

## Calendar No. 113

117TH CONGRESS }  
1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
{ 117-34

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### AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA- TIONS BILL, 2022

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AUGUST 4, 2021—Ordered to be printed

Ms. BALDWIN, from the Committee on Appropriations,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S. 2599]

The Committee on Appropriations reports the bill (S. 2599) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

#### *New obligational authority*

Total of bill as reported to the Senate .....	\$203,085,781,000
Amount of 2021 appropriations .....	205,769,113,000
Amount of 2022 budget estimate .....	214,812,272,000
Bill as recommended to Senate compared to—	
2021 appropriations .....	– 2,683,332,000
2022 budget estimate .....	– 11,726,491,000

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## OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY OF THE BILL

The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations bill provides funding for a wide array of Federal programs, mostly in the U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA]. These programs include agricultural research, education, and extension activities; natural resources conservation programs; farm income and support programs; marketing and inspection activities; domestic food assistance programs; rural housing, economic and community development, and telecommunication and electrification assistance; and various export and international activities of the USDA.

The bill also provides funding for the Food and Drug Administration [FDA] and allows the use of collected fees for administrative expenses of the Farm Credit Administration [FCA].

The discretionary programs and activities of USDA and FDA that are supported by this bill include high priority responsibilities entrusted to the Federal Government and its partners to protect human health and safety, contribute to economic recovery, and achieve policy objectives strongly supported by the American people. The ability to provide for these measures is made difficult by growing pressure on available levels of discretionary spending as a consequence of the overall public debate on Federal spending, revenues, and size of the Federal debt.

Too often, the USDA programs funded by this bill are confused with farm subsidies and other mandatory spending more properly associated with multi-year farm bills. In contrast, this bill provides annual funding for programs familiar to all Americans such as protecting food safety through the Food Safety and Inspection Service [FSIS] and the FDA, which also plays a vital role in maintaining the safety of the Nation's blood supply and availability of safe and effective medical products and other components of our health system. This bill also provides funding to fight against the introduction and spread of noxious, infectious, or invasive pests and diseases that threaten our plant and animal health environments, as well as funding for many other missions of dire importance to the American people.

In the context of overall pressures on spending and the competing priorities that the Committee faces, this bill as reported provides the proper amount of emphasis on agricultural, rural development, and other programs and activities funded by the bill. It is consistent with the Subcommittee's allocation for fiscal year 2022.

All accounts in the bill have been closely examined to ensure that an appropriate level of funding is provided to carry out the programs of USDA, FDA, and FCA. Details on each of the accounts, the funding level, and the Committee's justifications for the funding levels are included in the report.

Fiscal year 2021 levels cited in this report reflect amounts enacted in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260) and do not include fiscal year 2021 supplemental appropriations. Accordingly, any comparisons to fiscal year 2021 do not reflect fiscal year 2021 supplemental appropriations. Fiscal year 2021 supplemental appropriations are included in the comparative statement of new budget authority at the end of this report under the heading “Other Appropriations”.

#### REPORTS TO CONGRESS

The Committee has, throughout this report, requested agencies to provide studies and reports on various issues. The Committee utilizes these reports to evaluate program performance and make decisions on future appropriations. The Committee directs that all studies and reports be provided to the Committee as electronic documents in an agreed upon format within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, unless an alternative submission schedule is specifically stated in the report.

#### BREAKDOWN BY TITLE

The amounts of obligational authority for each of the seven titles are shown in the following table. A detailed tabulation, showing comparisons, appears at the end of this report. Recommendations for individual appropriation items, projects and activities are carried in this report under the appropriate item headings.

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Committee recommendation
Title I: Agricultural programs .....	7,542,086	8,313,700
Title II: Farm Production and Conservation programs .....	43,421,375	38,601,114
Title III: Rural economic and community development programs .....	3,236,023	3,562,431
Title IV: Domestic food programs .....	145,738,332	139,612,899
Title V: Foreign assistance and related programs .....	2,204,020	2,246,956
Title VI: Related agencies and Food and Drug Administration .....	3,518,716	3,414,716
Title VII: General provisions .....	108,561	7,333,965
Other Appropriations .....		
Total, new budget (obligational) authority .....	205,769,113	202,486,980

TITLE I  
 AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS  
 PROCESSING, RESEARCH, AND MARKETING  
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
 (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$46,998,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	86,773,000
Committee recommendation .....	52,916,000

The Secretary of Agriculture, assisted by the Deputy Secretary, Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries, Chief Information Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and members of their immediate staffs, directs and coordinates the work of the United States Department of Agriculture [USDA]. This includes developing policy, maintaining relationships with agricultural organizations and others in the development of farm programs, and maintaining liaison with the Executive Office of the President and Members of Congress on all matters pertaining to agricultural policy.

The general authority of the Secretary to supervise and control the work of the Department is contained in the Organic Act (Public Law 101-624). The delegation of regulatory functions to Department employees and authorization of appropriations to carry out these functions is contained in 7 U.S.C. 450c-450g.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$52,916,000 for the Office of the Secretary.

The following table reflects the amount provided by the Committee for each office and activity:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Office of the Secretary .....	5,101	14,801	5,703
Office of Homeland Security .....	1,324	13,429	4,749
Office of Tribal Relations .....	.....	2,860	1,025
Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement .....	7,002	13,294	6,044
Office of Assistant Secretary for Administration .....	881	1,399	1,649
Departmental Administration .....	21,440	26,001	21,782
Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs .....	3,908	4,480	4,480
Office of Communications .....	7,342	10,509	7,484
Total .....	46,998	86,773	52,916

*Canadian Wheat Grading.*—The Committee is concerned about unfair wheat grading practices that negatively affect American wheat growers that export to Canada. Currently, the Canadian wheat varietal registration system excludes many American varieties, instead automatically downgrading American premium wheat to the lowest quality designation. In the United States, however, our grading system provides a fair examination for wheat imported from Canada, regardless of the seed variety. This discrepancy needs to be addressed to ensure our wheat growers are being treated fairly. Therefore, the Committee urges the Secretary of Agriculture to work with the Department of Commerce and the United States Trade Representative to prioritize conversations with the Canadian government to address trade inequities resulting from Canada's current wheat varietal registration practices.

*Commodity Credit Corporation [CCC] Obligations and Commitments.*—The Secretary is directed to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate in writing 15 days prior to the obligation or commitment of any emergency funds from the CCC.

*Farming Opportunities and Training Outreach Program.*—Creating and expanding new farming opportunities and supporting farmer training and technical assistance are critical to the future of American agriculture and our food system. The Committee notes that significant funding was included in the fiscal year 2021 Omnibus and COVID Relief and Response Act for the Farming Opportunities and Training Outreach Program [FOTO]. The Secretary is urged to support new and established training, education, outreach, and technical assistance initiatives that address the needs of the next generation of farmers and ensure they have access to USDA credit, commodity, conservation, and other programs and services.

*Hemp.*—The Committee is concerned that the level of allowable THC content in hemp may be arbitrary and pose a burden on hemp producers that is not supported by scientific evidence. The Committee directs USDA to work with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Drug Enforcement Administration to study and report to Congress on whether there is scientific basis for the current limit of 3 percent THC in hemp and suggest alternative levels if necessary.

The Committee is concerned that producers of high value, horticultural hemp are being prevented from accessing USDA programs designed for specialty crops, including the Specialty Crop Block Grants and crop insurance. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs the Secretary to establish a dual designation for hemp as a specialty crop based on the manner and purpose for which it is grown.

*Institute for Rural Partnerships.*—The Committee recognizes rural communities face unique challenges that include but are not limited to, availability of safe and efficient transportation systems, access to high speed telecommunications and broadband options, implementing the latest advanced manufacturing technologies, delivering rural health solutions, providing safe drinking water systems, offering effective waste water treatment options, providing affordable housing options, and developing resilient community infrastructure systems in the face of climate uncertainty. While costs

of addressing these issues continue to rise, available resources have not kept pace. New partnerships and solutions are needed to tackle these problems. Therefore, the Committee provides \$30,000,000 for the establishment of three Institutes for Rural Partnerships at established land-grant universities. The institutes shall be geographically diverse in their placement, and shall dedicate resources to researching the causes and conditions of challenges facing rural areas, and to the development of community partnerships to address such challenges and to promulgate creative solutions that can be replicated in similar communities within the region.

One such institute shall be established at a land-grant university in the Northeast U.S. in a rural State where over 60 percent of the population is defined as rural by the U.S. Census Bureau, which is connected to an associated medical school and medical center, and which has enumerated existing partnerships with Federal agencies that support existing initiatives to research rural agriculture, food systems, water quality, transit and employment needs. Another shall be established at a comprehensive land-grant university that includes a veterinary school of medicine, medical school, and medical center with at least 10 satellite agricultural research stations in rural communities in a State with a diverse rural manufacturing base that also produces a diversity of agricultural and forest products. The land-grant university shall have significant, existing partnerships with Federal agencies related to food production, food manufacturing, community engagement and environmental stewardship. Finally, another institute shall be established at a land-grant university in the southeast U.S. with established programs in agriculture and engineering, and with specific expertise in transportation systems and asphalt roadways in rural areas, advanced manufacturing systems and additive manufacturing, innovative community-based solutions for rural housing, wireless engineering and critical infrastructure security, and water and wastewater treatment for rural communities.

*Local Agriculture Market Program.*—Creating and expanding new and better markets is critical to the future of American agriculture and our food system. The Committee notes that substantial funding was included in the fiscal year 2021 Omnibus and COVID Relief and Response Act for both the Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program [FMLFPP] and the Value-Added Producer Grant Program [VAPG]. The Secretary is urged to continue to find innovative ways to help further diversify and increase on-farm income to strengthen our rural communities.

*National Finance Center.*—USDA's National Finance Center [NFC] is the largest designated Federal Government Payroll Shared Service Provider [SSP] that maintains and provides integrated payroll and personnel services for over 640,000 Federal employees. To ensure that thousands of Federal employees' pay and human resources services are not interrupted or adversely impacted, the Committee has maintained and modified the current law general provision regarding the NFC payroll and shared services operations, missions, functions, and reporting notifications. The Committee also directs USDA to provide quarterly reports to the Committee regarding full-time equivalent [FTE] levels for each of the current NFC divisions, operations, or functions as well as



each of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer [OFCO] and Office of the Chief Information Officer [OCIO] divisions, operations, or functions currently co-located with the NFC. These quarterly reports shall also include a detailed breakdown of the FTEs for each of these same divisions, functions, or operations for the NFC and the co-located OCFO and OCIO functions compared to those during fiscal year 2018 (calendar year 2017).

*Pay Costs and Federal Employees' Retirement System [FERS].—*The Committee provides the requested pay cost increase of 2.7 percent and provides the 1.1 percent increase for FERS benefits for fiscal year 2022.

*Resource Conservation and Development Councils.—*Since 1964, the Resource Conservation and Development [RC&D] Councils have worked at the grassroots level with local leaders to plan, develop, and carry out programs for land and water conservation and management. The Committee encourages the Secretary to consider the maximum practical use of RC&D Councils, where such RC&D Councils meet agency performance requirements, in the delivery of USDA programs and services.

*Scholars Programs.—*The Committee applauds the Department's efforts to strengthen the long-term partnership between USDA and 1890 and 1994 Land Grant Institutions to increase the number of students studying, graduating, and pursuing careers in in food, agriculture, natural resources, and other related fields of study. Building a diverse and strong pipeline of future agricultural scientists and professionals in public service can help to bring new ideas and perspectives that will benefit agriculture and society as a whole. The Committee encourages USDA to further expand the work of the two Scholars Programs to allow for the selection of a greater number of scholars and supports the participation of more agencies in this effort in order to recruit talented students into public service.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

Executive operations were established as a result of the reorganization of the Department to provide a support team for USDA policy officials and selected Department-wide services. Activities under the executive operations include the Office of the Chief Economist, the National Appeals Division, and the Office of Budget and Program Analysis.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$24,192,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	31,050,000
Committee recommendation .....	25,499,000

The Office of the Chief Economist advises the Secretary of Agriculture on the economic implications of Department policies and programs. The Office serves as the single focal point for the Nation's economic intelligence and analysis, risk assessment, and cost-benefit analysis related to domestic and international food and agriculture issues, provides policy direction for renewable energy development; conducts analyses of climate change impacts on agriculture and forestry; and is responsible for coordination and review

of all commodity and aggregate agricultural and food-related data used to develop outlook and situation material within the Department.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$25,499,000 for the Office of the Chief Economist.

*Policy Research.*—The Committee provides \$8,000,000 for policy research under 7 U.S.C. 3155 for entities with existing institutional capacity to conduct complex economic and policy analysis and which have a lengthy and well-documented record of conducting policy analysis for the benefit of USDA, the Congressional Budget Office, or the Congress. Of the amount provided for policy research activities, \$3,000,000 is provided for the Department to focus efforts on entities that have developed models, databases, and staff necessary to conduct in-depth analysis of impacts of agriculture or rural development policy proposals on rural communities, farmers, agribusiness, taxpayers, and consumers. The Department is encouraged to fund regional and State-level baseline projections in addition to currently available national and international outlooks.

*Study of U.S. Biobased Economy.*—The Committee recognizes the global scope of the bioeconomy and its importance to our Nation’s long-term economic strength and competitiveness, so directs the Department to study the U.S. bioeconomy’s size and scope in comparison with other nations according to available data on direct/indirect jobs and average wages, economic output, tax contributions, and investment. Additionally, the study should examine the benefits per dollar of new and private investment in expanding plant-based product production in rural America, including how investments in worker training programs, infrastructure, and public services could positively impact local and State economies. Further, it should address the opportunities and barriers to biofuels companies expanding into advanced fuels, bioproducts or additional byproduct or value-added production. In coordination with the Forest Service, it should include an analysis of the potential economic integration between forest products, pulp, and woody biomass and markets for annual or perennial biomass. The Report should include an analysis of market transparency in the sales of these commodities and its impact on farmers and forest managers who harvest feedstocks to further production sites. The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a report detailing the Department’s findings to the Congressional Committees on Appropriations not later than 1 year after the date of enactment.

OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$15,394,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	16,173,000
Committee recommendation .....	16,173,000

The Office of Hearings and Appeals conducts administrative hearings and reviews of adverse program decisions made by the Rural Development mission area, the Farm Service Agency [FSA], the Risk Management Agency [RMA], and the Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$16,173,000 for the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$9,629,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	12,760,000
Committee recommendation .....	12,310,000

The Office of Budget and Program Analysis provides direction and administration of the Department’s budgetary functions including developing, presenting, and executing of the budget; reviewing program and legislative proposals for program, budget, and related implications; analyzing program and resource issues and alternatives; preparing summaries of pertinent data to aid the Secretary, Departmental policy officials, and agency program managers in the decision-making process; and providing Department-wide coordination for and participation in the presentation of budget-related matters to the Committees of the Congress, the media, and interested public. The Office also provides Department-wide coordination of the preparation and processing of regulations and legislative programs and reports.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$12,310,000 for the Office of Budget and Program Analysis.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$66,814,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	101,001,000
Committee recommendation .....	84,746,000

The Office of the Chief Information Officer was established in the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–106), which required the establishment of a Chief Information Officer for major Federal agencies. This Office provides policy guidance, leadership, coordination, and direction to the Department’s information management and information technology [IT] investment activities in support of USDA program delivery, and is the lead office in USDA e-gov efforts. The Office provides long-range planning guidance, implements measures to ensure that technology investments are economical and effective, coordinates interagency information resources management projects, and implements standards to promote information exchange and technical interoperability. In addition, the Office of the Chief Information Officer is responsible for certain activities financed under the Department’s Working Capital Fund (7 U.S.C. 2235). The Office also provides telecommunication and automated data processing [ADP] services to USDA agencies through the National Information Technology Center with locations in Fort Collins, Colorado; Kansas City, Missouri; and Washington, D.C. Direct ADP operational services are also provided to the Office of the Secretary, the Office of the General Counsel, the Office of Communications, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and Departmental Management.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$84,746,000 for the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$6,109,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	7,118,000
Committee recommendation .....	7,118,000

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the dual roles of Chief Financial Management Policy Officer and Chief Financial Management Advisor to the Secretary and mission area heads. The Office provides leadership for all financial management, accounting, travel, Federal assistance, and strategic planning performance measurement activities within the Department. The Office is also responsible for the management and operation of the National Finance Center and the Departmental Working Capital Fund.

