REPORT ON ACTIVITIES
DURING THE 111TH CONGRESS

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 3, 2011.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,

Hon. LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ms. MILLER: Pursuant to rule XI, clause 1(d), of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I herewith submit to the House a report of the activities of the Committee on Agriculture during the 111th Congress.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

Hon. COLLIN C. PETERSON,
Chairman.
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Mr. Peterson, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the following

REPORT

In accordance with rule XI, clause 1(d), of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Agriculture reports herewith on its activities during the 111th Congress.

I. SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION, JURISDICTION, AND OVERSIGHT PLAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

A. ORGANIZATION

The House of Representatives established the total authorized membership of the Committee on Agriculture for the 111th Congress at 46, with a party division of 28 Democrats and 18 Republicans. Among the Committee members were 15 Representatives who were serving their first terms (Schrader, Halvorson, Dahlkemper, Massa, Bright, Markey, Kratovil, Schauer, Kissell, Boccieri, Minnick, Roe, Luetkemeyer, Thompson of Pennsylvania, and Cassidy).

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

(Ratio includes ex officio Members.)

(Collin C. Peterson, Chairman, and Frank D. Lucas, Ranking Minority Member, were ex officio Members of all Subcommittees.)

The Committee organized on January 28, 2009, into six Subcommittees, five of which were assigned jurisdiction over major agricultural commodities and one that dealt with various related agricultural operations. The six Subcommittees were constituted as follows:
Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research
(Ratio 19–13)

TIM HOLDEN, Pennsylvania, Chairman

STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN, South Dakota
DEBORAH L. HALVORSON, Illinois
KATHLEEN A. DAHLKEMPER, Pennsylvania
BETSY MARKEY, Colorado
MARK H. SCHAUER, Michigan
LARRY KISSELL, North Carolina
JOHN A. BOCCIERI, Ohio
MIKE McINTYRE, North Carolina
JIM COSTA, California
BRAD ELLSWORTH, Indiana
TIMOTHY J. WALZ, Minnesota
ERIC J.J. MASSA, New York
BOBBY BRIGHT, Alabama
FRANK KRATOVLJ, Jr., Maryland
WALT MINNICK, Idaho
EARL POMEROY, North Dakota

Bob Goodlatte, Virginia, Ranking Minority Member
JERRY MORAN, Kansas
SAM GRAVES, Missouri
MIKE ROGERS, Alabama
STEVE KING, Iowa
RANDY NEUGEBAUER, Texas
JEAN SCHMIDT, Ohio
ADRIAN SMITH, Nebraska
ROBERT E. LATTA, Ohio
BLAINE LUETKEMEYER, Missouri
GLENN THOMPSON, Pennsylvania

Jurisdiction: Soil, water, and resource conservation, small watershed program, energy and biobased energy production, rural electrification, agricultural credit, and agricultural research, education and extension services.

Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition, and Forestry (Ratio 7–5)

JOE BACA, California, Chairman

HENRY CUELLAR, Texas
STEVE KAGEN, Wisconsin
KURT SCHRADER, Oregon
KATHLEEN A. DAHLKEMPER, Pennsylvania
TRAVIS W. CHILDERS, Mississippi

JEFF FORTENBERRY, Nebraska, Ranking Minority Member
STEVE KING, Iowa
JEAN SCHMIDT, Ohio

Jurisdiction: Agency oversight, review and analysis, special investigations, food stamps, nutrition and consumer programs, forestry in general, and forest reserves other than those created from the public domain.

Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management (Ratio 12–8)

LEONARD L. BOSWELL, Iowa, Chairman

JIM MARSHALL, Georgia
BRAD ELLSWORTH, Indiana
KURT SCHRADER, Oregon
STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN, South Dakota
BETSY MARKEY, Colorado
LARRY KISSELL, North Carolina
DEBORAH L. HALVORSON, Illinois
EARL POMEROY, North Dakota
TRAVIS W. CHILDERS, Mississippi

Jerry Moran, Kansas, Ranking Minority Member
TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON, Illinois
SAM GRAVES, Missouri
STEVE KING, Iowa
K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Texas
ROBERT E. LATTA, Ohio
BLAINE LUETKEMEYER, Missouri

Jurisdiction: Program and markets related to cotton, cottonseed, wheat, feed grains, soybeans, oilseeds, rice, dry beans, peas, lentils, the Commodity Credit Corporation, risk management including crop insurance and commodity exchanges.
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HORTICULTURE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE (RATIO 7–5)

DENNIS A. CARDOZA, California, Chairman

ERIC J.J. MASSA, New York  
JIM COSTA, California  
KURT SCHRADER, Oregon  
FRANK KRATOVL, Jr., Maryland

JEAN SCHMIDT, Ohio, Ranking Minority Member  
JERRY MORAN, Kansas  
TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON, Illinois

Jurisdiction: Fruits and vegetables, honey and bees, marketing and promotion orders, plant pesticides, quarantine, adulteration of seeds, and insect pests, and organic agriculture.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, AND POULTRY (RATIO 12–8)

DAVID SCOTT, Georgia, Chairman

JIM COSTA, California  
STEVE KAGEN, Wisconsin  
TIM HOLDEN, Pennsylvania  
LEONARD L. BOSWELL, Iowa  
JOE BACA, California  
DENNIS A. CARDOZA, California  
BETSY MARKEY, Colorado  
WALT MINNICK, Idaho

RANDY NEUGEBAUER, Texas, Ranking Minority Member  
BOB GOODLATTE, Virginia  
MIKE ROGERS, Alabama  
STEVE KING, Iowa  
ADRIAN SMITH, Nebraska  
DAVID P. ROE, Tennessee

Jurisdiction: Livestock, dairy, poultry, meat, seafood and seafood products, inspection, marketing, and promotion of such commodities, aquaculture, animal welfare, and grazing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BIOTECHNOLOGY, SPECIALTY CROPS, AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE (RATIO 7–5)

MIKE McINTYRE, North Carolina, Chairman

BOBBY BRIGHT, Alabama  
HENRY CUELLAR, Texas  
LARRY KISSELL, North Carolina  
WALT MINNICK, Idaho

K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Texas, Ranking Minority Member  
DAVID P. ROE, Tennessee  
GLENN THOMPSON, Pennsylvania

Jurisdiction: Peanuts, sugar, tobacco, marketing orders relating to such commodities, rural development, farm security and family farming matters, biotechnology, foreign agricultural assistance, and trade promotion programs, generally.

B. COMMITTEE JURISDICTION

Under Rules adopted by the House of Representatives for the 111th Congress, the Committee on Agriculture’s (hereinafter also referred to as Committee) jurisdiction (See Rule X, clause 1 of the Rules of the House of Representatives) extended to—

(1) Adulteration of seeds, insect pests, and protection of birds and animals in forest reserves.
(2) Agriculture generally.
(3) Agricultural and industrial chemistry.
(4) Agricultural colleges and experiment stations.
(5) Agricultural economics and research.
(6) Agricultural education extension services.
(7) Agricultural production and marketing and stabilization of prices of agricultural products, and commodities (not including distribution outside of the United States).
(8) Animal industry and diseases of animals.
(9) Commodity exchanges.
(10) Crop insurance and soil conservation.
(11) Dairy industry.
(12) Entomology and plant quarantine.
(13) Extension of farm credit and farm security.
(14) Inspection of livestock, poultry, meat products, and seafood and seafood products.
(15) Forestry in general, and forest reserves other than those created from the public domain.
(16) Human nutrition and home economics.
(17) Plant industry, soils, and agricultural engineering.
(18) Rural electrification.
(19) Rural development.
(20) Water conservation related to activities of the Department of Agriculture.

The revised edition of the Rules and Manual of the House of Representatives for the 107th Congress (House Document No. 106–320) provides the following concerning the Committee on Agriculture: 1

"This Committee was established in 1820 (IV, 4149). In 1880 the subject of forestry was added to its jurisdiction, and the Committee was conferred authority to receive estimates of and to report appropriations (IV, 4149). However, on July 1, 1920, authority to report appropriations for the U.S. Department of Agriculture was transferred to the Committee on Appropriations (VII, 1860).

The basic form of the present jurisdictional statement was made effective January 2, 1947, as a part of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 812). Subparagraph (7) was altered by the 93d Congress, effective January 3, 1975, to include jurisdiction over agricultural commodities (including the Commodity Credit Corporation) while transferring jurisdiction over foreign distribution and nondomestic production of commodities to the Committee on International Relations (H. Res. 988, 93d Cong., Oct. 8, 1974, p. 34470). Nevertheless, the Committee has retained a limited jurisdiction over measures to release CCC stocks for such foreign distribution (Sept. 14, 1989, p. 20428). Previously unstated jurisdictions over commodities exchanges and rural development were codified effective January 3, 1975.

The 104th Congress consolidated the Committee’s jurisdiction over inspection of livestock and meat products to include inspection of poultry, seafood, and seafood products, and added subparagraph (20) relating to water con-

1 References are to the volume and section of Hinds’ (volumes I–V, e.g., IV, 500) and Cannon’s (volumes VI–VIII, e.g., VI, 400) Precedents of the House of Representatives, and to the Congressional Record by date and page (e.g., January 3, 1953, p. 500).
servation (sec. 202(a), H. Res. 6, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 464). Clerical and stylistic changes were effected when the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. 47).

The Committee has had jurisdiction of bills for establishing and regulating the Department of Agriculture (IV, 4150), for inspection of livestock and meat products, regulation of animal industry, diseases of animals (IV, 4154; VII, 1862), adulteration of seeds, insect pests, protection of birds and animals in forest reserves (IV, 4157; VII, 1870), the improvement of the breed of horses, even with the cavalry service in view (IV, 4158; VII, 1865), and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, amending Horse Protection Act to prevent the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, or receiving of horses to be slaughtered for human consumption (July 13, 2006, p. 5270).

The Committee, having charge of the general subject of forestry, has reported bills relating to timber, and forest reserves other than those created from the public domain (IV, 4160). The Committee on Natural Resources, and not this Committee, has jurisdiction over a bill to convey land that is part of a National Forest created from the public domain (March 23, 2004, p. 1344). It has also exercised jurisdiction of bills relating to agricultural colleges and experiment stations (IV, 4152), incorporation of agricultural societies (IV, 4159), and establishment of a highway commission (IV, 4153), to discourage fictitious and gambling transactions in farm products (IV, 4161; VII, 1861), to regulate the transportation, sale and handling of dogs and cats intended for use in research and the licensing of animal research facilities (July 29, 1965, p. 18691); and to designate an agricultural research center (May 14, 1995, p. 11070). The Committee shares with the Committee on the Judiciary jurisdiction over a bill comprehensively amending the Immigration and Nationality Act and including food stamp eligibility requirements for aliens (Sept. 19, 1995, p. 25533).

The House referred the President’s message dealing with the refinancing of farm-mortgage indebtedness to the Committee, thus conferring jurisdiction (April 4, 1933, p. 1209).

The Committee has jurisdiction over a bill relating solely to executive level position in the Department of Agriculture (Mar. 2, 1976, p. 4958) and has jurisdiction over bills to develop land and water conservation programs on private and non-Federal lands (June 7, 1976, p. 16768)."

Some of the specific areas in which the Committee on Agriculture exercises its jurisdiction or that have been created for the Committee by historical reference include:

1) Public Law 480, Eighty-third Congress, the restoration, expansion, and development of foreign markets for United States agricultural products; and the effect of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (and the North American Free Trade Agreement), bilateral free trade agreements, the European Community, and other regional economic agreements and com-
modity marketing and pricing systems on United States agriculture.

(2) All matters relating to the establishment and development of an effective Foreign Agricultural Service.

(3) Matters relating to rural development, including rural telephone companies, farm credit banks, farm rural housing loans, rural water supply, rural flood control and water pollution control programs, and loans for rural firehouses, community facilities, and businesses.

(4) Production and use of energy from agricultural and forestry resources.

(5) Matters relating to the development, use, and administration of the National Forests, including, but not limited to, development of a sound program for general public use of the National Forests consistent with watershed protection and sustained-yield timber management, study of the forest fire prevention and control policies and activities of the Forest Service and their relation to coordinated activities of other Federal, state, and private agencies; Forest Service land exchanges; and wilderness and similar use designations applied to National Forest land.

(6) Price spreads of agricultural commodities between producers and consumers.

(7) The formulation and development of improved programs for agricultural commodities; matters relating to the inspection, grading, and marketing of such commodities, including seafood; and food safety generally.

(8) Matters relating to trading in futures contracts for all commodities and similar instruments, including commodity options and commodity leverage contracts.

(9) The administration and operation of agricultural programs through state and county committees and the administrative policies and procedures relating to the selection, election, and operation of such committees.

(10) The administration and development of small watershed programs under P.L. 566, Eighty-third Congress, as amended, and the development of resource conservation and development programs for rural areas.

(11) Programs of food assistance or distribution supported in whole or in part by funds of the Department of Agriculture, including but not limited to the food stamp program and the commodity distribution program.

(12) Aquaculture programs of the Department of Agriculture.

(13) Sugar legislation, including import control programs that stabilize domestic prices.

(14) All matters relating to pesticides, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1972, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Amendments of 1988, and the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996, including, but not limited to, the registration, marketing, and safe use of pesticides,
groundwater contamination, and the coordination of the pesticide program under FIFRA with food safety programs.

(15) Agricultural research programs, including, but not limited to, the authorization of specific research projects and agricultural biotechnology development efforts.

(16) All matters relating to the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act.

(17) Legislation relating to the control of the entry into the United States of temporary, nonresident aliens for employment in agricultural production.

(18) Legislation relating to the general operations and the Organic Act of the Department of Agriculture, the Commodity Credit Corporation, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Farm Credit Administration, Farm Credit System, Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, and Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

(19) Producer-funded research, promotion, and consumer and industry information programs for agricultural commodities.

(20) Legislation regarding reclamation water projects where the pricing of water delivered by such projects is affected by whether the water will be used in the production of a crop for which an acreage reduction program is in effect.

(21) Legislation regarding reclamation water projects for which the Secretary of Agriculture is required to make a determination regarding commodity availability prior to the determination of the price to be charged for the delivery of such project water.

(22) Legislation establishing the level of fees charged by the Federal Government for the grazing of livestock on Federal lands.

(23) Legislation governing the Federal regulation of transactions involving swaps contracts, hybrid financial instruments, and derivative securities and financial products.

(24) Legislation regarding the Federal Reserve Board with respect to its authority to regulate the establishment of appropriate levels of margin on stock index futures contracts.

The Committee also reviews and studies, on a continuing basis, the current and prospective application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of the Committee, and the organization and operation of the Federal agencies and entities having responsibilities in or for the administration and execution thereof. In addition, the Committee, along with other standing Committees of the House, has the function of reviewing and studying on a continuing basis the effect or probable effect of tax and other fiscal and monetary policies affecting subjects within their jurisdiction.

C. OVERSIGHT PLAN

The Committee on Agriculture met on January 28, 2009 to also fulfill the General Oversight Responsibility reporting requirements of Rule X 2(d)(1) of the Rules of the House of Representatives.
The following outline was prepared in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member and approved by the Full Committee which was forwarded to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Committee on House Administration on January 28, 2009:

OVERSIGHT PLAN HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE 111TH CONGRESS

The Committee expects to exercise appropriate oversight activity with regard to the following issues:

**2008 Farm Bill and Current Agricultural Conditions**

- Review the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA) of 2008;
- Review the current state of health of the U.S. farm economy;
- Review USDA's initial and subsequent implementation of FCEA payment limit and adjusted gross income provisions;
- Review USDA's implementation of the Fair and Equitable Tobacco Reform Act of 2004;
- Review USDA's implementation of Improper Payments Information Act of 2002;
- Review the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) management controls for Finality Rule and equitable relief decisions;
- Review the impact of weather conditions on crop production;
- Review USDA's activities regarding implementation of the U.S. Warehouse Act;
- Review of market situation, including impact of crop reports and projections;
- Review colony collapse disorder and other long term threats to pollinator health on specialty crop production;
- Review USDA's implementation of the U.S. Grain Standards Act; and
- Review the increase in agribusiness consolidation.

**Energy**

- Review USDA's effort to promote the utilization of on-farm generated electricity;
- Review activities funded by the Biomass Research and Development Act (BRDA) and input from the external BRDA Advisory Board;
- Review availability of agriculture and forestry feedstocks for renewable energy production;
- Review current status of research on energy crops and feedstocks;
- Review the availability of biofuel pumps and approved fuels;
- Assess implementation of energy programs authorized in FCEA;
- Review current provisions in existing law that support agriculture-based energy production and use;
- Review implementation of the Biobased Products Program;
• Review of the roles of USDA and its agencies in promoting the reliance on renewable energy sources;
• Review the implementation of the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFA); and
• Review the current status of energy infrastructure and the ability to get electricity to the electric power grid.

*Conservation and the Environment*

• Review the impact of regulatory activities carried out pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), or any proposed legislative changes to such Act, on agricultural producers;
• Review the impact of the Administration’s regulatory activity relative to methyl bromide on production of agriculture in the U.S.;
• Review of EPA’s resource needs as they pertain to the collection of pesticide user fees;
• Review budget and program activities of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), including staffing shortages;
• Review NRCS Fiscal Year 2008 financial statement;
• Review implementation of all of USDA’s conservation programs;
• Review of EPA’s rule on permit trading under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and its potential benefits to U.S. agriculture;
• Review of potential impacts of EPA’s Clean Air Act (CAA) regulatory program on U.S. agriculture;
• Review ongoing discussions and potential consequences for American agriculture under the United Nations Climate Change Conference, including the upcoming conference in Copenhagen, Denmark;
• Review EPA’s implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), FIFRA and Pesticide Registration Improvement Renewal Act (PRIA II); Review the impact of litigation and rulemaking concerning FIFRA, ESA, CAA, CWA, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) and for impacts agricultural operations;
• Review the EPA’s regulatory actions in regard to pesticide evaluations;
• Review of EPA’s regulation of Animal Feeding Operations;
• Review of the non-emergency haying and grazing provisions of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP);
• Review of the operation of the Resource, Conservation and Development Program;
• Review of easement programs and Department of Transportation and Department of Justice regulations; and
• Review of Total Maximum Daily Load strategies and impacts on production agriculture.

Federal Crop Insurance and Risk Management
• Review USDA’s implementation of crop insurance provisions of the FCEA;
• Review the effectiveness of the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program;
• Review the role and effectiveness of the Federal Crop Insurance Program;
• Review USDA’s and the Risk Management Agency’s (RMA) administration and oversight of the Federal Crop Insurance Program;
• Review the availability of crop insurance as a risk management tool;
• Review USDA’s activities designed to find and reduce crop insurance program waste, fraud, and abuse;
• Review RMA’s combination of revenue protection crop insurance programs;
• Review the operations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC);
• Review the growing consolidation and internationalization of futures exchange trading;
• Review market machinations for exchange traded energy and agricultural future products;
• Review Over-the-Counter (OTC) trading and its impact on markets;
• Review enforcement and oversight capabilities of the CFTC both domestically and internationally; and
• Review the role of the CFTC in light of potential climate change legislation.

Agriculture Trade and International Food Aid
• Review ongoing multilateral, regional, and bilateral trade negotiations (including WTO accession agreements) to assess their potential impact on U.S. agriculture;
• Review implementation of existing trade agreements and commitments and proposed new trade agreements and commitments to determine:
  (1) whether they are consistent with current U.S. law;
  (2) whether they will promote economic development in rural areas of the U.S.;
  (3) their impact or potential impact on current production of import sensitive agricultural commodities, and on exports of U.S. agricultural products; and
  (4) their impact or potential impact on the overall competitiveness of the U.S. agricultural sector, including the production, processing and distribution of agricultural products.
• Monitor existing trade agreements to ensure trading partners are meeting obligations and enforcing trade commitments;
• Review farm export programs to determine how well they are promoting the interests of U.S. agriculture and examine proposals to improve, modify or expand such programs;
• Assess U.S. food aid programs to determine their impact or potential impact on the reduction of world hunger. In particular, the Committee will examine the potential impact of multilateral trade negotiations on the effectiveness of U.S. food aid programs; and
• Address sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) barriers and other technical barriers to U.S. agricultural exports and examine USDA efforts to eliminate such barriers.

Agricultural Research and Promotion
• Review implementation of biosecurity protocols at USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) laboratories;
• Review USDA’s implementation of research, education and extension programs authorized in FCEA;
• Review the administration of the ARS research stations and worksites;
• Review USDA’s continuing ability to conduct foreign animal disease research, training and diagnostic programs at the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility following the transfer of the center to the Department of Homeland Security;
• Assess Federal efforts to facilitate research and development of aquacultural enterprises, specifically focusing on the activities of the Joint Committee on Aquaculture;
• Review implementation of USDA’s regulation on organic standards;
• Review implementation of USDA collection of organic production and market data;
• Review implementation of National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA);
• Review coordination between ARS, Economic Research Service (ERS), NIFA and action agencies in USDA such as NRCS and FSA in order to prevent duplicative research;
• Review operation of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board;
• Review USDA’s efforts to expand research and development of pathogen reduction technologies;
• Evaluate the current mix of research funding mechanisms to ensure maximum benefits from these investments to producers, processors and consumers;
• Review administration of USDA’s agricultural marketing and promotion programs;
• Review of coordination between USDA and DOE on energy research programs;
• Review of Congressional appropriation process and implications on research funding under ARS, ERS, NASS and NIFA;
• Review of ARS, ERS, NASS and NIFA national program priorities;
• Oversight of research grant process to coordinate and prevent overlapping research; and
• Review the potential for research and technology transfer to address the needs of both the biofuels and livestock industries.

**Biotechnology**

• Review current regulations and research regarding animal and plant biotechnology;
• Review the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) findings regarding cloned animal products and regulation of genetically engineered animals;
• Assess USDA's efforts to develop and promote benefits of biotechnology for increasing agricultural productivity and combating hunger globally; and
• Review USDA's management and controls over incidents involving unapproved release of biotechnology-derived material.

**U.S. Forest Service Administration**

• Review U.S. Forest Service (USFS) budget, with special attention to land acquisition and easement programs;
• Continue to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of the Forest Service fire management program, including the impact of hazardous fuels management, forest health efforts and fire preparedness;
• Review the impact of fire expenses on other USFS program delivery; and
• Assess the use of research funds to inform on a long-term basis, sustainable forest practices.

**Dairy**

• Review options to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of dairy programs;
• Review efficiency of Federal Market Order System;
• Review implementation of the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) Program; and
• Review implementation of the Milk Regulatory Equity Act.

**Outreach and Civil Rights**

• Review implementation of Section 14012 of the FCEA;
• Review the implementation of the Office of Advocacy and Outreach;
• Monitor USDA's outreach efforts to small and minority farmers/ranchers;
• Review of the operations of the office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights;
• Review of the delivery of USDA services and outreach efforts on Indian reservations and tribal lands;
• Review current status of Agricultural Census and efforts to reach undercounted farmers and ranchers; and
• Review participation of minority farmers in FSA County/Local Committees as well as outreach to increase participation in County Committee elections.

**USDA General Administration**

• Review confidentiality of information provided to USDA by agricultural producers;
• Review USDA’s field office structure for the purpose of delivering commodity, conservation, energy and rural development programs; and
• Review the administrative structure of USDA for effectiveness and additional efficiencies.

**Farm Credit, Rural Development, and the Rural Economy**

• Review Farm Credit Administration’s (FCA) regulatory program and activities regarding the Farm Credit System (FCS) to assure the FCS’ safety and soundness;
• Review of Farmer Mac activities and programs;
• Review of Beginning Farmer education efforts in FSA loan programs and graduation efforts;
• Review of FSA credit programs and participation;
• Review of the Rural Electrification Act (REA);
• Review of the farm economy and access to credit;
• Review implementation of rural development policies and authorities contained in FCEA and the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act:
  ○ Oversight of the USDA's Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program;
  ○ Oversight of new Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program;
  ○ Oversight of the implementation of the USDA’s Telecommunications Programs; and
  ○ Review the status of the Rural Telephone Bank;
• Assess state of rural water systems and effectiveness of Federal funding to build and upgrade those systems;
• Assess rural infrastructure and business needs and effectiveness of USDA programs targeted to those needs;
• Review of agriculture lending practices;
• Review of definition of “rural” under rural development programs; and
• Review of rural development loan programs and default rates.

**USDA Food and Nutrition Programs**

• Review food and nutrition programs including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), fruit and vegetable initiatives, the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), the Food Distribution on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) and other commodity distribution programs;
• Assess the level of success and participation by states in SNAP and determine barriers to expanded SNAP participation;
• Review buying patterns of SNAP recipients and the availability of healthy foods with an emphasis on isolated rural and urban areas;
• Review efforts by state SNAP administrators to modernize and streamline their programs; and
• Review the Community Food Project Program to ensure cooperative grants are working.

Food Safety
• Review USDA’s administration of meat and poultry inspection laws and the FDA's food inspection activities to ensure the development of scientifically sound systems for food safety assurance;
• Review USDA’s implementation of the new catfish inspection program;
• Review USDA’s efforts to educate consumers regarding safe food handling practices and streamline the assessment and approval of food safety technologies;
• Review implementation of new protocols for meat, poultry, eggs, or seafood safety inspection; and
• Review USDA’s enforcement of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act and humane handling regulations.

Plant and Animal Health
• Review enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act;
• Assess Federal efforts to reduce threats to human, animal, and plant health due to predatory and invasive species; and
• Assess the national animal identification program system.

Livestock Marketing
• Assess the effectiveness of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) in determining market manipulation in the livestock industry;
• Review structural changes in agribusiness and the potential cost and benefits for agricultural producers; and
• Review the USDA’s mandatory livestock price reporting system.

Homeland and Agricultural Security
• Oversight of USDA’s preparedness against terrorist threats to agriculture production; and
• Review of agriculture inspection activities under the Department of Homeland Security.

Miscellaneous
• Review implementation of the Specialty Crop Competitiveness Act;
• Review of the impact of transportation infrastructure issues on agriculture and forestry;
• Review USDA’s implementation and enforcement of the country of origin labeling rule; and
• Assess operation of the Fruit and Vegetable (FAV) planting prohibition.

Consultation With Other Committees To Reduce Duplication

• With Natural Resources Committee on forestry issues and other public land issues;
• With Science Committee on Research;
• With Ways and Means and Education and Labor on nutrition programs;
• With Ways and Means on trade issues;
• With Homeland Security on importation of animal and plant material;
• With Judiciary on immigrant agricultural labor;
• With Energy and Commerce on food safety and biomass energy programs both existing and new; and
• With any other committee as appropriate.

II. COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES DURING THE 111TH CONGRESS

A. MAIN LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

The Committee on Agriculture reported or otherwise considered a variety of bills in the 111th Congress covering many of the diverse areas within its jurisdictional interests. Some of the major activities of the Committee during the 111th Congress included the following:

An Ambitious Agenda for the House Agriculture Committee

• The Agriculture Committee approached its business in an open, transparent approach and maintained the strong bipartisan tradition of the Committee.
• During the 111th Congress, the House Agriculture Committee held 75 Committee hearings and nine business meetings.
• The Committee heard testimony from Administration officials on 66 occasions, including 50 appearances by U.S. Department of Agriculture representatives, five from the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, two from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, two from the Department of Commerce, two from the Securities Exchange Commission, one from the Department of Homeland Security, one from the Department of the Treasury, one from the Department of Energy and one from the Environmental Protection Agency.
• Additional testimony was offered by university researchers, nonprofit organizations, consumer groups, trade groups, and farmers and ranchers from across the United States. Additional testimony was offered by university researchers, nonprofit organizations, consumer groups, trade groups, and farmers and ranchers from across the United States.

Preparing to Write the 2012 Farm Bill

• The House Agriculture Committee held 16 farm bill hearings to prepare to write the 2012 Farm Bill. Hearings have been held in Washington, D.C. and across the country in nine different states.
• The Agriculture Committee heard that in general, the 2008 Farm Bill is working well for most farmers and ranchers, although many witnesses suggested that efforts to simplify and expand access to farm bill programs would be helpful.

• While the current farm bill is popular, Chairman Peterson cautioned that there will be no new money available to write the 2012 Farm Bill, so we need to be sure that we are spending the money we have in our budget in the wisest and most effective way possible. He asked farm bill stakeholders to take a look at the current programs and to see if there are ways that we can better use the funding available to provide a safety net that will work for farmers and ranchers.

Advancing Financial Reform Legislation

• The Agriculture Committee played a leading role in the successful passage of H.R. 4173—The Wall Street Reform & Consumer Protection Act, which was signed into law on July 21, 2010.

