

21 (c) FEDERAL AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENT AND RE-
22 FORM ACT OF 1996.—Subtitle E of title VIII of the Fed-
23 eral Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996
24 (110 Stat. 1184) is repealed.

1 **SEC. 403. SHORT TITLES FOR SMITH-LEVER ACT AND**
 2 **HATCH ACT OF 1887.**

3 (a) SMITH-LEVER ACT.—The Act of May 8, 1914
 4 (commonly known as the “Smith-Lever Act”) (38 Stat.
 5 372, chapter 79; 7 U.S.C. 341 et seq.), is amended by
 6 adding at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 11. SHORT TITLE.**

8 “This Act may be cited as the ‘Smith-Lever Act’.”.

9 (b) HATCH ACT OF 1887.—The Act of March 2,
 10 1887 (commonly known as the “Hatch Act of 1887”) (24
 11 Stat. 440, chapter 314; 7 U.S.C. 361a et seq.), is amended
 12 by adding at the end the following:

13 **“SEC. 10. SHORT TITLE.**

14 “This Act may be cited as the ‘Hatch Act of 1887’.”.

15 **SEC. 404. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO RESEARCH PROVI-**
 16 **SIONS OF FEDERAL AGRICULTURE IMPROVE-**
 17 **MENT AND REFORM ACT OF 1996.**

18 (a) SUPPLEMENTAL AND ALTERNATIVE CROPS RE-
 19 SEARCH.—Section 819(b)(5) of the Federal Agriculture
 20 Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–
 21 127; 110 Stat. 1167) is amended by striking “paragraph
 22 (3)” and inserting “subsection (c)(3)”.

23 (b) JOINT COUNCIL ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL
 24 SCIENCES.—Section 1413(b) of the National Agricultural
 25 Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7

1 U.S.C. 3128(b)) is amended by striking “Joint Council,
2 the Advisory Board,” and inserting “Advisory Board”.

3 (c) ADVISORY BOARD.—

4 (1) SUPPORT FOR ADVISORY BOARD.—Section
5 1412 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension,
6 and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
7 3127) is amended—

8 (A) in subsections (a) and (b), by striking
9 “their duties” each place it appears and insert-
10 ing “its duties”; and

11 (B) in subsection (c), by striking “their
12 recommendations” and inserting “its rec-
13 ommendations”.

14 (2) GENERAL PROVISIONS.—Section 1413(a) of
15 the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
16 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3128(a)) is
17 amended by striking “their powers” and inserting
18 “its duties”.

19 (d) PLANT AND ANIMAL PEST AND DISEASE CON-
20 TROL PROGRAM.—Section 1629(g) of the Food, Agri-
21 culture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C.
22 5832(g)) is amended by striking “section 1650,”.

23 (e) GRANTS TO UPGRADE 1890 LAND-GRANT COL-
24 LEGE EXTENSION FACILITIES.—Section 873 of the Fed-
25 eral Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996

1 (Public Law 104–127; 110 Stat. 1175) is amended by
 2 striking “1981” and inserting “1985”.

3 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 4 this section take effect on April 4, 1996.

5 **TITLE V—AGRICULTURAL**
 6 **PROGRAM SAVINGS**

7 **SEC. 501. NUTRITION PROGRAMS.**

8 (a) FOOD STAMPS.—Section 16 of the Food Stamp
 9 Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2025) is amended—

10 (1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by
 11 striking “The Secretary” and inserting “Subject to
 12 subsection (k), the Secretary”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(k) REDUCTIONS IN PAYMENTS FOR ADMINISTRA-
 15 TIVE COSTS.—

16 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

17 “(A) AFDC PROGRAM.—The term ‘AFDC
 18 program’ means the program of aid to families
 19 with dependent children established under part
 20 A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
 21 U.S.C. 601 et seq. (as in effect, with respect to
 22 a State, during the base period for that State)).

23 “(B) BASE PERIOD.—The term ‘base pe-
 24 riod’ means the period used to determine the
 25 amount of the State family assistance grant for

1 a State under section 403 of the Social Security
2 Act (42 U.S.C. 603).

3 “(C) MEDICAID PROGRAM.—The term
4 ‘medicaid program’ means the program of med-
5 ical assistance under a State plan or under a
6 waiver of the plan under title XIX of the Social
7 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.).

8 “(2) DETERMINATIONS OF AMOUNTS ATTRIB-
9 UTABLE TO BENEFITING PROGRAMS.—The Secretary
10 of Health and Human Services, in consultation with
11 the Secretary of Agriculture and the States, shall,
12 with respect to the base period for each State, deter-
13 mine—

14 “(A) the annualized amount the State re-
15 ceived under section 403(a)(3) of the Social Se-
16 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(3) (as in effect
17 during the base period)) for administrative
18 costs common to determining the eligibility of
19 individuals, families, and households eligible or
20 applying for the AFDC program and the food
21 stamp program, the AFDC program and the
22 medicaid program, and the AFDC program, the
23 food stamp program, and the medicaid program
24 that were allocated to the AFDC program; and

1 “(B) the annualized amount the State
2 would have received under section 403(a)(3) of
3 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(3)
4 (as so in effect)), section 1903(a)(7) of the So-
5 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(a)(7) (as so
6 in effect)), and subsection (a) of this section (as
7 so in effect), for administrative costs common
8 to determining the eligibility of individuals,
9 families, and households eligible or applying for
10 the AFDC program and the food stamp pro-
11 gram, the AFDC program and the medicaid
12 program, and the AFDC program, the food
13 stamp program, and the medicaid program, if
14 those costs had been allocated equally among
15 such programs for which the individual, family,
16 or household was eligible or applied for.