*National Finance Center.*—The National Finance Center [NFC] is the largest designated Federal Government Payroll Shared Service Provider and it provides integrated payroll and personnel services for over 640,000 Federal employees. To ensure that thousands of Federal employees’ pay and human resources services are not interrupted or adversely impacted by major organizational changes, the Committee has modified requirements under current law relating to NFC payroll and shared services operations, missions, personnel, and functions. The Committee also directs the USDA to provide quarterly reports on full-time equivalent [FTE] levels for each of the current NFC divisions, operations, and functions, as well as each of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer [OCFO] and Office of the Chief Information Officer [OCIO] divisions, operations, and functions currently co-located with the NFC. The reports also are to include a detailed breakdown of the FTEs for each and any of these same divisions, functions, or operations for the NFC and the co-located OCFO and OCIO functions compared to those during fiscal years 2017 and 2018. Furthermore, the Committee is pleased that the National Finance Center was able to protect its cybersecurity infrastructure in the wake of the SolarWinds breach. The Committee encourages the National Finance Center to keep it apprised of its cybersecurity needs and to immediately notify the Committee of any major threat to its systems.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$7,118,000 for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$908,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,426,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,426,000

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights provides oversight of civil rights and related functions. This includes coordination of the administration of civil rights laws and regulations for

employees of USDA and participants in programs of the Department and ensuring compliance with civil rights laws.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,426,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$22,789,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	29,328,000
Committee recommendation .....	29,328,000

The Office of Civil Rights provides overall leadership responsibility for all Department-wide civil rights activities. These activities include employment opportunity, as well as program non-discrimination policy development, analysis, coordination, and compliance. The Office is responsible for providing leadership in facilitating the fair and equitable treatment of USDA employees and for monitoring program activities to ensure that all USDA programs are delivered in a nondiscriminatory manner. The Office's outreach functions provide leadership, coordination, facilitation, and expertise to internal and external partners to ensure equal and timely access to USDA programs for all constituents, with emphasis on the underserved, through information sharing, technical assistance, and training.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$29,328,000 for the Office of Civil Rights.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$108,124,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	133,443,000
Committee recommendation .....	313,443,000

Department headquarters presently operates in a two-building, Government-owned complex in downtown Washington, D.C.; the George Washington Carver Center in Beltsville, Maryland; and leased buildings in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area. Under an arrangement with the General Services Administration, USDA operates, maintains, and repairs these facilities, in lieu of rental payments. For the last several years, the Department has implemented a strategic space plan to locate staff more efficiently, renovate its buildings, and eliminate safety hazards, particularly in the Agriculture South Building.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$313,443,000 for Agriculture Buildings and Facilities.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$6,514,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	6,545,000
Committee recommendation .....	6,545,000

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Public Law 96–510) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (Public Law 94–580), the Department has the responsibility to meet the same standards regarding the storage and disposition of hazardous materials as private businesses. The Department is required to contain, cleanup, monitor, and inspect for hazardous materials in areas under the Department’s jurisdiction.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$6,545,000 for Hazardous Materials Management.

OFFICE OF SAFETY, SECURITY, AND PROTECTION

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$23,218,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	27,034,000
Committee recommendation .....	23,306,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$23,306,000 for the Office of Safety, Security, and Protection.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$99,912,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	106,309,000
Committee recommendation .....	106,309,000

The Office of Inspector General [OIG] was established on October 12, 1978, by the Inspector General Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–452). This Act expanded and provided specific authorities for the activities of OIG which had previously been carried out under the general authorities of the Secretary.

The Office is administered by an inspector general who reports directly to the Secretary. Functions and responsibilities of this Office include direction and control of audit and investigative activities within the Department, formulation of audit and investigative policies and procedures regarding Department programs and operations, and analysis and coordination of program-related audit and investigation activities performed by other Department agencies.

The activities of this Office are designed to assure compliance with existing laws, policies, regulations, and programs of the Department’s agencies and to provide appropriate officials with the means for prompt corrective action where deviations have occurred. The scope of audit and investigative activities is large and includes administrative, program, and criminal matters. These activities are coordinated, when appropriate, with various audit and investigative agencies of the executive and legislative branches of the Government.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$106,309,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$45,390,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	60,723,000
Committee recommendation .....	60,723,000

The Office of the General Counsel provides all legal advice, counsel, and services to the Secretary and to all agencies, offices, and corporations of the Department. The Office represents the Department in administrative proceedings; non-litigation debt collection proceedings; State water rights adjudications; proceedings before the Environmental Protection Agency, Interstate Commerce Commission, Federal Maritime Administration, and International Trade Commission; and, in conjunction with the Department of Justice, judicial proceedings and litigation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$60,723,000 for the Office of the General Counsel.

OFFICE OF ETHICS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$4,184,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	4,277,000
Committee recommendation .....	4,277,000

The Office of Ethics is the centralized and consolidated office implementing USDA’s ethics program throughout the Department. The Office provides ethics services to all employees at the Department concerning advice, training, and guidance about compliance with conflict of interest and impartiality rules. This includes complying with the requirements of the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act (Public Law 112–105) and the Office of Government Ethics regulatory requirements (5 CFR parts 2634 through 2641).

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,277,000 for the Office of Ethics.

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

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$809,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,327,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,327,000

The Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics provides direction and coordination in carrying out the laws enacted by the Congress for food and agricultural research, education, extension, and economic and statistical information. The Office has oversight and management responsibilities for the Agricultural Research Service [ARS]; National Institute of Food and Agriculture [NIFA]; Economic Research Service [ERS]; and National Agricultural Statistics Service [NASS].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,327,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$85,476,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	90,594,000
Committee recommendation .....	90,794,000

The Economic Research Service provides economic and other social science research and analysis for public and private decisions on agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America. The information that ERS produces is available to the general public and helps the Executive and Legislative Branches develop, administer, and evaluate agricultural and rural policies and programs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$90,794,000 for the Economic Research Service.

*Agricultural Commodity Trade.*—The Committee recognizes the economic importance of international trade for U.S. agricultural commodities and believes that producers and markets would benefit from having access to additional data on the country of destination or origin of those commodities. Therefore, the Committee directs ERS to report on a quarterly basis the top five agricultural commodity exports and imports by State and to identify the country of destination or origin of those commodities.

*Feed Costs.*—The Committee maintains funding provided in fiscal year 2021 for ERS to expand its current feed cost components surveys nationally.

*Incentives for Voluntary Carbon Sequestration.*—The Committee directs ERS to provide, within 1 year of the enactment of this Act, a report on incentive programs for encouraging the voluntary adoption various agricultural management practices that increase carbon sequestration in soil. ERS is encouraged to consider how alternative policies or voluntary programs would manage the tradeoff between incentivizing new adopters and rewarding and sustaining existing adopters of techniques that sequester soil carbon, regional and geographic differences in incentive programs, social and behavioral obstacles, and the differences across program designs.

*Life Cycle Analysis [LCA] for Various Biobased Products.*—The Committee recognizes the need for consumers and industry to have better information regarding the environmental benefits and impact of biobased products when compared with traditional products in the marketplace. This can be accomplished through a study detailing the most recent life cycle analyses of the main biobased products across the specific product areas of chemicals, plastics, and fibrous materials. The Committee therefore directs the Department to complete a study of existing life cycle analyses for key biobased chemicals, polymers, plastics, and fibrous materials and environmental impact data across various categories, and to make its findings publicly available for consumers and industry to access. The Secretary shall submit a report detailing the Department’s



findings to the Committee not later than 1 year after the date of enactment and provide an in-person briefing.

*Organic Data Analysis.*—The organic industry has grown at a tremendous rate over the past several years and accurate data for the production, pricing, and marketing of organic products is essential. Therefore, the Committee encourages ERS to continue and expand the efforts relating to organic data analysis.

*Rural Tract Codes.*—The Committee recognizes the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy’s [FORHP] use of Rural-Urban Commuting Area [RUCA] and the Frontier and Remote [FAR] codes, developed by ERS to define rural populations. However, neither of these codes are designed to measure the rural nature of communities in mountainous regions, such as the Appalachian Mountains. The Committee is pleased that ERS has taken some steps to make corrections to secondary RUCA codes to better reflect census tracts that should be classified as rural. The Committee directs ERS to continue to coordinate with FORHP to conduct research on the feasibility of identifying tracts with difficult and mountainous terrain. Roads shall be deemed to be located in mountainous terrain if such roads are in areas identified as mountains on any official maps or other documents prepared for and issued to the public by the State agency responsible for highways or by the U.S. Geological Survey.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$183,921,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	193,662,000
Committee recommendation .....	191,662,000

The National Agricultural Statistics Service administers the Department’s program of collecting and publishing current national, State, and county agricultural statistics. These statistics provide accurate and timely projections of current agricultural production and measures of the economic and environmental welfare of the agricultural sector, which are essential for making effective policy, production, and marketing decisions. NASS also furnishes statistical services to other USDA and Federal agencies in support of their missions and provides consulting, technical assistance, and training to developing countries.

NASS is also responsible for administration of the Census of Agriculture, which is taken every 5 years and provides comprehensive data on the agricultural economy, including: data on the number of farms, land use, production expenses, farm product values, value of land and buildings, farm size and characteristics of farm operators, market value of agricultural production sold, acreage of major crops, inventory of livestock and poultry, and farm irrigation practices.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$191,662,000 for the National Agricultural Statistics Service, of which \$46,850,000 is for the Census of Agriculture.

*Barley Estimates.*—The Committee is encouraged that NASS has reinstated acreage and production estimates for barley in States that were previously discontinued in 2016 and 2017. The Com-

mittee expects NASS to continue providing barley acreage and production estimates for those States.

*Chemical Use Data Series.*—The Chemical Use Data Series provides timely, valuable information on fertilizer and chemical use data on major field crops and selected specialty crops. The Committee encourages NASS to continue funding the collection and analysis of chemical use data, as well as practices such as integrated pest management. The Committee supports the NASS effort to resume collecting Fruit Chemical Use data and Vegetable Chemical Use data in alternating years and directs the continuation of this practice to ensure equal access to Federal statistics.

*Cost of Pollination Survey.*—The Committee provides \$1,500,000 for NASS to resume the Cost of Pollination survey, which provides critical information to beekeepers and specialty crop growers.

*Floriculture Crops Report.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Floriculture Crops Report and maintains funding for NASS to complete the report. In compiling the report, the Committee continues to direct NASS to include data from Alaska.

*Organic Data Initiative.*—The Committee maintains the \$500,000 in funding provided in fiscal year 2021 for NASS to coordinate with Agricultural Marketing Service for activities related to expanding organic price reporting and organic data collection.

*Report Improvements.*—The Committee is aware of concerns regarding recent NASS reports. The Committee provides funding for NASS to provide a customer-centric data collection dashboard for ease of use, improving the data-user experience with simplified access and increased usability, creating a reimagined operating model that equips the agency with the best tools and technology and allows the agency to recruit and retain top talent, and other initiatives that will allow NASS to meet future data needs. The Committee directs NASS to provide a report not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act on how the agency can improve report accuracy, including through new technology, updated methods, and better coordination with other USDA agencies and the private sector.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$1,491,784,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,849,590,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,675,040,000

The Agricultural Research Service [ARS] is responsible for conducting basic, applied, and developmental research through its major program areas of New Products/Product Quality/Value Added; Livestock/Crop Production; Food Safety; Livestock/Crop Protection; Human Nutrition; and Environmental Stewardship. The research applies to a wide range of goals, including commodities, natural resources, fields of science, and geographic, climatic, and environmental conditions.

ARS is also responsible for the Abraham Lincoln National Agricultural Library, which provides agricultural information and library services through traditional library functions and modern

electronic dissemination to USDA agencies, public and private organizations, and individuals.

As USDA's in-house agricultural research unit, ARS has major responsibilities for conducting and leading the national agricultural research effort. It provides initiative and leadership in the following five areas: research on broad regional and national problems, research to support Federal action and regulatory agencies, expertise to meet national emergencies, research support for international programs, and scientific resources to the executive branch and Congress.

The mission of ARS research is to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and to provide information access and dissemination to ensure high-quality, safe food and other agricultural products; assess the nutritional needs of Americans; sustain a competitive agricultural economy; enhance the natural resource base and the environment; and provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,675,040,000 for salaries and expenses of the Agricultural Research Service.

The Committee expects extramural research to be funded at no less than the fiscal year 2021 levels.

*Advancing the Efficiency of Forage-based Beef Production.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for the National Soil Dynamics Laboratory to conduct research and development of economically and environmentally sustainable forage-based beef production systems to increase the volume and efficiency of forage-based beef production.

*Agricultural Genomics.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for agricultural genomic research to expand the knowledge of public and private sector entities and persons concerning genomes for species of importance to the food and agriculture sectors in order to maximize the return on the investment in genomics of agriculturally important species.

*Agrioltaics.*—The Committee recognizes the advancement in agrioltaics and its potential in renewable energy and water efficiency. The Committee encourages the Department to conduct a study on dual-use renewable energy systems that includes an assessment of the compatibility of different species of livestock and different crop types with different dual-use renewable energy system designs as well as a risk-benefit analysis of dual-use renewable energy systems in different regions. The Committee further encourages USDA to conduct a demonstration program on dual-use renewable energy systems in multiple regions of the United States, including arid, semi-arid, and wet agricultural zones.

*AgTech Cooperative Agreements.*—The Committee provides \$1,000,000 to establish cooperative agreements with land grant universities, non-profits and other entities to support the research, development and acceleration of agriculture technology

*Alfalfa Research.*—The Committee notes that research into alfalfa seed and alfalfa forage systems holds the potential to increase yields, increase milk production, and improve genetics, and the

Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support research focused on alfalfa improvement. Research should focus on using tools to accelerate and enhance existing breeding programs focused on improving yield and quality parameters; developing innovative harvesting and utilization systems; developing new markets for co-products; and quantifying environmental benefits from alfalfa-based systems.

*Alternative Technologies for Animal Waste Utilization.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for the National Soil Dynamics Laboratory to conduct research and development of technologies to recover phosphorus from manure, transform manure into secondary byproducts, and find alternative environmentally safe and economical usages of manure. The research may also explore environmentally safe methods and appropriate rates of manure application for growing crops and vegetables and the development of alternative feedstock for livestock by raising aquatic zooplanktons on manure wastewater.

*Ancient Crop Genetics.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of plant genetics research in enhancing yields and reducing global food insecurity. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 for utilizing ancient crop plant ancestors to meet consumer demands and protect the global food supply.

*Animal Health and Agro-/Bio-Defense Program.*—The Committee provides an additional of \$1,500,000 to ensure the development of human and technical resources needed for the establishment of a center of excellence for Animal Health and Agro-Bio Defense science to advance integrated research for defending against bio- and agro-terrorism in economically important, large domestic animals. The Committee recognizes the need for developing programs and facilities to conduct research that supports the mission of the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility and other Federal programs in the animal agro-defense strategy.

*Appalachian Natural Products Research.*—The Committee provides \$1,000,000 to advance natural products research and applications with a focus on plant species in Appalachia.

*Aquaculture Seedstock.*—The Committee remains concerned that vital seedstock to support the development of aquaculture in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico will be sourced from foreign aquaculture producers. Domestic on-land recirculating aquaculture systems are highly capable of producing seedstock to support significant domestic on-land and offshore aquaculture industry growth, including through broodstock acquisition and care, spawning, and larval culture techniques. Therefore, the Committee encourages USDA to continue working collaboratively with U.S. aquaculture producers and research institutions that specialize in the development of aquaculture technologies and provides an additional \$1,000,000 for the development of aquaculture technology that will ensure a steady supply of warm water marine fish seedstock for the economic growth of the U.S. aquaculture industry.

*Aquaponics System Development.*—The Committee recognizes the need for improving the development of fresh food production technology to address domestic food security and safety demands. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level and directs ARS to coordinate with academic partners and industry to de-

velop a model-controlled agriculture aquaponics system that is scalable and commercially viable with the purpose of advancing increased fresh food production, improved food safety, decreased water usage, improved nutrient utilization, and decreased negative environmental impacts.

*Atlantic Salmon Breeding Program.*—The Committee directs ARS to continue its Atlantic salmon breeding and domestication work. The Committee notes that domestic salmon farms are required to only use strains of salmon that are of North American origin and that these strains need substantial breeding improvement in order to be competitive with strains currently used by foreign producers. The Committee notes that the current ARS Atlantic salmon breeding program lacks a geneticist and supports efforts by the Department to address this need.

*Binational Agricultural Research and Development [BARD].*—The Committee is supportive of the activities carried out through BARD and provides an increase of \$1,000,000 to support BARD's historical grant-making functions and expand BARD programming for food and nutrition as well as artificial intelligence.

*Barley Pest Initiative.*—The Committee recognizes that insects and viral, bacterial, and fungal diseases inflict substantial yield and quality losses to the barley crop throughout the United States, resulting in significant economic losses to growers and end-users. The Committee supports research to be carried out through the Barley Pest Initiative to address these major threats to sustainable and profitable barley production and utilization. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 to support this initiative.