• The Agriculture Committee was very involved in developing the financial reform legislation, particularly provisions that address increased volatility and speculation in the derivatives markets and that strengthen oversight and increase transparency in the markets for futures, options and over-the-counter products and swaps.

• The process of drafting the Agriculture Committee’s derivatives legislation included numerous opportunities for Administration officials, stakeholders and interested parties to provide input to the Committee on the issue. The full Committee and the Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held six hearings on the issue this year, including one joint hearing with the House Financial Services Committee.

• The Agriculture Committee approved two bipartisan, reform-minded measures (H.R. 977 in February 2009 and H.R. 3795 in October 2009) to address financial derivatives. Both bills passed the Committee by voice vote, and provisions from those bills were included in the final financial reform law that was enacted.

• The Committee’s actions on financial markets reform built on the efforts started during the 110th Congress when the Committee held five oversight hearings to review concerns related to commodity and energy markets and derivatives trading. Those hearings were held both before and after the 2008 credit and financial crisis, in which derivatives played a contributing role in the crisis.

Mandatory Price Report Act

• On July 29, 2010 the Committee passed legislation that would authorize the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to produce national reports on marketing of cattle, swine, lambs, and products of such livestock including the price and volume of wholesale pork cuts through Fiscal Year 2015. Current authority to produce a similar report terminates September 30, 2010. The bill also would require the Secretary of Agriculture
to establish an electronic reporting system for dairy product information.

• The Senate companion bill was signed into Public Law September 27, 2010.

Expanding Agricultural Trade and Travel to Cuba

• On June 30, 2010 the Committee passed historic legislation that will greatly expand trade of U.S. agriculture products and travel to Cuba.

• H.R. 4645, the Travel Restriction Reform and Export Enhancement Act, is a bipartisan bill introduced by Chairman Peterson and cosponsored by 71 Members of Congress. The bill passed the Committee by a vote of 25–20.

• Approximately 140 groups have expressed strong support for H.R. 4645, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Farmers Union, American Farm Bureau Federation, and Human Rights Watch. The House Agriculture Committee also received a letter signed by more than 70 pro-democracy Cuban leaders that strongly encouraged passage of H.R. 4645.

• Texas A&M University has released a study on the potential impact of H.R. 4645 on U.S. agriculture and found, “If U.S. travel and financial restrictions are removed, up to $365 million/year in additional U.S. exports could result, requiring $1.1 billion in business activity and 6,000 new jobs.” The study also included estimated impact on several U.S. states, including Texas, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Arkansas, California, Illinois, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Study information is available online at: http://cnas.tamu.edu/.

Encouraging Energy Efficiency Projects in Rural Communities

• On July 14, 2010 the Agriculture Committee passed the Rural Energy Savings Program Act (H.R. 4785) to encourage energy efficiency projects in rural communities.

• The bill passed the House of Representatives on September 16, 2010 by a recorded vote 240 yeas to 172 nays.

• The bill authorizes the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Rural Utilities Service to make interest-free loans to eligible entities, including rural electric cooperatives, which will subsequently make loans to qualified consumers to implement energy efficiency measures.

• The program will provide funds to retrofit residences and small businesses with structural improvements and investments in cost-effective, commercial off-the-shelf technologies to reduce energy costs and consumption. Consumers will repay the loans through their electricity bills at an interest rate below three percent.

Climate Change Legislation

• In March 2009, the Agriculture Committee created the climate change questionnaire and distributed it to over 400 organizations to gather input on proposals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For years, farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners have been participating in agricultural programs that result in
carbon reduction, and the goal of the questionnaire was to identify ways that these practices could be recognized and incorporated into climate change legislation. The questionnaire was sent to a diverse group, including commodity, conservation, forestry, research, energy, business, and nonprofit interests and was also provided to the public.

- The bill passed the House of Representatives on June 26, 2009 by a recorded vote of 219 yeas to 212 nays.
- The bill will allow farmers, ranchers and forestland owners to fully participate in a market-based carbon offset program, earning income for activities they undertake to address global climate change.

**Contributing to Food Safety Legislation**
- The Committee worked with the authors of H.R. 2749, the Food Safety Enhancement Act to ensure that livestock and grain producers are not subject to unnecessary regulations and that producers selling their products directly to consumers and other farmers are protected from excessive fees and requirements. Provisions negotiated by Chairman Peterson ensure that the knowledge and expertise of USDA will be utilized when drafting new food safety standards.

**Monitoring the State of the Farm Economy**
- The Committee has held hearings to review the state of the farm economy, credit conditions in rural America, current conditions for rural entrepreneurship and business development, economic conditions facing the pork industry, and several hearings on economic conditions in the dairy industry.

**Ensuring that Rural Broadband Continues to Grow**
- The Committee has held two hearings in the 111th Congress to review USDA’s role in expanding broadband deployment to rural areas. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided $7.2 billion primarily for broadband grant programs, with $2.5 billion of that amount going to broadband programs at USDA’s Rural Utilities Service. These grants, loans, and grant/loan combinations awarded under the Recovery Act are intended to support new broadband infrastructure in underserved rural areas, fueling short term job creation and the long term benefits that access to high-speed telecommunications services can provide. The Committee has examined USDA’s Recovery Act awards to ensure that areas with the greatest needs are prioritized.

**Exploring the Relationship between Nutrition and Health**
- Since 2010, the Committee has held four hearings to explore the link between nutrition programs and health, including the incidence of hunger and obesity in the United States and innovative programs to promote wellness. Witnesses at these hearings identified two major factors that must be addressed when combating obesity—nutrition education and access to healthy foods.
Overseeing and Strengthening Conservation Programs

- In the 111th Congress, the Committee has held five hearings regarding conservation program use and implementation in rural America.
- On July 1, 2010 the Committee heard testimony from Technical Assistance Providers and USDA on the status of implementing current conservation programs.

B. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

(1) Statistics on bills referred to the Committee on Agriculture
Number of bills referred:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Bill</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House bills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate bills</td>
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<tr>
<td>House joint resolutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate joint resolutions</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate concurrent resolutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>House resolutions</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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(2) Disposition of Bills Containing Items Under the Jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Bills acted on by the Committee included in other bills that became law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bills vetoed</td>
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<td>Bills acted on by both Houses, but not enacted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bills acted on by the House but not the Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concurrent Resolutions approved</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bills reported to the House but not considered</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills ordered reported, but not reported</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bills defeated in the House</td>
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(3) Statistics on hearings and markups:

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<th>Field hearings</th>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops, and Foreign Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation, Credit, Energy and Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition, and Forestry</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horticulture and Organic Agriculture</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>63</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>85</strong></td>
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C. DIGEST OF BILLS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WHICH ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN

1. Bills Enacted into Law

Public Law 111–101 (H.R. 1713)

To name the South Central Agricultural Research Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture in Lane, Oklahoma, and the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 310 North Perry
Street in Bennington, Oklahoma, in honor of former Congressman Wesley “Wes” Watkins (approved November 30, 2009).

Designates: (1) the South Central Agricultural Research Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture in Lane, Oklahoma, as the “Wes Watkins Agricultural Research Laboratory”; and (2) the United States Postal Service facility located at 310 North Perry Street, Bennington, Oklahoma, as the “Wes Watkins Post Office.”

Legislative History: H.R. 1713 was introduced by Representative Dan Boren on March 25, 2009. The bill was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, in addition to the Committee on House Oversight and Government Reform. On September 16, 2009 the bill passed the House under suspension of the rules by a voice vote. On November 4, 2009, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee reported the bill without amendment and without a written report. The bill passed the Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent and was cleared for the White House on November 9, 2009. The bill was presented to the President on November 20, 2009 and on November 30, 2009 it was signed and became P.L. No. 111–101.

Public Law 111–203 (H.R. 4173)

A bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes (approved July 21, 2010).

Consumer Protections with Authority and Independence: Creates a new independent watchdog, housed at the Federal Reserve, with the authority to ensure American consumers get the clear, accurate information they need to shop for mortgages, credit cards, and other financial products, and protect them from hidden fees, abusive terms, and deceptive practices.

Ends Too Big to Fail Bailouts: Ends the possibility that taxpayers will be asked to write a check to bail out financial firms that threaten the economy by: creating a safe way to liquidate failed financial firms; imposing tough new capital and leverage requirements that make it undesirable to get too big; updating the Fed’s authority to allow system-wide support but no longer prop up individual firms; and establishing rigorous standards and supervision to protect the economy and American consumers, investors and businesses.

Advance Warning System: Creates a council to identify and address systemic risks posed by large, complex companies, products, and activities before they threaten the stability of the economy.

Transparency & Accountability for Exotic Instruments: Eliminates loopholes that allow risky and abusive practices to go on unnoticed and unregulated—including loopholes for over-the-counter derivatives, asset-backed securities, hedge funds, mortgage brokers and payday lenders.

Executive Compensation and Corporate Governance: Provides shareholders with a say on pay and corporate affairs with a non-binding vote on executive compensation and golden parachutes.

Protects Investors: Provides tough new rules for transparency and accountability for credit rating agencies to protect investors and businesses.
Enforces Regulations on the Books: Strengthens oversight and empowers regulators to aggressively pursue financial fraud, conflicts of interest and manipulation of the system that benefits special interests at the expense of American families and businesses. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau:

- **Independent Head:** Led by an independent director appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
- **Independent Budget:** Dedicated budget paid by the Federal Reserve system.
- **Independent Rule Writing:** Able to autonomously write rules for consumer protections governing all financial institutions—banks and non-banks—offering consumer financial services or products.
- **Examination and Enforcement:** Authority to examine and enforce regulations for banks and credit unions with assets of over $10 billion and all mortgage-related businesses (lenders, servicers, mortgage brokers, and foreclosure scam operators), payday lenders, and student lenders as well as other non-bank financial companies that are large, such as debt collectors and consumer reporting agencies. Banks and Credit Unions with assets of $10 billion or less will be examined for consumer complaints by the appropriate regulator.
- **Consumer Protections:** Consolidates and strengthens consumer protection responsibilities currently handled by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Office of Thrift Supervision, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Federal Reserve, National Credit Union Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Federal Trade Commission. Will also oversee the enforcement of Federal laws intended to ensure the fair, equitable and nondiscriminatory access to credit for individuals and communities.
- **Able to Act Fast:** With this Bureau on the lookout for bad deals and schemes, consumers won’t have to wait for Congress to pass a law to be protected from bad business practices.
- **Educates:** Creates a new Office of Financial Literacy.
- **Consumer Hotline:** Creates a national consumer complaint hotline so consumers will have, for the first time, a single toll-free number to report problems with financial products and services.
- **Accountability:** Makes one office accountable for consumer protections. With many agencies sharing responsibility, it’s hard to know who is responsible for what, and easy for emerging problems that haven’t historically fallen under anyone’s purview, to fall through the cracks.
- **Works with Bank Regulators:** Coordinates with other regulators when examining banks to prevent undue regulatory burden. Consults with regulators before a proposal is issued and regulators could appeal regulations they believe would put the safety and soundness of the banking system or the stability of the financial system at risk.
- **Clearly Defined Oversight:** Protects small business from unintentionally being regulated by the CFPB, excluding businesses that meet certain standards.
The Financial Stability Oversight Council:

- **Expert Members:** Made up of ten Federal financial regulators and an independent member and five nonvoting members, the Financial Stability Oversight Council will be charged with identifying and responding to emerging risks throughout the financial system. The Council will be chaired by the Treasury Secretary and include the Federal Reserve Board, SEC, CFTC, OCC, FDIC, FHFA, NCUA, the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and an independent appointee with insurance expertise. The five nonvoting members include OFR, FIO, and state banking, insurance, and securities regulators.

- **Tough to Get Too Big:** Makes recommendations to the Federal Reserve for increasingly strict rules for capital, leverage, liquidity, risk management and other requirements as companies grow in size and complexity, with significant requirements on companies that pose risks to the financial system.

- **Regulates Nonbank Financial Companies:** Authorized to require, with a 2/3 vote and vote of the chair, that a nonbank financial company be regulated by the Federal Reserve if the council believe there would be negative effects on the financial system if the company failed or its activities would pose a risk to the financial stability of the U.S.

- **Break Up Large, Complex Companies:** Able to approve, with a 2/3 vote and vote of the chair, a Federal Reserve decision to require a large, complex company, to divest some of its holdings if it poses a grave threat to the financial stability of the United States—but only as a last resort.

- **Technical Expertise:** Creates a new Office of Financial Research within Treasury to be staffed with a highly sophisticated staff of economists, accountants, lawyers, former supervisors, and other specialists to support the council's work by collecting financial data and conducting economic analysis.

- **Make Risks Transparent:** Through the Office of Financial Research and member agencies the council will collect and analyze data to identify and monitor emerging risks to the economy and make this information public in periodic reports and testimony to Congress every year.

- **No Evasion:** Large bank holding companies that have received TARP funds will not be able to avoid Federal Reserve supervision by simply dropping their banks. (the “Hotel California” provision)

- **Capital Standards:** Establishes a floor for capital that cannot be lower than the standards in effect today and authorizes the Council to impose a 15:1 leverage requirement at a company if necessary to mitigate a grave threat to the financial system.

Limiting Large, Complex Financial Companies and Preventing Future Bailouts No Taxpayer Funded Bailouts: Clearly states taxpayers will not be on the hook to save a failing financial company or to cover the cost of its liquidation.

- **Discourage Excessive Growth & Complexity:** The Financial Stability Oversight Council will monitor systemic risk and make recommendations to the Federal Reserve for increasingly
strict rules for capital, leverage, liquidity, risk management and other requirements as companies grow in size and complexity, with significant requirements on companies that pose risks to the financial system.

- **Volcker Rule:** Requires regulators implement regulations for banks, their affiliates and holding companies, to prohibit proprietary trading, investment in and sponsorship of hedge funds and private equity funds, and to limit relationships with hedge funds and private equity funds. Nonbank financial institutions supervised by the Fed also have restrictions on proprietary trading and hedge fund and private equity investments. The Council will study and make recommendations on implementation to aid regulators.

- **Extends Regulation:** The Council will have the ability to require nonbank financial companies that pose a risk to the financial stability of the United States to submit to supervision by the Federal Reserve.

- **Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Regulation:** Provides a specific framework for promoting uniform risk-management standards for systemically important financial market utilities and systemically important payment, clearing, and settlement activities conducted by financial institutions.

- **Funeral Plans:** Requires large, complex financial companies to periodically submit plans for their rapid and orderly shutdown should the company go under. Companies will be hit with higher capital requirements and restrictions on growth and activity, as well as divestment, if they fail to submit acceptable plans. Plans will help regulators understand the structure of the companies they oversee and serve as a roadmap for shutting them down if the company fails. Significant costs for failing to produce a credible plan create incentives for firms to rationalize structures or operations that cannot be unwound easily.

- **Liquidation:** Creates an orderly liquidation mechanism for FDIC to unwind failing systemically significant financial companies. Shareholders and unsecured creditors bear losses and management and culpable directors will be removed.

- **Liquidation Procedure:** Requires that Treasury, FDIC and the Federal Reserve all agree to put a company into the orderly liquidation process to mitigate serious adverse effects on financial stability, with an up front judicial review.

- **Costs to Financial Firms, Not Taxpayers:** Taxpayers will bear no cost for liquidating large, interconnected financial companies. FDIC can borrow only the amount of funds to liquidate a company that it expects to be repaid from the assets of the company being liquidated. The government will be first in line for repayment. Funds not repaid from the sale of the company’s assets will be repaid first through the claw back of any payments to creditors that exceeded liquidation value and then assessments on large financial companies, with the riskiest paying more based on considerations included in a risk matrix.

- **Federal Reserve Emergency Lending:** Significantly alters the Federal Reserve’s 13(3) emergency lending authority to pro-
hibit bailing out an individual company. Secretary of the Treasury must approve any lending program, and such programs must be broad based and not aid a failing financial company. Collateral must be sufficient to protect taxpayers from losses.

- **Bankruptcy:** Most large financial companies that fail are expected to be resolved through the bankruptcy process.

- **Limits on Debt Guarantees:** To prevent bank runs, the FDIC can guarantee debt of solvent insured banks, but only after meeting serious requirements: 2/3 majority of the Board and the FDIC Board must determine there is a threat to financial stability; the Treasury Secretary approves terms and conditions and sets a cap on overall guarantee amounts; the President activates an expedited process for Congressional approval.

**Reforming Federal Reserve:**

- **Federal Reserve Emergency Lending:** Limits the Federal Reserve’s 13(3) emergency lending authority by prohibiting emergency lending to an individual entity. Secretary of the Treasury must approve any lending program, programs must be broad based, and loans cannot be made to insolvent firms. Collateral must be sufficient to protect taxpayers from losses.

- **Audit of the Federal Reserve:** GAO will conduct a one-time audit of all Federal Reserve 13(3) emergency lending that took place during the financial crisis. Details on all lending will be published on the Federal Reserve website by December 1, 2010. In the future GAO will have on-going authority to audit 13(3), emergency lending, and discount window lending, and open market transactions.

- **Transparency—Disclosure:** Requires the Federal Reserve to disclose counterparties and information about amounts, terms and conditions of 13(3) emergency lending and discount window lending, and open market transactions on an on-going basis, with specified time delays.

- **Supervisory Accountability:** Creates a Vice Chairman for Supervision, a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve designated by the President, who will develop policy recommendations regarding supervision and regulation for the Board, and will report to Congress semi-annually on Board supervision and regulation efforts.

- **Federal Reserve Bank Governance:** GAO will conduct a study of the current system for appointing Federal Reserve Bank directors, to examine whether the current system effectively represents the public, and whether there are actual or potential conflicts of interest. It will also examine the establishment and operation of emergency lending facilities during the crisis and the Federal Reserve banks involved therein. The GAO will identify measures that would improve reserve bank governance.

- **Election of Federal Reserve Bank Presidents:** Presidents of the Federal Reserve Banks will be elected by class B directors—elected by district member banks to represent the public—and class C directors—appointed by the Board of Governors to represent the public. Class A directors—elected by member banks
to represent member banks—will no longer vote for presidents of the Federal Reserve Banks.

• Limits on Debt Guarantees: To prevent bank runs, the FDIC can guarantee debt of solvent insured banks, but only after meeting serious requirements: ⅔ majority of the Federal Reserve Board and the FDIC board determine there is a threat to financial stability; the Treasury Secretary approves terms and conditions and sets a cap on overall guarantee amounts; the President initiates an expedited process for Congressional approval.

Bringing Transparency and Accountability to the Derivatives Market:

• Closes Regulatory Gaps: Provides the SEC and CFTC with authority to regulate over-the-counter derivatives so that irresponsible practices and excessive risk-taking can no longer escape regulatory oversight.

• Central Clearing and Exchange Trading: Requires central clearing and exchange trading for derivatives that can be cleared and provides a role for both regulators and clearing houses to determine which contracts should be cleared.

• Market Transparency: Requires data collection and publication through clearing houses or swap repositories to improve market transparency and provide regulators important tools for monitoring and responding to risks.

• Financial safeguards: Adds safeguards to system by ensuring dealers and major swap participants have adequate financial resources to meet responsibilities. Provides regulators the authority to impose capital and margin requirements on swap dealers and major swap participants, not end-users.

• Higher standard of conduct: Establishes a code of conduct for all registered swap dealers and major swap participants when advising a swap entity. When acting as counterparties to a pension fund, endowment fund, or state or local government, dealers are to have a reasonable basis to believe that the fund or governmental entity has an independent representative advising them.

Office of Minority and Women Inclusion:

• At Federal banking and securities regulatory agencies, the bill establishes an Office of Minority and Women Inclusion that will, among other things, address employment and contracting diversity matters. The offices will coordinate technical assistance to minority-owned and women-owned businesses and seek diversity in the workforce of the regulators.

Mortgage Reform:

• Require Lenders Ensure a Borrower’s Ability to Repay: Establishes a simple Federal standard for all home loans: institutions must ensure that borrowers can repay the loans they are sold.

• Prohibit Unfair Lending Practices: Prohibits the financial incentives for subprime loans that encourage lenders to steer borrowers into more costly loans, including the bonuses known
as “yield spread premiums” that lenders pay to brokers to inflate the cost of loans. Prohibits pre-payment penalties that trapped so many borrowers into unaffordable loans.

- Establishes Penalties for Irresponsible Lending: Lenders and mortgage brokers who don’t comply with new standards will be held accountable by consumers for as high as 3 years of interest payments and damages plus attorney’s fees (if any). Protects borrowers against foreclosure for violations of these standards.

- Expands Consumer Protections for High-Cost Mortgages: Expands the protections available under Federal rules on high-cost loans—lowering the interest rate and the points and fee triggers that define high cost loans.

- Requires Additional Disclosures for Consumers on Mortgages: Lenders must disclose the maximum a consumer could pay on a variable rate mortgage, with a warning that payments will vary based on interest rate changes.

- Housing Counseling: Establishes an Office of Housing Counseling within HUD to boost homeownership and rental housing counseling.

Raising Standards and Regulating Hedge Funds:

- Fills Regulatory Gaps: Ends the “shadow” financial system by requiring hedge funds and private equity advisors to register with the SEC as investment advisers and provide information about their trades and portfolios necessary to assess systemic risk. This data will be shared with the systemic risk regulator and the SEC will report to Congress annually on how it uses this data to protect investors and market integrity.

- Greater State Supervision: Raises the assets threshold for Federal regulation of investment advisers from $30 million to $100 million, a move expected to significantly increase the number of advisors under state supervision. States have proven to be strong regulators in this area and subjecting more entities to state supervision will allow the SEC to focus its resources on newly registered hedge funds.

New Requirements and Oversight of Credit Rating Agencies:

- New Office, New Focus at SEC: Creates an Office of Credit Ratings at the SEC with expertise and its own compliance staff and the authority to fine agencies. The SEC is required to examine Nationally Recognized Statistical Ratings Organizations at least once a year and make key findings public.

- Disclosure: Requires Nationally Recognized Statistical Ratings Organizations to disclose their methodologies, their use of third parties for due diligence efforts, and their ratings track record.

- Independent Information: Requires agencies to consider information in their ratings that comes to their attention from a source other than the organizations being rated if they find it credible.

- Conflicts of Interest: Prohibits compliance officers from working on ratings, methodologies, or sales; installs a new requirement for NRSROs to conduct a 1 year look-back review when an NRSRO employee goes to work for an obligor or under-
writer of a security or money market instrument subject to a rating by that NRSRO; and mandates that a report to the SEC when certain employees of the NRSRO go to work for an entity that the NRSRO has rated in the previous twelve months.

- Liability: Investors can bring private rights of action against ratings agencies for a knowing or reckless failure to conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts or to obtain analysis from an independent source. NRSROs will now be subject to “expert liability” with the nullification of Rule 436(g) which provides an exemption for credit ratings provided by NRSROs from being considered a part of the registration statement.

- Right to Deregister: Gives the SEC the authority to deregister an agency for providing bad ratings over time.

- Education: Requires ratings analysts to pass qualifying exams and have continuing education.

- Eliminates Many Statutory and Regulatory Requirements to Use NRSRO Ratings: Reduces over-reliance on ratings and encourages investors to conduct their own analysis.

- Independent Boards: Requires at least half the members of NRSRO boards to be independent, with no financial stake in credit ratings.

- Ends Shopping for Ratings: The SEC shall create a new mechanism to prevent issuers of asset backed-securities from picking the agency they think will give the highest rating, after conducting a study and after submission of the report to Congress.

Gives Shareholders a Say on Pay and Creating Greater Accountability:

- Vote on Executive Pay and Golden Parachutes: Gives shareholders a say on pay with the right to a non-binding vote on executive pay and golden parachutes. This gives shareholders a powerful opportunity to hold accountable executives of the companies they own, and a chance to disapprove where they see the kind of misguided incentive schemes that threatened individual companies and in turn the broader economy.

- Nominating Directors: Gives the SEC authority to grant shareholders proxy access to nominate directors. Also requires directors to win by a majority vote in uncontested elections. These requirements can help shift management’s focus from short-term profits to long-term growth and stability.

- Independent Compensation Committees: Standards for listing on an exchange will require that compensation committees include only independent directors and have authority to hire compensation consultants in order to strengthen their independence from the executives they are rewarding or punishing.

- No Compensation for Lies: Requires that public companies set policies to take back executive compensation if it was based on inaccurate financial statements that don’t comply with accounting standards.

- SEC Review: Directs the SEC to clarify disclosures relating to compensation, including requiring companies to provide charts
that compare their executive compensation with stock performance over a 5 year period.

- **Enhanced Compensation Oversight for Financial Industry:** Requires Federal financial regulators to issue and enforce joint compensation rules specifically applicable to financial institutions with a Federal regulator.

**Improvements to Bank and Thrift Regulations:**

- **Volcker Rule:** Implements a strengthened version of the Volcker rule by not allowing a study of the issue to undermine the prohibition on proprietary trading and investing a banking entity's own money in hedge funds, with a *de minimis* exception for funds where the investors require some "skin in the game" by the investment advisor—up to 3% of tier 1 capital in the aggregate.
- **Abolishes the Office of Thrift Supervision:** Shuts down this dysfunctional regulator and transfers authorities mainly to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, but preserves the thrift charter.
- **Stronger lending limits:** Adds credit exposure from derivative transactions to banks' lending limits.
- **Improves supervision of holding company subsidiaries:** Requires the Federal Reserve to examine non-bank subsidiaries that are engaged in activities that the subsidiary bank can do (*e.g.*, mortgage lending) on the same schedule and in the same manner as bank exams, provides the primary Federal bank regulator backup authority if that does not occur.
- **Intermediate Holding Companies:** Allows use of intermediate holding companies by commercial firms that control grandfathered unitary thrift holding companies to better regulate the financial activities, but not the commercial activities.
- **Interest on business checking:** Repeals the prohibition on banks paying interest on demand deposits.
- **Charter Conversions:** Removes a regulatory arbitrage opportunity by prohibiting a bank from converting its charter (unless both the old regulator and new regulator do not object) in order to get out from under an enforcement action.
- **Establishes New Offices of Minority and Women Inclusion at the Federal financial agencies.**

**Insurance:**

- **Federal Insurance Office:** Creates the first ever office in the Federal Government focused on insurance. The Office, as established in the Treasury, will gather information about the insurance industry, including access to affordable insurance products by minorities, low- and moderate-income persons and underserved communities. The Office will also monitor the insurance industry for systemic risk purposes.
- **International Presence:** The Office will serve as a uniform, national voice on insurance matters for the United States on the international stage.
- **Streamlines regulation of surplus lines insurance and reinsurance through state-based reforms.**
Interchange Fees:
• Protects Small Businesses from Unreasonable Fees: Requires Federal Reserve to issue rules to ensure that fees charged to merchants by credit card companies for debit card transactions are reasonable and proportional to the cost of processing those transactions.

Credit Score Protection:
• Monitor Personal Financial Rating: Allows consumers free access to their credit score if their score negatively affects them in a financial transaction or a hiring decision. Gives consumers access to credit score disclosures as part of an adverse action and risk-based pricing notice.

SEC and Improving Investor Protections:
• Fiduciary Duty: Gives SEC the authority to impose a fiduciary duty on brokers who give investment advice—the advice must be in the best interest of their customers.
• Encouraging Whistleblowers: Creates a program within the SEC to encourage people to report securities violations, creating rewards of up to 30% of funds recovered for information provided.
• SEC Management Reform: Mandates a comprehensive outside consultant study of the SEC, an annual assessment of the SEC’s internal supervisory controls and GAO review of SEC management.
• New Advocates for Investors: Creates the Investment Advisory Committee, a committee of investors to advise the SEC on its regulatory priorities and practices; the Office of Investor Advocate in the SEC, to identify areas where investors have significant problems dealing with the SEC and provide them assistance; and an ombudsman to handle investor complaints.
• SEC Funding: Provides more resources to the chronically underfunded agency to carry out its new duties.

Reducing Risks Posed by Securities:
• Skin in the Game: Requires companies that sell products like mortgage-backed securities to retain at least 5% of the credit risk, unless the underlying loans meet standards that reduce riskiness. That way if the investment doesn’t pan out, the company that packaged and sold the investment would lose out right along with the people they sold it to.
• Better Disclosure: Requires issuers to disclose more information about the underlying assets and to analyze the quality of the underlying assets.

Better Oversight of Municipal Securities Industry:
• Registers Municipal Advisors: Requires registration of municipal advisors and subjects them rules written by the MSRB and enforced by the SEC.
• Puts Investors First on the MSRB Board: Ensures that at all times, the MSRB must have a majority of independent members, to ensure that the public interest is better protected in the regulation of municipal securities.
Fiduciary Duty: Imposes a fiduciary duty on advisors to ensure that they adhere to the highest standard of care when advising municipal issuers.