17 “(3) REDUCTION IN PAYMENT.—Notwithstand-
18 ing any other provision of this section, effective for
19 each of fiscal years 1998 through 2002, the Sec-
20 retary shall reduce, for each fiscal year, the amount
21 paid under subsection (a) to each State by an
22 amount equal to the amount determined for the food
23 stamp program under paragraph (2)(B).

24 “(4) DETERMINATIONS NOT SUBJECT TO RE-
25 VIEW.—The determinations of the Secretary of

1 Health and Human Services under paragraph (2)
 2 shall be final and not subject to administrative or ju-
 3 dicial review.

4 “(5) ALLOCATION OF COMMON ADMINISTRATIVE
 5 COSTS.—In allocating administrative costs common
 6 to determining the eligibility of individuals, families,
 7 and households eligible or applying for 2 or more
 8 State-administered public benefit programs, the head
 9 of a Federal agency may require States to allocate
 10 the costs among the programs.”.

11 (b) MEALS FOR CHILDREN OF WORKING FAMI-
 12 LIES.—

13 (1) GRANTS FOR LOW-INCOME AREAS.—Section
 14 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C.
 15 1773) is amended by adding at the end the follow-
 16 ing:

17 “(f) LOW-INCOME AREA GRANT PROGRAM.—

18 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

19 “(A) ELIGIBLE SCHOOL.—The term ‘eligi-
 20 ble school’ means a school—

21 “(i) attended by children, a significant
 22 percentage of whom are members of low-
 23 income families, as determined by the Sec-
 24 retary; and

1 “(ii)(I) as used with respect to a
2 school breakfast program, that agrees to
3 operate the school breakfast program es-
4 tablished or expanded with the assistance
5 provided under this subsection for a period
6 of not less than 3 years; and

7 “(II) as used with respect to a sum-
8 mer food service program for children, that
9 agrees to operate the summer food service
10 program for children established or ex-
11 panded with the assistance provided under
12 this subsection for a period of not less
13 than 3 years.

14 “(B) SERVICE INSTITUTION.—The term
15 ‘service institution’ means an institution or or-
16 ganization described in paragraph (1)(B) or (7)
17 of section 13(a) of the National School Lunch
18 Act (42 U.S.C. 1761(a)).

19 “(C) SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM
20 FOR CHILDREN.—The term ‘summer food serv-
21 ice program for children’ means a program au-
22 thorized by section 13 of the National School
23 Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1761).

24 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-
25 tablish a program under this subsection to be known

1 as the ‘Low-Income Area Grant Program’ (referred
2 to in this subsection as the ‘Program’) to assist eli-
3 gible schools and service institutions through grants
4 to initiate or expand programs under the school
5 breakfast program and the summer food service pro-
6 gram for children.

7 “(3) PAYMENTS.—

8 “(A) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any moneys
9 in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the
10 Secretary of the Treasury shall provide to the
11 Secretary \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1998 and
12 each fiscal year thereafter.

13 “(B) ENTITLEMENT TO FUNDS.—The Sec-
14 retary shall be entitled to receive the funds
15 made available under subparagraph (A) and
16 shall accept the funds.

17 “(C) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall
18 use the funds made available under subpara-
19 graph (A) to make payments under the Pro-
20 gram—

21 “(i) in the case of the school breakfast
22 program, to school food authorities for eli-
23 gible schools; and

1 “(ii) in the case of the summer food
2 service program for children, to service in-
3 stitutions.

4 “(D) INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF APPLI-
5 CANTS.—The Secretary may expend less than
6 the amount described in subparagraph (A) for
7 a fiscal year to the extent that there is an in-
8 sufficient number of suitable applicants to initi-
9 ate or expand programs under this subsection
10 for the fiscal year.

11 “(4) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall make pay-
12 ments under the Program on a competitive basis and
13 in the following order of priority (subject to the
14 other provisions of this subsection) to:

15 “(A) School food authorities for eligible
16 schools to assist the schools with nonrecurring
17 expenses incurred in—

18 “(i) initiating a school breakfast pro-
19 gram under this section; or

20 “(ii) expanding a school breakfast
21 program.

22 “(B) Service institutions to assist the insti-
23 tutions with nonrecurring expenses incurred
24 in—

1 “(i) initiating a summer food service
2 program for children; or

3 “(ii) expanding a summer food service
4 program for children.