*Bee Genomic Sequencing.*—The Committee is aware that the genome of the honeybee, *Apis mellifera*, has been sequenced, but there are more than 4,000 bee species in the United States, not all of which are affected by colony collapse or population declines in the same way. The Committee recognizes the critical importance of bee species to American agriculture, floriculture, and ecosystem biodiversity and the increasing challenges to bee colony health related to parasites, poor nutrition, pathogens, and pesticides. Although progress has been made in understanding these influences on pollinator health, additional research into a broader range of genetic information will assist in addressing the decline in bee pollinators. The Committee provides an additional \$1,500,000 for ARS to sequence and study the genomes of all species of bees in the United States and directs that this research be conducted in conjunction with Midwestern land-grant universities with established expertise in bee genomic biology.

*Big Data.*—The Committee is aware of ARS' effort to develop high performance computing infrastructures for modern agricultural research. The Committee provides \$15,000,000 to expand ARS' high-speed network, high-performance computing capabilities, big data storage, and modern informatics expertise to meet both current and future needs.

*Blueberry Breeding.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to continue a comprehensive national blueberry breeding research program to support research in the areas of physiology, horticulture, plant pathology, entomology, and fruit quality that complement breeding. The research will apply the lat-

est tools in molecular breeding to blueberry improvement as well as developing cultivars suitable for machine harvesting.

*Cattle Fever Ticks.*—Cattle fever ticks pose a significant health threat to U.S. cattle and other species across the entire Southern region of the United States. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for research to address the spread of cattle fever ticks.

*Center for Pollinator Health.*—The Committee is aware that bees play a crucial role in U.S. agriculture as pollinators and that continued colony loss poses a serious threat to future food production. While the Committee commends the Department for the steps it has taken to better understand and address this problem, the Committee is concerned that the maximum benefits of multiagency efforts have yet to be achieved. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for the Center for Pollinator Health in order to provide a central Federal voice on pollinator health. The Committee encourages ARS to collaborate with Federal and land-grant university partners to examine the impact of pesticides, varroa mites, and other potential contributors to bee colony declines.

*Chronic Wasting Disease [CWD].*—The Committee recognizes the importance of a live test for cervids potentially affected with CWD and provides an additional \$500,000 for research dedicated to the development of such test and research on pathways of transmission.

*Citrus Greening Disease Research.*—The Committee commends ARS on its research efforts on citrus greening disease and encourages the agency to continue working to develop methods to reduce transmission and enhance immunity in citrus trees, and to work with industry, universities, growers, and other partners to develop effective control mechanisms. The Committee also encourages ARS to coordinate its efforts with the Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination [HLB-MAC] group.

*Climate Change.*—The Committee understands the important role ARS has on addressing climate change issues. The Committee provides \$5,000,000 to establish ARS research teams to support regional Climate Hubs and \$2,500,000 to develop methods to reduce and mitigate the impacts of climate change on pests and pathogen infestations of livestock, poultry, and aquaculture.

*Climate Hubs.*—The Committee provides \$5,000,000 for ARS to establish a fellowship program that actively supports climate hub research and communications.

*Coffee Leaf Rust.*—The recent discovery of coffee leaf rust in the U.S. insular pacific has substantially impacted U.S. coffee agriculture, and the Committee provides \$1,200,000 to develop science-based management strategies, provide extension services, and research CLR resistant varieties of coffee.

*Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia.*—The Committee continues to support USDA's many efforts to address the threat of foreign animal diseases and pests to prevent their introduction and spread in the U.S. ARS participates in these efforts by conducting research to develop improved animal diagnostic tests and vaccines, and the Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for re-

search with partners on contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, which can have a mortality rate as high as 80 percent for infected cattle.

*Cotton Blue Disease.*—The Committee is aware that emerging Cotton Blue Disease identified in Southeastern States could have a devastating impact on the cotton industry if it continues to spread. The Committee provides an additional \$1,500,000 and directs ARS to coordinate with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [APHIS], academic partners, and industry to develop a multi-State sentinel program with the purpose of conducting research to establish biomarkers for the disease and to determine whether there are viable extension management strategies pertaining to aphid control and general cotton management.

*Cotton Ginning.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of pollution abatement, improving fiber quality, ginning efficiency, cotton seed, and other byproducts and provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to expand research in cotton ginning and innovation by existing laboratories.

*Cotton Seed Bug.*—The Cotton Seed Bug has been identified in certain areas of the west. The Cotton Seed Bug has been reported to cause reduction in yield, reduction in seed weight, and reduction in oil content of seed. The Committee provides \$1,000,000 to research further the effects of this bug.

*Cover Crops and Cereal Grain Variety Selection.*—The Committee provides an additional \$2,000,000 to develop soil enhancement technologies and research cereal grains, cover crops, and invasive weeds as they related to the northern climates in regions dominated by permafrost.

*Cover Crops Research and Outreach.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of developing profitable and practicable cover crop options for use in dairy, grain, and vegetable production systems, including for use in no-till organic systems and as forages. Therefore, the Committee provides an additional \$4,050,000 to support research with the purposes of improving measures of soil health and resiliency; varietal development; optimal dairy forage species combinations; timing and strategies for cover crop seeding and termination; forage integration into organic dairy systems; and mitigation of environmental and extreme rainfall impacts on water quality and soil security for diverse cover crop systems.

*Cranberry Research.*—The Committee recognizes the need for advancements in water conservation, pest control, disease reduction, and fruit quality improvements in cranberry production. The Committee provides an additional \$2,000,000 for the improvement of cranberry yields, pest and disease management, and water resource management by developing fields devoted to cranberry research and collection and storage of samples for analysis in appropriate existing laboratory facilities.

*Crop Production Systems and Crop Genetics.*—The Committee recommends an additional \$1,000,000 to support ARS activities in crop production systems and crop genetics in the mid-south region.

*Dairy Forage Research.*—The Committee provides \$3,200,000 for research and outreach on the attributes of alternative cropping cycles and forage systems for dairy production systems, including evaluation of the interactions between climate change, water quality, soil carbon, and cost-of-production in the short and long term.

*Dietary Manipulation to Improve Gut Health in Broiler Production.*—The Committee recognizes the need for the development of alternative nutritional and managerial strategies in domestic poultry production as a result of broiler-fed antibiotic growth promoters. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support cooperative research focused on ensuring broiler production remains nutritional and competitive in the global marketplace.

*East Coast Shellfish Breeding.*—The Committee recognizes the dangers of parasites and bacterial and viral diseases to shellfish farmers and understands the importance of selective breeding to combat these infections. The Committee provides an additional \$1,500,000 for shellfish breeding research focused on the East Coast.

*Emerging Cereal Rust Diseases.*—The Committee is aware that emerging cereal rust diseases are a threat to domestic and world food supplies. Therefore, the Department should continue to dedicate funding to accelerate efforts to combat cereal rust disease, including development of Ug99-resistant wheat varieties.

*Feed Enhancement.*—The Committee recognizes the potential benefits of using Bromoform, currently produced by *Asparagopsis taxiformis* (red seaweed), as a cattle feed enhancement to reduce pollution. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for the Livestock Nutrient Management Research Unit to examine the applicability and potential benefits of Bromoform, whether produced by *Asparagopsis taxiformis* or an alternative method, as a cattle feed enhancement.

*Floriculture and Nursery Research.*—The Committee recognizes the economic importance of the floriculture and nursery sector of agriculture and the industry's need for continued innovation. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 funding level for ARS to support academic and Federal researchers to pursue efforts in crop protection, breeding, mechanization, and other areas through USDA's Floriculture and Nursery Research Initiative.

*Food Systems.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for ARS to continue a Food Systems Center that addresses how local, regional, and global food systems can provide nutritious and culturally appropriate food, regardless of individual life circumstances. Of the amount provided, \$1,000,00 is to continue a pilot program to provide for an evaluation of improved food resource management and diet quality in populations not now served, including the elderly, households living below 185 percent of the poverty level, and low-income households with children of any age.

*Foodborne Pathogens.*—Salmonella continues to cause serious disease in food animals and, via transmission through contaminated food products to people, remains the number one bacterial foodborne pathogen in humans. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to develop non-antibiotic interventions to inhibit environmental movement of Salmonella between food animal species and to reduce the pathogen load in food animals themselves through the use of Salmonella-targeted viruses called bacteriophages, as well as prebiotic and probiotic supplements.



*Forest Products.*—The Committee recognizes the important role of the forests products sector to the U.S. economy. The need to create new and improved value-added products and renewable energy from our Nation's wood supply is critical to the sustainability of the national economy. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support research on wood product quality improvement and improvement in forest products evaluation standards and valuation techniques. ARS shall conduct this research in consultation with the Forest Products Laboratory.

*Genetic Oat Research.*—The Committee recognizes the potential genetic oat research has to improve disease resistance (especially rusts and viruses), augment genetics, increase yields, and develop crop rotation systems that include oats, which will enhance the value of oats and provide benefits to producers and consumers. The Committee provides an increase of \$1,000,000 to expand existing research focused on oat improvement.

*Genetic Resistance.*—The Committee provides \$500,000 for ARS research that focuses on discovering and developing genetic resistance and other management technologies for insect pests and diseases of wheat, peanut, sorghum, and barley.

*Genomes to Fields.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support the Germplasm Enhancement of Maize project to complement existing USDA maize germplasm programs and to support the emerging large-scale public sector effort to investigate the interaction of maize genome variation and environments, known as the Genomes to Fields project.

*Healthy Soils Initiative.*—The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 to support the study of enhanced food nutritional quality through Healthy Soil-Healthy Food-Healthy People Initiatives.

*Hemp Cultivar Development.*—The Committee encourages ARS to conduct biotechnology and genomics research in collaboration with capable institutions to elucidate the genetic control of key production and product quality traits in hemp to facilitate cultivar development. In addition, the Committee provides \$2,500,000 for ARS to partner with institutions already engaged in such research to conduct hemp genetic improvement research and breeding with new breeding and editing techniques.

*Hemp Germplasm.*—The Committee recognizes the increasing demand for hemp for a variety of uses and its growing importance as a crop for U.S. farmers. When the Nation's hemp germplasm was destroyed in the 1980s, researchers lost access to publicly available germplasm for plant breeding purposes. The Committee directs ARS to establish and maintain a hemp germplasm repository at the Plant Genetics Resources Research Unit and provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for this purpose. The Committee also encourages ARS and the Plant Genetics Resources Research Unit to partner with 1890 institutions that have existing institutional capacity on hemp germplasm research, education, and extension capabilities.

*Hemp Production Systems.*—The Committee recognizes the emerging market potential for U.S. hemp and hemp-based products for a variety of uses. The Committee directs ARS to conduct regionally-driven research, development, and stakeholder engagement to improve agronomic and agro-economic understanding of effectively

integrating hemp into existing agricultural cropping, processing, and marketing systems. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for this purpose. Research, engagement, and technology transfer shall be conducted in strict accordance with all applicable Federal and State authorities and regulations.

*Herbicide Resistance Initiative.*—The Committee supports the creation of a regionally focused Herbicide Resistance Initiative for the Pacific Northwest to identify and overcome herbicide resistance associated with the crop production pathway, reducing production losses and reducing or eliminating pressure on trade limits due to contamination. The Committee supports research to address weed management strongly affecting the long-term economic sustainability of food systems in collaboration with ARS, research institutions and stakeholder support. The Committee recommendation includes \$3,000,000 to support the initiative.

*High Performance Computing Support.*—The Committee provides an additional \$3,000,000 to support high performance computing capability to address scientific needs and directs ARS to collaborate with appropriate partners with the technical capacity and scientific synergy to provide cost-effective high performance computing support.

*Hops Research.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support hops research.

*Human Nutrition Research.*—Maintenance of health throughout the lifespan, along with prevention of obesity and chronic diseases via food-based recommendations, are the major emphases of human nutrition research. This research supports USDA's strategic goals of nutrition monitoring; the scientific basis for dietary recommendations; prevention of obesity and related diseases; and life stage nutrition and metabolism, in order to better define the role of nutrition in pregnancy and growth of children and for healthier aging. The Committee provides an increase of \$1,000,000 to expand research regarding life stage nutrition and metabolism and the growth, health promotion, disease prevention, diet, and immune function of the developing child, especially the rural child. The Committee also provides an increase of \$1,000,000 to address the vital role that research has on human nutrition and an aging population.

*Impact of Harmful Algal Bloom [HAB] on Aquaculture.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for the support of cooperative projects working on the toxicology of HABs, including the algal species involved, the factors mediating toxin production or release, better detection methods, development of methods to predict release of toxins, and new biological or chemical approaches to manage harmful algal blooms in a cost-effective manner.

*Improving Water Quality, Soil Health and Soil Carbon Sequestration in Poultry Agricultural Fields.*—The Committee provides \$2,000,000 for the National Soil Dynamics Laboratory to conduct research on developing biomass conversion technologies to engineer biochar for nutrient capture and heavy metals absorption, as well as examine the role of biochar in retaining nutrients and heavy metals in soils and develop best management practices to apply

biochar and poultry manure to improve soil health and maximize plant nutrient uptake.

*Invasive Pests.*—The Committee continues to be concerned about the threats invasive pests pose to the Pacific region, notably to agriculture, the economy, environment, human health, and national security. The Committee directs ARS to continue its work with stakeholders in the Pacific region to assess options for combatting invasive pests. Options may include invasive pest biocontrol research and development facilities, including appropriate containment, rearing facilities, greenhouse quarantine, and additional agricultural research laboratory space and administrative space.

*Laboratory Staffing.*—The Committee directs ARS to fully staff laboratories even if the laboratory is proposed to be closed in the budget request.

*Little Cherry Disease.*—The Committee is concerned by the growing prevalence of Little Cherry Disease in the Pacific Northwest and the significant threat that it poses to the region's stone fruit. The Committee includes \$2,500,000 for research on detection and mitigation of the disease and the vector insects involved.

*Livestock Genetic Research.*—The Committee is aware of the promise that genetic engineering holds for addressing livestock animal diseases, welfare, and production. However, the inability to consistently produce genetically engineered “founder animals” in significant numbers represents the major bottleneck for many promising animal biotechnologies. While the National Institutes of Health [NIH] have invested in such facilities for human biomedical research activities that produced needed mice, rats, and pigs, the USDA has not supported similar scale efforts. As such, the Committee provides an additional \$3,000,000 to partner with a major university where genetic engineering expertise is already available and to contract for such services for swine models. The Committee encourages USDA to leverage existing investments in this area made by the NIH.

*Macadamia Tree Health Initiative.*—The Macadamia Tree Health Initiative was authorized for the purpose of developing and disseminating science-based tools and treatments to combat the macadamia felted coccid. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for this purpose.

*Methyl Bromide Alternatives.*—Farmers throughout the country continue to face significant adverse economic and operational impacts associated with the phase-out of methyl bromide. Therefore, to meet ongoing needs for collaborative information sources on state-of-the-art fumigant alternatives for use by researchers, growers, food processors, legislators, government policy officials, and other interested parties, the Committee directs the Secretary to provide continued funding for education and outreach regarding methyl bromide alternatives to minimize the impacts of soil and post-harvest pests to agriculture and maintain critical domestic and international markets.

*Missouri River Basin Water Resource Management Research.*—The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 for research on the benefits of improving flood control on the lower Missouri River, assessing the impact on commodity process of river navigability, evaluating the probabilities of levee failure and associated damage

under different protection scenarios, and utilizing biophysical simulation models to evaluate agricultural production and minimize erosion and pollution runoff while supporting flood control, navigation, and drinking and cooling water supplies.

*National Agricultural Library [NAL].*—The Committee strongly encourages ARS to maintain its focus on agriculture-related legal issues within the NAL. The Committee notes that as the agriculture sector faces increasing financial stress, there is a necessity that agriculture-related legal issues be addressed on an increasingly frequent basis. Further, agriculture-related legal issues are increasingly complex and the impact of these legal issues continues to broaden in scope. The Committee provides an increase of \$4,000,000 to support climate science research at the NAL. Further, the Committee provides funding at the fiscal year 2021 level to the Agricultural Law Information Partnership, including for the existing partner institutions, and recommends that the National Agricultural Library continue to play an important role in assisting all stakeholders with understanding these complex legal issues. The Committee encourages ARS and the National Agricultural Library to engage in multi-year cooperative agreements with the Agricultural Law Information Partnership's partner institutions.

*National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility.*—The Committee provides an additional \$49,000,000 to continue stand-up activities and other initial costs to operate and maintain the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility [NBAF].