Effects of the Mortgage Crisis:

- Neighborhood Stabilization Program: Provides $1 billion to states and localities to combat the ugly impact on neighborhood of the foreclosure crisis—such as falling property values and increased crime—by rehabilitating, redeveloping, and reusing abandoned and foreclosed properties.
- Emergency Mortgage Relief: Building on a successful Pennsylvania program, provides $1 billion for bridge loans to qualified unemployed homeowners with reasonable prospects for reemployment to help cover mortgage payments until they are reemployed.
- Foreclosure Legal Assistance: Authorizes a HUD administered program for making grants to provide foreclosure legal assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners and tenants related to home ownership preservation, home foreclosure prevention, and tenancy associated with home foreclosure.

For Investors:

- Public Disclosure: Requires public disclosure to the SEC payments made to the U.S. Government relating to the commercial development of oil, natural gas, and minerals on Federal land.
- SEC Filing Disclosure: The SEC must require those engaged in the commercial development of oil, natural gas, or minerals to include information about payments they or their subsidiaries, partners or affiliates have made to a foreign government for such development in their annual reports and post this information online.

Congo Conflict Minerals:

- Manufacturers Disclosure: Requires those who file with the SEC and use minerals originating in the Democratic Republic of Congo in manufacturing to disclose measures taken to exercise due diligence on the source and chain of custody of the materials and the products manufactured.
- Illicit Minerals Trade Strategy: Requires the State Department to submit a strategy to address the illicit minerals trade in the region and a map to address links between conflict minerals and armed groups and establish a baseline against which to judge effectiveness.
- Deposit Insurance Reforms: Permanent increase in deposit insurance for banks, thrifts and credit unions to $250,000, retroactive to January 1, 2008.
- Restricts U.S. Funds for Foreign Governments: Requires the Administration to evaluate proposed loans by institutions such as the IMF or World Bank to a middle-income country if that country’s public debt exceeds its annual Gross Domestic Product, and oppose loans unlikely to be repaid.

Legislative History: H.R. 4173 was introduced by Representative Barney Frank on December 2, 2009. The bill was referred to the
House Financial Services Committee in addition to the House Agriculture Committee, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the House Rules Committee, the House Budget Committee, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill passed the House by recorded vote of 223 to 202 on December 11, 2009. The Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs discharged the bill by Unanimous Consent and passed the Senate in lieu of S. 3217 with an amendment and an amendment to the Title by Yea–Nay Vote of 59 to 39 on May 20, 2010. A conference report (H. Rept. 111–527) was filed on June 29, 2010. The conference report was agreed to in the House by recorded vote of 237 to 192 on June 30, 2010. The conference report was agreed to in the Senate by recorded vote of 60 to 39, was cleared for the White House, and was presented to the President on July 15, 2010. On July 21, 2010 the bill was signed by the President and became P.L. No. 111–203. (Note: See also the discussion of H.R. 977 and H.R. 3795 under “2. Bills Acted on by the Committee Included in Other Laws Enacted.”)

**Public Law 111–231 (H.R. 511)**

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to terminate certain easements held by the Secretary on land owned by the Village of Caseyville, Illinois, and to terminate associated contractual arrangements with the Village (approved August 16, 2010).

Legislative History: H.R. 511 was introduced by Representative Jerry F. Costello on January 14, 2009. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. It was reported by the House Committee on Agriculture (H. Rept. 111–253) on September 10, 2009. On September 15, 2009 the bill passed the House under suspension of the rules by a voice vote. The Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry reported the bill without a written report on December 16, 2009. On August 5, 2010 the bill passed the Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent and was cleared for the White House. It was presented to the President on August 10, 2010. On August 16, 2010 it was signed by the President and became P.L. No. 111–231.

**Public Law 111–233 (H.R. 3509)**

To reauthorize state agricultural mediation programs under title V of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (approved August 16, 2010).

This Act amends section 506 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (7 U.S.C. 5106) by extending through 2015 the $7.5 million authorization of appropriations for agricultural mediation programs authorized under title V of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987.

Legislative History: H.R. 3509 was introduced by Chairman Peterson on July 31, 2009, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On March 3, 2010 a mark-up regarding the legislation was held and the bill was ordered to be reported by voice vote. On March 17, 2010 the bill was considered under suspension of the
rules. On March 18, 2010 the bill passed the House by a vote of 382 yeas to 26 nays. On March 19, 2010 the bill was received in the Senate and was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. On August 5, 2010 the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry discharged the bill by Unanimous Consent and the bill passed the Senate by Unanimous Consent. Also on that date, the bill was cleared for the White House. The bill was presented to the President on August 10, 2010. On September 16, 2010, the bill was signed by the President and became P.L. No. 111–233.

Public Law 111–239 (S. 3656)
The Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010 amends the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to: (1) extend reporting requirements for livestock daily markets through September 30, 2015; (2) establish mandatory reporting for wholesale pork cuts; and (3) direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish, and implement without 1 year, an electronic price reporting system for diary products (approved September 27, 2010).

This Act, known as the “Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010,” extends the authority of section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to September 30, 2015; a conforming amendment extends the authority of section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act to September 30, 2015. The measure also amends the Agricultural Marketing Act to provide for mandatory reporting of wholesale pork cuts, and directs the Secretary to conduct a negotiated rulemaking process to develop a proposed rule regarding the reporting of wholesale pork cuts. The measure amends the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require exporters of pork to report information to the Secretary, including the type, quantity and destination of exported pork products.

Additionally, the Act directs the Secretary to establish an electronic reporting system for dairy, and further provides that the Secretary publish the information reported through the electronic reporting system by 3:00 p.m. ET, each Wednesday. The electronic reporting system must be implemented not later than 1 year following enactment of the Act.

Legislative History: This Act was introduced in the Senate on July 27, 2010 by Senator Blanche Lincoln. On August 5, 2010, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry reported the bill without amendment and without a written report. On that same day, the bill passed the Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. On September 15, 2010, the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill in the House was agreed to by voice vote. It was cleared for the White House that same day. On September 21, 2010 the S. 3656 was presented to the President. On September 27, 2010 the President signed the bill and it became P.L. No. 111–239. (Note: See also the discussion of H.R. 5852 under “2. Bills Acted on by the Committee Included in Other Laws Enacted.”)

Other Laws
Several bills acted on by other authorizing committees, but not acted on by the Committee on Agriculture, were enacted with provisions relating to matters within the Committee’s jurisdiction. Fol-
lowing are abbreviated summaries of these bills, including some of the relevant provisions:

Legislative Matters

_public law 111–11 (S. 22/H.R. 146)_

An Act to designate certain land as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes (approved March 30, 2009).

The Act includes measures affecting the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Geological Survey within the Department of the Interior as well as the Forest Service within the Agriculture Department, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Commerce Department and the Smithsonian Institution. The Act combines wilderness designations, land conveyances and exchanges, river and trail designations, historic preservation measures, and important water settlements.

Among the Act’s most prominent individual pieces are wilderness proposals in West Virginia, California, New Mexico, Colorado and Oregon, authorization for the National Landscape Conservation System within the BLM, important forest landscape restoration legislation, the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement, the Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Act, and the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act.

The Act: strengthens our National Park System as it nears its centennial anniversary; improves forest health; facilitates better management of our public lands through authorization of the National Landscape Conservation System; and increases the quantity and quality of water provided to numerous local communities. Additionally, invaluable historic and cultural resources, including the sacred ground of American battlefields, will receive better protection under this legislation.

There are provisions in the Act which Broaden the definition of “casual collecting” to include “vertebrate fossils”, not only “invertebrate” and “plant fossils.” The bill provides additional discretion to the Secretary to permit the collection of vertebrate relics and requires the Secretary to permit “casual collecting.” The bill removes the requirement that resources must be “preserved for the public in an approved repository.” It also narrows the scope of violations that will subject a person to criminal penalties.

The Act subjects persons found guilty of violating the criminal law provisions to a Class A misdemeanor and a fine, or imprisonment, or both. The legislation mandates that persons found guilty of its criminal law provisions are subject to being fined or imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both. It also subjects persons found guilty of violating the criminal law provisions, where the commercial value of the paleontological resources involved and the cost of restoration and repair exceeds $500, to a Class D felony and a fine, imprisonment, or both. Additionally the bill mandates that such persons are subject to being fined or imprisoned for up to 2 years, or both.

The bill authorizes the Secretary, with respect to civil penalty violations, to determine the value of the paleontological resources
The bill clarifies that any penalties may be used to acquire sites with similar resources, but must be from a willing seller. The bill removes a section contained in the Paleontological Resources Subtitle of S. 22 that curtails the Secretary’s authority to disclose to the public information regarding the nature and specific location of paleontological resources.

Legislative History: This Act originated from two bills, S. 22 and H.R. 146. S.22 was introduced in the Senate by Senator Jeff Bingaman on January 7, 2009. It passed the Senate with amendments by a Roll Call vote of 73 Yeas to 21 Nays on January 15, 2009. On March 11, 2009, the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill in the House failed to get 2⁄3 of the votes required for the bill to pass. The roll call vote was 282 Yeas to 144 Nays.

H.R. 146, the House companion bill to S. 22, was introduced in the House of Representatives on January 6, 2009 by Representative Rush Holt. On March 3, 2009, the bill passed the House on a motion to suspend the rules with a roll call vote of 394 Yeas to 13 Nays. On March 19, 2009, H.R. 146 passed the Senate having acquired the requisite 60 vote majority with an amendment and an amendment to the Title by a roll call vote of 77 Yeas to 20 Nays. On March 25, 2009 the House motion to agree to the Senate amendments passed by a roll call vote of 285 Yeas to 140 Nays. On that same day H.R. 146 was cleared for the White House. On March 30, 2009 H.R. 146 was presented to and signed by the President. This Act became P.L. No. 111–11 that same day.

Public Law 111–291 (H.R. 4783)
The Claims Resettlement Act resolves claims against the government related to the Cobell class action lawsuit, the Pigford class action lawsuit, as well as tribal water rights claims for the White Mountains Apache, Crow, Toas Pueblo and Aamodt Tribes.

Title II of the Act contains funding to implement the terms of the settlement in the Pigford lawsuit resolving claims against the government. It includes anti-fraud provisions and is estimated to cost $1.15 billion.

Legislative History: H.R. 4783 was introduced by Representative Sander Levin on March 9, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and in addition to the Committee on the Budget. On March 10, 2010, the bill passed the House, without amendment under suspension of the rules by a voice vote. On March 26, 2010, the measure was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. On November 19, 2010, the Senate Committee on Finance was discharged and the measure passed the Senate, amended, by unanimous consent. On November 30, 2010, the House agreed to the Senate Amendments by a recorded vote of 256 yeas to 152 nays, clearing the measure for the White House. December 8, 2010 signed by the President into P.L. 111–291.

Public Law 111–296 (S. 3307)
S. 3307 was introduced by Senator Blanche L. Lincoln on May 5, 2010, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. Also on that date, the bill was placed on the Senate
Calendar and passed the Senate, with an amendment, by Unanimous Consent.

On August 9, 2010 the bill was received in the House, and was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget. On December 2, 2010 the bill passed the House without amendment by a recorded vote of 264 yeas to 157 nays clearing the measure for the White House. December 13, 2010 signed by the President into P.L. 111–296.

S. 3307 reauthorizes child nutrition programs.

Section 241 amends the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 by removing the existing nutrition education program under section 11(f) and adding a new section 28 at the end. It permits state agencies administering the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to implement a nutrition education and obesity prevention program for eligible individuals that promotes healthy food choices consistent with the most recent *Dietary Guidelines for Americans.* State agencies may use funds provided through this section for any evidence-based allowable use of funds identified by the Administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service of the Department of Agriculture in consultation with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the Department of Health and Human Services, including individual and group-based nutrition education as well as community and public health approaches. Mandatory funding for this section is set at $375,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2011, and indexed for inflation each fiscal year thereafter. The initial allocation of nutrition education funding provided for under this section is intended to be proportional for each state to its share of total Federal reimbursement for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program nutrition education activities in Fiscal Year 2009. This determination will be based on the state’s final Fiscal Year 2009 SNAP SF–269 reports, which were due to the Secretary in February 2010 and serve as the basis for the annual close out of the State Administrative Cost grants.

Section 401 amends section 6(e)(1)(B) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to extend through September 30, 2020, authority to classify bonus commodity purchases as support which meets the requirement that not less than 12 percent of the assistance provided to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program be provided in the form of commodities.

*Public Law 111–XXX (H.R. 2751)²*

FDA Food Safety Modernization Act.

H.R. 2751 was introduced by Representative Betty Sutton on June 8, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means. The bill as original introduced was the Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Act. However, on December 19, 2010 the Senate struck all after the enacting clause and inserted an amendment that was identical to S. 510 as previously passed by the Senate. On December 21, 2010 the House agreed to the Senate amendment by a recorded vote of 215 yeas to 144 nays, clearing the measure for the President. (Note: See also the discussion of H.R. 2749 under “5. Bills Act on by the House But Not the Senate.”)

²Note: At the time of the filing of this report a Public Law number was not available.
The FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act grants the Food and Drug Administration authorities it needs to better oversee the safety of the nation’s food supply. The bill includes expanded authority for FDA to inspect records relating to food, and requires FDA to increase inspections of high-risk food facilities. In addition, it provides for the creation of a more accurate registry of all food facilities serving American consumers, improved traceability of the history of food in the event of a food borne illness outbreak, certification of certain foreign food imports as meeting all food safety requirements, and protection for whistleblowers that bring attention to important food safety information.

Appropriations

Public Law 111–8 (H.R. 1105)

Making omnibus appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes (approved March 11, 2009).

The Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 appropriates FY 2009 funds for the following Department of Agriculture (Department) programs and services: (1) Office of the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary); (2) Office of the Chief Economist; (3) National Appeals Division; (4) Office of Budget and Program Analysis; (5) Office of Homeland Security; (6) Office of the Chief Information Officer; (7) Office of the Chief Financial Officer; (8) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights; (9) Office of Civil Rights; (10) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration; (11) agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments; (12) hazardous materials management; (13) departmental administration; (14) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations; (15) Office of Communications; (16) Office of the Inspector General; (17) Office of the General Counsel; (18) Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics; (19) Economic Research Service; (20) National Agricultural Statistics Service; (21) Agricultural Research Service; (22) Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; (23) Native Americans Institutions Endowment Fund; (24) extension and integrated activities; (25) Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs; (26) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; (27) Agricultural Marketing Service; (28) Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; (29) Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety; (30) Food Safety and Inspection Service; (31) Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; (32) Farm Service Agency; (33) Risk Management Agency; (34) Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund; and (35) Commodity Credit Corporation Fund.

The Act appropriates funds for the following: (1) Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment; and (2) Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Act appropriates funds for the following: (1) Foreign Agricultural Service; (2) Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (P.L. 480) program account, title I ocean freight differential grants, and title II grants; (3) Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) export loans program account; and (4) McGovern-Dole international food for education and child nutrition program grants.
The Act appropriates funds for the following: (1) Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and (2) Farm Credit Administration.

The Act makes appropriations for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and related agencies for FY 2009.

The Act makes appropriations for FY 2009 to the Department of the Interior for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for: (1) land and resource management; (2) construction; (3) land acquisition; (4) Oregon and California grant lands; (5) range improvements; (6) service charges, deposits, and forfeitures with respect to public lands; and (7) miscellaneous trust funds. Rescinds unobligated amounts available from proceeds from: (1) the sale of water; and (2) receipts from mineral leasing activities on certain naval oil shale reserves. Requires BLM to collect mining law administration fees in FY 2009 and thereafter.

The Act makes appropriations for FY 2009 to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for: (1) science and technology; (2) environmental programs and management; (3) the Office of Inspector General; (4) buildings and facilities; (5) the Hazardous Substance Superfund; (6) the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program; (7) expenses to carry out EPA's responsibilities under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 concerning oil spill response; and (8) state and tribal assistance grants for environmental programs and infrastructure assistance.

The Act makes appropriations for FY 2009 to the Department of Agriculture for the Forest Service for: (1) forest and rangeland research; (2) state and private forestry; (3) the National Forest System; (4) capital improvement and maintenance; (5) land acquisitions, including specified National Forest areas in Utah, Nevada, and California; (6) range rehabilitation, protection, and improvement; (7) gifts, donations, and bequests for forest and rangeland research; (8) Federal land management in Alaska; and (9) wildland fire management.

The Act makes FY 2009 appropriations to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for: (1) operating expenses; (2) a civilian stabilization initiative; (3) capital investments and information technology; and (4) the Office of Inspector General.

The Act makes FY 2009 appropriations for: (1) expenses of the President in carrying out certain programs under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; (2) global health and child survival; (3) specified development assistance; (4) international disaster assistance; (5) democratic transition assistance; (6) development credit authority; (7) the Economic Support Fund; (8) promotion of democracy; (9) the International Fund for Ireland; (10) assistance for Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia; (11) international narcotics control and law enforcement; (12) counter-drug activities in the Andean region of South America; (13) nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, and demining related programs; (14) migration and refugee assistance and the United States Emergency refugee and Migration Assistance Fund; (15) the Peace Corps; (16) the Millennium Challenge Corporation; (17) the Inter-American Foundation; (18) the African Development Foundation; and (19) the Department of the Treasury for international affairs technical assistance activities and debt restructuring.
Legislative History: On February 23, 2009 H.R. 1105 was introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative David Obey and referred to the Committee on Appropriations as well as the Committee on Budget. On February 25, 2009 the bill passed the House by a roll call vote of 242 yeas and 178 nays. On March 10, 2009 the bill passed the Senate without amendment by voice vote. The bill was presented to and signed by the President on March 11, 2009. On that same date the bill became P.L. 111–8.

Public Law 111–32 (H.R. 2346)
Making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes.

Title I of this Act makes appropriations FY 2009 funds for title II grants under P.L. 480 (donation of U.S. commodities for emergency and private assistance abroad).

(Sec. 101) Makes unobligated amounts for the emergency conservation program available to the Secretary of Agriculture for natural disaster recovery efforts.

(Sec. 102) Appropriates FY 2009 funds for the principal amount of: (1) direct farm ownership loans; (2) direct operating loans; and (3) unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans.

(Sec. 103) Appropriates FY 2009 funds for loan costs, including loan modifications, for: (1) direct farm ownership loans; (2) direct operating loans; and (3) unsubsidized guaranteed operating

Legislative History: H.R. 2346 was introduced by Representative David Obey and reported as an original measure by the Committee on Appropriations on May 12, 2009, H. Rept. 111–105. On May 14, 2009 the bill passed the House by a recorded vote of 368 yeas to 60 nays. On May 21, 2009 the measure passed the Senate, amended, by a recorded vote of 86 yeas to 3 nays. A Conference Report was filed in the House on June 12, 2009, H. Rept. 111–151. The Conference Report passed the House on June 16, 2009 by a recorded vote of 226 yeas to 202 nays. On that same date, the Conference Report passed the Senate by a recorded vote of 91 yeas to 5 nays. The bill was signed by the President on June 24, 2009 into P.L. 111–32.

Public Law 111–80 (H.R. 2997)
Making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

This Act makes appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

Appropriates FY 2010 funds for the following Department of Agriculture (Department) programs and services: (1) Office of the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary); (2) Office of Tribal Relations; (3) Office of the Chief Economist; (4) National Appeals Division; (5) Office of Budget and Program Analysis; (6) Office of Homeland Security; (7) Office of Advocacy and Outreach; (8) Office of the Chief Information Officer; (9) Office of the Chief Financial Officer; (10) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights; (11) Office of Civil Rights; (12) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration; (13) agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments; (14)
hazardous materials management; (15) departmental administration; (16) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations; (17) Office of Communications; (18) Office of the Inspector General; (19) Office of the General Counsel; (20) Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics; (21) Economic Research Service; (22) National Agricultural Statistics Service; (23) Agricultural Research Service; (24) National Institute of Food and Agriculture; (25) Native American Institutions Endowment Fund; (26) extension and integrated activities; (27) Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs; (28) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; (29) Agricultural Marketing Service; (30) Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; (31) Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety; (32) Food Safety and Inspection Service; (33) Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; (34) Farm Service Agency; (35) state mediation grants; (36) grassroots water protection; (37) dairy indemnity program; (38) Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account; (39) Risk Management Agency; (40) Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund; and (41) Commodity Credit Corporation Fund.

Appropriates funds for the following: (1) Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment; and (2) Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Appropriates funds for the following: (1) Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development; (2) rural development salaries and expenses; (3) Rural Housing Service; (4) Rural Community Facilities Program Account (5) Rural Business-Cooperative Service; (6) rural development loans; (7) rural cooperative grants; (8) rural microenterprise; (9) Rural Energy for America Program; (10) Rural Utilities Service; (11) rural electrification and telecommunications loans; and (12) distance learning, telemedicine, and broadband.

Appropriates funds for the following: (1) Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services; and (2) Food and Nutrition Service.

Appropriates funds for the following: (1) Foreign Agricultural Service; (2) Public Law 480 (P.L. 480) program title I and title II grants; (3) Commodity Credit Corporation export loans program account; and (4) McGovern-Dole international food for education and child nutrition program grants.

Appropriates funds for the following: (1) Food and Drug Administration (FDA); (2) Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC); and (3) Farm Credit Administration.

(Sec. 708) Prohibits the use of funds under this Act for the Safe Meat and Poultry Inspection Panel.

(Sec. 712) Prohibits, without Congressional notification, funds available under this Act or under previous appropriations Acts from being used through a reprogramming of funds to: (1) eliminate or create a new program; (2) relocate or reorganize an office or employees; (3) privatize Federal employee functions; or (4) increase funds or personnel for a project for which funds have been denied or restricted. Prohibits, without Congressional notification, funds available under this Act or under previous appropriations Acts from being used through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $500,000 or 10%, whichever is less: (1) to augment an existing program; (2) to reduce by 10% funding or personnel for any existing
program; or (3) that results from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs.

(Sec. 713) Prohibits the use of funds for user fee proposals that fail to provide certain budget impact information.

(Sec. 714) Prohibits the use of funds to close or relocate a Rural Development office unless the Secretary determines the cost effectiveness and/or enhancement of program delivery.

(Sec. 715) Prohibits funds made available by this Act from being used to close or relocate the FDA Division of Pharmaceutical Analysis in St. Louis, Missouri, outside the city or county limits.

(Sec. 716) Appropriates funds for Rural Development program purposes in communities suffering from extreme out-migration that are in Empowerment Zone-designated areas.

(Sec. 717) Limits funds made available in FY 2010 or preceding fiscal years under P.L. 480 to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) for the release of certain commodities under the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act.

(Sec. 718) Appropriates funds for a grant to the National Center for Natural Products Research for construction or renovation to carry out the research objectives of the natural products research grant issued by the FDA.

(Sec. 719) Makes funds available in the current fiscal year for agricultural management assistance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act and for specified conservation programs under the Food Security Act of 1985 until expended for obligations made in the current fiscal year.

(Sec. 720) Prohibits fund use under this Act by any executive branch entity to produce a prepackaged news story for U.S. broadcast or distribution unless it contains audio or text notice that it was produced or funded by such executive entity.

(Sec. 721) Limits funds to carry out the environmental quality incentives program under the Food Security Act of 1985.

Prohibits the use of CCC funds for dam rehabilitation under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act.

Reduces the maximum amount of FY 2010 funds available for domestic food assistance programs under the Act of August 24, 1935, before amounts in excess of such maximum must be transferred to carry out the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act.

Limits funds to carry out the fresh fruit and vegetable program until October 1, 2010.

Rescinds specified unobligated amounts for domestic food assistance programs under the Act of August 24, 1935.

(Sec. 722) Makes eligible for economic development and job creation assistance under the Rural Electrification Act in the same manner as a borrower under such Act any former Rural Utilities Service borrower that has repaid or prepaid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan under such Act, or any not-for-profit utility that is eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under such Act.

(Sec. 723) Appropriates funds for an agricultural pest facility in Hawaii.

(Sec. 724) Appropriates funds to develop and test new food products to improve the nutritional delivery of humanitarian food assistance under the McGovern-Dole and the P.L. 480 (title II) programs.
(Sec. 725) Prohibits the Department from using funds under this Act to implement the risk-based inspection program in any location until the Office of Inspector General of the Department has reported to the Food Safety and Inspection Service and appropriate Congressional Committees regarding the data used in the program’s development.

(Sec. 726) Directs the Secretary, until receipt of the 2010 Decennial Census, to consider: (1) the unincorporated area of Los Osos, California, Imperial, California, and the Harrisville Fire District, Rhode Island, eligible for rural water and waste disposal loans and grants; (2) the unincorporated community of Thermalito in Butte County, California, and Nogales, Arizona, eligible for rural housing loans and grants; and (3) Lumberton, North Carolina, and Sanford, North Carolina eligible for rural community facilities loans and grants.

Authorizes the Secretary, until receipt of the 2010 Decennial Census, to fund certain rural community facility projects for communities and municipal districts and areas in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island that applied for funding-eligible projects with the appropriate Rural Development field offices prior to August 1, 2009.

(Sec. 727) Appropriates funds for the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program and the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program.

(Sec. 728) Appropriates funds for: (1) the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection; (2) the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Foods, and Markets; (3) development of a national carbon inventory and accounting system prototype for forestry and agriculture; (4) the International Food Protection Training Institute; and (5) the Center for Foodborne Illness Research and Prevention.

(Sec. 729) Directs the Natural Resources Conservation Service to provide financial and technical assistance through the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program to carry out: (1) the Alameda Creek Watershed Project in Alameda County, California; (2) the Hurricane Katrina-Related Watershed Restoration project in Jackson County, Mississippi; (3) the Pidcock-Mill Creeks Watershed project in Bucks County, Pennsylvania; (4) the Farmington River Restoration project in Litchfield County, Connecticut; (5) the Lake Oscawana Management and Restoration project in Putnam County, New York; (6) the Richland Creek Reservoir in Paulding County, Georgia; (7) the Pocasset River Floodplain Management Project in Rhode Island; (8) the East Locust Creek Watershed Plan Revision in Missouri; (9) the Little Otter Creek Watershed project in Missouri; (10) the DuPage County Watershed project in Illinois; (11) the Dunloup Creek Watershed Project in Fayette and Raleigh Counties, West Virginia; (12) the Dry Creek Watershed project in California; and (13) the Upper Clark Fork Watershed project in Montana.

(Sec. 730) Amends the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act regarding the program for at-risk school children to: (1) make Connecticut, Nevada, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia program participants; and (2) increase the total number of program states from 10 to 13.
(Sec. 731) Prohibits, regarding the specialty crop research initiative, funds from being used to prohibit the provision of certain in-kind support from non-Federal sources.

(Sec. 732) Makes unobligated balances for salaries and expenses for the Farm Service Agency and the Rural Development mission area under this Act available for information technology expenses through September 30, 2011.

(Sec. 733) Authorizes the Secretary to permit a state agency to use funds provided in this Act to exceed a specified maximum amount of liquid concentrate infant formula when issuing liquid infant formula to participants.

(Sec. 734) Amends the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to exclude combat pay from household income in calculating a child’s eligibility for free or reduced price meals under the school lunch program.

Amends the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require states to exclude combat pay from family income in making eligibility determinations under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC).

(Sec. 735) Appropriates funds to obtain and add to an anhydrous ammonia fertilizer nurse tank a substance to reduce the amount of methamphetamine produced from anhydrous ammonia removed from the nurse tank.

(Sec. 736) Prohibits funds under this Act from being used for first-class travel by employees of agencies funded under this Act in contravention of the Federal Travel Regulation System.

(Sec. 737) Requires certain agencies providing international food assistance to provide the appropriate Congressional Committees with specified cost-savings alternatives.

(Sec. 738) Appropriates funds to the Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation for workforce development initiatives to address rural out-migration.

(Sec. 739) Appropriates funds to the Farm Service Agency for a pilot program to demonstrate the use of new technologies that increase the growth rate of reforested hardwood trees on private non-industrial forests lands, enrolling lands on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico that were damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

(Sec. 740) Directs the FDA Commissioner (Commissioner) to establish review groups to recommend solutions for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of: (1) rare diseases; and (2) neglected diseases of the developing world.

Directs the Commissioner to report to Congress regarding such groups’ recommendations.

(Sec. 741) Appropriates funds for: (1) direct reimbursement payments for geographically disadvantaged farmers or ranchers; and (2) compensation to durum wheat producers for fungicide costs to control Fusarium head blight (wheat scab).

(Sec. 742) Rescinds unobligated amounts for training and education programs under the supplemental nutrition assistance program (formerly known as the food stamp program).