5 “(5) PAYMENTS ADDITIONAL.—Payments under
6 the Program shall be in addition to payments under
7 subsection (b) of this section and section 13 of the
8 National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1761).

9 “(6) PREFERENCES.—Consistent with para-
10 graph (4), in making payments under the Program
11 for any fiscal year to initiate or expand school
12 breakfast programs or summer food service pro-
13 grams for children, the Secretary shall provide a
14 preference to a school food authority for an eligible
15 school or service institution that—

16 “(A) in the case of a summer food service
17 program for children, is a public or private non-
18 profit school food authority;

19 “(B) has significant public or private re-
20 sources that will be used to carry out the initi-
21 ation or expansion of the programs during the
22 year;

23 “(C) serves an unmet need among low-in-
24 come children, as determined by the Secretary;
25 or

1 “(D) is not operating a school breakfast
2 program or summer food service program for
3 children, as appropriate.

4 “(7) RECOVERY AND REALLOCATION.—The
5 Secretary shall act in a timely manner to recover
6 and reallocate to other school food authorities for el-
7 igible schools or service institutions any amounts
8 under the Program that are not expended within a
9 reasonable period (as determined by the Secretary).

10 “(8) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—Expenditures
11 of funds from State, local, and private sources for
12 the maintenance of the school breakfast program
13 and the summer food service program for children
14 shall not be diminished as a result of payments re-
15 ceived under the Program.”.

16 (2) MEALS AND SUPPLEMENTS.—Section
17 13(b)(2) of the National School Lunch Act (42
18 U.S.C. 1761(b)(2)) is amended—

19 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
20 and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

21 (B) by striking “(2) Any service” and in-
22 serting the following:

23 “(2) MEALS AND SUPPLEMENTS.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any service”;

1 (C) by striking “3 meals, or 2 meals and
2 1 supplement,” and inserting “4 meals”; and

3 (D) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(B) CAMPS AND MIGRANT PROGRAMS.—A
5 camp or migrant program may serve a break-
6 fast, a lunch, a supper, and meal supple-
7 ments.”.

8 (3) NUMBER OF MEALS AND SUPPLEMENTS.—
9 Section 17(f)(2) of the National School Lunch Act
10 (42 U.S.C. 1766(f)(2)) is amended by striking sub-
11 paragraph (B) and inserting the following:

12 “(B) NUMBER OF MEALS AND SUPPLE-
13 MENTS.—

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
15 vided in clause (ii), no reimbursement may
16 be made to any institution under this para-
17 graph, or to a family or group day care
18 home sponsoring organization under para-
19 graph (3), for more than 2 meals and 1
20 supplement per day per child.

21 “(ii) CHILD CARE.—A reimbursement
22 may be made to an institution under this
23 paragraph (but not a family or group day
24 care home sponsoring organization) for 2
25 meals and 2 supplements, or 3 meals and

1 supplement, per day per child for chil-
 2 dren that are maintained in a child care
 3 setting for 8 or more hours per day.”.

4 (4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
 5 by paragraphs (2) and (3) take effect on September
 6 1, 1998.

7 (c) INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE.—Section 26(d)
 8 of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769g(d))
 9 is amended in the first sentence by striking “\$150,000”
 10 and all that follows through “1998” and inserting
 11 “\$150,000 for fiscal year 1997, and \$185,000 for each
 12 of fiscal years 1998 through 2002”.

13 (d) FOOD STAMP ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN INDI-
 14 ANS.—

15 (1) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN INDIANS.—Sec-
 16 tion 402(a)(2)(G) of the Personal Responsibility and
 17 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8
 18 U.S.C. 1612(a)(2)(G)) is amended—

19 (A) in the subparagraph heading, by strik-
 20 ing “SSI EXCEPTION” and inserting “EXCEP-
 21 TION”; and

22 (B) by striking “program defined in para-
 23 graph (3)(A) (relating to the supplemental se-
 24 curity income program)” and inserting “speci-

1 fied Federal programs described in paragraph
2 (3)”.

3 (2) **BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN INDIANS.**—Section
4 403(d) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Op-
5 portunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.
6 1613(d)) is amended—

7 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
8 “SSI AND MEDICAID”; and

9 (B) by striking “(a)(3)(A)” and inserting
10 “(a)(3)”.

11 **SEC. 502. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUNDING.**

12 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 4(g) of the Commodity
13 Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714b(g)) is
14 amended in the first sentence by striking “\$275,000,000”
15 and inserting “\$193,000,000”.

16 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
17 subsection (a) takes effect on October 1, 1997.

 Passed the Senate October 29, 1997.

 Attest:

Secretary.

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1150

AN ACT

To ensure that federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education address high-priority concerns with national or multistate significance, to reform, extend, and eliminate certain agricultural research programs, and for other purposes.

S 1150 ES—2
S 1150 ES—3
S 1150 ES—4
S 1150 ES—5
S 1150 ES—6
S 1150 ES—7
S 1150 ES—8
S 1150 ES—9
S 1150 ES—10