*Pacific Shellfish Genetics and Breeding.*—The Committee recognizes the economic importance of shellfish aquaculture for rural and coastal communities on the Pacific coast and the need for resilient, healthy genetic stocks that can withstand the region's changing ocean and coastal conditions as well as new disease threats. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for a shellfish genetics and breeding program to develop genetically improved stock, promote enhanced disease resiliency, modernize production technologies, and transfer technology and improved stocks to shellfish farmers in Pacific States.

*Pay Costs/FERS.*—The Committee provides \$17,806,000 for pay costs and FERS increases.

*Pear Genetics and Genomics.*—The Committee recognizes that research into pear genetics and genomics is needed to identify genetic sources of pest resistance and to contribute to improved, size-controlling rootstocks to enhance orchard efficiency and to otherwise improve cultivated pear research. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support research into pear genetics and genomics.

*Pollinator Recovery, Education, and Research.*—The Committee is aware that bees play a crucial role in U.S. agriculture as pollinators and that colony loss poses a serious threat to future food production. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 to continue work at the Pollinator Recovery, Education, and Research Center.

*Postharvest Dairy Research.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of developing solutions to address agricultural postharvest inefficiencies to conserve limited resources and feed a growing population. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021

level for research to develop postharvest technologies that decrease waste and improve resource use of protein, fat, and sugar in dairy processing.

*Potato Research.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for the development of new management strategies for potato storage that will maintain potato quality, reduce grower and processor losses, and increase profits.

*Poultry Production Technology Development.*—The Committee recognizes the need for advancement in poultry processing as a result of increased global competition. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support cooperative research focused on advancing domestic poultry production and processing through the development of a technology-driven, multidisciplinary approach that will increase innovation and discovery, particularly around animal welfare, food safety, labor, and environmental protection.

*Poultry Research.*—The Committee recognizes the important role of the poultry sector to the U.S. economy. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to expand the research capacity for poultry production and health.

*Precision Aquaculture.*—The Committee recognizes that land-based, closed-containment aquaculture provides the capacity to raise freshwater or marine species in any locale with minimal environmental impacts. Implementing precision agriculture technologies in these systems will increase production efficiencies and profitability, ultimately increasing capacity for meeting the seafood demands of U.S. consumers through responsible and sustainable domestic aquaculture production. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 to continue the implementation of precision aquaculture in land-based, closed-containment aquaculture systems.

*Precision Viticulture for Premium Grapes.*—The Committee recognizes the rapid growth in demand for premium wine and the industry's concurrent benefits with respect to helping numerous rural communities generate new tourism and tax revenue. Relevant stakeholders have identified precision viticulture and decision support systems as the preferred path to improving grape productivity and quality. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for a collaborative research program focused on precision viticulture for premium grapes and wine and to support existing ARS viticulture and enology research programs.

*Predictive Modeling Tools.*—The Committee supports efforts to develop sustainable agricultural production systems for crops through the use of forecasting tools that incorporate post-harvest soil testing and in-season monitoring of plant pathogens to combat crop diseases. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for ARS to work with Federal and land-grant university partners in order to develop predictive modeling tools that aid farm management decisions to improve agricultural production of row crops.

*Pulse Crop Quality.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of ARS wheat quality laboratories in researching and advancing the quality and overall utilization of wheat and pulse crops. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 to further these efforts for pulse crops by establishing quality analysis standards, de-

veloping innovative production processes, and evaluating crop varieties for product functionality and market suitability.

*Pulse Health Initiative.*—The Committee supports the expansion of pulse crop research and provides an additional \$1,000,000 to enhance scientific research into the health and nutritional benefits of dry peas, lentils, chickpeas, and dry beans.

*Rangeland Precision Livestock Management.*—The Committee recognizes the opportunity for precision livestock management strategies and tools to promote economically efficient and environmentally responsive livestock production systems for the Western rangeland. The Committee no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to develop precision nutrition strategies for rangeland-based livestock as well as technology-based rangeland and livestock management strategies to optimize the health and productivity of both Western rangeland-based livestock and the rangeland ecosystem. Further, the Committee recommends this funding to transfer new knowledge and technology strategies into data-informed tools and decision guidance for Western livestock and rangeland managers.

*Rangeland Research.*—The Committee recognizes the demonstrated potential for cooperative partnerships to address complex sagebrush steppe ecosystem challenges in the Great Basin region. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for ARS to support a regional, multi-institutional cooperative partnership to advance collaborative science-based conservation research, extension, and education to address time-sensitive and shared rangeland challenges affecting sustainable agricultural productivity, rural communities, and ecosystem health.

*Reduce Mixed Infections in Warm Water Aquaculture.*—The Committee provides \$2,000,000 to conduct research to close the gaps in knowledge regarding co-infections in catfish in order to help develop effective prevention.

*Research Facilities.*—The Committee understands the important collaboration between ARS and universities and the impact that aging facilities have on new research opportunities. The Committee directs ARS to submit a report that including information on the current utilization of ARS facilities by universities and cooperators, as well as the extent to which ARS is housed in cooperator facilities.

*Resilient Dryland Farming.*—The Committee recognizes the need for advancements in dryland production practices, cropping, and equipment to increase profitability, conserve the soil, enhance soil water storage, promote soil health, and decrease reliance on herbicides. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to expand research focused on resilient dryland farming. Research should focus on improving yield and quality parameters; developing cropping systems capable of tolerating drought, heat, and diseases; and quantifying economic and environmental benefits from dryland crop production systems.

*Roseau Cane.*—The Committee remains concerned with the invasive species scale insect pest that is destroying Roseau cane in the Mississippi River's Delta region along the Gulf of Mexico. An estimated 225,000 acres of wetlands in the Delta have been affected with the die-off, and Roseau cane is important in maintaining a healthy marsh and preventing erosion. The Committee di-

rects ARS to continue to work with APHIS and stakeholders to develop an integrated management program for control of the Roseau cane scale insect pest infestation.

*Sclerotinia.*—The Committee is aware of the economic importance of controlling sclerotinia, which affects sunflowers, soybeans, canola, edible beans, peas, and lentils and provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for this purpose. The Committee encourages ARS to continue both core research and cooperative projects of the National Sclerotinia Initiative.

*Shrimp Production Research.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of increasing domestic shrimp production and provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for research and commercial development of production technologies that will improve shrimp health and streamline feed management regimes.

*Small Farm Orchard Production Current Research Information System [CRIS] Unit.*—The Committee recognizes the critical need for development of low-cost technology and innovative production strategies for small farm fruit growers that enables profitable operations on a variety of lands, including reclaimed mines, increases overall fruit quality, reduces production costs, and increases economic and ecological sustainability. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for the purpose of implementing a Small Farm Orchard Production CRIS Unit.

*Small Farms Research.*—The Committee recognizes that many small farms struggle to integrate agricultural technologies and that ARS research has been pivotal in filling these gaps. The Committee encourages ARS to grow research initiatives and projects that support the development, application, assessment, and technology transfer of agricultural technologies to small farms.

*Small Fruits.*—The Committee recognizes the need to support research to promote sustainable and organic production of berry and grape crops with the goal of reducing pesticide use and improving quality and yield. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support research to improve the ability to forecast pest and disease spread, implement precision management strategies, and improve the overall quality of fruit.

*Small Grains Genomic Initiative.*—The Committee supports research on barley and wheat high throughput genomics and phenotyping and recognizes its importance in improving crop traits and developing new cultivars. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support the Small Grains Genomic Initiative.

*Smoke Exposure.*—The Committee is concerned about the impacts of wildfire smoke on winegrape producers and supports research to help growers and processors establish science-based threshold levels of smoke compounds that cause smoke-tainted grapes, identify the compounds responsible for smoke taints, develop mitigation methods to reduce or eliminate smoke taint, and conduct research into compounds that can act as a barrier between the grapes and the smoke compounds. The Committee provides an increase of \$1,500,000 for this research.

*Soft White Wheat Falling Numbers Test.*—The Committee recognizes the emerging crisis surrounding wheat starch degradation as detected by the Hagberg-Perten Falling Numbers [FN] Test. The

quality loss was particularly devastating to Pacific Northwest soft white wheat producers in late 2016. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 funding level to research the accuracy of the FN test and better understand environmental, storage, and genetic conditions leading to this quality loss.

*Soil Carbon Research.*—The Committee recognizes the need for research into current and future dryland production practices to increase profitability, conserve soil, enhance soil water storage, promote sequestration of carbon and soil health, and reduce reliance on herbicides. The Committee no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for research focused on improving yield; assessing the level of carbon sequestration through existing practices; developing new cropping systems capable of tolerating drought, heat, and diseases by improving soil health; improving sequestration of carbon; and identifying opportunities for increasing sustainability of dryland crop production.

*Sorghum Genetic Database.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of phenotyping and genotyping that allows breeders to understand which genes are responsible for improvements in pest resistance, drought tolerance, and yield. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 to further facilitate the partnership between ARS and the Department of Energy on sorghum genome mapping, particularly the creation of an easily-accessible database to house the information generated from the ongoing genetic sequencing research which will facilitate further crop development efforts, especially in combating the sugarcane aphid, a new and devastating invasive pest.

*Southern Regional Research Center [SRRC].*—The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 for the SRRC crop adaptive resilience food program to conduct collaborative research with research universities by exploring the value-added enhancement of State-grown crops such as rice and other grains and pulses, to define the role for novel approaches in crop biological signaling and modification to yield environmentally sustainable, adaptive and stressor resistant varieties and interventions.

*Staff Increases at ARS Facilities.*—The Committee notes that new ARS buildings have been completed over the past several years and additional staffing is required to fully utilize this space. The Committee provides \$10,000,000 for additional staff at these facilities.

*Sudden Oak Death.*—The European strain 1 [EU1] and the North American strain 1 [NA1] of the sudden oak death pathogen are major threats to western Douglas-fir/tanoak forests, resulting in quarantine restrictions that threaten U.S. forests and export markets for log shipments and lily bulbs. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for research to improve understanding of the EU1 and NA1 strains of the sudden oak death pathogen and treatment methods to inform control and management techniques in wildlands.

*Sugar Beet Research.*—The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 for plant disease research to improve the quality of sugar beet production.

*Sugarcane Variety Development.*—The Committee recognizes the devastating impact wrought by invasive pests on the domestic sug-



arcane industry and provides an additional \$1,000,000 to support the development of new pest and disease-resistant varieties.

*Sustainable Aquaculture.*—The Committee notes that aquaculture is the fastest growing food production industry in the world. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 for a pilot Aquaculture Experiment Station in partnership with universities to support rapid response research on sustainable aquaculture for coldwater and warmwater production environments, with special emphasis on workforce education.

*Sustainable and Advanced Technology Systems for Poultry Processing.*—The Committee recognizes the need to address two challenges confronting the poultry industry: animal welfare and waste management. As such, the Committee provides \$4,000,000 and directs the ARS to coordinate with academic partners to develop technology-driven systems that will study humane poultry stunning practices which are effective, feasible, and commercially viable, as well as research the impacts of food safety chemicals on wastewater systems and develop feasible methods for water re-use, conservation, and recycling through algae-, microbial-based systems.

*Sustainable Water Use Research.*—The alluvial plain within the Lower Mississippi River Basin is one of most productive agricultural regions in the United States. The Committee remains concerned with the unsustainable use of water in the Alluvial Aquifer as a result of increasing water withdrawals and stagnant recharging. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for research to improve the recharge capabilities of the Alluvial Aquifer and to develop new conservation and irrigation techniques to reduce water usage in agriculture production.

*Tree Fruit Post-Harvest Research.*—The Committee recognizes that tree fruit production, including pear and cherry, is a predominant supplier for domestic and international markets. The Committee further recognizes that the tree fruit industry faces significant economic vulnerability from variations in post-harvest quality control. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for pear and cherry tree fruit research to optimize yield and post-harvest quality, extend storage life, and promote enhanced resiliency from endemic and emerging diseases.

*Tropical and Subtropical Research.*—Research on Tropical and Subtropical crops is critical as the presence of and destruction by invasive pests such as fruit flies, coffee berry borer, felted macadamia nut coxoid, plant viruses, and fungal diseases increasingly threaten crop security in the Pacific and Insular Areas. The Committee encourages ARS to support this research.

*Tropical Grazing Land Pest Management.*—The recent introduction of invasive insect species such as *Prosapia bicincta* has substantially impacted tropical grazing lands. The Committee provides \$1,000,000 to develop science-based pest management strategies.

*Unmanned Aerial Systems [UAS] Precision Agriculture Applications.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to support efforts utilizing UAS in crop production operations and to address the challenges associated with data capture, transfer, and analysis.

*U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative [USWBSI].*—The Committee recognizes that fusarium head blight is a major threat to agriculture, inflicting substantial yield and quality losses throughout the United States. The Committee supports research carried out through the USWBSI. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to conduct further research on reducing the impact of fusarium head blight on wheat and barley.

*Warmwater Aquaculture.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to facilitate the advancement of technologies that improve the efficiency, profitability, and sustainability of warmwater aquaculture production.

*Wheat and Sorghum Research.*—The Committee recognizes the potential impact heat and drought can have on the yield and quality of wheat and sorghum and the need for new cultivars to adapt to changing climatic conditions. In addition, sorghum crops have been hit particularly hard by the invasive sugarcane aphid and new resistant cultivars are needed. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for research to improve the productivity and quality of wheat and sorghum during uncertain growing seasons resulting from extended droughts and increased temperatures. Within this increase, funding is included to initiate gene flow research to advance the durability and sustainability of fitness traits in sorghum.

*Whitefly.*—The Committee remains concerned with the whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci*, epidemic, which is severely impacting pecan production in the Southeastern United States. The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to continue this research.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$35,700,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	45,405,000
Committee recommendation .....	45,405,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$45,405,000 for Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Section 7511(f)(2) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–234) amends the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6971) by establishing an agency to be known as the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The Secretary transferred to the Director of NIFA, effective October 1, 2009, all authorities administered by the Administrator of the Cooperative State, Research, Education, and Extension Service. The mission is to work with university partners and customers to advance research, extension, and higher education in the food and agricultural sciences and related environmental and human sciences to benefit people, communities, and the Nation.

## RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$992,642,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,378,416,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,057,420,000

Research and Education programs administered by NIFA are USDA's principal entrée to the U.S. university system for the purpose of conducting agricultural research and education programs as authorized by the Hatch Act of 1887, as amended (7 U.S.C. 361a–361i); the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act of 1962, as amended (Public Law 87–788); the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act, as amended (Public Law 89–106); the National Agricultural, Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended (Public Law 95–113); the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note); the Agricultural Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–185), as amended; the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–624); the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–171); and the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246). Through these authorities, USDA participates with States and other cooperators to encourage and assist State institutions in conducting agricultural research and education through the State Agricultural Experiment Stations of the 50 States and the territories; approved Schools of Forestry; the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions, Tuskegee University, and West Virginia State University; 1994 Land-Grant Institutions; Colleges of Veterinary Medicine; and other eligible institutions. The appropriated funds provide Federal support for research and education programs at these institutions.

The research and education programs participate in a nationwide system of agricultural research program planning and coordination among the State institutions, USDA, and the agricultural industry of America.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,057,420,000 for research and education activities of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

The following table summarizes the Committee's recommendations for research and education activities:

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

[Dollars in thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	Committee recommendation
Hatch Act .....	7 U.S.C. 361a–i .....	275,000
McIntire–Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act .....	16 U.S.C. 582a through a–7 .....	40,000
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans–Allen Program) .....	7 U.S.C. 3222 .....	73,000
Payments to the 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 301 note .....	6,000
Education Grants for 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(b) .....	26,000
Scholarships at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3222a .....	10,000
Centers of Excellence at 1890s Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 5926(d) .....	10,000
Education Grants for Hispanic–Serving Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3241 .....	14,000
Education Grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian–Serving Institutions.	7 U.S.C. 3156 .....	5,000

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES—  
Continued  
[Dollars in thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	Committee recommendation
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3222b-2, 3362 and 3363 .....	5,000
New Beginning for Tribal Students .....	7 U.S.C. 3222e .....	5,000
Capacity Building for Non Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture .....	7 U.S.C. 3319i .....	5,000
Resident Instruction and Distance Education Grants for Insular Areas.	7 U.S.C. 3362 and 3363 .....	2,000
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(b) .....	445,000
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment .....	7 U.S.C. 3151a .....	10,000
Veterinary Services Grant Program .....	7 U.S.C. 3151b .....	3,500
Continuing Animal Health and Disease Research Program .....	7 U.S.C. 3195 .....	4,000
Supplemental and Alternative Crops .....	7 U.S.C. 3319d .....	2,000
Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship and Institutions Challenge Grants.	7 U.S.C. 3152(b) .....	10,000
Secondary and 2-year Post-Secondary Education .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(j) .....	1,000
Aquaculture Centers .....	7 U.S.C. 3322 .....	5,000
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education .....	7 U.S.C. 5811, 5812, 5831, and 5832.	45,000
Farm Business Management .....	7 U.S.C. 5925f .....	2,000
Sun Grant Program .....	7 U.S.C. 8114 .....	3,500
Research Equipment Grants .....	7 U.S.C. 3310 .....	3,000
Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4) .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(e) .....	14,500
Alfalfa Seed and Alfalfa Forage Systems Research Program .....	7 U.S.C. 5925 .....	3,500
Agricultural Genome to Phenome Initiative .....	7 U.S.C. 5924 .....	2,000
Laying Hen and Turkey Research Program .....	7 U.S.C. 5925 .....	1,000
Special Research Grants:		
Global Change/UV Monitoring .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	1,400
Potato Research .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	3,000
Aquaculture Research .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	2,000
Total, Special Research Grants .....		6,400
Necessary Expenses of Research and Education Activities:		
Grants Management System .....		8,000
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses for Research and Education Activities.		12,020
Total, Necessary Expenses .....		20,020
Total, Research and Education Activities .....		1,057,420

*Agricultural Research Enhancement Awards.*—The Committee remains determined to see that quality research and enhanced human resources development in the agricultural and related sciences be a nationwide commitment. Therefore, the Committee continues its direction that not less than 15 percent of the competitive research grant funds be used for USDA's agricultural research enhancement awards program, including USDA Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research [EPSCOR].

*Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.*—The Committee provides \$445,000,000 for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative [AFRI].

Section 7406 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-234) specifies priority areas within AFRI, including an emphasis on conventional (classical) plant and animal breeding. The Committee strongly supports providing farmers nationwide with greater access to cultivars that are locally and regionally adapted to their soils, climates, and farming systems. The

Committee is concerned that insufficient progress is being made in prioritizing this effort. As such, the Committee directs the agency to make regionally adapted, publicly held cultivar development a distinct funding priority within AFRI for fiscal year 2022 and directs the agency to take steps to improve its tracking of public cultivar projects within AFRI and report its progress in meeting this goal.

*Agriculture Technology.*—The Committee encourages USDA to support research and development of agricultural robotics, particularly to increase yields in vertically stacked farming production.

*Agroacoustics.*—The Committee recognizes the growing field of acoustics and the many positive impacts it may have in agriculture, particularly with respect to pest management. The Committee encourages AFRI to prioritize funding for agroacoustics in its basic and applied research program, as well as through the Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement grants.

*Alfalfa Seed and Alfalfa Forage Systems Research.*—The Committee rejects the proposal to eliminate funding for the Alfalfa and Forage Research and provides an additional \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2021 level for this important research. The Committee notes that research into alfalfa and forage has the potential to increase alfalfa and forage yields, increase milk production, and improve genetics. The Committee provides funding to support research into the improvement of yields, water conservation, creation of new uses, and other research areas holding the potential to advance the alfalfa seed and alfalfa forage industry.

*Algae Applications in Agriculture Research.*—The Committee encourages NIFA to support research on algae and algae application in agriculture, including new technologies and commercial markets for renewable and sustainable products derived from algae.

*Aquaculture Disease Research.*—The Committee encourages USDA to support aquaculture disease and vaccine research, including research on coldwater aquaculture vaccines. There is currently no national facility for pathogen testing. Research into finfish vaccines and pathogens has the potential to accelerate the growth of sustainable U.S. aquaculture, reduce the trade deficit attributable to imported seafood, and reduce the pressure on overfished species.

*Aquaculture Research.*—The Committee rejects the proposal to eliminate funding for the Aquaculture Research. The Committee recognizes the importance of the domestic aquaculture industry to the U.S. economy. The Committee provides funding for aquaculture research to address issues related to genetics, disease, systems, and economics.

*Brucellosis Research.*—Federal and State animal health officials have made eradicating livestock disease with significant reservoirs a national animal health priority. This need was reflected in the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), which made the research and development of surveillance methods, vaccines, vaccination delivery systems, and diagnostics tests a priority research area under the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (Public Law 89–106), particularly for bovine brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis. The Committee recognizes the need for this research and encourages the agency to make competitive grants available to

study improved management tools for zoonotic livestock diseases with significant wildlife reservoirs.

*Citrus Disease Research Program.*—The Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program is intended to discover and develop tools for early detection, control, and eradication of diseases and pests that threaten domestic citrus production and processing and is provided \$25,000,000 per year in mandatory funding through the Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Trust Fund, as authorized in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334). The Committee believes research projects funded under this authority should be prioritized based on the critical threat of citrus greening and encourages NIFA, to the maximum extent practicable, to follow the recommendations of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Advisory Board’s citrus disease subcommittee and to collaborate with the HLB–MAC group.

*Community Food Projects.*—The Committee remains concerned that large grocer recruitment remains a problem for many communities, particularly those experiencing higher rates of abandoned or vacant homes, and encourages the Department to explore innovative approaches to address access to nutritional food options in urban food deserts. The Committee encourages the Secretary to explore the development of community-wide urban agriculture projects that assist in eliminating vacant properties while providing the communities with much-needed fresh produce.

*Countering Seafood Fraud.*—The Committee remains concerned about countering economic fraud and improving the safety of the U.S. food supply. The Committee is concerned that adequate technology is not yet available to provide for appropriate sampling of the food supply. The Committee believes NIFA should conduct research to develop technologies that will provide rapid, portable, and facile screening of fish species at port sites, as well as wholesale and retail centers.

*Diversification in Agriculture.*—The Committee recognizes the rapid evolution of U.S. agriculture, including the diversification of practices, markets, and technologies as farms transition from one generation to another. The Committee encourages NIFA to prioritize investments that deliver hands-on technical education in diversified agriculture and food systems and to support technical colleges seeking to establish beginning farmer programs serving diversified agriculture and supporting farm viability.

*Dual Use/Dual Benefit.*—The Dual Purpose with Dual Benefit: Research in Biomedicine and Agriculture Using Agriculturally Important Domestic Species program is an interagency partnership grants program funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD] and USDA. The Committee strongly urges continuation of this partnership because it sponsors use of farm animals as dual purpose models to better understand developmental origins of disease, fat regulation and obesity, stem cell biology, assisted reproductive technologies, and infectious disease, which directly benefits both agriculture and biomedicine. This program also strengthens ties between human medicine, veterinary medicine, and animal sciences, which is key to success of the One Health Initiative.

*Education Grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions.*—The Committee continues to strongly support the Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Education Program, and provides an increase of \$1,806,000 that will allow for an increase in both the consortium and individual grant components of the program.

*Expanding Nutrition Incentive Participation.*—The Committee notes that the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program [GusNIP] plays an important role in boosting low-income communities' abilities to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, which in turn improves the health of families and expands economic opportunities for farmers. The Committee urges NIFA to prioritize grants that would expand participation among states, SNAP recipients, and partners that have not previously participated in the program. The Committee further encourages NIFA to provide technical assistance to programs to share best practices and ways to increase partner investments and donations.

*Food Safety.*—The Committee recommends that NIFA prioritize research funding for new food safety technologies relating to the Nation's meat supply that helps researchers, producers, and manufacturers.

*Food Safety and Defense Technology.*—The Committee is concerned that insufficient progress is being made in the development of detection technology in the food safety sector. The ability to rapidly, accurately, and cost effectively detect pathogens or contaminants throughout the food supply chain is critical to protecting the United States from food-borne illnesses and malicious acts. As such, the Committee encourages NIFA to increase research of novel biodetection technologies and the implementation of mobile biodetection platforms in real-world conditions. The Department should consider technologies currently in use or under development in other fields, such as medicine or homeland security, to determine whether the technology can meet the needs in either high volume food production or mobile food defense monitoring.

*Foodborne Illness Prevention.*—The Committee understands the significant threats to public health and to the economic viability of communities impacted by foodborne illness and believes that coordinated and targeted resources are needed to understand the risks and to develop effective strategies for control. The Committee continues to encourage NIFA, in coordination with the FDA, to establish a Center of Excellence for Foodborne Illness to coordinate a research program to reduce the risk of *Listeria monocytogenes*.

*Function and Efficacy of Nutrients to Treat Obesity.*—The Committee supports research partnerships with academic entities to research how bioactive substances help reduce obesity. Given the persistent obesity problem in the U.S. and the associated and growing costs to Federal healthcare programs, the Committee strongly supports increased investment in this area, as it holds great promise to develop new methods to tackle obesity in our communities.

*Genomes to Phenomes.*—The Committee is supportive of the multi-university crop research initiative known as Genomes to Phenomes and encourages NIFA to support the development of tools and datasets that can be used across multiple crop species to improve the output and efficiency of agriculture. The Committee

recognizes that investment in this area will help with developing advanced genome engineering tools for integrated optimization of crop yield and livestock feed for improved animal reproduction and nutrition and mitigation of environmental impacts from crop and livestock production.

*Inadequate Infrastructure at Colleges of Agriculture.*—The Committee notes that a recent assessment of the infrastructure at the Nation’s colleges and schools of agriculture shows that nearly 70 percent of the buildings are at the end of their useful life and that the cost of deferred maintenance is estimated to be \$11,500,000,000, with a replacement value of \$38,100,000,000. In future budget requests, the Committee directs the Administration to demonstrate a commitment to this critical research infrastructure and maintenance backlog to ensure that America remains a global leader in agricultural production, research, and education.

*Laying Hen and Turkey Research Program.*—The Committee notes that research into laying hens and turkeys holds the potential to improve the efficiency and sustainability of laying hen and turkey production through integrated, collaborative research and technology transfer. The Committee recommendation includes \$1,000,000 to support research into laying hen and turkey disease prevention, antimicrobial resistance, nutrition, gut health, and alternative housing systems under extreme weather conditions, all which hold the potential to advance the laying hen and turkey industry.

*Lowbush Blueberries.*—The Committee directs NIFA to work with research institutions to develop and refine predictive models and monitoring technologies for native and invasive pests for incorporation into integrated pest management programs for naturally seeded, native berry crops to increase the margin of food safety and product quality.

*Multi-Trophic Aquaculture Research.*—Nearly half the seafood consumed across the world is the result of aquaculture, and the aquaculture industry is a critical and growing part of the U.S. economy. However, less than 1 percent of worldwide production comes from U.S. producers. The Committee is concerned that inefficient production technologies hinder the ability of the domestic aquaculture industry to compete on a global scale. The Committee supports development and demonstration of an integrated aquaculture system that would contain at one site a highly competitive and sustainable system with a low environmental footprint and primary self-containment capability. The Committee supports the development of a “Beta” model that would focus on developing, building, operating, demonstrating, and teaching around this intensified, integrated, bio-secure production technology for feed, fish-plant, and energy products.

*New Beginning for Tribal Students.*—The Committee provides funding for the New Beginning for Tribal Students program and recognizes the importance of promoting opportunity and access to higher education for Native American students.

*Oak Mites.*—The Committee directs NIFA to study the recent infestation of oak mites and focus on suppression and eradication possibilities.



*Organic Research.*—USDA’s National Organic Standards Board [NOSB] has identified key organic research priorities, many of which would help to address challenges that have limited the growth in organic production in this country. The Committee encourages NIFA to give strong consideration to the NOSB organic research priorities when crafting the fiscal year 2022 Request for Applications for AFRI and the Organic Transition Program. Given the growing demand for organic products, the Committee also encourages USDA to increase the number of organic research projects funded under AFRI and the Specialty Crop Research Initiative.

*Protein Functionality.*—The Committee encourages USDA to support research projects that characterize protein from crop plants such as chickpeas, sorghum, lentils, fava beans, lupin, rice, oats, mushrooms, and water lentils to assess their suitability for use in food products. The Committee is particularly interested in research projects involving plants that can be easily cultivated in the U.S. and that are sustainably grown and produced, such as water usage or fertilizer and pesticide requirements.

*Public Plant and Animal Breeding.*—The Committee is concerned about the decline in public plant and animal breeding programs at our Nation’s land-grant universities [LGUs] over the last 25 years and encourages LGUs to take steps to foster the next generation of public plant and animal breeders by placing a higher priority on the development of publicly available, regionally adapted cultivars and breeds. For all regions of our Nation to optimize their productive capacity in an environmentally sustainable manner, it is critical that the farmers of the region have access to the most up-to-date cultivars and breeds to meet ever-changing conditions.

*Risk Management Education.*—In light of the increase in mandatory funding provided for the Risk Management Education Program by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334), the Committee encourages NIFA to raise the maximum grant size in order to accommodate a wider range of project types and scopes, including regional and national projects, which would require a separate larger maximum grant size.

*Seafood.*—The Committee encourages USDA, in partnership with universities with established domestic shrimp farming programs, to support the development of a domestic industry that will help ensure the safety and quality of the Nation’s seafood supply, promote environmentally sustainable aquaculture, create new opportunities for U.S. agriculture, and forge new markets for U.S. grain and oilseed products and technology services.

*Small Fruits Research.*—The Committee encourages USDA to support research to promote sustainable production of berry and grape crops with the goal of reducing pesticide use and improving quality and yield. The Committee is concerned about invasive insects, such as the spotted winged drosophila and brown marmorated stink bug, and the negative impact they have on small fruit production and integrated pest management. The Committee strongly encourages USDA to support research to improve the ability to forecast pest and disease spread and implement precision management strategies.

*Specialty Crop Research Initiative.*—The Committee emphasizes the important role of the Specialty Crop Research Initiative in ad-

addressing the critical needs of the specialty crop industry through research and extension activities. The Committee encourages NIFA to prioritize proposals for, and enhance its overall commitment to, identifying and addressing threats to pollinators from pests and diseases and the ability of farmers to extend their growing season through the use of winter growing techniques, including but not limited to high tunnel vegetable production.

*Supplemental and Alternative Crops.*—The Committee rejects the administration’s proposed reduction for the Supplemental and Alternative Crops research and provides an additional \$1,337,000 above the fiscal year 2021 level for this high priority research. The Committee recognizes the importance of nationally coordinated, regionally managed canola research and extension programs. The Committee encourages the Secretary to continue to seek input from stakeholders and to give priority consideration to proposals in the peer review process that address research needs in production areas with the greatest potential to expand, as well as those where canola production is established and needs to be maintained.

*Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education [SARE].*—The Committee is strongly supportive of the SARE program and directs USDA to ensure that research, education, and extension activities carried out within SARE remain intact. The Committee encourages the Secretary to support professional development program activities such as training, grants, and resources for agricultural professionals to build their awareness, knowledge, and skills related to soil health and carbon sequestration.

*Sustainable Agricultural Systems.*—The Committee applauds NIFA for its inclusion of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and predictive science in AFRI and encourages NIFA to prioritize the Sustainable Agricultural Systems program area, particularly proposals that include a focus on digital agriculture and the digitally augmented food supply chain.

*U.S. Dairy Education and Training.*—The Committee encourages NIFA to support cooperative work with State-run universities in the Southwest with experience in bringing together students and young dairy professionals from multiple States in summer programs designed to provide practical dairy teaching with the goal of facilitating research into workforce safety and antimicrobial stewardship.

*Veterinary Corps.*—Veterinarians fulfilling the terms of a contract under USDA’s Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program, authorized by the National Veterinary Medical Services Act (Public Law 108–161), shall be members of the National Veterinary Medical Services Corps and members who have fulfilled the terms of their contract shall be alumni of the Corps.

*Veterinary Shortages.*—The Committee is concerned by the critical shortage of veterinarians in the public, private, industrial, and academic sectors, which serve on the front lines of upholding our Nation’s food safety, public health, animal health, and homeland security. The Committee also notes that large portions of rural America have inadequate access to livestock and public health veterinarians. As such, the Committee provides an increase in program funding for both the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program and the Veterinary Services Grant Program.

*Workforce Development.*—Within the AFRI Education and Workforce Development initiative, the Committee directs the Secretary to prioritize applications that establish or expand career and technical training opportunities for meat processing.