(Sec. 743) Prohibits funds under this Act from being used to establish or implement a rule allowing U.S. importation of processed poultry or processed poultry products from the People’s Republic of China (PRC) unless the Secretary notifies Congress that the Department will: (1) not provide preferential consideration to PRC ap-
plications to export poultry or poultry products to the United States; (2) conduct audits of inspection systems and on-site reviews of slaughter and processing facilities, laboratories and other control operations before any Chinese facilities are certified as eligible to ship poultry or poultry products to the United States; (3) implement an increased level of port of entry re-inspection; (4) establish and conduct an information sharing program with other countries importing processed poultry or processed poultry products from the PRC; (5) make lists of certified export facilities in the PRC and sanitary on-site inspection information publicly available; and (6) report to the appropriate Congressional Committees.

Prohibits funds under this Act from being used to promulgate any proposed or final rule allowing U.S. importation of poultry slaughtered or poultry products produced from poultry slaughtered in the PRC unless such rule is promulgated in accordance with Executive Order 12866.

(Sec. 744) Prohibits funds under this Act from being used to inspect horses for slaughter purposes.

(Sec. 745) Amends the Federal Crop Insurance Act and the Trade Act of 1974 to include multiyear assistance/multiyear production loss coverage under the supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs.

(Sec. 746) Provides that if a school is closed for at least 5 consecutive days during a pandemic influenza emergency in FY 2010 each household containing at least one member who is an eligible child attending such school shall be eligible to receive specified assistance pursuant to a state-approved plan.

(Sec. 747) Requires that certain projects intended for nonprofit entities be awarded under an open competition.

(Sec. 748) Appropriates funds for purchases of cheese and other dairy products to assist dairy producers who have suffered economic losses.

(Sec. 749) Amends the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to: (1) extend the waiver of the use of weighted averages for nutrient analysis of menu items and foods under the school lunch or school breakfast programs through September 30, 2010; (2) extend state food safety inspection audit and reporting requirements, and the requirement that the Secretary audit such reports, through 2010; (3) extend funding for the summer food service program and other year-round feeding programs for children in California through FY 2010; (4) extend funding for administrative training for, and related state supervision of, school meal programs through October 1, 2009; and (5) extend funding for the clearinghouse that provides information to nongovernmental groups that assist low-income individuals or communities regarding food assistance and self-help activities through FY 2010.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) carry out demonstration projects to develop methods of providing access to food for children in urban and rural areas during the summer months; (2) provide for an independent evaluation of such projects; and (3) report annually to the appropriate Congressional Committees regarding such projects. Provides project funding as of October 1, 2009.

Directs the Secretary to provide grants to state agencies administering the national school lunch program with the lowest rates of children certified for free: (1) to improve such rates; and (2) for re-
lated administrative assistance. Provides funding as of October 1, 2009.

Directs the Secretary, in carrying out the WIC program, to provide performance bonus payments to state agencies that demonstrate: (1) the highest proportion of breastfed infants; or (2) the greatest improvement in proportion of breastfed infants. Provides funding as of October 1, 2009.

Directs the Secretary to make payments to state educational agencies for grants to eligible school food authorities for equipment purchases. Provides funding as of October 1, 2009.

Provides grants to state agencies administering the child and adult care food program to improve the health and nutrition of children in child care settings. Provides funding as of October 1, 2009.

Legislative History: On June 23, 2009, H.R. 2997 was introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative Rosa DeLauro and referred to the Committee on Appropriations. On that same date, the Committee on Appropriations filed a report on the measure. On July 9, 2009 the bill passed the House by the Yeas and Nays: 266–160. On August 4, 2009 the bill passed the Senate with an amendment by Yea–Nay Vote: 80–17. On September 30, 2009 a conference report was filed in the House. The House passed the conference report by a roll call vote of 263 Yeas to 162 Nays on October 7, 2009. The conference report was agreed to in the Senate on October 8, 2009 by a roll call vote of 76 Yeas to 22 Nays and was cleared for the White House that same day. The bill was presented to the President on October 16, 2009. It was signed by the President on October 21, 2009 and became P.L. No. 111–80.

Public Law 111–88 (H.R. 2996)

An Act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

The Interior and Environment Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2010, which provides the resources necessary to meet Federal stewardship obligations and to help protect the environment, including funding for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service and other related agencies helps communities and public lands by focusing on five priority areas:

1. Water infrastructure and environmental protection needs.
2. Firefighting and fuels reduction on Federal lands.
5. Helping the most vulnerable in Indian Country.

The bill includes $32.2 billion in discretionary budget authority, a $4.7 billion increase over the Fiscal Year 2009 enacted level. The majority of that increase goes to clean and safe drinking water infrastructure ($2 billion), restoration of the Great Lakes ($415 million), climate change ($155 million), wildfire suppression ($526 million), and meeting Native American needs ($705.7 million).

Recognizing that the recent increases in the length and severity of wildfire seasons have been accompanied by exponential increases in the cost of woodland fire suppression, the conference agreement
includes the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhan-
cement (FLAME) Act of 2009, which is intended to help create a
dedicated, steady and predictable funding stream for wildfire sup-
pression activities.

Legislative History: On June 23, 2009, H.R. 2996 was introduced
in the House of Representatives by Representative Norman D.
Dicks. On that same day, the House Committee on Appropriations
reported an original measure, House Report No: 111–180. On June
26, 2009 the House Passed the bill by a roll call vote of 254 Yeas
to 173 Nays. On July 7, 2009 the Senate Appropriations Committee
reported the bill with an amendment in the nature of a substitute,
Senate Report No: 111–38. On September 24, 2009 the H.R. 2996
passed the Senate with an amendment by a roll call vote of 77
Yeas to 21 Nays. On October 28, 2009 a conference report was filed
(House Report 111–316). The conference report was agreed to in
the House by a roll call vote of 247 Yeas to 178 Nays on October
29, 2009. That same day, the Senate passed the conference report
by a roll call vote of 72 Yeas to 28 Nays and the bill was cleared
for the White House. On October 30, 2009 it was presented to and
signed by the President and became P.L. No. 111–88.

Public Law 111–212 (H.R. 4899)

An Act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year
ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

This Act appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to the De-
partment of Agriculture for the Farm Service Agency’s Agricultural
Credit Insurance Fund Program Account, the Emergency Forest
Restoration Program, and the Foreign Agricultural Service’s Food
for Peace Title II Grants for emergency relief and rehabilitation for
Haiti.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to the Department of
Commerce for: (1) the Economic Development Administration
for disaster relief, recovery, and restoration of infrastructure in states
that experienced damage from severe storms and flooding during
March–May 2010; and (2) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration (NOAA) for expenses related to commercial fishery
failures. Rescinds funds made available for the National Tele-
communications and Information Administration for the Digital-to-
Analog Converter Box Program.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to DOD for: (1) military personnel, operation and main-
tenance (including for relief activities in Haiti), procurement, and re-
search, development, test, and evaluation; (2) the Afghanistan
Security Forces Fund; (3) the Iraq Security Forces Fund; (4) the Mine
Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Fund; (5) Defense Working
Capital Funds; (6) the Defense Health Program; and (7) Drug
Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to DOD for FY 2010
to the Corps of Engineers for Investigations, the Mississippi River
and Tributaries, Operation and Maintenance, and Flood Control
and Coastal Emergencies.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to the Department of
the Treasury for Salaries and Expenses for necessary expenses for
emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction aid, and other ex-
penses and disaster-response activities related to Haiti following

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for: (1) the Coast Guard, including for necessary expenses and other disaster-response activities related to the earthquake in Haiti; (2) the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for disaster relief; and (3) United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) for necessary expenses and other disaster response activities related to the Haiti earthquake.

(Sec. 603) Directs the FEMA Administrator to consider the non-Federal match requirement for assistance provided by FEMA under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act with respect to hazard mitigation to be satisfied for Hurricane Katrina.

(Sec. 607) Requires the Assistant Secretary for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to issue a security directive that requires a commercial foreign air carrier that operates flights in and out of the United States to check the list of individuals that TSA has prohibited from flying not later than 30 minutes after such list is modified and provided to such carrier, except for such carriers that are enrolled in the Secure Flight program or that are Advance Passenger Information System Quick Query compliant.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to: (1) the Department of Labor for Departmental Management for mine safety activities and legal services related to the Department's caseload before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission; (2) the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for necessary expenses for emergency relief, reconstruction aid, and other expenses and disaster-response activities related to Haiti following the earthquake; and (3) the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission.

Appropriates specified funds to: (1) the House of Representatives for a payment to Joyce Murtha, widow of John P. Murtha, late a Representative from Pennsylvania; and (2) the Capitol Police to purchase and install a portion of a new radio system.

Makes specified amounts provided for Safety Belt Performance Grants available to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for designated traffic and highway safety functions and makes corresponding rescissions. Rescinds specified amounts made available for the Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Program.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Fund for disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization in areas affected by severe storms and flooding from March through May of 2010 for which the President declared a major disaster.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to the Department of Commerce for Economic Development Assistance Programs to carry out planning, technical, and other assistance in states affected by the incidents related to the discharge of oil in connection with the explosion on, and sinking of, the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon. Makes funds available to NOAA for Operations, Research, and Facilities to respond to economic impacts on fishermen
and fishery-dependent businesses once the Secretary of Commerce determines that resources provided, including by the responsible parties under the Oil Pollution Act, are insufficient to respond to such impacts following an incident related to a spill of national significance. Makes funds available for scientific investigations and sampling as a result of the incidents related to the discharge of oil and use of oil dispersants that began in 2010 in connection with the Deepwater Horizon.

Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to: (1) HHS for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for food safety monitoring and response activities in connection with that oil spill; (2) the Department of the Interior for increased inspections and other activities related to emergency offshore oil spill incidents in the Gulf of Mexico; (3) the Department of Justice (DOJ) for litigation expenses resulting from incidents related to the oil discharge in connection with the Deepwater Horizon; and (4) the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for Science and Technology for a study of potential human and environmental risks and impacts of the release of crude oil and application of dispersants and other mitigation measures.

(Sec. 2001) Amends the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to authorize advances from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, subject to specified limitations and reporting requirements.

(Sec. 2002) Prohibits the use of funds made available by this Act to levy a fine or hold any person liable for construction or renovation work performed in any state under the final rules entitled “Lead; Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program; Lead Hazard Information Pamphlet; Notice of Availability; Final Rule” and “Lead; Amendment to the Optout and Recordkeeping Provisions in the Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program.”

(Sec. 2004) Appropriates supplemental FY 2010 funds to: (1) NOAA to provide fisheries disaster relief related to the Deepwater Horizon oil discharge and to conduct an expanded stock assessment of the fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico; and (2) the Department of Commerce for the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a study of the long-term ecosystem service impacts of that discharge. Makes corresponding rescissions of NOAA funds.

(Sec. 3005) Amends the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 to extend the authorization of appropriations for 3 years.

Authorizes the National Park Service Recreation Fee Program account to be available in FY 2010 and FY 2011 for the cost of adjustments and changes within the original scope of contracts for National Park Service projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and for associated administrative costs when no funds are otherwise available for such purposes.

Amends the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to authorize the immediate disbursement of funds in response to a spill of national significance under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, at the request of a producing state or coastal political subdivision, for certain projects specifically designed to respond to the spill.

Legislative History: On March 12, 2010 H.R. 4899 was introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative David Obey. On the same date, the bill was referred to the Committee on Appropriations as well as the Committee on the Budget. On March 24, 2010 the bill passed the House by a roll call vote of 239 Yeas to 175 Nays. On May 14, 2010 the Senate Committee on Appropria-
tions filed a report with an amendment. The Senate passed the bill with amendment on May 27, 2010 by roll call vote of 67 Yeas to 28 Nays. On July 1, 2010 the House motion to concur with the Senate amendment to the bill text with the second portion of the divided question passed by a roll call vote of 239 Yeas to 182 Nays and 1 Present. On that same date three other motions that the House concur in the Senate amendment to the text with the third, fourth, and firth portion of the divided question failed. On July 27, 2010 the House motion to suspend the rules and recede and concur in the Senate amendment passed by a roll call vote of 308 Yeas to 114 Nays. On the same date, the bill was cleared for the White House and presented to and signed by the President and became P.L. No. 111–212.

Public Law 111–322 (H.R. 3082)

H.R. 3082, Full Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011

H.R. 3082 was introduced by Representative Chet Edwards on June 26, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Appropriations. On December 8, 2010, the bill became the vehicle for FY 2011 continuing appropriations and food safety legislation. On that same date, the bill passed the House by a vote of 212 yeas to 206 nays. On December 9, 2010 the bill was received in the Senate. On December 19, 2010, the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment. On December 21, 2010, the measure passed the Senate, amended, and without the food safety language. On that same date, the House agreed to the Senate amendment by a recorded vote of 193 yeas to 165 nays. Also on December 21, 2010 the bill was signed by the President into Public Law 111–322.

The House amendment to H.R. 3082 freezes FY 2011 discretionary appropriations at the FY 2010 level; providing $45.9 billion less than the President requested for the year. Within that ceiling, the bill adjusts funding between programs and accounts to deal with current demands and workloads and avoid furloughs. Overall, the bill includes $513 billion for the Department of Defense, $4.9 billion above 2010; $75.2 billion for military construction and veterans, $1.4 billion below 2010; and $501.4 billion for all other appropriations, $3.5 billion below 2010. It also includes $159 billion for the war, as the President requested; prohibits funding for Congressional earmarks; freezes non-military Federal pay for 2 years, as requested by the President; and allows fee funded programs to continue to be financed from fees.

2. Bills Acted on by the Committee Included in the Other Laws Enacted

H.R. 977, Derivatives Markets Transparency and Accountability Act

H.R. 977 was introduced by Chairman Peterson on February 11, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services. On February 12, 2009, the Committee on Agriculture ordered reported the bill, amended, by a voice vote. The measure was reported to the House on December 19, 2009, H. Rept. 111–385, Part I, and sequentially referred to the Judiciary. On that same date the Committee on Financial Services
and the Committee on the Judiciary was discharged. The bill was then placed on the Union Calendar with no further action taking place. (Note: For further action, see the discussion of P.L. 111–203 (H.R. 4173) under “1. Bills Enacted into Law.”)

The bill requires that over-the-counter transactions—as a condition for eligibility for exceptions to Commodity Exchange Act requirements—be settled and cleared through a Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)-regulated designated clearing organization, unless exempted by the CFTC in accordance with specified criteria. In some cases, the clearing requirement could be met through a Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulated clearing agency or a properly regulated foreign clearinghouse. The bill also gives CFTC the authority, with the President’s consent, to suspend naked credit default swap trading whenever a SEC short selling suspension order is in effect. The bill also requires foreign boards of trade that offer direct electronic access to U.S. traders to share trading data and adopt speculative position limits on certain contracts. The bill further requires CFTC to set trading limits for physical commodities other than excluded commodities. The bill also provides CFTC authority to criminally prosecute people who violate commodities legislation. It also limits eligibility for hedge exemptions to bona fide hedgers, improves transparency by requiring that CFTC disaggregate and separately report the trading activity of index funds and swap dealers in agriculture and energy markets, authorizes new CFTC employees to enforce manipulation and prevent fraud, and authorizes CFTC to take corrective action if it finds disruption in over-the-counter markets for energy and gas.

H.R. 3795, Over-the-Counter Derivatives Market Act of 2009

H.R. 3795 was introduced by Representative Barney Frank on October 13, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Financial Service and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture. On October 15, 2009, the Committee on Financial Service ordered reported the bill, amended, by a recorded vote of 43 yeas to 26 nays. On October 21, 2009, the Committee on Agriculture ordered reported the bill, amended, by a voice vote. (Note: For further action, see the discussion of P.L. 111–203 (H.R. 4173) under “1. Bills Enacted into Law.”)

The Over-the-Counter Derivatives Markets Act of 2009 amends the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) to place specified derivatives, swaps, securities-based swaps, swap dealers, and swap participants under the jurisdiction of a Prudential Regulator, which may be: (1) the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; (2) the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; and (3) the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Directs the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to promulgate jointly uniform implementing regulations.

Repeals the exclusion from CFTC regulation of: (1) derivative transactions; (2) electronic trading facilities; (3) swap transactions; and (4) certain transactions in exempt commodities.

Makes unlawful for any person, other than an eligible contract participant, to enter into a swap unless it is subject to the rules of a board of trade designated as a contract market.
Directs the CFTC to: (1) monitor swap activity and transaction data; and (2) identify specific swap contracts which are required to be cleared.

Prescribes trade execution rules. Revises registration (including voluntary registration) requirements and core principles for derivatives clearing organizations (DCOs). Requires each DCO to designate a compliance officer.

Amends the Legal Certainty for Bank Products Act of 2000 to authorize a Federal banking agency to subject to its oversight any identified banking product that is a swap or security-based swap.

Requires the CFTC to make aggregate swap data on swap trading volumes and positions available to the public.

Sets forth registration requirements and standards for: (1) swap repositories; (2) swap dealers and major swap participants; and (3) swap execution facilities.

Requires a swap dealer, futures commission merchant, or DCO by or through which funds or other property are held as margin or collateral to secure the obligations of a counterparty under a swap (which is to be cleared by or through a DCO) to segregate, maintain, and use the funds or other property for the counterparty’s benefit. Prescribes a similar assets segregation requirement in the case of a swap that is not submitted to a DCO for clearing (over-the-counter swap).

Amends the CEA to repeal authority for: (1) a board of trade to elect to operate as a registered derivatives transaction execution facility; and (2) exemption from CFTC regulation for certain boards of trade.

Requires the market and mechanism for executing transactions provided by a board of trade designated as a contract market to protect the price discovery process of trading in the board’s centralized market.

Authorizes the CFTC to set limits on the aggregate number or amount of positions in contracts based upon the same underlying commodity that may be held by any person, including any group or class of traders, for each month across various specified kinds of contracts, including swap contracts.

Extends CFTC regulatory authority over foreign boards of trade.

Grants the CFTC primary enforcement authority over swap markets regulation.

Amends the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to apply its cease and desist proceedings to specified parties in swap transactions.

Amends the CEA to subject retail commodity transactions to CFTC jurisdiction.

Prescribes reporting and recordkeeping requirements for certain large swap transactions.

Authorizes the CFTC and the SEC to ban swap transactions detrimental to financial market stability.

Directs the SEC, CFTC, the Prudential Regulators, the financial stability regulator, and the Office of Derivatives Supervision to coordinate with foreign regulatory authorities regarding establishment of consistent international standards for the regulation of swaps and information-sharing arrangements.

Authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to prohibit certain foreign domiciliaries from participating in financial activities in the United States.
Repeals the prohibition against regulation of security-based swaps.

Amends the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to set forth: (1) a clearing requirement for security-based swaps; (2) requirements for security-based swaps and alternative swap execution facilities; and (3) position limits and position accountability for security-based swaps and large trader reporting.

Requires registration of security-based swap repositories, security-based swap dealers, and major security-based swap participants.

Requires a security-based swap dealer or clearing agency by or through which funds or other property are held as margin or collateral to secure the obligations of a counterparty under a security-based swap (which is to be cleared by or through a derivatives clearing agency) to segregate, maintain, and use the funds or other property for the counterparty’s benefit. Prescribes a similar assets segregation requirement in the case of a security-based swap that is not submitted to a derivatives clearing agency for clearing (over-the-counter swap).

Sets forth recordkeeping and reporting requirements for certain security-based swaps.

Amends the Securities Exchange Act of 1933 with respect to security-based swaps.

H.R. 5852, Mandatory Price Reporting Act

H.R. 5852, the Mandatory Price Reporting Act was introduced by Chairman Peterson on July 26, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 29, 2010 the Committee ordered reported the bill, without amendment, by a voice vote. (Note: For further action, see the discussion of P.L. 111–239 (S. 3656) under “1. Bills Enacted into Law.”)

This Act, known as the “Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010,” extends the authority of section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to September 30, 2015; a conforming amendment extends the authority of section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act to September 30, 2015. The measure also amends the Agricultural Marketing Act to provide for mandatory reporting of wholesale pork cuts, and directs the Secretary to conduct a negotiated rulemaking process to develop a proposed rule regarding the reporting of wholesale pork cuts. The measure amends the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require exporters of pork to report information to the Secretary, including the type, quantity and destination of exported pork products.

Additionally, the Act directs the Secretary to establish an electronic reporting system for dairy, and further provides that the Secretary publish the information reported through the electronic reporting system by 3:00 p.m. ET, each Wednesday. The electronic reporting system must be implemented not later than 1 year following enactment of the Act.

3. Bills Vetoed

None.
4. Bills Acted on by Both Houses But Not Enacted

H. Res. 81/S. Res. 411, Recognizing importance of the hardwoods industry

H. Res. 81 was introduced by Representative Brad Ellsworth on January 22, 2009, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On September 15, 2009, the bill was placed on the Suspension calendar. Also on that date, the bill passed the House by voice vote. No further action was taken on the bill after it passed the House.

Among its provisions, H. Res. 81 acknowledges the importance and sustainability of the United States hardwood industry, and notes that hardwoods have been awarded the highest conservation crop rating available under the Department of Agriculture Environmental Benefits Index.

The legislation recognizes that United States hardwoods are an abundant, sustainable, and legal resource under United States rule of law; and urges that United States hardwoods and products derived from those hardwoods be given full consideration in any program directed at constructing environmentally preferable commercial, public, or private buildings.

H. Res. 270, S. Res. 374, recognizing the establishment of Hunters for Hungry Program

H. Res. 270 was introduced on March 19, 2009 by Representative Phil Gingrey, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 20, 2009 the bill was placed on Suspension calendar and considered by the House. On July 21, 2009 the bill passed the House by a voice vote of 418–1. No further action was taken on the legislation after it passed the House.

H. Res. 270 recognizes the establishment of Hunters for the Hungry programs across the United States and the contributions of those programs to efforts to decrease hunger and help feed those in need. The bill acknowledges the cooperative efforts of hunters, sportsmen’s associations, meat processors, state meat inspectors, and hunger relief organizations to decrease hunger in the United States and help feed those in need.

H. Con. Res. 164, Recognizing the 40th anniversary of FNS

H. Con. Res. 164 was introduced on July 10, 2009 by Representative James P. McGovern and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 20, 2009 the bill was placed on the Suspension calendar and considered by the House. On July 21, 2009 the bill was considered as unfinished business and passed the House by a voice vote of 422–0. Also on that date the bill was received by the Senate, where it passed by Unanimous Consent.

Among its provisions, H. Con. Res. 164 acknowledges that the Food and Nutrition Service of the Department of Agriculture has been promoting sound nutrition and fighting hunger in the United States since 1969, and notes that the Food and Nutrition Service supports schools in the United States by providing children with nutritious breakfasts and lunches and promotes wellness policies to ensure that children have a healthy start in life.

The legislation: recognizes the valuable historic and continued contribution of the Food and Nutrition Service and its employees to the citizens of the United States; commends the efforts of states,
territories, local governments and nonprofit charitable and faith-based organizations to end hunger and provide nutritious food to citizens of the United States; encourages the continued efforts to educate the citizens of the United States about the importance of eating nutritiously and living a healthy lifestyle; and recognizes and reaffirms the commitment of the United States to end hunger in the United States and continue to lead the world in ending global hunger.

_S. Con. Res. 62, 75th anniversary of NRCS_

S. Con. Res. 62 was introduced by Senator Blanche Lincoln on March 29, 2010, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On that same date, the bill was passed by the Senate by Unanimous Consent. On May 11, 2010 the bill was passed by House under suspension of the rules by a voice vote.

S. Con. Res 62 recognizes the outstanding professional public servants, both past and present, of the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service on the occasion of its 75th anniversary, and acknowledges the importance of the Federal agency that has helped our farmers and ranchers practice smart conservation on private land since its inception in 1935.

The legislation recognizes that the United States depends as much today on productive soils and an abundant, high-quality water supply as we did 75 years ago, and salutes the NRCS professionals, both past and present, who have worked alongside America’s local farmers and ranchers for 75 years to help preserve our essential natural resources. As well as providing the scientific and technical assistance to implement the most advanced conservation practices in the world.

5. Bills Acted on by the House But Not the Senate

_H. Res. 317, Recognizing region in Kansas as Animal Health Corridor_

H. Res. 317 was introduced by Representative Dennis Moore on April 1, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On September 15, 2009, the resolution passed the House under suspension of the rules by a recorded vote of 312 yeas to 108 nays and 1 present.

H. Res. 317 recognizes the region from Manhattan, Kansas, to Columbia, Missouri, as the “Kansas City Animal Health Corridor.” Further recognizes the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor as the national center of the animal health industry, based on the concentration of animal health and nutrition businesses and educational and research assets. The House of Representatives expresses its commitment to establishing a favorable business environment and supporting animal health research to foster the continued growth of the animal health industry.

_H. Res. 507, Supporting the goals of National Dairy Month_

H. Res. 507 was introduced by Representative Joe Courtney on June 4, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 21, 2009, the resolution passed the House under suspension of the rules by a recorded vote of 428 yeas to 0 nays.
H. Res. 507 recognizes that June has been celebrated as National Dairy Month since 1939, and resolves that the House of Representatives supports the goals of National Dairy Month. Recognizes the importance the dairy industry has played in the economic and nutritional well being of Americans, and commends dairy farmers for their continued hard work and commitment to the United States economy and to the preservation of open space. Encourages Americans to show continued support for the dairy industry and dairy farmers.

H. Res. 1368, Supporting the goals of National Dairy Month

H. Res. 1368 was introduced by Representative Joe Courtney on May 18, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On June 14, 2010, the resolution passed House under suspension of the rules by a recorded vote of 359 yeas to 0 nays.

H. Res. 1368 recognizes that June has been celebrated as National Dairy Month since 1939, and resolves that the House of Representatives supports the goals of National Dairy Month. Recognizes the importance the dairy industry has played in the economic and nutritional well being of Americans, and commends dairy farmers for their continued hard work and commitment to the United States economy and to the preservation of open space. Encourages Americans to show continued support for the dairy industry and dairy farmers.

H. Res. 1383, Honoring Dr. Larry Case on retirement of National FFA

H. Res. 1383 was introduced by Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer on May 20, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On June 14, 2010 the bill was considered under suspension of rules and passed by House on June 15, 2010 by a recorded vote of 409 yeas to 0 nays.

H. Res. 1383 recognizes the contributions and the retirement of National FFA Advisor Dr. Larry Case. Recognizes the work Dr. Case has done to educate and encourage students to develop lifelong skills in the field of agriculture, leading the organization in tremendous membership growth, promoted the importance of agriculture education, and helped empower countless individuals to build a brighter future for agriculture. Appreciating Dr. Case's tireless dedication, service, and leadership, and wishing him well in his retirement.

H. Res. 1460, Recognizing the role of pollinators

H. Res. 1460 was introduced by Representative Alcee L. Hastings on June 22, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On June 29, 2010 the resolution was considered under suspension of the rules and passed by the House on July 1, 2010 by a recorded vote of 412 yeas to 0 nays and 1 present.

H. Res. 1460 recognizes the importance of pollinators in agriculture and in maintaining our diverse ecosystem. Recognizing National Pollinator Week, which takes place from June 21 to 27, 2010. Recognizing the impact pollination products have on the United States consumption and economy, recognizing new threats emerging against these animals and that the continues education of
Americans is necessary to protect and encourage pollinators' growth and survival.

**H. Res. 1558, Expressing sense of House that fruit and vegetable commodity producer display American flag on label**

H. Res. 1558 was introduced by Representative Dennis Cardoza on July 26, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 28, 2010 the resolution was considered under suspension of the rules and passed by the House on July 30, 2010 by a recorded vote of 403 yeas to 1 nay.

H. Res. 1558 expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that fruit and vegetable and commodity producers are encouraged to display the American flag on labels of products grown in the United States, reminding us all to take pride in the healthy bounty produced by American farmers and workers.

**H. Con. Res. 95, Recognizing the importance of Forest Service Experimental Forest and Rangers**

H. Con. Res. 95 was introduced by Representative Travis Childers on April 2, 2009, and referred to the Agriculture Committee. On April 28, 2009, the Committee referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry and the Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research. On September 15, 2009 the bill was placed on the Suspension calendar, was considered by the House, and passed the House by voice vote. On September 16, 2009 the Senate received the bill and referred the legislation to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. No further action has occurred on the bill since it was received by the Senate.

The general provisions of the Act of June 4, 1897 (commonly known as the Organic Administration Act of 1897; 16 U.S.C. 551) and section 4 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1643) authorize the Secretary of Agriculture of designate experimental forests and ranges. H. Con. Res. 95 recognizes the important contributions that the 77 experimental forests and ranges within the National Forest System have made in understanding and conserving the environment and ensuring that natural resources in the United States remain a source of pride and enjoyment.

**H.R. 940, Conveyance of National Forest System in Louisiana**

H.R. 940 was introduced by Representative Rodney Alexander on February 10, 2009 and referred to the Agriculture Committee. On April 23, 2009 the Committee referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. On July 29, 2009, the Committee held a mark-up regarding the legislation and ordered, by voice vote, that the bill be reported. Also on that date, the Subcommittee discharged the bill. On September 10, 2009, the Agriculture Committee reported the bill, and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On September 15, 2009, the legislation was considered under suspension of the rules, and passed the House by voice vote. On September 16, 2009, the bill was received by the Senate, read twice, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. No further action has occurred on the bill since being received by the Senate.
H.R. 940 authorizes the sale of certain federally owned land in the Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana. The Secretary of Agriculture is given the authority to sell two parcels of land consisting of 50.08 acres—which includes 47.92 acres containing campsites plus an adjoining 2.16 acre parcel of land that also contains campsites. The Forest Service is interested in the sale of this land so it will no longer be obligated to provide maintenance to the area that the campsites occupy. Money from the sale will be placed in account for Forest Service to purchase additional land in Kisatchie National Forest in the future.

**H.R. 1002, Pisgah National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act**

H.R. 1002 was introduced by Representative Heath Shuler on February 11, 2009 and referred to the Agriculture Committee. On April 23, 2009 the Committee referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. On July 29, 2009, the Committee held a mark-up regarding the legislation and ordered, by voice vote, that the bill be reported. Also on that date, the Subcommittee discharged the bill. On September 10, 2009, the Agriculture Committee reported the bill, and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On September 15, 2009, the legislation was considered under suspension of the rules, and passed the House by voice vote. On September 16, 2009, the bill was received by the Senate, read twice, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. No further action has occurred on the bill since being received by the Senate.

H.R. 1002 authorizes the Forest Service to alter the boundaries of the Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina to give better access to the Catawba Falls. The bill modifies the boundaries of the forest to include a parcel of land consisting of 301 acres.

In the 1990’s, the Forest Service purchased 239 acres adjacent to the falls to ensure its preservation. Another adjacent private parcel of 88 acres has become available, making possible parking and trailhead expansion for the falls area. The Foothills Conservancy purchased this land but would like to sell it to the Forest Service and have it included within the Pisgah boundary. The bill would permit the sale of privately held land by the Forest Service and alter the boundary of the National Forest.

**H.R. 1612, Public Lands Service Act**

H.R. 1612 was introduced by Representative Raúl M. Grijalva on March 19, 2009, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition the Committees on Agriculture, and Education and Labor. On April 23, 2009 the Agriculture Committee referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. On October 23, 2009, the Committee on Agriculture discharged the bill, and the legislation was placed on the Union Calendar. On March 20, 2010 the bill passed the house by a vote of 288–116. On September 27, 2010 the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural resources reported the legislation as an amendment in the nature of a substitute. On that same date, the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar. No further action regarding the bill has occurred since the bill was placed on the Senate Calendar.
H.R. 1612 amends the Public Land Corps Act of 1993 by: expanding the authorization of the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior to provide service opportunities for young Americans; helping restore the nation’s natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational and scenic resources; training a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts; and promoting the value of public service.

H.R. 2454, American Clean Energy and Security Act

H.R. 2454 was introduced by Representative Henry A. Waxman on May 15, 2009, and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Education and Labor, Science and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Ways and Means. On June 5, 2009, the Agriculture Committee was granted an extension for further consideration of the legislation ending not later than June 19, 2009. The Agriculture Committee discharged the bill on June 19, 2009, and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On June 26, 2009 the bill passed the House by a recorded vote of 219–212. On July 7, 2009 the bill was received in the Senate. On July 7, 2009 the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar. No further action has occurred on the bill since it was placed on the Senate Calendar.

H.R. 2454 authorizes the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish an offset credit program for agricultural and forestry practices. Under the program, USDA is to establish methodologies for the type of practices that are being done on or to the land for, among other objectives, quantifying greenhouse gas benefits, quantifying baselines and additionality, and quantifying leakage. Other objectives of the program include: establishing rules for third-party verification; approving offset project plans; certifying project implementation based on the submission a verification report; establishing a repository for reporting and record keeping; and conducting audits.

USDA must publish in the Federal Register a list of the types of agricultural and forestry practices that are eligible to generate offset credits. USDA must periodically add and revise the list of eligible practices. USDA must also consider petitions to add types of practices to the list.

USDA is authorized to establish for each type of eligible offset practice a standardized methodology for: (1) establishing current activity baselines; (2) determining additionality; (3) determining the extent to which GHG reductions or avoidance, or GHG sequestration exceed the relevant baseline, taking uncertainty into account; (4) accounting for and mitigating potential leakage, if any, excluding international indirect land use changes—any reductions due to leakage must meet a [95 percent] certainty threshold.

USDA must give due consideration to methodologies for offset practices that exist as of the date of the enactment of the legislation. USDA is required, as part of the methodologies, to establish a formula that takes into account: the components of the practice; the characteristics of the land on which the practice is applied; the crop produced; and any other factors deemed appropriate by the Secretary of Agriculture.
USDA has to establish requirements to account for and address reversals, including a requirement to report any reversal for which offset credits have been issued.

USDA is required to prescribe mechanisms to account for the full credit replacement of any reversal of sequestration of GHG for which an offset credit has been issued including: (1) an offsets reserve; (2) insurance; (3) a mechanism that allows for term contracts where [the user of the credits] retains liability for reversals during the crediting period as well as upon termination of the crediting period; and (4) any other mechanism determines is necessary, taking into account whether the reversal was intentional or unintentional.

To establish the offsets reserve, USDA is authorized to, before any offset credits are issued: subtract and reserve, from the quantity of offset credits to be issued, a quantity of offset credits based on the risk of reversal; hold the reserved credits in the offsets reserve; and register the credits with the offset registry.

For unintentional reversals, USDA is authorized to remove and cancel credits from the offsets reserve to fully account for the tons of carbon dioxide equivalent that are no longer reduced, avoided, or sequestered. For intentional reversals, the offset project developer for the offset practice that caused the reversal is required to place into the offsets reserve a quantity of offset credits that are equal in number to the number of offset credit that were canceled due to the reversal.

The Secretary is authorized to specify crediting periods for each offset practice type within an offset project and to establish provisions for reenrollment for subsequent crediting periods. Crediting periods are to have a term of up to: [5] years for agricultural sequestration practices; [20] years for forestry sequestration practices; and [10] years for other practices.

An offset practice, within an offset project, is eligible to generate offset credits only during the crediting period. In addition, an offset practice, within an offset project, only remains eligible to generate offset credits during the crediting period subject to the methodologies and practice type eligibility list that applied as of the date of the project’s approval.

An offset project developer can reenroll for a subsequent crediting period, after a crediting period ends. Reenrollment in a subsequent crediting period is subject to the methodologies and practice type eligibility list in effect during the original crediting period. USDA may limit the number of subsequent crediting periods available for a particular practice type.

USDA is required to apply conservative assumptions or methods to ensure the environmental integrity of the program. An offset project developer must submit an offset project plan to USDA for approval. USDA is authorized to specify the required components of the offset project plan, including: the designation of the offset project developer; a list and schedule of the of the practices to be implemented; and any other information USDA deems necessary to determine whether the offset practice, within the project, is eligible to receive offset credits.

The Secretary must, at least 90 days after receiving a complete offset project plan, either approve deny the plan in writing. If the plan is approved, USDA must provide an estimate of the number
of the offset credits to be earned. If the plan is denied, USDA must provide the reasons for the denial.

USDA is authorized to establish mechanisms for appeals and review of determinations regarding offset project plans. Once an offset project plan is approved, the offset project developer does not have to resubmit the plan during the crediting period.

USDA is authorized to establish requirements to verify that offset practices in an approved offset project plan have been implemented. Offset project developers must submit a verification report prepared by an accredited third-party verifier. Verification reports are to include items such as: the name and contact information of the offset project developer; a certification that the project plan has been implemented and that conflict of interest requirements have been complied with; and any other information USDA deems necessary.

USDA is required to establish a process and requirements for the periodic accreditation of third-party verifiers to ensure that they are professionally qualified and have no conflicts of interest. Third-party verifiers are to be listed in a publicly accessible database, which USDA must maintain and update.

USDA is authorized to, not later than 90 days after receiving a complete verification report, make a written determination of the quantity of GHG emissions avoided or reduced or GHG sequestered as a result of the offset practice included in an approved and verified offset project plan. USDA is also authorized to, each year, issue one offset credit to an offset project developer for each ton of carbon dioxide equivalent it determines has been reduced, avoided, or sequestered during the crediting period. USDA must establish a process and procedures for appealing the determination. Offset credits are to be issued not later than 14 days after the date on which USDA makes the determination.

The Secretary is required to obtain from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a unique serial number to allow for the registration of each offset credit that is issued.

Unless otherwise specified in a legally binding contract or agreement, the initial ownership of an offset credit is to lie with the offset project developer. Additionally, offset credits can be sold, traded, or transferred, unless they have expired or have been retired or used for compliance.

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to establish, within USDA, the “USDA Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction and Sequestration Advisory Committee.” The Committee will provide scientific and technical advice on the establishment and implementation of the agricultural and forestry offset program. The Committee will be composed of up to ten members who are qualified by their education, training, and experience to evaluate scientific and technical information regarding the offset credit program.

The Advisory Committee is authorized to: provide options and recommendations to the Secretary regarding methodologies; make available to the Secretary advice and comment on areas where further knowledge is required to appraise the adequacy of existing, revised, or proposed methodologies and describe the research efforts necessary to provide the required information; make available to the Secretary advice and comment on ways to safeguard or improve
the environmental integrity of offset practice types; and provide options and recommendations regarding new practice types.

The Advisory Committee is required to submit to the Secretary, and make available to the public, an analysis of: scientific and technical information regarding agricultural and forestry practices that reduce or avoid greenhouse gas emissions or sequester greenhouse gases; review approved and potential practice types, methodologies, scientific studies, and other relevant information needed to evaluate the offset program; and recommend changes to offset methodologies and procedures to ensure that the practices reduce or avoid greenhouse gas emissions or sequester greenhouse gases.

To avoid duplication, the Advisory Committee is to coordinate its activities with those of other Federal advisory committees who are working in related areas. To the extent possible, the Advisory Committee is to use the research data and services of the research, education, extension agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

The Secretary has the discretionary authority to provide administrative and funding support to enable the Advisory Committee to carry out its duties. The Advisory Committee is to submit a report to Congress, each fiscal year.

The Secretary is authorized to conduct annual random audits of offset projects and the practices of third-party verifiers.

The Secretary is authorized to issue one offset credit for each ton of carbon dioxide equivalent that is reduced, avoided, or sequestered under any regulatory GHG emissions program the Secretary determines are issued under a state or regional GHG regulatory program, or meet the standards of reporting programs including, the Climate Registry, the Chicago Climate Exchange, and the GHG Registry.

Early offset credits are not to apply to any credits that have expired or that have been retired or canceled. Early offset credits can only be issued for reductions or avoidance of GHG emissions or sequestration of GHG that occur after the start date and before the earlier of the following: (1) the end of a crediting period specified in a program qualified under this section; or (2) the end of the 10 year period beginning on the date of enactment of the legislation.

The Secretary of Agriculture and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency are required to, at least once every 5 years: (1) review program operation; and (2) based on new or updated information from the program operation review, and taking into consideration the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, make recommendations to Congress regarding operation of the offset credit program.

H.R. 2476, Ski Areas Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act

H.R. 2476 was introduced by Representative Diana DeGette on May 19, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources. On June 22, 2010 the Agriculture Committee referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. On June 30, 2009 a mark-up session was held regarding the legislation and the bill, which had been amended, was ordered to be reported by voice vote. Also on that date, the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry dis-
charged the bill. On July 30, 2010, the bill was considered under suspension of the rules, and was passed by the House on a voice vote. On August 2, 2010 the bill was received in the Senate. On September 30, 2010 the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar. No further action has occurred on the bill since it was placed on the Senate Calendar.

The Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 2476 amends the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (NFSAPA) by: (1) enabling snow sports (in addition to Nordic and alpine skiing) to be permitted on National Forest System land, subject to ski area permits issued by the Secretary of Agriculture (“Secretary”) under section 3 of NFSAPA; and (2) clarifying Secretary’s authority to permit appropriate additional seasonal or year-round recreational activities on National Forest System land, subject to ski area permits issued by the Secretary under section 3 of NFSAPA.

The bill allows ski areas and associated facilities to be covered under NFSAPA, and authorizes the Secretary to issue “ski area permits,” within the National Forest System, for skiing, other snow-sports, and such other seasonal or year-round recreational activities associated with mountain resorts.

A new subsection is created within section 3 of NFSAPA that provides the Secretary with the discretionary authority to allow the holder of a ski area permit on National Forest System land to provide, on the land subject to the permit, other seasonal or year-round natural resource-based recreational activities and associated facilities or improvements (in addition to skiing and other snow-sports) that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

The Secretary is required to promulgate rules and regulations within 18 months of the enactment of the legislation and, to the extent practicable and with the consent of existing permit holders, convert all existing ski area permits or leases on National Forest System land into ski area permits which conform to the provisions of the legislation.

H.R. 3175, Convey land to Miami-Dade County Florida

H.R. 3175 was introduced by Representative Lincoln Diaz-Balart on July 10, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 29, 2009 the Committee on Agriculture ordered reported the bill without amendment by a voice vote. A report was filed on September 10, 2009, H. Rept. 111–252. On September 15, 2009, the bill passed the House under suspension of the rules by voice vote. The Senate received the bill on September 16, 2009 and referred the bill to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry with no further action taking place.

This Act would allow for the sale of approximately 2 acres of land at the USDA Agricultural Research Service’s Subtropical Horticulture Research Station in Miami-Dade County, Florida. The Subtropical Horticulture Research Station was created in 1898, and has been at its current location since 1923. The 160 acre site conducts and supports environmentally sound research on tropical and subtropical crops.

The 2 acre plot of land would be sold at market value to Miami-Dade County for the purpose of building a fire station in the village of Palmetto Bay, a community of 25,000. Palmetto Bay, along with
that of neighboring South Coral Gables, is currently facing below-average fire-fighter response times as compared to other municipalities in the region.

ARS has worked with the County and the village in identifying land that could be used for the fire station, and USDA has indicated that the County has the funding to move forward with the purchase.

In addition to the sale allowance, H.R. 3175 directs that the proceeds from the sale go to the ARS budget for the station's operation, upkeep and maintenance. The County would also be responsible for all transaction and personnel costs associated with the conveyance of the property as well as a $50,000 payment to cover administrative costs.

H.R. 3519, Veterinarian Services Investment Act

H.R. 3519 was introduced by Representative Adrian Smith on July 31, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 28, 2010, the Committee on Agriculture ordered reported the bill, amended, by a voice vote. On September 15, 2010, the bill passed the House, as amended, under suspension of the rules by a voice vote. The bill was received in the Senate on September 16, 2010 and referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry with no further action taking place.

This Act, known as the “Veterinarian Services Investment Act,” establishes a competitive grant program under which qualified entities must conduct programs or activities that will substantially relieve veterinarian shortage situations, support private veterinary practices engaged in public health activities, or support veterinarians who are participating in or have completed the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment program.

Grants may be used to relieve veterinarian shortage situations and support veterinary services, including by: assisting veterinarians with equipping veterinary offices, sharing in reasonable overhead costs, or establishing mobile veterinary facilities (for these grants, grant recipients must sign terms of service agreements with the Secretary); covering expenses, other than those available under the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment program, for veterinary students and others to attend training programs in food safety or food animal medicine; and continuing education for veterinarians and others, including tele-veterinary medicine and other distance-based learning.

Grant recipients must provide 50 percent matching funds. The measure prohibits grant funds from being used for construction of a building or facility.

H.R. 3534, Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2009

H.R. 3534 was introduced by Representative Nick J. Rahall on September 8, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On July 15, 2010, the Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported in an Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute by a vote of 27–21. On July 28, 2010, the bill was referred sequentially to the Committee on Agriculture for a period ending not later than July 28, 2010. On that same date, the Agriculture Committee discharged the bill and the legislation was
placed on the Union Calendar. On July 30, 2010, the Natural Resources Committee filed a supplemental report regarding the bill. Also on that date, the bill passed the House by a vote of 209–193. On August 4, 2010, the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar. No further proceedings have been taken on the bill since it was placed on the Senate Calendar.

H.R. 3454 provides greater efficiencies, transparency, returns, and accountability in the administration of Federal mineral and energy resources by consolidating administration of various Federal energy minerals management and leasing programs into one entity to be known as the Office of Federal Energy and Minerals Leasing of the Department of the Interior.

H.R. 3954, Florida National Forest Land Adjustment Act

H.R. 3954 was introduced by Representative Allen Boyd on October 28, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On March 3, 2010 the Committee held a mark-up regarding the legislation and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote. On March 17, 2010, the bill was considered under suspension of the rules and passed the House by a vote of 418–1. On March 18, 2010, the bill was received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. No further action on the bill has occurred since it was received by the Senate.

H.R. 3954 provides that Congress finds that certain lands in the State of Florida were conveyed, subject to deed restrictions that they could only be used for public purposes, to the United States under the authority of section 32(c) of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, and are now part of the Blackwater River and Withlacoochee State Forests.

The bill provides that Congress finds the deed restrictions to have impeded the ability of the state to remedy boundary and encroachment problems involving the lands, and that the release of the restrictions by the Secretary of Agriculture (“Secretary”) would further the purposes for which the lands are being managed and would alleviate future Federal responsibilities with respect to the lands.

The Secretary is authorized to release, convey, and quitclaim to the State of Florida, all right, title, and remaining interest of the United States in and to those lands within or adjacent to the Blackwater River and Withlacoochee State Forests that were conveyed under the authority of section 32(c) of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act or under any other law authorizing conveyance subject to restrictions or reversionary interest retained by the United States.

Conveyances are to be subject to the following terms and conditions: (1) the state has to cover, or reimburse, the Secretary for the reasonable costs incurred to make the conveyances—however, the Secretary cannot seek reimbursement for administrative overhead costs; (2) all net proceeds from any sale, exchange, or other disposition of the real property subject to deed restrictions is to be used for the acquisition of lands, or interests in lands, within or adjacent to units of the state forest and park systems; (3) boundary encroachments must be affirmatively addressed and resolved in accordance with state law for the affected state forests; and (4) that
the United States is indemnified and held harmless with regard to any boundary disputes related to any parcel of land at issue.

The legislation provides that Congress finds that there are intermingled Federal and state lands within units of the National Forest System in Florida that are of comparable quantity, quality, and of approximate equal value and that interchanging those lands would be in the public interest by facilitating more efficient public land management.

The bill provides a definition for the term “approximate equal value” to mean a comparative estimate of the value between the lands to be interchanged, regarding which, without the necessity of an appraisal, the elements of value, such as physical characteristics and other amenities, are readily apparent and substantially similar.

The State of Florida is authorized to convey to the United States the lands designated for interchange on two maps; also authorizes the Secretary to convey and quitclaim to the state those National Forest System lands in the Ocala National Forest and the Apalachicola National Forest designated for interchange on the maps.

Any land interchange is required to be subject to such reservations and rights-of-way as may be mutually acceptable to the Secretary and the authorized officer of the state.

The Secretary is authorized, in the event that any of the lands designated for interchange are found to be in whole or part unacceptable for interchange, to substitute or modify the lands to be interchanged, insofar as it is mutually agreed that the lands are of comparable quality and approximately equal value.

The Secretary, in accordance with the provisions of the Florida National Forest Land Management Act of 2003 (P.L. 108–152; 117 Sta. 1919), is authorized to convey, by means of sale, or exchange, all right, title and interest in and to a parcel of land comprising approximately 114 acres, located within Township 1 South, Range 1 West, section 25, Leon County, Florida, designated as tract W–1979.

The Secretary is also authorized, with respect to the proceeds derived from the sale of tract W–1979, to acquire lands, and interests to lands, for inclusion in the Apalachicola National Forest; and to cover the disposal costs incurred by the Secretary to carry out the sale of the tract. The Secretary is required to use the net proceeds derived from the sale of three tracts of land designated in the Florida National Forest Land Management Act of 2003, to acquire, construct, or maintain administrative improvements for units of the national Forest System Land in Florida.


H.R. 4658 was introduced on February 23, 2010 by Representative John J. Duncan, Jr., and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On June 22, 2010 the Committee referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. On June 30, the bill was discharged by the Subcommittee and a mark-up regarding the legislation was held. Also on that date, the Committee ordered an amended version of the legislation to be reported. On July 28, 2010, the bill was considered under suspension of the rules and passed the House by voice vote. On July
29, 201, the bill was received by the Senate. On August 5, 2010, the bill was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. No further action on the bill has occurred since it was received by the Senate.

The Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 4658 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the Towee Falls Baptist Church all right, title and interest of the United States in and to an approximately 66.5 acre parcel of National Forest System land in the Cherokee National Forest that surrounds the church. The parcel of land, which surrounds the church, contains a cemetery. The parcel has been maintained by the church under a special use permit. The church is willing to purchase the parcel at fair market value in order to make needed expansions to the cemetery and church buildings. Proceeds from the sale of the parcel will be used to purchase a 102 acre parcel of land, known as the “Doc Rogers tract,” from the Monroe County Tennessee Board of Education.

The Forest Service is extremely interested in purchasing the parcel from the School Board because of its proximity to the Benton MacKaye Hiking Trail, which feeds into the Appalachian Trail. Inclusion of the Doc Rogers tract into the Cherokee National Forest boundary is supported by the local community. The local community believes that greater use of the adjacent trail will benefit the community.

H.R. 4785, Rural Energy Savings Act

H.R. 4785 was introduced on March 9, 2010 by Representative James E. Clyburn and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. On May 12, 2010 the Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit and Research held a hearing on the legislation. On July 14, 2010 the Committee, by voice vote, ordered an amended version of the legislation to be reported. On September 14, 2010 the Agriculture Committee reported the amended bill and the Energy and Commerce Committee discharged the legislation. Also on that date, the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On September 16, 2010, the bill passed the House by a recorded vote of 240–172. On September 20, 2010, the legislation was received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. No further action on the bill has occurred since it was received by the Senate.

H.R. 4785 establishes a program to provide rural consumers and rural electric cooperatives with the tools necessary lower the amount of electric power used in homes, farms, and small businesses, thereby decreasing the costs of energy for rural communities.

The base text of the bill authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture (“Secretary”) to make zero-interest loans to eligible entities, which are to use the loan funds to make low-interest loans to qualified consumers for the purpose of implementing energy efficiency measures on the qualified consumers’ property.

As a condition of receiving a loan under the program, the eligible entity is required to: establish a list of energy efficiency measures that are expected to decrease the qualified consumers’ energy use or cost; prepare an implementation plan for use of the loan funds; and provide for appropriate measurement and verification to ensure the effectiveness of the energy efficiency loans made by the el-
igible entity. To help defray initial start-up costs, the base text of the bill authorizes the Secretary to provide eligible entities with “jump-start” grants.

The base text of the bill requires the Secretary to provide eligible entities with a 10 year schedule for loan fund advances. Loans made by the eligible entity to the qualified consumer must not exceed three percent interest. Loan funds must be used to finance energy efficiency measures for the purpose of decreasing energy usage or costs for the qualified consumer by an amount such that the 10 year loan term would not cause an undue financial burden on the qualified consumer. Loan funds cannot be used to fund energy efficiency measures to personal property, unless the personal property becomes attached to real property as a fixture, or is a manufactured home.

Loans made to qualified consumers are to be repaid through charges on the qualified consumers’ electric bill. Also, in order for a qualified consumer to receive a loan under the program, the consumer must agree to have an energy audit conducted on his or her property. The purpose of the energy audit is to determine the impact of the proposed energy efficiency measures on the qualified consumers’ energy costs and consumption.

The base text of the bill requires the Secretary to enter into one or more contracts with a qualified entity for a number of purposes, including: developing and completing a protocol for measurement and verification for the Rural Utilities Service (“RUS”); establishing a national measurement and verification committee consisting of representatives of eligible entities; providing training in measurement and verification; and developing a program to provide technical assistance and training for employees of qualified entities.

The base text of the legislation allows eligible entities, or groups of eligible entities, that already have already established energy efficiency programs that would meet the requirements laid out in the bill, to enter into agreements with the Secretary to establish fast-start energy efficiency loan demonstration projects.

The base text authorizes $993 million in appropriations for Fiscal Year 2010 to carry out the program. Of that amount: $755 million is to be appropriated to cover the costs of direct loans to eligible entities; $25 million is to be appropriated for measurement and verification activities; $2 million is to be appropriated for the contract for training and technical assistance; and $200 million is to be appropriated for jump-start grants. Another $1.1 million is to be appropriated for each of the Fiscal Years 2010 through 2019 to provide the RUS with funds to allow it to hire ten additional employees to carry out the loan program.

During a hearing held by the Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research, a number of Members expressed concerns about the legislation. The Members who expressed concerns were concerned about the grant funding contained in the legislation, the loan authorization amount, the loan repayment structure, the authorization of new spending, and the idea of creating a new program.

In an effort to address some of the concerns expressed by the Members who had concerns, an Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (“ANS”) was drafted. The ANS retains the concept that
the Secretary is to make zero-interest loans to eligible entities, which are then to use the loan funds to make low-interest loans to qualified consumers for the purpose of implementing energy efficiency measures on the qualified consumers' property.

The ANS, however, narrowed the focus of the legislation so that the program is restricted to “rural areas”. Current RUS borrowers will be eligible for the program, but those not currently borrowing from RUS will have to meet the rural area test to participate in the program. The rural area definition contained in the ANS is the same definition that is used in the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.

Because some Members were concerned that the loan repayment structure contained in the base text because was structured like a line of credit, the ANS changed the loan repayment structure so that any loan made to an eligible entity has a 20 year term. Additionally, the ANS struck the jump-start grant provisions. Instead of providing jump-start grant funding, the ANS allows eligible entities to receive a special loan advance to help defray the upfront costs for eligible entities to get their program up and running. The special loan advance is not to exceed more than four percent on the loan funds to be distributed. The ANS also requires the qualified consumer to agree to have an energy audit conducted on his or her property as a condition of receiving a loan. The purpose of the energy audit is to discover where problems in energy usage occur and provide a way for consumers to correct any problems.

The ANS allows energy efficiency incentives made available under any other Act, including rebates, grants or any other payments, to be used to reduce the amount of the qualified consumers' loan.

The ANS requires the Secretary to: develop a protocol for eligible entities and qualified entities to use in measuring energy consumption and verifying the effectiveness of energy efficiency measures; establish a measurement and verification advisory committee; enter into one or more cooperative agreements with qualified entities to provide technical assistance and training to the employees of eligible entities; and establish a process to compile and maintain a directory of energy efficiency auditors that are used by eligible entities. However, The Secretary is prohibited from: developing, adopting, or implementing a public labeling system that rates and compares the energy performance among qualified consumers; or requiring the public disclosure of an energy performance evaluation or rating developed for any qualified consumer.

The ANS maintains the $993 million appropriation contained in the base text. However, of that amount, the ANS calls for not less than 76 percent to be appropriated to cover the costs of direct loans to eligible entities; not less than 2.5 percent to be appropriated for developing the protocol for eligible entities and qualified entities to use in measuring energy consumption and verifying the effectiveness of energy efficiency measures; and not less than 0.2 percent to be appropriated for establishing the measurement and verification advisory committee. The ANS retains the $1.1 million appropriation for ten additional RUS employees to carry out the program.

During the July 14 mark-up of the legislation, the Committee adopted three amendments: one amendment prohibits the Sec-
retary from using the authority given to the Secretary under the legislation to promulgate regulations that would establish an energy labeling program for a qualified consumer’s property; a second amendment requires the Secretary to conduct an audit of the program to ensure that Federal funds are being provided to eligible entities, in accordance with the purpose of the Act; and the third amendment struck the $1.1 million appropriation for the ten additional RUS employees to carry out the program.

H.R. 5414, Conveyance of land in South Carolina

H.R. 5414 was introduced by Representative Henry E. Brown, Jr. on May 26, 2010, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On June 18, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. On June 30, 2010, the Subcommittee discharged the bill. Also on that date, a mark-up regarding the legislation was held and the legislation was ordered to be reported by voice vote. On July 30, 2010, the bill was considered under suspension of the rules and the legislation passed the House by a vote of 408–0. On August 2, 2010 the Senate received the bill. On August 5, 2010 the bill was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. No further proceedings have occurred regarding the bill since its referral in the Senate.