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

Appropriations, 2021 .....	-\$11,880,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	- 11,880,000
Committee recommendation .....	- 11,880,000

The Native American Institutions Endowment Fund, authorized by the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act (Public Law 103-382), provides an endowment for the 1994 land-grant institutions (34 tribally-controlled colleges). This program enhances educational opportunity for Native Americans by building educational capacity at these institutions in the areas of student recruitment and retention, curricula development, faculty preparation, instruction delivery systems, and scientific instrumentation for teaching. Income funds are also available for facility renovation, repair, construction, and maintenance. On the termination of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall withdraw the income from the endowment fund for the fiscal year, and, after making adjustments for the cost of administering the endowment fund, distribute the adjusted income as follows: 60 percent of the adjusted income from these funds shall be distributed among the 1994 land-grant institutions on a pro rata basis, the proportionate share being based on the Indian student count; and 40 percent of the adjusted income shall be distributed in equal shares to the 1994 land-grant institutions.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$11,880,000 for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$538,447,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	538,447,000
Committee recommendation .....	559,400,000

Cooperative extension work was established by the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, as amended (Public Law 63-95). USDA is authorized to provide, through the land-grant colleges, cooperative extension work that consists of the development of practical applications of research knowledge and the giving of instruction and practical demonstrations of existing or improved practices or technologies in agriculture and related subjects, and to encourage the application of such information by demonstrations, publications, through 4-H clubs, and other means to persons not in attendance or resident at the colleges.

To fulfill the requirements of the Smith-Lever Act (Public Law 63-95), State and county extension offices in each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas, and Micronesia conduct educational programs to improve American agriculture and strengthen the Nation's families and communities.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$559,400,000 for extension activities of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

The following table summarizes the Committee's recommendations for extension activities:

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

[Dollars in thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	Committee recommendation
Smith-Lever Act, Section 3(b) and 3(c) and Cooperative Extension	7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c) and 208(c) of Public Law 93–471.	330,000
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3221 .....	62,000
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3) .....	10,000
Facility Improvements at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3222b .....	21,500
Renewable Resources Extension Act .....	16 U.S.C. 1671 et seq. ....	4,100
Rural Health and Safety Education Programs .....	7 U.S.C. 2662(i) .....	5,000
Food and Animal Residue Avoidance Database Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7642 .....	2,500
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields .....	7 U.S.C. 5925 .....	2,000
Food Safety Outreach Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7625 .....	10,000
Food and Agriculture Service Learning .....	7 U.S.C. 7633 .....	2,500
Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network .....	7 U.S.C. 5936 .....	10,000
Smith-Lever Act, Section 3(d):		
Food and Nutrition Education .....	7 U.S.C. 343(d) .....	70,000
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education Programs .....	7 U.S.C. 343(d) .....	5,000
New Technologies for Agricultural Extension .....	7 U.S.C. 343(d) .....	3,600
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk .....	7 U.S.C. 343(d) .....	8,600
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program .....	7 U.S.C. 343(d) .....	3,500
Total, Section 3(d) .....		90,700
Necessary Expenses of Extension Activities:		
Agriculture in the K–12 Classroom .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(j) .....	1,000
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses for Extension Activities.		8,100
Total, Necessary Expenses .....		9,100
Total, Extension Activities .....		559,400

*Cooperative Extension System.*—The Committee recognizes the essential function that extension plays in ensuring that farmers, ranchers, and communities of all sizes are empowered to meet the challenges they face, adapt to changing technology and a changing climate, improve nutrition and food safety, prepare for and respond to emergencies, and protect our environment. The Committee is concerned that the Federal investment in this critical Federal, State, and local partnership has lagged in recent years, just as extraordinary stresses have been placed on farmers, ranchers, rural businesses, and communities. As such, the Committee provides an additional \$15,000,000 for the Smith-Lever Act, Section 3(b) and (c) programs and Cooperative Extension, an additional \$1,500,000 for the Extension Services at 1994 Institutions, and an additional \$300,000 for the federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program.

*Extension Design Initiative.*—The Committee recognizes that for decades, the foundation of traditional farm extension programs had researchers and educators working on the farms and fields alongside crop and livestock producers, but that changes are needed to

develop a 21st century extension to meet the needs of today's farmers. The Committee notes that new efforts require USDA to use high-performance computing to develop, test, and deploy new digital infrastructure and platforms that can translate research into real-time interactive feedback, online modeling, demonstration, and simulations. The Committee directs NIFA to conduct meetings with producers, stakeholders, and policymakers to begin developing a framework for the next generation of farm extension programs.

*Farmer Stress.*—The Committee notes that farmers and individuals who work in agriculture face highly stressful working conditions, which can contribute to serious behavioral health concerns. The Committee remains concerned that farmers and ranchers face highly stressful working conditions, which can contribute to serious behavioral health concerns, especially during downturns in the farm economy and trade uncertainty. The Committee continues to urge the Department to prioritize proposals from regions that have seen high levels of farm bankruptcies, auctions, and other signals of severe economic distress when reviewing award applications for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network Program. The Committee directs the Secretary to provide annual reports to Congress detailing changes in the indicators of stress, data on effective stress response strategies, and emerging trends in rural economic and healthcare needs resulting from stress interventions, as well as any barriers to collecting or accessing information on farmers' mental health. The report should also describe the impact of the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network Program, the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network—State Departments of Agriculture Program, and trends in rates of suicide and behavioral health concerns among farmers and ranchers.

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

*Rural Opioid Addiction Training.*—The Committee provides \$5,000,000 for Rural Health and Safety Education Programs [RHSE] for the sole purpose of combatting opioid abuse in rural communities. The Committee reminds USDA of the statutory requirement in the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334) for fiscal years 2019 through 2025 that the Secretary give priority to applications addressing substance use disorder education and treatment and the prevention of substance use disorder. The Committee is still waiting for NIFA to provide a report to the Committee detailing RHSE funding awarded to projects addressing opioid abuse, projects combatting other types of substance abuse, and projects unrelated to substance abuse for the past three fiscal years.

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$39,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	39,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	40,000,000

Section 406, as amended, of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–85) authorizes an integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$40,000,000 for integrated activities of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

The following table summarizes the Committee’s recommendations for integrated activities:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

[Dollars in thousands]

Program/Activity	Authorization	Committee recommendation
Methyl Bromide Transition Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	2,000
Organic Transition Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	7,500
Regional Rural Development Centers .....	7 U.S.C. 3157(c)(1)(B) .....	2,500
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative .....	7 U.S.C. 3351 .....	8,000
Crop Protection/Pest Management .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	20,000
Total, Integrated Activities .....		40,000

*Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative.*—The Committee supports the important work being done through the publicly funded diagnostic laboratory network and encourages NIFA to prioritize funding to strengthen animal health diagnostic laboratories, taking into consideration the following: the degree to which the capacity for surveillance, monitoring, response, and capacity is enhanced; the concentration of human and animal populations that are directly at risk; trade, tourism, and cultural considerations; geography, ecology, and climate; evidence of active collaboration with and support of the State animal health officials; those States with highest risk for the introduction of foreign and emerging pests and diseases; and evidence of stakeholder support and engagement.

*Organic Transition.*—The Committee provides an increase of \$500,000 for the Organic Transition Program and directs the agency to use this increase to focus specifically on research topics related to the role of organic agriculture with regard to climate change.

*Potato Research.*—To minimize the application of pesticides and to maximize the yield and quality of harvested potatoes, the Committee directs the Secretary to support pest management programs in potato growing States. Such programs help scientists track potential pest outbreaks and provide growers and industry professionals with current information on specific and timely treatments. Additionally, the programs help identify serious diseases, such as late blight disease, in their early stages, allowing for preventive measures to be put into place quickly to avoid crop losses.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND  
REGULATORY PROGRAMS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$809,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,327,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,577,000

The Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs provides direction and coordination in carrying out laws with respect to the Department's marketing, grading, and standardization activities related to grain; competitive marketing practices of livestock, marketing orders, and various programs; veterinary services; and plant protection and quarantine. The Office has oversight and management responsibilities for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [APHIS] and Agricultural Marketing Service [AMS].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,577,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

*Proposed User Fees.*—The Committee continues to reject past proposals to administratively implement new user fees to cover the government's full cost for providing services to certain beneficiaries, including licenses for animal dealers, veterinary biologics product approval, regulatory review of genetically engineered organisms, checkoff programs, domestic hemp production, livestock dealers, and grain regulatory program. The Committee strongly believes that USDA should not propose new user fees without taking into account the full impact on farmers, ranchers, and beneficiaries who would be forced to contend with rapid changes in these programs and additional burdensome costs without prior notice.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$1,064,179,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,102,222,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,122,116,000

The Secretary of Agriculture established the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on April 2, 1972, under the authority of reorganization plan No. 2 of 1953, and other authorities. The major objectives of APHIS are to protect the animal and plant resources of the Nation from diseases and pests. These objectives are carried out under the major areas of activity, as follows:

*Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response.*—The agency monitors plant and animal health worldwide and sets import polices to prevent the introduction of foreign plant and animal pests and diseases. Domestically, the agency works cooperatively to conduct plant and animal health monitoring programs, pursue eradication, or limit the spread of the threat. The agency also conducts diagnostic laboratory activities that support disease prevention, detection, control, and eradication programs. In addition, the agency protects agriculture from detrimental animal predators and

through its regulatory structure helps advance genetic research while protecting against the release of harmful organisms.

*Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance.*—The agency helps resolve technical trade issues to ensure the smooth and safe movement of agricultural commodities into and out of the United States. The agency negotiates animal and plant health certification requirements and assists U.S. exporters in meeting foreign regulatory demands. In addition, the agency assists developing countries in improving their safeguarding systems to protect the United States from emerging plant and animal pests and diseases.

*Animal Care.*—The agency conducts regulatory activities that ensure the humane care and treatment of animals and horses as required by the Animal Welfare Act (Public Law 89–544) and Horse Protection Acts (Public Law 91–540). These activities include inspection of certain establishments that handle animals intended for research, exhibition, and as pets, and monitoring certain horse shows.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,122,116,000 for salaries and expenses of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

The following table reflects the Committee’s specific recommendations for APHIS:

#### ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Safeguarding and International Technical Assistance:			
Animal Health Technical Services .....	38,093	38,486	38,486
Aquatic Animal Health .....	2,272	2,306	5,756
Avian Health .....	63,213	63,833	63,833
Cattle Health .....	105,216	106,500	106,500
Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health .....	28,982	31,284	32,284
National Veterinary Stockpile .....	5,736	5,751	6,751
Swine Health .....	25,020	25,390	25,390
Veterinary Biologics .....	20,570	20,898	20,898
Veterinary Diagnostics .....	56,979	57,414	66,414
Zoonotic Disease Management .....	19,620	19,782	19,782
Subtotal, Animal Health .....	365,701	371,644	386,094
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated) .....	32,893	33,849	33,849
Cotton Pests .....	13,597	13,725	14,725
Field crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests .....	10,942	14,137	11,137
Pest Detection .....	27,733	28,218	28,218
Plant Protection Methods Development .....	20,884	21,217	21,217
Specialty Crop Pests .....	196,553	209,342	210,342
Tree & Wood Pests .....	60,456	61,217	61,217
Subtotal, Plant Health .....	363,058	381,705	380,705
Wildlife Damage Management .....	111,647	113,142	115,692
Wildlife Services Methods Development .....	21,046	24,363	33,483
Subtotal, Wildlife Services .....	132,693	137,505	149,175
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement .....	16,400	16,697	16,697



## ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Biotechnology Regulatory Services .....	19,020	19,262	19,262
Subtotal, Regulatory Services .....	35,420	35,959	35,959
Civilian Climate Corps .....		10,000	
Contingency Fund .....	478	491	491
Emergency Preparedness & Response .....	41,268	38,380	38,380
Subtotal, Emergency Management .....	41,746	48,871	38,871
Subtotal, Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response .....	938,618	975,684	990,804
Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance:			
Agriculture Import/Export .....	15,722	15,928	16,928
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations .....	24,198	24,333	24,333
Subtotal, Safe Trade .....	39,920	40,261	41,261
Animal Welfare:			
Animal Welfare .....	31,661	32,256	32,256
Horse Protection .....	2,009	2,040	2,340
Subtotal, Animal Welfare .....	33,670	34,296	34,596
Agency Management:			
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure .....	4,251	4,251	4,251
Physical/Operational Security .....	5,153	5,163	5,163
Rent and DHS Security Payments .....	42,567	42,567	42,567
Subtotal, Agency Management .....	51,971	51,981	51,981
Congressionally Directed Spending .....			3,474
Total, Direct Appropriation .....	1,064,179	1,102,222	1,122,116

*Agricultural Quarantine Inspection.*—The Committee recognizes that the prevention of infestations of pests and diseases is significantly more cost effective than subsequent control or eradication. This is an important Federal responsibility, and the Committee provides \$33,849,000 for the agricultural quarantine inspections [AQI] function, including pre-departure and interline inspections, and canine detection and surveillance activities.

The Committee notes that assessing AQI treatment monitoring fees on a per-enclosure basis imposes disproportionate impacts on industry and user groups at certain key ports of entry, including ports along the Southeastern United States. USDA is encouraged to continue evaluating alternative and equitable funding mechanisms in consultation with relevant stakeholder groups.

*Apple Snails.*—The Committee is concerned with the invasive apple snail (*Pomacea maculata*) that is negatively impacting the crawfish population and rice crop in Louisiana and other affected states. The Committee directs APHIS to work with the Agricultural Research Service [ARS] and stakeholders and provides an additional \$1,000,000 to develop an integrated management program for control of the apple snail infestation.

*Animal Welfare.*—The Committee is concerned about APHIS's Animal Care program and the steep decline in enforcement related to violations of the Animal Welfare Act. The Committee urges the agency to reform its current licensing and enforcement scheme. While the agency took steps towards this goal over the last year, the Committee believes more progress can be made. This includes, but is not limited to: ensuring consistent, thorough, unannounced inspections on a regular basis; ensuring each failure to allow access for inspection and each violation or failure to comply with animal welfare standards is documented on an inspection report; and, requiring that inspection reports which identify violations or failures of compliance be shared with relevant local, State, and Federal agencies.

The Committee is also concerned about online dog dealers that are continuing to sell animals without the necessary USDA licenses pursuant to the Animal Welfare Act (Public Law 89-544). The Committee encourages APHIS to continue to conduct robust oversight and enforcement of this statute and the 2013 rule requiring online dealers who are selling animals to consumers sight-unseen to have the necessary license.

*Avian Influenza.*—The Committee recognizes the extreme economic hardship posed to gamebird and egg farmers when flocks are determined to be infected by high and low pathogenic avian influenza and acknowledges the severe limitations on controlled marketing available to producers of live game birds, as well as the income loss from egg production. The Committee encourages APHIS to provide full indemnity coverage for gamebird and egg operations and cease attempts to limit coverage.

*Cattle Fever Ticks.*—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level for cattle fever tick research needs and directs APHIS to coordinate with ARS on the development of its long-term cattle fever tick research program.

The Committee is also concerned that the cattle fever tick quarantine area is expanding despite efforts to constrain their spread. To prevent movement of livestock and game animals outside of the quarantined or high-risk premises and prevent introduction of livestock and game animals from fever tick infested areas, the Committee encourages APHIS to use available funds for a cost-share program for the construction and repair of livestock or game fencing on private, State and Federal lands. The Committee directs USDA, in conjunction with State animal health commissions and Federal partners, to develop a strategy to exclude wildlife from areas at highest risk of tick spread from quarantined areas and from infested areas and identify properties that qualify for funds within these areas.

*Chronic Wasting Disease [CWD].*—The Committee provides no less than \$14,000,000 for cervid health activities. The Committee is concerned about the growing threat of CWD and its impact on free-ranging deer populations. Of the amount provided for cervid health activities, \$10,000,000 shall be for APHIS to allocate funds directly to State departments of wildlife and State departments of agriculture to further develop and implement chronic wasting disease surveillance, testing, management, and response activities. In allocating these funds, APHIS shall give priority to States that

have experienced a recent incident of CWD, have a CWD monitoring and surveillance program, and have a diagnostic laboratory system certified for CWD testing. Within the remaining \$4,000,000 provided, APHIS should give consideration to indemnity payments if warranted.

*Chronic Wasting Disease Research and Development.*—The Committee provides an additional \$3,000,000 above the fiscal year 2021 enacted level for Wildlife Services Methods Development for CWD work at the National Wildlife Research Center, and directs APHIS to continue working with University collaborators to provide research support to the overall effort to detect, combat and control CWD.

*Citrus Health Response Program [CHRP].*—CHRP is a national effort to maintain a viable citrus industry within the United States, maintain producers' continued access to export markets, and safeguard citrus producing States against a variety of invasive pests and diseases. These funds are designed to partner with State departments of agriculture and industry groups to address the challenges of citrus pests and diseases. In addition to the funds provided in this account, the Committee encourages APHIS to utilize the funds available in the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Programs account to the greatest extent possible to sustain the economic viability of the citrus industry.

*Cogongrass Management and Control.*—The Committee remains concerned about the rapid spread of cogongrass and its impact on forest productivity, wildlife habitat, and private landowners. The Committee provides \$3,000,000 for APHIS to partner with State departments of agriculture and forestry commissions in States considered to be the epicenter of infestations to assist with the control and treatment of cogongrass in order to slow the advancing front of this invasive plant-pest species.