H.R. 5414 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell and quitclaim to the First Baptist Church of Bonneau, located in Bonneau, South Carolina, all right, title and interest of the United States in and to an approximately 3 acre parcel of National Forest System land in the Francis Marion National Forest.

Since 1946, the church has held the 3 acre parcel, which contains a cemetery, under a special use permit. The church has made requests over the years to expand the special use permit area to accommodate the expansion of the cemetery.

The church is willing to purchase the parcel at fair market value. When the conveyance is completed, the special use authorization is to be terminated. However, use of the conveyed parcel is to be restricted to cemetery purposes. Structures may not be erected on the conveyed parcel of land, other than for monumentation or cemetery maintenance facilitates.

Money from the sale of the conveyed parcel is to be placed in a Sisk Act Treasury account and is to be used to buy suitable land within the Francis Marion National Forest when it become available.

H.R. 5669, Conveyance of land in Story County, Iowa

H.R. 5669 was introduced by Representative Tom Latham on July 1, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 28, 2010, the bill passed the House, amended, under suspension of the rules by a voice vote. On August 5, 2010, the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry with no further action taking place.

The Act requires conveyance of approximately 44 acres of federally owned land administered by the Agricultural Research Service which comprises part of the National Animal Disease Center (the property) in the City of Ames, Iowa, to the City of Ames and its assigns.
Requires the city: (1) to pay to the Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) the market value of the property, to be determined by an appraisal; and (2) at closing, to pay or reimburse the reasonable transaction and administrative costs associated with the conveyance incurred by the Secretary. Requires the city and the Secretary to bear their own attorneys fees.

Requires the Secretary to meet disclosure requirements for hazardous substances, but to otherwise not be required to remediate or abate such substances or any other hazardous pollutants, contaminants, or waste that might be present on the property at the time of closing.

Bars requiring the Secretary to mitigate or abate any lead-based paint or asbestos-containing building materials present on the property at the time of closing. Sets forth the procedure the Secretary shall follow if the property has such paint or building materials present on it at that time.

Requires the deposit of funds received from the conveyance into the Treasury to be credited to the Agricultural Research Service and to be: (1) used for the acquisition of land and interests and other related purposes of the National Animal Disease Center; and (2) considered to authorize the acquisition of land as may be necessary for the USDA to carry out its work.

Other Bills of Interest:

Legislative:

H.R. 885, Improved Financial and Commodity Markets Oversight and Accountability Act

The Improved Financial and Commodity Markets Oversight and Accountability Act was introduced by Representative John Larson on February 4, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On May 18, 2009, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform reported the measure, amended, to the House, H. Rept. 111–114. On June 8, 2010 the Committee on Agriculture agreed to not seek a sequential referral of the bill by an exchange of letters with the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On that same date the bill passed the House, as amended, under suspension of the rules by a voice vote. The measure was ordered reported with amendment to the Senate by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs on July 29, 2009. On March 16, 2010, the measure was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders with no further action taking place.

H.R. 885 amends the Inspector General Act of 1978 (IG Act) by elevating five financial regulatory agencies—the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the National Credit Union Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System—from ‘Designated Federal Entities’ (DFEs) to ‘establishments’ for the purposes of the IG Act. This change primarily affects the process for appointment of Inspectors General (IGs) at the agencies. The position of inspector general at ‘establishments’ is a presidential appointment made with the advice and consent of the Senate.
As amended, H.R. 885 also ensures that the changes made by the legislation do not interfere with existing pay structures and personnel systems at these agencies, as they relate to the position of inspector general and other employees. Additionally, the legislation clarifies subpoena authority for these inspectors general and requires agency heads to report to Congress on recommendations made by the inspectors general.

**H.R. 2749, Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009**

H.R. 2749 was introduced by Representative John Dingell on June 8, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. On June 17, 2009 the Committee on Energy and Commerce ordered reported the bill, amended, to the House. On June 28, 2009 the Committee on Agriculture agreed to not seek a sequential referral by an exchange of letters with the Committee on Energy and Commerce. On July 29, 2009, the bill was reported to the House, as amended, H. Rept. 111–234. On that same date the bill failed passage by House under suspension of the rules by a recorded vote of 280 yeas to 150 nays (% required). The Rules Committee reported a rule, H. Res. 691 to provide for consideration of the measure and on June 30, 2009, the bill passed the House by recorded vote of 283 yeas to 142 nays. On August 3, 2009 the measure was received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions with no further action taking place. (Note: The companion bill, S. 510 passed the Senate on November 30, 2010 by recorded vote 73 yeas to 25 nays. However, the bill was not received in the House due to a revenue-raising fee issue that could violate the Constitution’s origination clause). For further action see P.L. 111–XXX (H.R. 2751) under “1. Bill Enacted into Law, Other Bills of Interest”.

This Act, known as the “Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009,” establishes a regulatory framework for food other than meat, poultry and egg products, which are regulated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). The measure specifies that food is exempt from the Act to the extent that it is regulated by USDA, and, further, that livestock and poultry intended for slaughter under USDA/FSIS inspection are also exempt from the requirements of the Act.

**Title I—Food Safety:** Defines the scope of the regulated entities, and mandates that all food establishments that fall within the definition of the term “facility” pay annual registration fees to the Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Requires regulated facilities to establish hazard analysis and preventive controls and to conduct monitoring and verification to ensure that those controls are effective. Mandates that the Secretary of HHS establish science-based performance standards that facilities must meet in order to minimize or prevent significant foodborne contaminants, as identified by the Secretary.

Directs the Secretary of HHS, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish regulations for fruits, vegetables, nuts or fungi for which the Secretary of HHS has determined that such regulations are necessary to minimize the risk of serious adverse health consequences or death.
Establishes record-keeping requirements for facilities and farms, and authorizes the Secretary of HHS to have access to such records. Directs the Secretary to establish a trace-back system for food, and requires coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture in issuing regulations to implement such trace-back system.

Authorizes the Secretary of HHS to order any person who distributes an article of food to recall that food if the Secretary determines that the food presents an imminent threat of serious adverse health consequences or death. Authorizes the Secretary to collect fees from entities that are subject to additional inspection as a result of violating a requirement of the Act or that have been subject to a food recall.

Directs the Secretary of HHS to enhance foodborne illness surveillance systems, including by: coordinating with Federal, state and local surveillance systems; developing improved epidemiological tools; improving attribution of foodborne illness outbreaks to specific foods; and expanding the capacity of surveillance systems to better identify infectious agents. Requires the Secretary to develop and implement strategies to improve the foodborne illness surveillance systems of state and local agencies. Further directs the Secretary to coordinate with state, private and public organizations to design and implement a national public education program on food safety. Mandates that the Secretary work with states and other entities to develop regional and national advisories related to food safety.

Authorizes the Secretary of HHS to prohibit or restrict the movement of an article of food within a state or portion of a state if—after determining that there is no less drastic action that is feasible and would be adequate to prevent the imminent threat of serious adverse health consequences or death—the Secretary has credible evidence that: such food is located in or originated from such state or portion of the state; and the article of food presents an imminent threat of serious adverse health consequences or death. Requires that the Secretary take such action only after consulting with the Governor or other appropriate official of the affected state. Further requires that 14 days after initiating such an action, and each 14 days thereafter that the action continues, the Secretary publish in the Federal Register findings supporting the need to continue the action.

Authorizes the Secretary to institute civil penalties against any person who violates a provision of section 301 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act relating to food.

Title II—Miscellaneous: Amends the definition of “misbranding” in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require labels on processed foods to identify the country in which the final processing occurs and on non-processed food to identify the country of origin of the food.

Authorizes the Secretary to collect fees for the issuance of export certificates for food.

Requires that importers of food be registered with the Secretary of HHS; mandates that the Secretary collect annual fees for importer registrations. Directs the Secretary to promulgate regulations establishing good importer practices that specify the measures that importers take to ensure that imported food is in compliance with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.
Prohibits the owner of any farm or food establishment from delaying or limiting inspection or refusing entry to an inspector. Prohibition extends to owners of foreign food establishments that export food to the U.S.

Authorizes the Commissioner of Food and Drug to issue subpoenas for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and production of records related to any hearing or investigation regarding a food-related violation of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, the Public Health Service Act, or the Federal Anti-Tampering Act.

Provides protection to employees who provide information to or assist in an investigation by a Federal agency, Member of Congress, or a supervisor of the employee if the employee reasonably believes there has been a violation of any Federal law related to food safety. The protection prohibits discharging, demoting, suspending, threatening, harassing or otherwise discriminating against such an employee.

Asserts extraterritorial Federal jurisdiction over any violation of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act relating to food intended for import into the U.S.

Directs the Secretary of HHS to notify Congress as to whether scientific data support a determination that there is a reasonable certainty of no harm from the use of food and beverage containers made with bisphenol A. If such a determination cannot be made, further directs the Secretary to notify Congress as to the actions the Secretary will take to protect the public health.

6. Concurrent Resolution Approved

None.

7. Bills Reported to the House But Not Considered

**H.R. H.R. 3818, the Private Fund Investment Advisers Registration Act of 2009**

H.R. 3818 was introduced by Representative Paul Kanjorski on October 19, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Financial Services. On October 26, 2009, the Committee on Financial Services ordered reported the bill, as amended, by a recorded vote of 67 yeas to 1 nay. On December 16, 2010, the Committee on Financial Services reported the bill, as amended, H. Rept. 111–686, Part I. On that same date, the bill was sequentially referred to the Committee on Agriculture for a period ending not later than December 17, 2010. On December 17, 2010, the Committee on Agriculture was discharged and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar with not further action taking place.

The Private Fund Investment Advisers Registration Act of 2009 amends the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to apply registration requirements to a private fund investment adviser.

Subjects to SEC recordkeeping requirements any registered investment adviser who advises private funds. Authorizes the SEC to make such records, especially those relating to systemic risk, available to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and any other entity that has systemic risk responsibility.

Exempts venture capital fund advisers from the registration requirements of this Act. Directs the SEC to require such advisers, however, to maintain records and make annual reports to the SEC.
Modifies SEC rulemaking authority. Instructs the SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) to promulgate rules jointly for the mandatory reports filed by certain registered investment advisers.

*H.R. 4645, Travel Restriction Reform and Export Enhancement Act*

H.R. 4645 was introduced by Chairman Collin Peterson on February 23, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Financial Services. On June 30, 2010, the Agriculture Committee ordered by recorded vote, 25 yeas to 20 nays, that the bill be reported. On September 29, 2010, the Agriculture Committee reported the bill to the House floor H. Rept. 111–653, Pt. 1. No further action on the bill has occurred.

H.R. 4645 prohibits the President from: (1) regulating or prohibiting travel to or from Cuba by U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents or any transactions incident to such travel; and (2) restricting direct transfers from a Cuban financial institution to a U.S. financial institution executed in payment for a product authorized for sale under the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000.

The bill also amends the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 to define ‘payment of cash in advance’ as the payment by the purchaser of an agricultural commodity or product and the receipt of such payment by the seller prior to: (1) the transfer of title of such commodity or product to the purchaser; and (2) the release of control of such commodity or product to the purchaser.

*H.R. 4678, Foreign Manufacturers Legal Accountability Act of 2010*

H.R. 4678 was introduced by Representative Betty Sutton on February 24, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and in addition to the Committees Ways and Means, and Agriculture. On July 21, 2010, the Committee on Ways and Means ordered reported the bill, as amended, by a recorded vote of 31 yeas to 22 nays. On December 16, 2010, the Committee on Ways and Means reported the bill, as amended, H. Rept. 111–683 Part I. the Committee on Ways Means and the Committee on Agriculture were both granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than December 22, 2010. No further action on the bill has occurred.

The Foreign Manufacturers Legal Accountability Act of 2010 directs the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (with respect to drugs, devices, cosmetics, and biological products), the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) (with respect to consumer products), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (with respect to chemical substances, new chemical substances, and pesticides) to require foreign manufacturers and producers of such products (or components used to manufacture them), in excess of a minimum value or quantity, to establish a registered agent in the United States who is authorized to accept service of process on their behalf for the purpose of all civil and regulatory actions in state and federal courts. Requires the registered agent to be located...
in a state with a substantial connection to the importation, distribution, or sale of the products. Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish, maintain, and make available to the public a registry of such agents.

Deems a foreign manufacturer or producer of products covered under this Act that registers an agent to consent to the personal jurisdiction of the state or federal courts of the state in which the agent is located for the purpose of any civil or regulatory proceeding.

Prohibits importation into the United States of a covered product (or component part that will be used in the United States to manufacture a covered product) if the product (or component part) or any part of the product (or component part) was manufactured or produced outside the United States by a manufacturer or producer who does not have a registered agent whose authority is in effect on the date of the importation.

Requires the Secretary of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to jointly study the feasibility and advisability of requiring foreign producers of food distributed in commerce to establish a registered agent in the United States who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of such producers for the purpose of all civil and regulatory actions in state and federal courts.

**H.R. 5105, To establish a Chief Veterinary Officer in the Department of Homeland Security and for other purposes.**

H.R. 5105 was introduced by Representative Mike D. Rogers on April 21, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture. On April 28, 2010, the Committee on Homeland Security referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology. The Subcommittee was discharged from further consideration on June 23, 2010. Also on that date, the Committee on Homeland Security held a mark-up session and ordered that the bill reported with amendments by Unanimous Consent. On June 18, 2010, the Committee on Agriculture refereed the bill to the Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture. On November 30, 2010, the Committee on Homeland Security reported the bill, as amended, H. Rept. 111–668, Part I. The Committee on Agriculture was granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than December 22, 2010.

H.R. 5105 amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) a Chief Veterinary Officer, who shall: (1) head the division of DHS with primary responsibility for veterinary issues, food defense, and agriculture security; and (2) have primary responsibility within DHS for responsibilities relating to veterinary medicine and veterinary public health.

The bill further requires that such Officer: (1) be a veterinarian who possesses a demonstrated ability in and knowledge of veterinary public health and emergency preparedness; (2) be appointed by the DHS Secretary; and (3) report directly to the Chief Medical Officer (or to the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs if the Assistant Secretary is not serving as Chief Medical Officer).
This Act amends Title III of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a Chief Veterinary Officer in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The measure establishes within DHS a Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), who shall be appointed by the Secretary of DHS and shall report to the Chief Medical Officer. The CVO must be a veterinarian with demonstrated ability in veterinary public health and emergency preparedness.

The CVO will head the division of DHS responsible for veterinary issues, food defense, and agriculture security, and will have primary duties within the Department relating to veterinary medicine and veterinary public health, including: advising the Secretary on veterinary public health, food defense, and agricultural security issues; leading the Department's initiatives related to overall domestic preparedness for and collective response to agricultural terrorism; leading the Department's initiatives related to food, animal and agricultural incidents; and serving as the Department's principal point of contact for veterinary homeland security issues for the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Health and Human Services, and other Federal agencies, as well as for state, local, and tribal governments.

_H.R. 5498, WMD Prevention and Preparedness Act of 2010_

H.R. 5498 was introduced by Representative Bill Pascrell on June 20, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, Foreign Affairs, and Intelligence (Permanent Select). On November 18, 2010, Committee on Homeland Security reported the bill, as amended, H. Rept. 111–569, part I. On that same date the Committees on Agriculture, Transportation, Foreign Affairs and Intelligence were discharged. However, the Committee on Energy and Commerce received was granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than December 22, 2010.

This bill, known as the WMD Prevention and Preparedness Act of 2010, seeks to enhance homeland security by improving efforts to prevent, deter, prepare for, detect, attribute, respond to, and recover from an attack with a weapon of mass destruction.

The measure requires the Director of National Intelligence to develop and implement: (1) a National Intelligence Strategy for Countering the Threat from Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD); and (2) a National Intelligence Strategy for Countering Biological Threats.

Amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), a unit for WMD intelligence and information sharing. Directs the DHS Secretary to: (1) produce biennial Bioterrorism Risk Assessments to identify and assess the evolving terrorist risk of a biological attack or other phenomena that may have serious health consequences for the United States; and (2) establish, in consultation with the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services, enhanced biosafety measures for persons or laboratories that possess, use, or transfer Tier I Material Threat Agents (agents and toxins that are deter-
mined by the Secretary to present a material threat to the population).

Directs the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services to provide the DHS Secretary with a list of laboratories and other locations where Tier I Material Threat Agents are present.

Authorizes the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to: (1) award grants based on risk to academic and nonprofit organizations and to state, local, and tribal governments that possess, use, or transfer Tier I Material Threat Agents to enhance security at laboratories; and (2) assist such entities in improving and promoting individual and community preparedness and collective response to WMD and terrorist attacks involving biological, chemical, radiological, and nuclear weapons against the United States.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) establish procedures, with appropriate controls on access, for the sharing of homeland security information with state, local, and tribal government officials; (2) periodically review and recommend updates to criminal laws that relate to the evolving risks of misuse of life sciences by terrorists and others and conduct investigations and enforce criminal violations of customs and export laws; (3) ensure that homeland security information concerning terrorist threats is provided to state, local, and tribal authorities and the public; (4) examine the state of domestic and global biosurveillance and submit to appropriate Congressional Committees a national strategy for biosurveillance; (5) carry out a program in DHS to detect a biological attack or event; and (6) carry out a program for system assessment and validation of emergency response equipment at DHS (SAVER Program).

Establishes in DHS: (1) a National Export Enforcement Coordination Network; (2) an Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks; and (3) a National Bioforensics Analysis Center.

Requires the Secretary to: (1) develop voluntary guidance for responding to a release of chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear material for police, fire, emergency medical services, emergency management, and public health personnel and make such guidance available to state, local, and tribal governments, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, and the public; (2) acquire, use, and disseminate timely integrated plume models (assessments of the location and prediction of the spread of pathogens resulting from an explosion or release of nuclear, radioactive, chemical, or biological substances) to enable rapid response activities following a chemical, biological, nuclear, or radiological release; (3) develop and issue guidance for clean-up and restoration of indoor and outdoor areas that have been affected by the release of a biological agent; and (4) complete within 90 days after the enactment of this Act methods to rapidly screen travelers at ports of entry.

Amends the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to: (1) periodically update a National Medical Countermeasure Dispensing Strategy to enhance preparedness and collective response to an attack with any chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear material; and (2) review the adequacy of domestic vaccination and antimicrobial dispensing policy, guidance, and information provided to the public in light of any
known terrorist risk of a biological attack or other phenomena that may have serious health consequences for the United States.

Directs the Secretary of State to: (1) support efforts in other countries to develop mechanisms and capabilities for reporting to United Nations organizations validated data on biological attacks or other phenomena that may have serious health consequences for the United States; (2) establish and build capacity to effectively implement legislation criminalizing the development or use of biological weapons or acts of bioterrorism; (3) convene and lead an interagency task force on best practices for global biopreparedness; and (4) promote implementation of and compliance with the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention.

8. Bills Ordered Reported But Not Reported

**H.R. 3795, Over-the-Counter Derivatives Market Act of 2009**

H.R. 3795 was introduced by Representative Barney Frank on October 13, 2009 and referred to the Committee on Financial Service and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture. On October 15, 2009, the Committee on Financial Service ordered reported the bill, amended, by a recorded vote of 43 yeas to 26 nays. On October 21, 2009, the Committee on Agriculture ordered reported the bill, amended, by a voice vote. (Note: For further action, see the discussion of P.L. 111–203 (H.R. 4173) under “1. Bills Enacted into Law.”)

The Over-the-Counter Derivatives Markets Act of 2009 amends the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) to place specified derivatives, swaps, securities-based swaps, swap dealers, and swap participants under the jurisdiction of a Prudential Regulator, which may be: (1) the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; (2) the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; and (3) the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

**H.R. 5509, Chesapeake Bay Program Reauthorization and Improvement Act**

H.R. 5509 was introduced by Representative Holden on June 10, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 28, 2010, the bill was ordered reported by the Committee on Agriculture, amended, by a voice vote. No further was taken.

The Chesapeake Bay Program Reauthorization and Improvement Act amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act or CWA) to establish: (1) financial reporting requirements for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed; and (2) the Independent Evaluation and Technical Advisory Committee to review and report on restoration activities in the Bay ecosystem and to provide recommendations to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) on such activities. Authorizes appropriations for FY 2010–FY 2015.

Authorizes a total maximum daily load (TMDL) for nitrogen, phosphorus, or sediment for the Bay and its tributaries to include load expressions for wasteload allocations or load allocations using time frames other than daily for sectors where non-daily allocations are most appropriate to implement applicable water quality stand-
ards. Sets forth provisions governing issuing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for discharges that include waste load allocations that are consistent with TMDL plans.

Authorizes individuals or entities undertaking land development activities to be permitted to meet requirements for managing stormwater by on-site infiltration by paying to offset them through the establishment of equivalent stormwater management practices off-site within the Bay ecosystem.

Establishes an independent Chesapeake Bay Nutrient and Sediment Trading Commission in the Office of the Chesapeake Bay Program to: (1) administer the nitrogen and phosphorus trading program for Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia to ensure that credits are generated to attract market participants and facilitate trading mechanisms among and within such jurisdictions to meet water quality goals; (2) operate a registry for interstate water quality trading; and (3) develop a system to allow for trading to occur between point source and non-point source dischargers in Bay states. Terminates the Commission on September 30, 2015.

Amends the Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary to: (1) establish standards for risk assessment, conservation planning, verification, water quality, and auditing practices that states can incorporate into their Chesapeake Bay management plan under the CWA; (2) provide conservation technical assistance to educate agricultural and private forest landowners in the Bay regarding water quality requirements; (3) publish a list of eligible agricultural and forestry activities that result in environmental service benefits; and (4) establish a pilot program for the Bay watershed for the facilitation of creating environmental service markets.

H.R. 5852, Mandatory Price Reporting Act

H.R. 5852, the Mandatory Price Reporting Act was introduced by Representative Peterson on July 26, 2010 and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. On July 29, 2010 the Committee ordered reported the bill, without amendment, by a voice vote. (Note: For further action, see the discussion of P.L. 111–239 (S. 3656) under "1. Bills Enacted into Law.")

This Act, known as the “Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010,” extends the authority of section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to September 30, 2015; a conforming amendment extends the authority of section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act to September 30, 2015. The measure also amends the Agricultural Marketing Act to provide for mandatory reporting of wholesale pork cuts, and directs the Secretary to conduct a negotiated rulemaking process to develop a proposed rule regarding the reporting of wholesale pork cuts. The measure amends the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require exporters of pork to report information to the Secretary, including the type, quantity and destination of exported pork products.

Additionally, the Act directs the Secretary to establish an electronic reporting system for dairy, and further provides that the Secretary publish the information reported through the electronic reporting system by 3:00 p.m. ET, each Wednesday. The electronic reporting system must be implemented not later than 1 year following enactment of the Act.
D. OVERSIGHT

The Committee on Agriculture and its Subcommittees were active in their oversight functions, holding a number of oversight hearings during the course of the 111th Congress. The hearings related to the application, administration, and effectiveness of laws that lie within the Committee’s jurisdiction as well as the organization and operation of the Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies having responsibility for the administration of such laws. The hearings often resulted in recommendations for improvements in the administration of the laws, regulations and policies in effect in the Executive Branch as they related to the Committee’s jurisdiction. Information gathered at these hearings was useful in preparing legislation for consideration in the House of Representatives.

As part of its hearings, the Committee and its Subcommittees reviewed the way the particular Federal agency or department (usually the Department of Agriculture) administered existing laws related to the subject matter of the legislation before, or to be considered by, the Committee. In some cases, legislation favorably reported to the House carries a termination date (a “sunset”) to ensure that in the future Congress will again review the effectiveness and the methods with which the Executive Branch of Government has carried out the letter and the spirit of that statute.

In keeping with the objective of the Oversight Plan as submitted to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and House Administration, the Committee and its Subcommittees conducted the following chronological oversight hearings during the 111th Congress (Note: To see a copy of the Oversight Plan as submitted, see “I. Summary of Organization, Jurisdiction, and Oversight Plan of the Committee on Agriculture”):

1. Oversight Hearings


The purpose of this hearing was to review the progress in implementing the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). There were conflicting opinions expressed concerning the implementation of a mandatory identification system. Dr. John Clifford, Deputy Administrator for the USDA indicated his support for a mandatory identification system. Other stakeholders, however, expressed dissent with this opinion. Testimony was heard from eight witnesses on three separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to inspect the implementation of the Conservation Title and hear the USDA’s observation on the changing business environment in which programs operate, the working relationships with the USDA Conservation’s partners and the opportunities and challenges faced by implementation of the
2008 Farm Bill. The presence of non-compliance and gaps in enforcement were also discussed. Five witnesses on two panels gave testimony in this hearing.


The purpose of this hearing was to review tobacco production in America which makes up a significant part of the Southern farm economy. The Subcommittee heard testimony from agricultural economists and co-operative presidents on current proposals for increased regulation by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the challenges tobacco farmers are facing given decreasing exports, increasing competition and the current state of the economy. Testimony from five witnesses was heard on a single panel.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the problem of obesity in the United States. The Subcommittee heard testimony from health and obesity experts about the most current statistics on obesity and the many implications of obesity on public health and communities. Many expressed concern about the need to address this issue as one involving the physical health of the country, but also the potential of obesity to impact the economic wellbeing of the country as well. Testimony was heard from five witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review innovative approaches to rural development. Topics discussed include securing sufficient infrastructure investment to connect dispersed populations, provide services to rural citizens, and attracting job opportunities in rural areas. Testimony was heard from educators, community leaders, and researchers on approaches to rural development. Five witnesses were heard on a single panel.

**April 1, 2009: Hearing To Review the State of the Farm Economy.** Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. Hearing Serial No. 111–7.

The purpose of this hearing was to examine both short- and long-term trends in prices, input costs, land value and farm output. Also discussed were the broader macroeconomic factors that influence agricultural and energy markets. The hearing was held a day after the Agriculture Department’s release of the results of its survey of farmers’ planting intentions for 2009 as well as its quarterly grain stocks report. Many conveyed the importance of a strong farm economy to rural American and how, in recent times, farmers and ranchers have been overlooked. It was also noted that we must have a stable and reliable farm economy in order to provide American citizens with the most safe, plentiful and affordable food supply in the world. There were seven witnesses on two panels, including Dr. Joe Glauber, Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The purpose of this hearing was to begin discussion on the Federal food safety systems, a top priority in the Committee’s oversight plan for the 111th Congress. This was the first of three hearings that the Agricultural Committee plans to hold this year to consider food safety issues. Most agreed that while the food safety system in place does a good job most of the time, there are some gaps in the system that need some attention through modernization and improvements. Testimony was given by seven witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review agricultural producers’ views on the effectiveness and operations of the Federal crop insurance program. This was the first of a series of hearings examining the efficiency of crop insurance programs. It was expressed that farmers depend on the program as a critical tool for risk management. There were ten witnesses on two panels representing specific crop organizations and broad-based farm groups. Additionally, actuarial methodology of crop insurance was presented by a research from Iowa State University.


The purpose of this hearing was to discuss the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) food safety system. The Subcommittee heard testimony from USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Administrator, Alfred Almanza and from representatives of meat, poultry and egg product producers and processors. Many expressed the importance of food safety for American families and went on to say that the current system is working well, but some challenges remain and they must ensure that the USDA and FSIS have the resources they need to meet those challenges. Testimony was given by eight witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. Specifically the hearing focused on USDA's handling of civil rights violations and the findings of a GAO report released in October 2008 entitled “Recommendations and options to Address Management Deficiencies in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.” The Subcommittee heard testimony from the Honorable Joe Leonard Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights and the author of the recent GAO report. Testimony was also heard by Lisa Shames, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Division, U.S. Government Accountability Office.

May 5, 2009: Hearing To Review the National Animal Identification System. Subcommittee on Livestock, Diary, and Poultry and

The purpose of this hearing was to examine the identification system’s role in protecting U.S. producers and consumers from the effects of an animal disease outbreak. This was a joint hearing held by the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry and the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology. Both Subcommittees supported the system as a necessary tool to mitigate outbreaks and spread of disease by allowing disease propagation to be effectively tracked through this system. Testimony was given by five witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of the hearing was to review the impact of the indirect land use and renewable biomass provisions. Many expressed concern about the EPA’s proposed rule, indicating that the provisions could potentially harm the biofuels industry. Testimony was heard from eight witnesses on two separate panels, including Dr. Joe Glauber, Chief Economist for the USDA.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the current strategies and standards used by the horticulture and organic sectors to prevent, monitor and control potential food safety hazards. The Subcommittee heard testimony from panel I comprised of Dr. David Acheson who is Associate Commissioner for Foods at the Food and Drug Administration and David Shipman who is Acting Administrator for the Agricultural Marketing Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Panel II testimony was heard from seven other witnesses.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the proposals to implement low carbon fuel standards and efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on state and Federal levels. Many expressed concern on the renewable fuel provisions and went on to state the need for flexible, practical energy policies. Testimony was heard from four witnesses on a single panel.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the future of U.S. forestry policy in the United States. The Subcommittee heard testimony from Panel I which consisted of the Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at U.S. Department of Agriculture. Panel II testimony was heard from six other witnesses.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the implications of CFTC v. Zelener, a 2004 Federal circuit court decision that impacted the Commodity Futures Trading Commission’s ability to
protect consumers engaging in contracts in the foreign currency exchange (forex) market. Many stressed the importance of making sure fraudulent activity is not taking place in the market place. The Subcommittee heard testimony from three witnesses about the changes the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 made to clarify the CFTC’s authority to police the forex markets and the implications Zelener decision may still have for consumers.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s rural development programs and the status of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for these programs. The Subcommittee heard testimony from Under Secretary for Rural Development Dallas Tonsager, who spoke about USDA’s rural development programs as well as American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds targeted for those programs. Testimony was given by seven witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was the review the credit conditions in rural America. The Subcommittee heard testimony from two panels of witnesses, including officials from the Farm Service Agency, the Farm Credit Administration, and Farmer Mac, which all play a role in providing credit assistance to farmers and ranchers. Many expressed concern for the challenges agricultural credit is facing in the current economic crisis. The Subcommittee heard from two panels which consisted of seven witnesses included rural lenders and economic forecasters.


The purpose of this hearing was to review implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA). Many expressed the importance of examining how the farm bill is being implemented and the effectiveness of various farm programs. The Subcommittee heard testimony from a panel consisting of five witnesses. The witnesses represented major farm and commodity producer groups.


The purpose of this hearing was to review implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA). This was the second hearing to discuss farm bill programs. The Subcommittee heard testimony from USDA Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS) Under Secretary James Miller.

The purpose of this hearing was to review Federal efforts to expand broadband access in rural areas. The Subcommittee heard testimony from two panels which included officials representing the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Department of Commerce, as well as from telecommunications companies and organizations. Many expressed the vital need of high speed broadband Internet in rural areas. The Subcommittee heard from two panels which consisted of seven witnesses.


The purpose of this hearing was to examine the regulation of over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives. Secretary of the Treasury Timothy F. Geithner appeared before the two Committees to discuss the OTC derivative regulatory proposal the Administration released last month. Many expressed the need of the two Committees working together with the Administration in order to move forward in bringing order to the OTC markets. The two Committees heard testimony from one panel consisting of one witness.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the economic conditions facing the dairy industry. It was noted that this would be the first hearing in a series of hearing over the next few weeks all focused on discussing the economic situation facing the dairy industry. The monthly all-milk price has been steadily declining since the summer of 2007 and USDA project the price to decline later this year to its lowest annual average since 1979. The Subcommittee heard testimony from three panels that consisted of a total of seven witnesses.


The purpose of this hearing was to review current issues in food safety. This was the fourth hearing on food safety held by House Agriculture Committee and its Subcommittee this year. Witnesses included farmers, ranchers, consumer group representatives, and government officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The hearing consisted of eleven witnesses on two panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review forest resource management issues in the region. Wisconsin's forested land is 16 million acres, and the Chequamegon-Nicolet National forest covers more than 1.5 million acres or almost 10% of Wisconsin's forest land. Forest management issues and the health of the paper and timber industry are important issues in Wisconsin. The Subcommittee heard testimony from two panels that consisted of six witnesses.

The purpose of this hearing was to review the economic conditions facing the dairy industry. It was the second of three scheduled hearings in the month of July to review the problems facing the dairy industry. Many stressed the importance of Congress working with local dairy farmers to find long term solutions for the dairy industry. The Subcommittee heard from one panel that consisted of six witnesses which included dairy farmers from Georgia, Wisconsin and Texas.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the economic conditions facing the dairy industry. It was the third hearing in a series of three scheduled during the month of July to review the economic conditions in the dairy industry. The Subcommittee heard testimony from one panel of seven witnesses including dairy farmers and presidents from various unions, councils, federations, and companies.


The purpose of this hearing was to review two watershed proposals that require approval from Congress before they can move forward. All P.L. 566 watershed proposals that cost more than $5 million must be approved by Congress. It was noted that the P.L. 566 watershed program is oversubscribed and underfunded, but the testimony demonstrated the need for these projects to be authorized, and the common good that may result upon their completion. The Subcommittee heard testimony from the Honorable Bill Delahunt representing the 10th District of Massachusetts and from Mr. Dave White, Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.


The purpose of this hearing was to examine new and innovative ways to improve nutrition and wellness programs. Two-thirds of American adults are overweight or obese and poor nutrition has led to negative impacts on quality of life. Many expressed that by studying innovative approaches that are working in communities across America, we can learn how to better combat this problem and lower the burden of health care costs we all share. The Subcommittee heard testimony from medical and health care professionals and from academic and nonprofit representatives regarding new and successful approaches to decrease obesity, improve health and prevent illness.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the Treasury Department’s legislative proposal regulating the over-the-counter (OTC) market for derivatives. Witnesses representing exchanges, clearing-
houses, and end-users testified at today’s hearing about legislative language released by the Treasury Department. Many stressed the need to find ways to provide greater transparency to the over-the-counter derivatives market. The Committee heard from two panels consisting of six witnesses. This was the first of two scheduled hearings on the matter.


The purpose of this hearing was to continue the review of the Treasury’s Departments legislative proposals regulating the over-the-counter (OTC) market for derivatives. Chairman Gary Gensler of the CFTC and Chairman Mary Schapiro of the SEC testified before the Committee about the Administration’s proposal to regulate OTC products and the role of the two agencies in financial market reform legislation. Many expressed the desire to enact strong legislation that can bring order to the unregulated (OTC) derivatives markets while preserving the ability of end-users to effectively hedge their price. This was the second of two hearings.


The purpose of this hearing was to review implementation of the research title of the 2008 Farm Bill. Many stressed that changes made in the 2008 Farm Bill will enhance cooperation and maximize efficiency throughout USDA’s research agencies. Agricultural research is in high demand, and is an important investment in the future of our food, fiber, and fuel system. The Subcommittee heard from three witnesses from the agricultural industry including Dr. Rajiv Shah, Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics at the USDA.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the implantation of the conservation title of the 2008 Farm Bill. The 2008 Farm Bill strengthened the conservation programs by allocating an additional $4 billion for the programs and by including several important reforms and improvements. The Subcommittee heard from two witnesses who are officials with the USDA that are charged with implementing these programs.


The purpose of this hearing was to examine how the U.S. Department of Agriculture is working with partners to expand entrepreneurship and business development in rural America. The Subcommittee heard testimony from the Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Business and Cooperative Pro-
grams and from Community Development and other organizations focused on rural development.


The purpose of this hearing was to discuss the economic crisis that U.S. pork producers are experiencing. Since September 2007, the U.S. Pork Industry has lost an estimated $4.6 billion, or about $21 for each hog sold. Rising feed costs, energy costs, the global economic downturn, trade barriers, and misperceptions about the recent outbreak of H1N1 have impacted the pork producers. The Subcommittee heard from Mr. Michael Scuse, Deputy Under Secretary, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture and other witnesses.


The purpose of this hearing was to examine the implementation of farm bill provisions regarding specialty crops, organic agriculture, and plant pest and disease management. This is the first farm bill to contain a separate title for issues related to specialty crops and organic agriculture. The bill dedicated almost $3 billion in funding over 5 years to areas, including nutrition, farmers markets, plant, pest and disease management, trade, and conservation. Testimony was heard from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.


The purpose of this hearing was to review opportunities and challenges facing the development of next generation biofuels. Officials with the Department of Agriculture provided testimony about USDA research and financing activities for next generation biofuels. Witnesses representing companies and organizations focused on developing advanced biofuels also testified, updating the Subcommittee about the current and future direction of the industry.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the Financial Stability Improvement Act discussion draft because of provisions that fall under the Agriculture Committee’s jurisdiction. The language creates a Financial Services Oversight Council made up of several agencies including the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, which would be given powers to identify certain financial players and activities that could pose a systemic risk to the economy. The Federal Reserve would be given broad powers in the draft, with the ability to impose standards despite the objection or expertise of Council member agencies. In addition, the draft contained loan retention provisions affecting the Farm Credit Administration, which oversees a nationwide network of borrower-owned lenders that provide credit and related services to farm country. Testimony was heard from the Chairman of the Commodity Future Trading Com-
mission, Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Credit Administration.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the progress made by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Department of Commerce to award grants to expand broadband access in rural areas. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided the USDA's Rural Service and the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration with $7.2 Billion to expand access to broadband services. Currently, RUS and NTIA are reviewing applications for these funds. Testimony was heard from the Administrator for Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**December 2, 2009:** Hearing To Review the Potential Economic Impacts of Climate Change on the Farm Sector. Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research. Hearing Serial No. 111–38.

The purpose of this hearing was to review economic analyses that consider the potential economic impacts of climate change on the farm sector. The Committee heard from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Chief Economist and witnesses representing academic institutions and research organization provided testimony about the results of analyses of the potential economic impacts on agricultural associated with climate change and climate changes legislation.


The purpose of this hearing was to continue review on climate change issues by examining the costs and benefits of agriculture offset proposals. The Committee heard from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Chief Economist, the Congressional Budget Office's Assistant Director for Microeconomic studies, and five professors with significant experience in agricultural and environmental economics testified about offset proposals in general and within the context of climate change legislation.

**December 9, 2009:** Hearing To Review the Regulatory and Legislative Strategies in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research. Hearing Serial No. 111–40.

The purpose of this hearing was to review the regulatory and legislative proposals to improve the condition of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The Subcommittee heard from officials representing the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, as well as from agricultural groups working to improve the watershed.

The purpose of this hearing was to review Federal nutrition programs. Members and witnesses at the hearing discussed participation rates in Federal nutrition programs as well as their role in combating obesity and disease. The hearing included testimony from California state administrators, doctors, academics, and public health representatives.

**March 3, 2010:** Hearing To Review Implementation of Changes to the Commodity Exchange Act Contained in the 2008 Farm Bill. Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk. Hearing Serial No. 111–42.

The purpose of this hearing was to review the implementations of changes to the Commodity Exchange Act contained in the 2008 Farm Bill. The Subcommittee heard from the Commissioner of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission Gary Gensler.

**March 10, 2010:** Hearing To Review USDA’s Information Technology Systems. Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition, and Forestry. Hearing Serial No. 111–43.

The purpose of this hearing was to review the status of information technology systems at the United States Department of Agriculture. Technology continues to advance at a dizzying rate. To serve farmers and agricultural producers more efficiently, USDA must integrate technological advancements into its existing infrastructure. The Committee heard testimony from the USDA’s Chief Information Officer and from the USDA Farm Service Agency’s Administrator.

**March 10, 2010:** Hearing to Review U.S. Agricultural sales to Cuba. Full Committee. Hearing Serial No. 111–44.

The purpose of this hearing was to review U.S. Agricultural sales to Cuba. Cuba relies on imports for most of its food needs. Currently the U.S. has policies that hold agriculturalists from selling their products in Cuba. Cuba is currently importing most of its food from Brazil due to the policy restrictions on the U.S. The Committee heard testimony from several individuals including Bob Stallman, President of American Farm Bureau and Roger Johnson, President of National Farmers Union.


The purpose of this hearing was to review efforts to improve rural water infrastructure. Currently the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Utility Service administers many programs that provide loans, grants, loan guarantees and technical assistance for drinking water, and sanitary sewers in rural communities with populations under 10,000 people. There are 16 agencies involved in administering more than 88 programs that target rural development. The Subcommittee heard testimony from witnesses on two panels on how RUS is meeting the demands for clean water and how they are assisting communities.


The purpose of this hearing was to review access to healthy foods for beneficiaries of Federal nutrition programs as well as to explore...
innovative methods to improve availability. Better access to affordable, healthy, and fresh foods is absolutely critical to addressing the obesity epidemic in many of underserved communities. The Committee heard from two panels consisting of seven witnesses. Witnesses included Rocco DiSpirito, bestselling cookbook author and chef, and Ellie Krieger, Food Network chef and nutritionist.


The purpose of this hearing was to review dairy policy challenges and opportunities in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Committee heard testimony from the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, a professor of agriculture economics, and a panel of witnesses representing dairy farmers and processors in Pennsylvania.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill, a major piece of legislation that authorizes government farm support, conservation, energy, trade, marketing, food assistance, and rural development programs over several years. Many of the provisions of the current farm bill, the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 will expire in September 2012. Testimony was heard from Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, USDA.

**April 22, 2010: Hearing To Review Proposals To Establish Exchanges Trading “Movie Futures”.** Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. Hearing Serial No. 111–49.

The purpose of this hearing was to review two proposals received by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to create exchanges that would trade derivatives based on box office receipts. Mitigating financial risk is a primary reason for futures exchanges. Senate Agriculture Committee recently passed legislation that would prohibit an exchange on movie box office derivatives. The Committee heard testimony from six witnesses on two different panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill, a major piece of legislation that authorizes government farm support, conservation, energy, trade, marketing, food assistance, and rural development programs over several years. This is the first in a series of hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Des Moines, Iowa. Seven Members of Congress were in attendance. Testimony was heard from nine witnesses on two different panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill, a major piece of legislation that authorizes government farm support, conservation, energy, trade, marketing, food assistance, and rural development programs over several years. This is the second in a series of hearings sched-
uled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Nampa, Idaho. Six Members of Congress attended and heard testimony from ten witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. This is the third in a series of hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Fresno, California. Seven Members of Congress attended the hearing and heard testimony from eleven witnesses.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill, a major piece of legislation that authorizes government farm support, conservation, energy, trade, marketing, food assistance, and rural development programs over several years. This is the fourth in a series of hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Eight Members of Congress attended the hearing and heard testimony from eight witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to continue to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill with economists and academics who study the issues and trends facing agriculture and rural America. Testimony was heard from eight witnesses on two panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to continue to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. This is the fifth in a series of hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Morrow, Georgia. Nine Members of Congress attended and heard testimony from eleven witnesses.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. This is the sixth in a series of hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Troy, Alabama. Six Members of Congress attended and heard testimony from nine witnesses on two separate panels.

The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. This is the seventh in a series of hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Lubbock, Texas. Eight Members of Congress attended and heard testimony from thirteen witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. agriculture policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. This is the eighth in a series of hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Twelve Members of Congress attended the hearing and heard testimony from eleven witnesses on a variety of farm policy issues.


The purpose of this hearing was to review renewable energy and energy efficiency policies authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill as the Committee begins to prepare for the next farm bill. The 2008 Farm Bill provided $1 billion to fund programs that promote growth in the renewable energy industry and help rural small businesses invest in energy efficiency projects. Testimony was heard from Cheryl Cook, Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development within the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**June 17, 2010:** Hearing To Review U.S. Farm Safety Net Programs in Advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. Hearing Serial No. 111–52.

The purpose of this hearing was to review U.S. farm safety net programs in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. The Subcommittee heard from U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Jim Miller.

**June 23, 2010:** Hearing To Review the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition, and Forestry. Hearing Serial No. 111–53.

The purpose of this hearing was to review the Federal Food Distribution Program for Indian Reservations. This program provides food to low-income households, including the elderly, on Indian reservations, and to Native American families residing in designated areas near reservations. FDPIR is administered at the Federal level by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) and administered locally by either Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) or state government agencies. Currently, there are approximately 271 tribes receiving benefits under FDPIR through 99 ITOs and five state agencies. Testimony was heard from the Honorable Kevin Concannon, Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, USDA, as well as the Honorable Andy Joseph, Jr., Chairman of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Ms. Norma Merriman, Group Leader of the Cherokee Nation Human Services in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

This hearing was the second held by the Subcommittee to review the existing commodity programs and look ahead to the next farm bill. Testimony was heard from commodity groups and producers on two separate panels.


This was the ninth in a series of field hearings scheduled across the country to consider new ideas regarding Federal food and farm policy. The hearing was held in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Four Members of Congress attended the hearing and heard testimony from eight witnesses on a variety of farm policy issues.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the technical assistance capacity of USDA Conservation Programs. This hearing provided an opportunity to hear from those on the front lines of this effort to make certain that the delivery mechanisms are in place to give land owners access to the expertise they need to make proper land management decisions and implement conservation practices. Testimony was heard from Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Chief Dave White and Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Jonathan Coppess.


The purpose of this hearing was to review the U.S. Department of Agriculture's rural development programs in preparation for the 2012 Farm Bill. This hearing provided a good overview of the strengths and the weaknesses of our rural development programs given their current resources. The Subcommittee heard testimony from Dallas P. Tonsager, Under Secretary for Rural Development at USDA and from rural economic development stakeholders utilizing rural development programs across America.


The purpose of this hearing was to review livestock and related programs at USDA in preparation for the 2012 Farm Bill. Many expressed that this hearing was an extremely productive one, and allowed the Subcommittee to explore in depth a wide array of issues with the Department. It also brought to light several issues that will have to be investigated more thoroughly in the future. The Subcommittee heard testimony from USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Edward M. Avalos.

The purpose of this hearing was to review specialty crop and organic agriculture programs in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. According to USDA's Economic Research Service, specialty crops account for approximately 50 percent of all U.S. cash receipts of farm crops. The Subcommittee heard from producers from operations of various sizes that grow a diversity of products, and they provided insight on U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Bill program implementation at the ground level.

**July 22, 2010:** *Hearing To Review the State of the Crop Insurance Industry.* Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. Hearing Serial No. 111–58.

The purpose of this hearing was to review current issues facing the U.S. crop insurance industry. The U.S. Department of Agriculture and crop insurance companies recently finished the process of renegotiating the Standard Reinsurance Agreement (SRA), which governs the relationship between the Federal Government and private companies that deliver crop insurance products to farmers. The SRA outlines risk sharing and reimbursements that the Federal Government provides to crop insurance companies in order to ensure that farmers and ranchers have access to adequate risk management tools. The Subcommittee heard testimony from Mr. Bill Murphy, the Administrator of USDA's Risk Management Agency as well as various crop insurance agencies.


The purpose of this hearing was to discuss the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Subcommittee heard testimony from government officials as well as advocacy and industry groups about efforts to reduce the error rate in the SNAP program and to combat fraud and abuse in the system. The 2008 Farm Bill made substantial improvements to the SNAP program by increasing program benefits and clarifying eligibility standards. The farm bill also increased the penalty the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) can levy on fraudulent retailers. The Subcommittee heard from seven witnesses on two separate panels.


The purpose of this hearing was to review implementation of the position limits within the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. The law sets a January 17, 2011 deadline for the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) to announce the proposed rule for position limits. Two panels of witnesses testified before the Subcommittee that included Chairman Gensler and Commissioner Chilton of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

2. Legislative Hearings

**February 3, 2009:** *Hearing To Review Derivatives Legislation.* Full Committee. Hearing Serial No. 111–1

The purpose of this hearing was to review legislation addressing the derivatives markets. This was the first in a series of hearings
to review this topic. The Committee heard from multiple stakeholder groups regarding the Derivatives Markets Transparency and Accountability Act of 2009: a bill designed to bring increased transparency to futures markets and to organize the over-the-counter market for swaps and other credit derivatives. Testimony was heard from eight witnesses on two separate panels. (Note: See the discussion of H.R. 4173 under “1. Bills Enacted Into Law” and also the discussion of H.R. 977 and H.R. 3795 under “2. Bills Acted on by the Committee Included in Other Laws Enacted.”)


The purpose of this hearing was to review legislation addressing the transparency and oversight of derivative markets. Specifically discussed was the Derivatives Markets Transparency and Accountability Act of 2009, which is designed to bring transparency and order to futures markets and other credit derivatives. It represents a broadened version of a bipartisan bill passed by the House in September 2008 with more than 280 votes (H.R. 6604). Testimony was heard from fifteen witnesses on three separate panels. (Note: See the discussion of H.R. 4173 under “1. Bills Enacted Into Law” and also the discussion of H.R. 977 and H.R. 3795 under “2. Bills Acted on by the Committee Included in Other Laws Enacted.”)


The purpose of this hearing was to review pending climate change legislation under consideration by Congress. Many Members of the Committee had serious concerns about how climate change legislation would affect people living in their districts. The Agriculture Committee heard testimony from Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and from representatives of conservation, energy, and agriculture-related organizations. The Committee heard from three panels which consisted of nine witnesses. (Note: See also the discussion of H.R. 2454 under “5. Bills Acted On By the House But Not the Senate.”)


The purpose of this hearing was to review the Rural Energy Savings Program Act, which would encourage energy efficiency projects in rural communities. The bill which was introduced by Representative James Clyburn would allow the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Utilities Service to make interest-free loans to certain organizations that would then make loans available to qualified consumers who want to implement energy efficiency measures. Testimony was heard from nine witnesses on three separate panels that included Members of Congress. (Note: See also the discussion of H.R. 4785 under “5. Bills Acted On By the House But Not the Senate.”)

E. PRINTED HEARINGS


111–7 HEARING TO REVIEW THE STATE OF THE FARM ECONOMY. Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. April 1, 2009.

111–8 HEARING TO REVIEW CURRENT FOOD SAFETY SYSTEMS. Full Committee. April 2, 2009.


111–46 Hearing To Review Access to Healthy Foods for Beneficiaries of Federal Nutrition Programs and Explore Innovative Methods To Improve Availability. Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition, and Forestry. April 14, 2010


Pt. 1

111–48, Hearing To Review U.S. Agriculture Policy in Advance of the 2012 Farm Bill. Full Committee. April 30, 2010 (Des Moines, IA), May 1, 2010 (Nampa, ID), May 3, 2010 (Fresno, CA), May 4, 2010 (Cheyenne, WY), May 14, 2010 (Morrow, GA), May 15, 2010 (Troy, AL), May 17, 2010 (Lubbock, TX), May 18, 2010 (Sioux Falls, SD), June 28, 2010 (Fayetteville, NC).


F. MEETINGS NOT PRINTED

January 28, 2009—Full Committee. Open business meeting—Organizational meeting for the 11th Congress. Approval by voice vote of the Committee rules.


March 12, 2009—Full Committee. Open business meeting. Approval by voice vote of the Budget Views and Estimates Letters for FY 2010, offering budget recommendations of the Committee on Agriculture for the agencies and programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture.

July 29, 2009—Full Committee. Open business meeting. Approval by voice vote of H.R. 511; H.R. 940; H.R. 1002; and H.R. 3175.


March 3, 2010—Full Committee. Open business meeting. Approval by voice vote of H.R. 3509; H.R. 3954; and the Budget Views
and Estimates Letters for FY 2011, offering budget recommendations of the Committee on Agriculture for the agencies and programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture.

June 30, 2010—Full Committee. Open business meeting. Approval by recorded vote of H.R. 4645 (25 yeas, 20 nays, 1 not voting); and approval by voice vote of H.R. 2476; H.R. 4658; and H.R. 5414.


July 28, 2010—Full Committee. Open business meeting. Approval by voice vote of H.R. 5509; H.R. 3519; and H.R. 5852.

G. COMMITTEE PRINTS

Compilation of Responses to Climate Change Questionnaire, May 2009. Part I and II.
Compilation of Responses to Farm Bill Feedback Questionnaire, September 2010.

H. WATERSHEDS

On May 19, 2009, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in concurrence the Office of Management and Budget, submitted to the Committee the plan for a water resources restoration project in the Cape Code Watershed, Barnstable County, Massachusetts and the plan for a voluntary floodplain buyout in the Dunloup Creek Watershed, Fayette and Raleigh Counties, West Virginia.

On July 30, 2009, Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research held a hearing to review the P.L. 83–566 Watershed Proposals for the Dunloup Creek Watershed and the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Projects.

On October 21, 2009 the full Committee met in an open business meeting and approved both projects by a voice vote. A letter was sent to the Secretary of Agriculture on that same date notifying the Department of the Committee’s action. (Note: For further discussion see “D. Oversight 1. Oversight Hearings.” July 30, 2009: Review the P.L. 83–566 Watershed Proposals for the Dunloup Creek Watershed and the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Projects.

III. APPENDIX

A. EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS


E.C. 47—Jan. 13, 2009: Letter from Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s “Major” final rule—


E.C. 77—Jan. 14, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Farm Program Payment Limitation and Payment Eligibility for 2009 and Subsequent Crop, Program, or Fiscal Years (RIN: 0560–AH85) Received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 177—Jan. 21, 2009: Letter from Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a document entitled, “Gasoline Savings From Ethanol Use by State”.


E.C. 293—Jan. 28, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Farm Loan Programs (RIN: 0560–AH82) Received January 21, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 551—Feb. 11, 2009: Letter from Under Secretary Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Agriculture, transmit-
ting reports on the Mendocino National Forest Fire Management Plan and the Cultural and Historic Resources, pursuant to P.L. 109–362, § 7(b).


E.C. 613—Feb. 23, 2009: Letter from Director, Program Dev. And Regulatory Analysis, Rural Development Utilities Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Amending the Household Water Well System Grant Program Regulations (RIN: 0572–AC12) Received February 12, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 614—Feb. 23, 2009: Letter from Director, Legislative Affairs Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Technical Service Provider Assistance (RIN: 0578–AA48) Received February 9, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 642—Feb. 24, 2009: Letter from Director, Legislative Affairs Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Regional Equity (RIN: 0578–AA44) Received February 9, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 686—Feb. 26, 2009: Letter from Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Grapes Grown in a Designated Area of Southeastern California and Imported Table Grapes; Change in Regulatory Periods [Doc. No.: AMS–FV–06–0184; FV03–925–1IFR] Received February 17, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 861—Mar. 16, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s “Major” final rule—Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program and Average Crop Revenue Election Program (RIN: 0560–AH84) Received March 9, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 897—Mar. 17, 2009: Letter from Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Irish Po-


E.C. 899—Mar. 17, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Farm Program Payment Limitation and Payment Eligibility for 2009 and Subsequent Crop, Program, or Fiscal Years (RIN: 0560–AH85) Received March 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 911—Mar. 18, 2009: Letter from Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s 2009 compensation program adjustments, including the Agency’s current salary range structure and the performance-based merit pay matrix, in accordance with section 1206 of the Financial Institutions, Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989.


E.C. 1030—Mar. 24, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting
the Agency’s final rule—2-Propenoic acid, polymer with a-[4-(ethenyoxy) butyl]-w-hydroxypoly (oxy-1,2-ethanediyl) and 2,5-furandione, sodium salt; Tolerance Exemption [EPA–HQ–OPP–2008–0619; FRL–8396–8] Received March 10, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 1231—Apr. 21, 2009: Letter from Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule—Organization; Eligibility and Scope of Financing; Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; Definitions; and Disclosure to Shareholders; Director Elections (RIN: 3052–AC43) Received April 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 1422—Apr. 28, 2009: Letter from Director, Policy Issuances Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Requirements for the Disposition of Cattle that Become Non-Ambulatory Disabled Following Ante-Mortem Inspection—Received March 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 1424—Apr. 28, 2009: Letter from Acting Administrator Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the


E.C. 1594—May 5, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s “Major” final rule—Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments (RIN: 0560–AH87) Received April 24, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 1595—May 5, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s “Major” final rule—Sugar Program (RIN: 0560–AH86) Received April 24, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 1599—May 5, 2009: Letter from Director, Policy Issuances Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Muscle Cuts of Beef (including Veal), Lamb, Chicken, Goat, and Pork; Ground Beef, Ground Lamb, Ground Chicken, Ground Goat, and Ground Pork—Received April 14, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 1626—May 6, 2009: Letter from Acting Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Regulations Under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities

E.C. 1627—May 6, 2009: Letter from Acting Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Partial Exemption to the Minimum Grade Requirements [Doc. No.: AMS FV–08–0090; FV09–966–1 FIR] Received April 24, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 2037—Jun. 8, 2009: Letter from Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Salable Quantities and Allotment Percentages for the 2009–2010 Marketing Year [Doc. No.: AMS–FV–08–0104;


E.C. 2551—Jul. 9, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting


E.C. 2632—Jul. 14, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—d-Phenothrin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA–


E.C. 2767—Jul. 22, 2009: Letter from Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule—Definitions; Disclosure to Shareholders; Accounting and Reporting Requirements; Disclosure and Accounting Requirements (RIN: 3052–AC35) Received July 1, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 2826—Jul. 27, 2009: Letter from Acting Administrator, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the


E.C. 3011—Jul. 31, 2009: Letter from Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s “Major” final rule—Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (RIN: 0660–ZA28) Received July 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 3194—Sep. 8, 2009: Letter from Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to collect certain fees under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as indicated in the President’s Fiscal Year 2010 Budget.