*Congressionally Directed Spending [CDS].*—The Committee has provided CDS for certain activities and locations under APHIS. While the Committee has provided the funding, recipients of CDS are still required to apply for the funding and must meet all statutory and regulatory requirements. The Committee expects the agency to review the applications and fund projects in the same manner as in previous years.

*Eastern Equine Encephalitis.*—The Committee remains concerned about the capacity of States to conduct surveillance, testing, prevention, and research relating to Eastern Equine Encephalitis. The Committee provides \$1,000,000 to support ongoing cooperative agreements with impacted States.

*Feral Cattle in the Gila National Forest Wilderness Area.*—The continued presence of feral cattle in the Gila National Forest Wilderness Area in New Mexico is negatively impacting both the ecosystem and recreational use of the area. The Committee directs the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Wildlife Services and the United States Forest Service to address this issue as expeditiously as feasible.

*Huanglongbing Emergency Response.*—The Committee maintains the increased funding levels for Huanglongbing Emergency Response within the Specialty Crop Pests line item included in fiscal year 2021. The Committee encourages APHIS to allocate sufficient

resources in order to continue vital management, control, and associated activities to address citrus greening. The disease, for which there is no cure, has caused a reduction in citrus production by over 60 percent since 2007 in Florida alone. All citrus producing counties in Texas are under quarantine, and California has detected the disease in some backyard trees in the Los Angeles basin. The spread of this disease has called the domestic citrus industry's future into question, costing thousands of jobs and millions in lost revenue and increased production costs per acre. In addition, the agency is encouraged to support priorities and strategies identified by the HLB-MAC group which will benefit the citrus industry. The agency should appropriately allocate resources based on critical need and maximum effect to the citrus industry. The Committee maintains the fiscal year 2021 funding level for citrus health to support priorities and strategies identified by the HLB-MAC group. The MAC is focused on short-term solutions to help the citrus industry, and the cooperative nature of Federal, State, and industry representatives in this group is expected to result in the development of tools and techniques to address this devastating disease. Helping growers explore new possible solutions, the MAC has been an effective resource. These citrus health activities directly protect citrus production on approximately 765,000 acres in the United States worth more than \$11,000,000,000 in total.

*Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination Group.*—The Committee recognizes the significant economic impact of this disease on the citrus industry, which is especially acute in Florida and is a growing concern in both Texas and California. The Committee also understands that growers are requesting the right to try treatments that have begun to show success in early stages of testing. The Committee encourages the HLB-MAC group to explore and identify new methods to expedite the delivery of promising treatments directly to growers. Finally, the Committee expects that any funds which are redirected from existing HLB-MAC projects be repurposed to other priority HLB-MAC projects that are showing promising results to ensure these critical funds remain committed to facilitating the design and implementation of the rapid delivery pathway to growers.

*Imported Dogs.*—The Committee is aware that the USDA issued a report that showed that over one million dogs are imported into the United States each year. Of that number, however, less than 1 percent are subject to thorough health screenings to show that they are healthy, vaccinated and free of disease prior to entering the country. The limited health requirements and inspection has resulted in the importation of animals that arrive in poor health, as well as the importation of animals carrying various diseases from rabies to canine influenza to leptospirosis, among others. Diseases such as canine rabies have cost millions of dollars to eradicate in the United States and unscreened animal imports threaten to undue that progress while threatening public health. Therefore, the Committee directs APHIS to strengthen its oversight of imported dogs, including stronger interagency coordination to better protect animal and public health.

*Lacey Act Implementation.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of the Lacey Act (16 U.S.C. 3371–3378) in addressing traf-

ficking of illegally taken wildlife, fish, and plants, including illegal deforestation activities. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2021 level to support the implementation of the Lacey Act within the Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance program.

*National Animal Health Laboratory Network.*—The Committee provides an additional \$5,000,000 for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network.

*National Aquatic Animal Health Plan.*—The Committee provides an increase of \$3,450,000 to support the implementation of the 2021–2023 National Aquaculture Health Plan and the Comprehensive Aquaculture Health Program Standards to protect aquatic animal health, enhance individual biosecurity, and facilitate domestic and international commerce in fish and shellfish.

*National Bio- and Agro-Defense Human Capital Development.*—The Committee provides \$3,000,000 for APHIS to ensure necessary steps are taken to develop a qualified workforce comprised of subject matter experts in foreign, emerging, and zoonotic diseases and capable of developing, validating, and conducting needed diagnostics, performing epidemiologic studies, and completing bioinformatics analyses. The Committee encourages APHIS to establish cooperative agreements with academic research institutions, particularly non-land grant Hispanic-Serving Institutions, to support the next generation of the NBAF workforce.

*National Clean Plant Network-Berries.*—Of the funds made available for the National Clean Plant Network [NCPN], the Committee provides \$300,000 for equipment purchases to ensure the establishment of an additional diagnostic and therapy center for the NCPN-Berries. Further, no less than the fiscal year 2021 level should be available for the NCPN-Berries diagnostic center. The Committee encourages APHIS to continue establishing adequate diagnostic, therapeutic, and foundation capacity for the NCPN-supported Berries program.

*Non-lethal Strategies.*—The Committee is aware that Wildlife Services has worked with landowners to deploy non-lethal strategies, such as fladry, electric fencing, and livestock guardian dogs, to reduce predator depredation on livestock. The Committee provides \$2,500,000 for Wildlife Services to hire personnel exclusively to promote and implement non-lethal livestock-predator conflict deterrence techniques in interested States, with a focus on reducing human-wildlife conflicts related to predators and beavers in the Western Region and Great Lakes States and to assist in providing training in these techniques to agricultural producers, landowners, and other agency personnel in collaboration with the National Wildlife Research Center.

*National Veterinary Stockpile.*—Foot and Mouth Disease [FMD] remains a grave threat to the animal agriculture industry in the United States. The U.S. agriculture industry must remain vigilant and be prepared in the event of an FMD outbreak. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 above fiscal year 2021 enacted levels for the National Veterinary Stockpile to protect the Nation's food supply by maintaining enough countermeasures capable of deployment against the most damaging animal diseases

*Poultry Indemnity Payments.*—The Committee directs USDA to coordinate amongst all relevant agencies under its authority to update, and where applicable, develop consistent, easily replicated formulas on an annual basis to estimate market values of livestock and poultry categories for indemnity purposes. In developing and updating these annual values, USDA should ensure that they reflect applicable modern production practices, and relevant livestock and poultry markets so that payments by USDA represent average fair market values for the category of animal that the compensation payment is intended to cover.

*Risk Assessment for Motile Aeromonad Septicemia (MAS).*—The Committee is concerned about the risk of introduction of foreign animal diseases associated with the importation of farm-raised Siluriformes fish, such as catfish. Chronic infectious diseases such as MAS pose a significant economic risk to the long-term health of the domestic farm-raised fish industry, and the Committee notes that MAS outbreaks like those from virulent *Aeromonas hydrophila* in the U.S. have been linked back to farmed fish in China and Southeast Asia. The Committee also notes that, while FSIS regulates the processing of catfish under the Federal Meat Inspection Act, there are no USDA-Veterinary Services regulations for MAS, nor do FSIS regulations apply regarding MAS. The Committee is displeased with the length of time it has taken APHIS to complete its ongoing MAS risk assessment, and directs APHIS to complete it within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

*Roseau Cane.*—The Committee remains concerned with the invasive species scale insect pest that is destroying Roseau cane in the Mississippi River's Delta region along the Gulf of Mexico. An estimated 225,000 acres of wetlands in the Delta have been affected with the die-off, and Roseau cane is important in maintaining a healthy marsh and preventing erosion. The Committee directs APHIS to work with ARS and stakeholders and provides no less than the fiscal year 2021 level to develop an integrated management program for control of the Roseau cane scale insect pest infestation.

*Soring.*—The Committee has consistently recognized the need for the equine industry and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services to cooperate in order to eliminate the soring of horses. In 2021, the National Academy of Sciences recognized the importance of developing an objective science-based inspection ensures accuracy and fairness. For this reason, the Committee includes \$300,000 for APHIS to begin utilizing swabbing for prohibited substances and other science-based inspection methods, radiology, and other objective measures as part of its horse soring inspection protocol.

*Sudden Oak Death.*—The European strain 1 [EU1] and the North American strain 1 [NA1] of the sudden oak death pathogen are major threats to western Douglas-fir/tanoak forests, resulting in quarantine restrictions that threaten U.S. forests and export markets for log shipments and lily bulbs. The Committee recommendation includes no less than the fiscal year 2021 funding level to improve understanding of EU1 and NA1 strains of the sudden oak death pathogen and treatment methods to inform control and management techniques in wildlands.

*West Nile Virus.*—The Committee remains concerned with the threats to human and animal health posed by West Nile virus and recognizes that a critical strategy for addressing these threats is necessary to prevent the infection and transmission by known vectors, including farm-raised alligators. The Committee encourages APHIS to further investigate West Nile virus and other infectious diseases affecting farm-raised alligators and to develop treatments and methods to prevent infection and transmission.

*Wildlife Damage Management.*—APHIS is responsible for providing Federal leadership in managing problems caused by wildlife. The Committee provides \$115,692,000 for wildlife damage control to maintain priority initiatives, including preventing the transport of invasive snakes and other harmful species. The Committee provides an additional \$250,000 above the fiscal year 2021 level for the agency to reduce blackbird depredation in the Northern Great Plains.

The Committee maintains support for assistance to catfish producers to help mitigate wildlife depredation, particularly as it pertains to fish-eating and disease-carrying birds. The Committee provides \$1,300,000 above the fiscal year 2021 level for damage management efforts and the development of methods to assist producers in combatting the persistent threat and economic hardship caused by cormorants, pelicans, and other birds.

The Committee recognizes the importance of the National Feral Swine Damage Management Program in reducing adverse ecological and economic impacts caused by feral swine across the country. The Committee provides an additional \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2021 level in support of APHIS efforts to decrease these invasive pests' damage and risk to agriculture, natural resources, and property.

The Committee provides \$28,000,000 for the National Rabies Management Program to fortify existing barriers and advance prevention and eradication efforts.

*Wildlife Diseases.*—The Committee provides an increase of \$8,000,000 for wildlife disease surveillance, diagnostics methods development, and genetic risk assessments for wildlife diseases impacting agriculture and human health, and directs APHIS to conduct this research in collaboration with University partners.

*Wildlife Services Education and Training.*—The Committee is aware of the wide range of hazardous procedures and materials utilized by APHIS personnel in the conduct of daily duties. In addition, a recent comprehensive study noted the critical need to provide standardized safety training, certification, and database management for tracking to ensure the safest working environment possible. As such, the Committee provides \$2,000,000 within Wildlife Damage Management to maintain a National Training Academy focused on those areas of greatest concern such as pyrotechnics, firearms, hazardous materials, immobilization and euthanasia drugs, pesticides, animal care and handling, land vehicles, watercraft, and zoonotic diseases.

## BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$3,175,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	3,175,000
Committee recommendation .....	3,175,000

The APHIS appropriation for Buildings and Facilities funds major nonrecurring construction projects in support of specific program activities and recurring construction, alterations, preventive maintenance, and repairs of existing APHIS facilities.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommendation includes an appropriation of \$3,175,000 for buildings and facilities of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

This funding is necessary to allow APHIS to maintain existing facilities and perform critically needed repairs to and replacements of building components, such as heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning on a prioritized basis at APHIS facilities. The Committee notes that due to the environmentally sensitive nature of many APHIS facilities, closure of a facility could result if APHIS is unable to complete the required repairs.

## AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

## MARKETING SERVICES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$188,358,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	213,157,000
Committee recommendation .....	231,063,000

The Agricultural Marketing Service was established by the Secretary of Agriculture on April 2, 1972. AMS carries out programs authorized by more than 50 different statutory authorities, the primary ones being the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627, 1635–1638); the U.S. Cotton Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 51–65); the Cotton Statistics and Estimates Act (7 U.S.C. 471–476); the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 U.S.C. 511–511q); the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (7 U.S.C. 499a–499t); the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031–1056); and section 32 of the Act of 1935 (Public Law 74–320, 7 U.S.C. 612c).

Programs administered by this agency include the market news services, standardization, grading, classing, shell egg surveillance services, transportation services, wholesale farmers and alternative market development, grant payments to States for marketing activities, the Federal administration of marketing agreements and orders, commodity purchases, the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (7 U.S.C. 499a–499t), the Plant Variety Protection Act (Public Law 71–325), and market protection and promotion activities.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$231,063,000 for Marketing Services of the Agricultural Marketing Service. This includes a total increase of \$2,367,000 for pay and retirement contribution. In addition to that increase, the Committee provides the following increases: \$1,000,000 for the Acer Access and Develop-



ment Program; \$3,406,000 for the National Organic Program; \$500,000 for the Organic Production and Market Data Initiative; \$2,000,000 for additional staffing, enforcement, and rulemaking needs; and \$2,000,000 for oversight and enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

The Committee includes in this account \$25,000,000 for the Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives, funded elsewhere in the Act at \$22,000,000 in 2021; and \$6,000,000 for the Micro-grants for Food Security Program, funded elsewhere in the Act at \$5,000,000 in 2021.

*Acer Access and Development.*—The Committee provides \$7,000,000 for the Acer Access and Development Program. The Secretary shall use this funding for competitive grants that support the promotion of research and education, natural resource sustainability, and market development and promotion. The Secretary shall prioritize proposals from regions with sufficient distribution of *Acer saccharum* to support commercially viable maple syrup industry.

*Dairy Business Innovation.*—The Committee rejects the proposed elimination of the Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives, as authorized by Section 12513 of the Agriculture Improvement Act. Further, the Committee limits the use of funds provided for this program to the three regional initiatives funded in Fiscal Year 2020. The Secretary is encouraged to find ways to apply this successful model to other agriculture sectors, including meat processing, in a manner that avoids the interruption of the Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives. The harsh economic losses dairy farmers have experienced in recent years have driven thousands of farmers out of business and delayed economic recovery for the few that remain. Given this urgency, the Committee encourages the Secretary to use all available resources to help these struggling farmers to diversify, innovate, and reduce risk.

*Grain Terminals.*—The Committee notes the ongoing contract negotiations between West Coast grain terminal operators and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and recognizes the importance of reaching an agreement that works for both parties. A failure to reach an agreement could result in an interruption in grain terminal service that would negatively impact the Nation's grain exports. The Committee urges all parties to continue negotiating in good faith to ensure an equitable outcome for both grain terminal operators and their workers is expeditiously reached.

*Micro-Grants for Food Security.*—The Committee urges AMS to administer the Micro-Grants for Food Security program in a manner that will ensure that low-income, disadvantaged, and minority individuals are able to submit applications and receive funding for projects such as animal processing and slaughter facilities, including reindeer herders, greenhouses, and hydroponic growing facilities that would increase the amount and quality of locally produced foods. When practicable, the Committee directs AMS to waive or amend how it applies the regulatory requirements of 2 CFR 200.206, 200.313, 200.328, and 200.329 to ensure that this program addresses food insecurity challenges.

*National Organic Program.*—The Committee provides \$22,000,000 for the National Organic Program [NOP]. A healthy

market for organic products requires a clear product distinction backed by a trusted, verified, and enforced label. The Committee recognizes that the NOP, which enforces the organic regulations and ensures they evolve to keep pace with consumer expectations, is essential. In light of recent reports of inadequate enforcement of organic standards, the Committee directs USDA to provide all resources needed for the NOP to deliver the strongest possible oversight before allowing the USDA organic seal to be granted to domestic and international operations and products, including a continued focus on proactive risk-based investigations and oversight, enhanced training for certifiers, and standards development.

*Native American Foods and Tourism.*—The Committee recognizes that enhanced Native American tourism creates important job opportunities in Native American communities while showcasing their heritage, food, traditions, history, and continuing vitality. The Committee encourages USDA to support the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act (Public Law 114–221) by prioritizing projects that market, promote, or expand Native American foods, markets, and enterprises.

*Organic Certification for Wild Seafood.*—The Committee is aware of interest in developing organic production, handling, and labeling standards for wild caught seafood as provided for in Section 6506 of the Organic Foods Production Act (7 U.S.C. 6506(c)). The Committee urges USDA to reestablish the Wild Caught Working Group under the National Organic Standards Board to evaluate wild capture aquatic animal production systems and assess the feasibility and appropriateness of developing organic production and handling standards for their certification.