E.C. 3246—Sep. 10, 2009: Letter from Acting Farm Bill Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s “Major” final rule—Environmental Quality Incentives Program (RIN: 0578–AA45) Received August 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 3384—Sep. 16, 2009: Letter from Acting Farm Bill Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Wetlands Reserve Program (RIN: 0578–AA47) Received August 5, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 3452—Sep. 16, 2009: Letter from Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the 2008 annual report on the operation of the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative and the Tropical Forest Conservation Act.


E.C. 3806—Sep. 25, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Thiram; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA–HQ–
E.C. 3807—Sep. 25, 2009: Letter from Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule—Farm Credit Administration Board Meetings; Sunshine Act (RIN: 3052–AC58) received September 16, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 3846—Sep. 29, 2009: Letter from Acting Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Cotton Board Rules and Regulations: Adjusting Supplemental Assessment on Imports (2009 Amendments) [Doc. No.:


E.C. 3877—Oct. 1, 2009: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final “Major” rule—Farm Storage Facility Loan and Sugar Storage Facility Loan Programs (RIN: 0560–AH60) Received September 24, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 4064—Oct. 9, 2009: Letter from Administrator: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-Formula Federal Assistance Programs—


E.C. 4237—Oct. 23, 2009: Letter from Administrator, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement; Group Risk Plan of Insurance Regulations; and the Common Crop


E.C. 4651—Nov. 16, 2009: Letter from Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—


E.C. 4777—Dec. 2, 2009: Letter from Regulatory Analyst, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Scales; Accurate Weights, Repairs, Adjustments or Replace-


E.C. 4948—Dec. 9, 2009: Letter from Acting Farm Bill Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (RIN: 0578–AA49) received November 18, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 4949—Dec. 9, 2009: Letter from Acting Farm Bill Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (RIN: 0578–AA46) received November 18, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 5210—Jan. 12, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Fenpyroximate; Pesticide Tolerances


E.C. 5877—Feb. 2, 2010: Letter from Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule—Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation Funding and Fiscal Affairs; Risk-Based Capital Requirements (RIN: 3052–AC51) Received January 7, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 6275—Feb. 26, 2010: Letter from Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Importation of Cooked Pork Skins [Docket


E.C. 6479—Mar. 10, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting


E.C. 6513—Mar. 11, 2010: Letter from Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s 2010 compensation program adjustments, including the Agency’s current salary range structure and the performance-based merit pay matrix, in accordance with section 1206 of the Financial Institutions, Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989.

E.C. 6514—Mar. 12, 2010: Letter from Regulatory Analyst, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Registration, Five Year Terms (RIN: 0580–AB03) received February 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 6517—Mar. 12, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting


E.C. 6677—Mar. 19, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Ex-

E.C. 6744—Mar. 23, 2010: Letter from Acting Director, NRCS Legislative Affairs Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Healthy Forests Reserve Program (RIN: 0578–AA53) received March 8, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 6745—Mar. 23, 2010: Letter from Acting Director, NRCS Legislative Affairs Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Agricultural Management Assistance Program (RIN: 0578–AA50) received March 8, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 6746—Mar. 23, 2010: Letter from Acting Director, NRCS Legislative Affairs Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Technical Service Provider Assistance (RIN: 0578–AA48) received March 5, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 6810—Apr. 13, 2010: Letter from Acting Director, NRCS Legislative Affairs Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Compliance with NEPA (RIN: 0578–AA55) received March 8, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 6811—Apr. 13, 2010: Letter from Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Depart-


E.C. 6814—Apr. 13, 2010: Letter from Department Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Paracoccus Pigment; Confirmation of Effective Date (Docket No.: FDA–2007–C–0456) (formerly Docket No. 2007C–0245), pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 6992—Apr. 13, 2010: Letter from Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting proposal to implement the settlement of a case involving claims of alleged discrimination.


E.C. 6996—Apr. 14, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Cloquintocet-mexyl; Pesticide Tolerances


E.C. 7170—Apr. 26, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting


E.C. 7255—Apr. 29, 2010: Letter from Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Adjustment of Appendices to the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing Regulation for the 2008 Tariff-Rate Quota Year received April 8, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 7256—Apr. 29, 2010: Letter from Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s report entitled, “2009 Packers and Stockyards Program Annual Report”, pursuant to the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, as amended.


E.C. 7405—May 11, 2010: Letter from Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule—Organization; Eligibility and Scope of Financing; Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; Definitions; and Disclosure to Shareholders; Director Elections (RIN: 3052–AC43) received April 20, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 7439—May 12, 2010: Letter from Acting Under Secretary Research, Education, and Economics, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) (RIN: 0524–AA43) received April 21, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 7528—May 19, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program and Average Crop Revenue Election Program, Disaster Assistance Programs, Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments Program, Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program, and Payment Limitation and Payment Eligibility; Clarifying Amendments (RIN: 0560–AH84) received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 7726—Jun. 8, 2010: Letter from Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Cotton Research and Promotion Program: Designation of Cotton-Producing


E.C. 8102—Jun. 25, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Pesticide Management and Disposal; Standards for Pesticide Containers and Containment; Change to


E.C. 8528—Jul. 26, 2010: Letter from Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule—Farm Credit Administration Board Meetings; Assessment and Apportionment of Administrative Expenses; Standards of Conduct and Referral of Known or Suspected Criminal Violations; Loan Policies and Operations; Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; General Provisions; and Title IV Conservators, Receivers, and Voluntary Liquidations; Technical Changes (RIN: 3052–AC63) received July 1, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 8733—Sep. 14, 2010: Letter from Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—


E.C. 8743—Sep. 14, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s ﬁnal rule—Wheat and Oilseed Programs; Durum Wheat


E.C. 8751—Sep. 14, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—N-alkyl (C8-C18) Primary Amines and Acetate Salts; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA–


E.C. 8762—Sep. 14, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Alkyl Alcohol Alkoxylate Phosphate Derivatives; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA–


E.C. 9673—Sep. 28, 2010: Letter from Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-formula Federal Assistance Programs—General Award Administrative Provisions (RIN: 0524–AA58) received September 15, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 9791—Nov. 15, 2010: Letter from Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Conservation Loan Program (RIN: 0560–AI04) received October 1, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).

E.C. 9792—Nov. 15, 2010: Letter from Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Tuberculosis in Cattle and Bison; State and Zone Designations; Minnesota [Docket No.: APHIS–2010–0097] received October 6, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A).


E.C. 10584—Dec. 1, 2010: Letter from Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the 2009 annual report on the operation of the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative and the Tropical Forest Conservation Act.


E.C. 10794—Dec. 13, 2010: Letter from Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule—Standards of Conduct and Referral of Known or Suspected Criminal Violations; Disclosure to Shareholders; and Disclosure to Investors in System-wide and Consolidated Bank Debt Obligations of the Farm Credit System; Compensation Retirement Programs, and Related Benefits (RIN: 3052–


E.C. 11023—Dec. 21, 2010: A letter from the Director, Policy Issuances Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Permission To Use Air Inflation of Meat Carcasses and Parts [Docket No.: FSIS–2007–0039] (RIN: 0583–AD33) received December 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

E.C. 11024—Dec. 21, 2010: A letter from the Director, Policy Issuances Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule—Uniform Compliance Date for Food Labeling Regulations [Docket No.: FSIS–2010–0031] (RIN: 0583–AD) received December 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

E.C. 11025—Dec. 21, 2010: A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Pesticide Tolerance Crop Grouping
Program II; Revisions to General Tolerance Regulations [EPA–HQ–
3, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on
Agriculture.

E.C. 11026—Dec. 21, 2010: A letter from the Director, Regulatory
Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmis-
sing the Agency’s final rule—Metrafenone; Pesticide Tolerances
2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agri-
culture.

E.C. 11027—Dec. 21, 2010: A letter from the Director, Regula-
tory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agen-
cy, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Extension of Tolerances
for Emergency Exemptions (Multiple Chemicals) [EPA–HQ–OPP–
2010–0981; FRL–8857–5] received December 17, 2010, pursuant to
5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

E.C. 11028—Dec. 21, 2010: A letter from the Director, Regula-
tory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agen-
cy, transmitting the Agency’s final rule—Flutolanil; Pesticide Toler-
17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agri-
culture.

E.C. 11186—Dec. 22, 2010: A letter from the Acting Congress-
sional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmis-
sing the Department’s final rule—Gypsy Moth Generally Infested
Areas; Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Ohio, and Virginia [Docket No.: APHIS–2008–0083] received December 22, 2010, pursuant to 5
U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

E.C. 11187—Dec. 22, 2010: A letter from the Director, Regula-
tory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, trans-
mitting the Agency’s final rule—Imazosulfuron; Pesticide Tolerances
2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agri-
culture.

B. STATUTORY AND SPECIAL REPORTS

Submitted by USDA, July 1, 2008.

USAID and USDA: Report on efforts taken by the Administrator
of USAID and the Secretary of Agriculture to improve planning for
food and transportation procurement, as pursuant to Section
3022(b) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, amend-
ing Section 413 of the Food for Peace Act. Submitted by USAID
and USDA, November 7, 2008.

USDA: Copy of the National Agricultural Research, Extension,
Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board Specialty
Crop Committee’s final report containing suggestions from the lis-
tening session conducted during Fiscal Year 2008. Submitted by
USDA, November 20, 2008.

USDA: Report to the Senate and House Agriculture Committees
outlining the progress that has been made in implementing the or-
ganic production and market data initiatives described in Section
10302 and identifying additional production and marketing data
needs, as required by Section 10302 of the Food, Conservation, and
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USDA: Report on USDA’s competitive sourcing policy and budget for contracting out, as required by USDA’s annual appropriations acts. Submitted by USDA, January 15, 2009.

USDA: Letter transmitting the report on the information technology challenges and needs of the Farm Service Agency (FSA), as required by section 1618 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill). Submitted by USDA, January 15, 2009.

USDA: Report on factors that affect the export of specialty crops, as pursuant to Section 3203(d) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by USDA, January 16, 2009.

OMB: Report discussing the implementation of section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), P.L. 94–580, and section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act


CFTC: Letter from Michael V. Dunn to Collin C. Peterson offering his assistance as the Committee moves forward on legislation related to the nation’s commodity markets, along with a press release outlining his priorities for the Commission. Submitted by CFTC, January 23, 2009.


USDA: Intent of Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to release a copy of current lists of almond growers, raisin growers, and pistachio growers covered by a Federal Marketing Order, as required by Section 1663 of the Food Security Act of 1985, amending the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937. Submitted by USDA, February 9, 2009.

USDA: Report on implementation of concluded appeals to the National Appeals Division (NAD) from the Risk Management Agency (RMA), as pursuant to Section 14009(b) of the Food, Energy, and Conservation Act of 2008. Submitted by USDA, February 9, 2009.

FCA: Letter from Leland A. Strom to Collin C. Peterson enclosing copy of Farm Credit Administration’s letter of September 29, 2008, providing information to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the Federal Information Security Management Act and OMB’s implementation guidance instructions. Submitted by Farm Credit Administration, February 11, 2009.


CFTC: Letter from Michael V. Dunn to Peter Orszag stating that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) respectfully wishes to appeal OMB’s initial FY 2010 Budget proposal for the Commission. Submitted by CFTC, February 23, 2009.


ASA: American Sugar Alliance—Sugar Policy Briefing Book. Submitted by ASA.


USDA: Annual Report as required by the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, on the industries regulated by the Act and on USDA’s enforcement efforts under the Act. Submitted by USDA, March 10, 2009.


USDC: Report to Congress on Activities Undertaken by the Department of Commerce pursuant to Sec. 906(b) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000. Submitted by USDC, March 10, 2009.


USDA: Notification of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) request under FOIA for a list of pistachio growers covered by a Federal Marketing Order. Submitted by USDA, March 19, 2009.

FCA: Proposed amendments to Title 12, Chapter VI of the Code of Federal Regulations as promulgated by the Farm Credit Administration (FCA). Submitted by FCA, March 17, 2009.

CFTC: CFTC rulemaking implementing legislative provisions relating to significant price discovery contracts traded or executed on exempt commercial markets (ECMs). Submitted by CFTC, March 17, 2009.


CFTC: Renewal Charter of the Commission’s Agricultural Advisory Committee pursuant to Sections 9(c) and 14(b)(1) of the Fed-

President’s Advisory Council: 2008 Annual Report to the President from the President’s Advisory Council on Financial Literacy. Submitted by the President’s Advisory Council, March 31, 2009.


FCSIC: Final Rule adopted by the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation under the provisions of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended. Submitted by FCSIC, April 9, 2009.

State of Maine: Resolution H.P. 1009 forwarded by the Clerk of the House, memorializing the U.S. Congress to amend the Federal order system to ensure that Maine dairy farmers will receive a sustainable prices for their milk. Submitted by State of Maine, April 24, 2009.


FCSIC: 2008 Annual Report by the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation “Protecting Investors in Agriculture and Rural
America” in accordance with section 5.64 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended. Submitted by FCSIC, April 30, 2009.


Embassy of Vietnam: Letter from Ambassador Le Cong Phung to Congressman Peterson bringing up several agriculture matters of urgent concern to Vietnam, such as the definition of “catfish.” Submitted by Embassy of Vietnam, May 15, 2009.


NRCS: Letter from Dave White to Collin C. Peterson stating that NRCS is terminating a WRP easement located in Marion County, South Carolina, as pursuant to requirements of the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), 16 U.S.C. 3837e(b)(2)(B). Submitted by NRCS, May 22, 2009.


FCA: Letter from Charles R. Rawls to Collin C. Peterson explaining that the FCA is working with other agencies to write regulations that will implement the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 (SAFE Act). Because the SAFE Act requires the Agencies to implement statutory requirements by July 29, 2009, FCA will not be able to send the proposed regulations to the House Committee on Agriculture and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry 30 days prior to publication in the Federal Register, as is the usual requirement. Submitted by FCA, May 27, 2009.


Department of Commerce: Report of the export licensing actions taken by the Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) relating to exports of agricultural commodities to Cuba during January through March 2009, as required by Section 906(b) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 (TSRA) (Title IX of Pub. L. 106–387), as amended. Submitted by Department of Commerce, June 1, 2009.


State of New York, Department of Agriculture and Markets: Letter from Patrick Hooker, President of the Northeast Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NEASDA), expressing their collective concern about the current milk price situation and our request for action by NMPF to take immediate steps to improve milk prices for dairy farmers. Submitted by State of New York, Department of Agriculture and Markets, June 9, 2009.


USDA: Annual report describing the progress made by USDA in investigating the cause of colony collapse disorder and in finding appropriate strategies to reduce colony loss, as stipulated by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Section 7204(h)(4). Submitted by USDA, June 10, 2009.

FCA: Letter from Leland A. Strom to Collin C. Peterson enclosing a final rule adopted by the Farm Credit Administration (FCA) Board under the provisions of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as
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amended. Submitted by Farm Credit Administration, June 12, 2009.


USDA: Report regarding the Department of Agriculture costs and time associated with compliance for leasing procedures of the General Services Administration relative to the previous independent leasing procedures of the Department of Agriculture; the additional staffing needs associated with the procedures; and the value added to the leasing process and the ability of the Department to secure best-value leases by complying with the General Services Administration leasing procedures, as requested by Section 1620 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by USDA, June 16, 2009.

USDA: Report on implementation of concluded appeals to the National Appeals Division (NAD) from the Risk Management Agency (RMA), as pursuant to Section 14009(b) of the Food, Energy, and Conservation Act of 2008. Submitted by the Risk Management Agency (RMA) of USDA, June 17, 2009.

USDA: Thank you letter from Thomas J. Vilsack to Collin C. Peterson thanking him for his letter of May 4, 2009 to President Obama regarding negative impacts to U.S. pork producers resulting from the emergence of the 2009–H1N1 influenza virus currently circulating, primarily within the human population. Submitted by USDA, June 17, 2009.


USDA: Letter from Thomas J. Vilsack to Collin C. Peterson reporting key findings from a study evaluating the role of animal manure as a source of fertilizer, and its other uses, as directed by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Title XI, Sec. 11014). Submitted by USDA, June 18, 2009.

USDA: Letter from Thomas J. Vilsack to Collin C. Peterson reporting key findings from a 1 year study assessing the extent of areas with limited access to affordable and nutritious food, identifying characteristics and causes of such areas, considering how limited access affects local populations, and outlining recommendations to address the problem, as directed by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Title VII, Sec. 7527). Submitted by USDA, June 18, 2009.

State of New York, Soil and Water Conservation Committee: Letter to Henry Waxman from The New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee commending his efforts in establishing the first comprehensive bill designed to dramatically reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gases. Submitted by the State of New York, Soil and Water Conservation Committee, June 18, 2009.


USDA: Report regarding the progress made in implementing the provisions of the subtitle, as pursuant to Section 1546 of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), 7 U.S.C. 4207. Submitted by USDA, June 29, 2009.


NRCS: Second report (June 2009) of actions taken by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) with regard to final decisions returned by the National Appeals Division (NAD) to NRCS, as required by Section 14009 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110–246). Submitted by NRCS, July 9, 2009.


EPA: Letter supporting the charter renewal of the Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2, Section 9(c). Submitted by Environmental Protection Agency, July 17, 2009.

GAO: Report on a major rule promulgated by the Department of Agriculture, Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), entitled “Mar-


USDA: Report on implementation of concluded appeals to the National Appeals Division (NAD) from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), as pursuant to Section 14009 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by USDA, July 21, 2009.


U.S. Chamber of Commerce: Letter from R. Bruce Josten to Chairmen Peterson and Rangel and Ranking Members Lucas and Camp urging them to approve legislation to bring the United States into full compliance with the World Trade Organization (WTO) ruling in the dispute settlement case brought by Brazil (DS 267) regarding U.S. cotton subsidies. Submitted by U.S. Chamber of Commerce, July 30, 2009.


USDA: Annual report to Congress pertaining to the administrative expenses of the current 18 active programs established under commodity promotion laws. Submitted by the Secretary of USDA, July 31, 2009.


USDA: OIG’s August 11, 2009 report of the most serious management challenges believed to confront USDA and its agencies. Submitted by the USDA Inspector General, August 12, 2009.


Farm Credit Administration: A direct final rule amending Title 12, chapter VI of the Code of Federal Regulations, adopted by the Farm Credit Administration Board (Board) under the provisions of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended. Submitted by the Farm Credit Administration, August 26, 2009.


USDA: Report on the plans developed by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for funding provided under Section 10201 of the Act for Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention, requested by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act (Farm Bill) of 2008. Submitted by USDA, September 1, 2009.

USDA: Notice to inform the House Committee on Agriculture that the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation will be renegotiating the Standard Reinsurance Agreement for the 2011 reinsurance year, in accordance with section 1207 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by the Risk Management Agency, September 8, 2009.


USDA: Copy of the charter for the Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee, pursuant to P.L. 92–463, the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Submitted by USDA, September 9, 2009.

DOE: Draft entitled, “Environmental Impact Statement for the Abengoa Biorefinery Project near Hugoton, Stevens County, KS,”


White House: Thank you letter to the Chairman for his July 30 letter to the President regarding the normalization of relations between Armenia and Turkey. Submitted by the White House, September 17, 2009.


USDA: Copy of the charter for Eastern Region Resource Advisory Committees, pursuant to P.L. 92–463, the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Submitted by USDA, October 1, 2009.


USDA: Copies of the charters for the Northern region, the Rocky Mountain Region, the Southwestern Region, the Intermountain Region, the Pacific Southwest Region, the Pacific Northwest Region, the Southern Region, and the Alaska region—Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committees. Submitted by the USDA, October 23, 2009.


EPA: Charter renewal of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2 sec. 9(c), Submitted by the EPA, October 30, 2009.


EPA: Charter renewal of EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2 sec. 9(c), Submitted by the EPA, November 6, 2009.


USDA: A letter in response to the Chairman’s October 2, 2009 correspondence concerning the continuing adverse market conditions impacting the U.S. pork industry. Submitted by the USDA, November 30, 2009.

USDA: A letter informing the Committee of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) ongoing activities to establish, staff, and
allocate resources for the Advocacy and Outreach (OAO). Submitted by USDA, November 30, 2009.


USDA: Proposed extension of the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to American Samoa and other territories of the United States, as necessary. Submitted by USDA, December 8, 2009.


Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature (Senate): Copy of Senate Joint Resolution No. 16–14, entitled, “A Senate Joint Resolution to respectfully request that the United States Congress amend a provision of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, or that the United States Congress amend a provision of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, or that the Secretary of Agriculture waive the same to benefit small farm producers in western Pacific.” Submitted by Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature (Senate), December 18, 2009.


USDA: The first annual report to Congress describing the status and results of each pilot project operated under USDA’s authority which evaluates health and nutrition promotion in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Submitted by USDA, December 31, 2009.


EPA: Charter renewal of Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Advisory Committee (FRRCC) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2. Submitted by the EPA, February 19, 2010.


USDA: Report describes the number of requests for equitable relief that producers filed pursuant to section 1613(b) and (e) of the 2002 Farm Bill and section 278(d) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994. Submitted by USDA, February 24, 2010.

South Dakota Senate: Copy of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4. Submitted by South Dakota Senate, March 9, 2010.


USDA: Report on the Activities of the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program, required by Section 702 of the Agricul-


Farm Credit Administration (FCA): A direct final rule amending Title 12, chapter VI of the Code of Federal Regulations, adopted by the FCA Board under the provisions of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended. Submitted by the FCA, March 31, 2010.


EPA: Response to letter written February 4, 2010 to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson, which expressed concerns about the agency’s decision to reevaluate the pesticide atrazine. Submitted by the EPA, April 6, 2010.


Embassy of the Argentine Republic: presents complements to the House Committee on Agriculture. Submitted by the Embassy of the Argentine Republic, April 28, 2010.

USDA (HRM): Response to letter of April 6, 2010 that requested information on the Department of Agriculture’s use of the Intergov-


U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission: Charter of the newly established Joint CFTC–SEC Advisory Committee on Emerging Regulatory Issue. In pursuant to Section 9(c) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 §9(c) and relevant implementing regulations. Submitted by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, May 10, 2010.


USDA: Notification that the USDA has completed its review of all application forms and processes for conservation programs and is implementing the streamline activities required under Section 1244(i) of the Food Security Act of 1985. Submitted by USDA, May 11, 2010.

Farm Credit Administration (FCA): Advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) by the Farm Credit Administration. Submitted by FCA, May 13, 2010.


USDA Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS): Letter to inform that a request has been received by the AMS under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. Section 552, for a list of pistachio growers covered by Federal Marketing Order. Submitted by the USDA (AMS), May 14, 2010.


NAREEE: Copy of the Board's final report on the stated priorities for funded agriculture research, extension, education and economic activities conducted by the USDA. Submitted by NAREEE May 14, 2010.


Chambre Des Communes: Letter from Ottawa, Canada notice regarding the intent to become a country and to be recognized as a country. Submitted by Chambre Des Communes, June 9, 2010.


Farm Credit Administration (FCA): The final rule adopted by the Farm Credit Administration Board under provisions of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended. Submitted by FCA June 18, 2010.


Congressional Hunger Center (CHC): Report covering the program activities and funds expended for the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowship Programs, required by the 2008 Farm Bill. Submitted by CHC June 23, 2010.


EPA: Draft copy of a proposed rule entitled “Declaration of Prion as a Pest under FIFRA and Amendment of EPA’s Regulatory Definition of Pests to Include Prion.” Required under Sections 25(a)(3) of the FIFRA. Submitted by EPA, June 24, 2010.

USDA: Notice that the 2009 annual bulletin will be available electronically due to lack of fund. Submitted by USDA, June 25, 2010.


Farm Credit Administration (FCA): Copy of an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking by FCA. Submitted by FCA June 30, 2010.


USDA: Letter from Secretary Vilsack to Dr. W. Ron DeHaven on April 27, 2010 regarding Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database (FARAD). Submitted by USDA, July 1, 2010.


Minnesota Holstein Association: Resolutions that were passed at the 100th Annual Meeting, held March 4–6, 2010. Submitted by Minnesota Holstein Association.


State of Mississippi, Department of Agriculture and Commerce: Copy of a letter from Lester Spell to Thomas J. Vilsack encouraging the USDA to work with the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce in administering disaster assistance to aquaculture producers. Submitted by State of Mississippi, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, August 4, 2010.

USDA: Report on implementation of concluded appeals to the National Appeals Division (NAD) from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) pursuant to Section 14009 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by the USDA, August 11, 2010.


USDA: Annual report on the “Sustainability Underserved Trust Areas” (SUTA) provision pursuant to Section 6105 within Title VI of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by USDA, August 20, 2010.


USDA: Letter from USDA to the Collin C. Peterson regarding ongoing efforts to transform the National Agricultural Statistic’s (NASS) business process for collecting, processing, analyzing, and disseminating agricultural statistics. Submitted by USDA, August 30, 2010.


USDA: A letter from Thomas J. Vilsack responding to a letter sent by Collin C. Peterson on June 23, 2010 the authorization use of the 4–H name and emblem by Harris Farms. Submitted by USDA, September 1, 2010.


DOI: Copy of the Invasive Species Advisory Committee charter pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act and provision to the General Services Administration’s regulation 41 CFR part 102–3.70. Submitted by DOI, September 15, 2010.

USDA: Letter from Thomas J. Vilsack to Collin C. Peterson informing him of actions the USDA will be taking to reestablish producers’ purchasing power utilizing authorities of Section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935. Submitted by USDA, September 15, 2010.

USDA: Copy of status and disposition of cases returned to the USDA by the National Appeals Division for Business and Cooperative Programs in accordance with Section 14009 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by USDA, September 16, 2010.


USDA: Notice to inform publication of a 60 day notification in the Federal Register announcing their intent to review the Minimum Quality and Handling Standards for Domestic and Imported Peanuts Marketed in the United States pursuant to Section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. Submitted by the USDA, September 21, 2010.

USDA: Letter from Thomas J. Vilsack to Collin C. Peterson regarding the Committee’s proposed industry changes in light of the USDA’s review of the Minimum Quality and Handling Standards


USDA: Copy of status and disposition of cases returned to the USDA by the National Appeals Division for Rural Development Housing and Community Facilities Programs in accordance with Section 14009 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by the USDA, September 22, 2010.

Farm Credit Administration: Letter from Fair Credit Administration (FCA) to Colin Peterson regarding implementation of a final rule, effective on October 1, 2010, issued by the FCA and under the SAFE and Farm Credit Act. Submitted by FCA, September 23, 2010.

USDA: Copy of the charter for the Reestablishment of the Land between the Lakes Advisory Board in compliance with P.L. 92–463, the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Submitted by the USDA on September 24, 2010.


National Pork Producers Council: Letter to Collin C. Peterson commending his signing of a letter to the USDA urging them to conduct an economic analysis on its recently proposed GIPSA rule on buying and selling of livestock and poultry. Submitted by the National Pork Producers Council, October 6, 2010.

American Farm Bureau Federation: Letter extending appreciation and support of the leadership taken by the Committee on Agriculture in addressing the 6th Circuit Court’s requirement to establish an additional permit under the Clean Water Act for pesticide application. Submitted by the American Farm Bureau Federation, October 13, 2010.

Committee on Agriculture: Request to the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to consult the House and Senate Agriculture Committees regarding the EPA request for an appropriate year for the agency to stop requesting nominations for critical use exemptions (CUE) for methyl bromide for 2013. See 75 Fed. Reg. 41177 (July 15, 2010). Submitted by Collin C. Peterson, October 13, 2010.


Asia Society: Copy of Asia Society’s 38th Williamsburg Conference Report on “The Security Implication of Climate Change in

USDA: Copy of report that assesses the effectiveness of state and local efforts to directly certify children for free school meals under the National School Lunch Program for school year (SY) 2009–2010 as required under section 4301 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Submitted by USDA, October 29, 2010.


USDA: A letter from Thomas J. Vilsack responding to a letter sent by Collin C. Peterson on August 10, 2010 pertaining to limitations for payments under the Repowering Assistance Program (Section 9004). Submitted by USDA, November 9, 2010.


USDA: A letter from Thomas J. Vilsack responding to a cosigned letter sent by Collin C. Peterson regarding the brown marmorated stink bug and actions to be taken by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in the short- and long-term. Submitted by USDA, November 10, 2010.


1st Farm Credit Service: 2009 annual report, Principles with Passion. Submitted by 1st Farm Credit Services.