*Organic Dairy.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of consumer confidence in the integrity of the USDA Organic Seal and notes the work that USDA has done to increase training and certifier consistency with respect to dairy operations. The Committee directs AMS to seek strong enforcement of organic dairy production standards and resolve significant variations in standard interpretation that exists among organic certifiers, as well as among organic dairy producers. AMS shall continue to conduct critical risk-based oversight, particularly for large, complex dairy operations, as it has in the past three fiscal years.

*Organic Data Initiative.*—The Committee recognizes that accurate data for the production, pricing, and marketing of organic products is essential to maintaining stable markets, identifying fraud, creating risk management tools, tracking production trends, and increasing exports. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary to require mandatory reporting on an annual basis by accredited certifying agents on aggregate production areas certified by crop and location in order to accurately calculate organic acreage and yield estimates on a country-by-country basis. The Committee provides \$1,000,000 for AMS to coordinate with NASS for activities related to expanding organic price reporting and organic data collection.

*Pricing Concerns.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of ensuring that meat pricing mechanisms are transparent and provide reliable price discovery for cattle producers and the rest of the supply chain nationwide. The Committee notes that the Nation's

food supply chain is an issue of national security, and emphasizes that our farmers, ranchers, processors, and consumers must have a fair and competitive marketplace. The Committee directs the Secretary, working with the Attorney General as appropriate, to act expeditiously to analyze these issues and to consider extending the ongoing investigation to include economic disruptions associated with public health emergencies.

*Soil Health.*—The National organic standards require farmers that voluntarily chose to certify their operation as meeting organic practices to use farming practices that improve soil health, such as crop rotations, cover cropping, and pasture-based livestock practices. By improving soil health, these farming practices also increase the carbon sequestration potential of the soil, and improve the farm’s resilience to extreme weather events and patterns. To maximize the climate benefits of organic agriculture, the Committee urges the National Organic Program to increase enforcement efforts to ensure full compliance with the soil health and pasture requirements of USDA organic standards.

#### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Limitation, 2021 .....	-\$61,227,000
Budget limitation, 2022 .....	-61,786,000
Committee recommendation .....	-61,786,000

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (Public Law 97–35) initiated a system of user fees for the cost of grading and classing cotton and tobacco. These activities, authorized under the U.S. Cotton Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 51 et seq.), the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 U.S.C. 511 et seq.), and other provisions of law are designed to facilitate commerce and protect participants in the industry.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$61,786,000 on administrative expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

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

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	-\$20,705,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	-20,817,000
Committee recommendation .....	-20,817,000

Under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, (Public Law 74–320), an amount equal to 30 percent of customs receipts collected during each preceding calendar year and unused balances are available for encouraging the domestic consumption and exportation of agricultural commodities. An amount equal to 30 percent of receipts collected on fishery products is transferred to the Department of Commerce. Additional transfers to the child nutrition programs of the Food and Nutrition Service have been provided in recent appropriations Acts.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends a transfer from section 32 funds of \$20,817,000 for the formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders.

The following table reflects the status of this fund for fiscal years 2021–2022:

ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD—  
FISCAL YEARS 2021–2022

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Appropriation (30% of Customs Receipts) .....	22,733,332	21,679,260	21,679,260
Less Transfers:			
Food and Nutrition Service .....	–21,040,057	–19,961,591	–19,961,591
Commerce Department .....	–262,275	–253,669	–253,669
Total, Transfers .....	–21,302,332	–20,215,260	–20,215,260
Budget Authority, Farm Bill .....	1,431,000	1,464,000	1,464,000
Appropriations Temporarily Reduced—Sequestration .....	–71,136	–72,789	–72,789
Budget Authority, Appropriations Act .....	1,359,864	1,391,211	1,391,211
Less Obligations:			
Child Nutrition Programs (Entitlement Commodities) .....	485,000	485,000	485,000
State Option Contract .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Removal of Defective Commodities .....	2,500	2,500	2,500
Disaster Relief .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Additional Fruits, Vegetables, and Nuts Purchases .....	206,000	206,000	206,000
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program .....	183,000	187,000	187,000
Estimated Future Needs .....	800,425	443,084	443,084
Total, Commodity Procurement .....	1,686,925	1,333,584	1,333,584
Administrative Funds:			
Commodity Purchase Support .....	36,746	36,810	36,810
Marketing Agreements and Orders .....	20,705	20,817	20,817
Total, Administrative Funds .....	57,451	57,627	57,627
Total Obligations .....	1,744,376	1,391,211	1,391,211

*Section 32 Authorities.*—Under the authority described in clause 3 of 7 U.S.C. 612c, the Secretary is able to direct funds from the section 32 account to increase the purchasing power of producers. This practice has been used on various occasions to provide direct assistance to producers when market forces or natural conditions adversely affect the financial condition of farmers and ranchers. The Committee notes the importance of the ability of the Secretary to utilize this authority but believes that communication between USDA and Congress should be improved when this practice is used. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary to provide notification to the Committee in advance of any public announcement or release of section 32 funds under the specific authorities cited above.

## PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$1,235,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,235,000
Committee recommendation .....	4,000,000

The Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program is authorized by section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627, 1635–1638) and is also funded from appropriations. Matching grants are awarded on a competitive basis to State marketing agencies to identify and test market alternative farm commodities, determine methods of providing more reliable market information, and develop better commodity grading standards. This program has made many types of projects possible, such as electronic marketing and agricultural product diversification. Current projects are focused on the improvement of marketing efficiency and effectiveness and seeking new outlets for existing farm produced commodities. The legislation grants USDA authority to establish cooperative agreements with State departments of agriculture or similar State agencies to improve the efficiency of the agricultural marketing chain. The States perform the work or contract it to others and must contribute at least one-half of the cost of the projects.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,000,000 for Payments to States and Possessions for Federal-State marketing projects and activities. The Committee provides an increase of \$2,765,000 to support projects focused on improved production, processing, marketing, operations, training, and capacity for the dairy, meat, and poultry sectors.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

Limitation, 2021 .....	-\$55,000,000
Budget limitation, 2022 .....	- 55,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	- 55,000,000

The agency provides an official grain inspection and weighing system under the U.S. Grain Standards Act [USGSA] (Public Law 64–190, and official inspection of rice and grain-related products under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627, 1635–1638). The USGSA was amended in 1981 to require the collection of user fees to fund the costs associated with the operation, supervision, and administration of Federal grain inspection and weighing activities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$55,000,000 on inspection and weighing services expenses.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$809,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,327,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,327,000

The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety provides direction and coordination in carrying out the laws enacted by the Congress with respect to the Department’s inspection of meat, poultry, and processed egg products. The Office has oversight and management responsibilities for the Food Safety and Inspection Service [FSIS].

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,327,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety.

## FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$1,075,703,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,165,589,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,153,064,000

The major objectives of the FSIS are to ensure that meat and poultry products are wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged, as required by the Federal Meat Inspection Act (Public Law 59–242) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (Public Law 85–172), as amended; and to provide continuous in-plant inspection to egg processing plants under the Egg Products Inspection Act (Public Law 91–597).

The Food Safety and Inspection Service was established on June 17, 1981, by Secretary’s Memorandum No. 1000–1, issued pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953.

The inspection program of the Food Safety and Inspection Service provides in-plant inspection of all domestic plants preparing meat, poultry, or egg products for sale or distribution; reviews foreign inspection systems and establishments that prepare meat or poultry products for export to the United States; and provides technical and financial assistance to States which maintain meat and poultry inspection programs.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,153,064,000 for the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

The following table represents the Committee’s specific recommendations for the FSIS as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and budget request levels:

## FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Food safety inspection:			
Federal .....	957,348	1,046,692	1,034,167
State .....	66,730	66,875	66,875
International .....	17,045	17,442	17,442
PHDCIS .....	34,580	34,580	34,580
Total .....	1,075,703	1,165,589	1,153,064

*Cooperative Interstate Shipment Report.*—The Committee expects USDA to deliver the report on the Cooperative Interstate Shipment [CIS] program as outlined in Section 764(e)(2) of division N of Public Law 116–260 no later than December 27, 2021.

*Humane Slaughter.*—The Committee directs FSIS to continue to provide annual reports to the Committee on the implementation of objective scoring methods undertaken by FSIS to enforce the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (Public Law 85–765).

The Committee also directs FSIS to ensure that personnel hired with funding previously provided specifically for Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (Public Law 85–765) enforcement focus their attention on overseeing compliance with humane handling rules for live animals as they arrive and are offloaded and handled in pens, chutes, and stunning areas and that all inspectors receive robust training.

*Public Health Veterinarians.*—The Committee remains concerned about persistently high levels of public health veterinary [PHV] vacancies within FSIS and provides an increase of \$2,800,000 to address this issue.

*Reduced User Fees.*—The Committee provides an increase of \$44,100,000 to continue the reduced user fees for small and very small establishments as established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

TITLE II

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$916,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,437,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,687,000

The Office of the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation [FPAC] provides direction and coordination in carrying out the laws enacted by the Congress with respect to the Department's commodity programs, farm loans, disaster assistance, crop insurance, natural resources conservation and environment programs, and certain energy programs. The Office has oversight and management responsibilities for the Farm Service Agency [FSA] (including the Commodity Credit Corporation), Risk Management Agency [RMA], and the Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,687,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation.

*Supporting Beginning Farmers and Ranchers.*—The Committee recognizes that the average age of U.S. farmers continues to increase and a majority of the Nation's farmland will change hands in the coming years due to the aging farmer population. It is clear that the ability of the next generation of farmers to produce food and fiber in a sustainable way is critical to the economy, health, and security of our Nation and rural communities. In order to address this concern, USDA must find new ways to meet the unique needs and barriers facing beginning farmers and ranchers, especially diversified operations, minority and indigenous farmers and ranchers, and returning military veterans. The Committee has heard repeated complaints that USDA programs, particularly the direct and guaranteed loan programs and microloans, can be difficult for small or beginning farmers to apply for. Those challenges are further exacerbated when local USDA staff lack an understanding about non-traditional operations. Therefore the Committee encourages the Secretary to prioritize training and education for State and county FSA, NRCS, and RMA staff on how to better serve and support young and beginning farmers and ranchers to ensure that they can enter and sustain farming or ranching as a viable livelihood.



## FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION BUSINESS CENTER

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$231,302,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	238,177,000
Committee recommendation .....	238,177,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$238,177,000 for the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center.

*Business Center Report.*—The FPAC Business Center was created by the Secretary in 2018 with the goal of consolidating administrative functions within the newly created FPAC mission area, with assurances given that this would lead to reduced inefficiencies and increased customer service. However, the Committee is aware of reports of prolonged delays in filing critical that has led to delays in the deployment of important disaster assistance, conservation, and commodity programs. The Committee once again reminds FPAC that the detailed report required by S. Rpt. 116–110, which was due February 2021, regarding the FPAC Business Center’s efficiencies gained, metrics, hiring plan, and potential reorganization, is now long overdue.

*Recruitment.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of recruiting a diverse and talented workforce at USDA and applauds the FPAC Business Center and the Natural Resources Conservation Service for their work to expand their involvement with the Pathways and 1890s Scholars Program. The two programs not only help to recruit the next generation of public servants, but also boost the number of students interested in studying agriculture, food sciences, natural resource sciences, and other related disciplines. USDA is encouraged to also seek out additional opportunities and partnerships with the 1994 Tribal Scholars Program to increase the number of American Indian and Alaska Native students studying agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, and related disciplines.

## FARM SERVICE AGENCY

The Farm Service Agency was established October 13, 1994, pursuant to the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–354). The FSA administers a variety of activities, such as the commodity price support and production adjustment programs financed by the Commodity Credit Corporation [CCC]; the Conservation Reserve Program [CRP]; the Emergency Conservation Program [ECP]; the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish Program [ELAP]; the Commodity Operation Programs, including the warehouse examination function; farm ownership, farm operating, emergency disaster, and other loan programs; and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program [NAP], which provides crop loss protection for growers of many crops for which crop insurance is not available. In addition, FSA currently provides certain administrative support services to the Foreign Agricultural Service [FAS] and RMA.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

[In thousands of dollars]

	Appropriations	Transfers from program accounts	Total, FSA, salaries and expenses
Appropriations, 2021 .....	1,142,924	294,114	1,437,038
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,175,670	294,114	1,469,784
Committee recommendation .....	1,178,324	294,114	1,472,438

The account Salaries and Expenses, Farm Service Agency, funds the administrative expenses of program administration and other functions assigned to FSA. The funds consist of appropriations and transfers from the CCC export credit guarantees, Food for Peace loans, and Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund program accounts, as well as miscellaneous advances from other sources. All administrative funds used by FSA are consolidated into one account. The consolidation provides clarity and better management and control of funds and facilitates accounting, fiscal, and budgetary work by eliminating the necessity for making individual allocations and allotments and maintaining and recording obligations and expenditures under numerous separate accounts.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,472,438,000 for salaries and expenses of the Farm Service Agency, including a direct appropriation of \$1,178,324,000.

*Acequia Irrigated Land.*—The Committee recognizes that acequias serve as the primary method of irrigation in many rural and underserved communities in New Mexico and that acequias remain an integral aspect of New Mexican cultural identity. Recent changes administered by FSA changed eligibility of drought on farms and ranches irrigated by acequias for the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program [NAP]. Given the Farm Service Agency has historically considered drought on acequia-irrigated land eligible for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance and the ongoing severe drought conditions in New Mexico and throughout the west, the Committee urges the Department to issue guidance clarifying that drought on acequia-irrigated land is an eligible cause of loss for NAP.

*Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative [ACRSI].*—The Committee recognizes the significant potential of ACRSI to reduce the time and burden of Federal reporting requirements on farmers. The Committee notes that ACRSI was designed to allow farmers to report data electronically and securely with both RMA and FSA to automatically pre-populate forms, eliminate redundant reporting, and increase data integrity. However, the Committee recognizes that USDA's prioritization of ACRSI has been inadequate. The Committee reminds USDA that the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116–260 directed FSA to allocate all necessary resources to identify the software options necessary to ensure that ACRSI technology is adopted and deployed by the Risk Management Agency and the Farm Service Agency within 120 days

of enactment of the Act. The USDA has failed to respond to the Committee's directives, which raises serious questions as to the commitment and ability to meet this obligation to producers. Therefore, the Committee directs USDA, within 60 days of enactment, to brief the Committee on the status of implementation of ACRSI, financial obligations to date, and the costs and actions underway to complete this project in time for the crop reporting cycle of the year 2022.

*Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program [CREP].*—The Committee recognizes that drought is now the single largest cause of U.S. farm production losses and strongly supports the development of creative solutions to conserve water while maintaining the productive use of farmland. The Committee is concerned that the Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment [PEA] for CRP published in the Federal Register on October 3, 2019 (84 FR 52868) ignores the intent of Congress and the urgent threat of drought by immediately dismissing without meaningful consideration the new authorization for CREP drought and water conservation agreements to permit dryland agricultural uses with the adoption of best management practices. The Committee directs the Secretary to revise the PEA to allow dryland agriculture uses on land enrolled in CREP in accordance with section 1231A(e)(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831a(e)(2)). The Committee reminds USDA that the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116–260 directed the Secretary to submit a report to the Committee detailing a full analysis of the new CREP dryland agricultural uses authority and what dryland farming best management practices could make advancements to protect ground water and surface water quality and control soil erosion while enhancing wildlife habitat.

*Continuous Conservation Reserve Program.*—The Secretary is strongly encouraged, within the total acreage made available for enrollment in the conservation reserve program and without reducing the periodic availability of general signup, to enroll, to the maximum extent practicable, acreage for activities included in the State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement practice or other similar administratively established wetland and habitat practices that benefit priority fish and wildlife species identified in State, regional, and national conservation initiatives, prioritizing initiatives that provide large blocks of cover ideal for wildlife nesting.

*ELAP Farm-Raised Fish Assistance.*—The Committee remains concerned about the economic impacts of avian predation and disease on the U.S. aquaculture industry and the lack of meaningful protections for producers against these losses. The Committee reminds USDA that the joint explanatory statement accompanying the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–94) directed FSA to amend the existing regulations under 7 C.F.R. 1416 to ensure producers of farm-raised fish intended for human consumption are eligible to receive payments for death losses due to disease or avian predation within 180 days of enactment of that Act. The Committee expects FSA to carry out this congressional directive.

*Heirs Property.*—The Committee is disappointed that FSA has yet to issue a rulemaking for the Heirs' Property Relending Pro-

gram, despite the program’s authorization over two and a half years ago and having received funds in both Fiscal Year 2021 and 2020. FSA is urged to complete this rulemaking as soon as possible to help resolve ownership and succession on farmland with multiple owners.

*Honey Bee Losses.*—For purposes of administering the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program [ELAP] for honeybees, the Secretary is directed to restore normal mortality rates under the program to fifteen percent and to restore fair market values for colonies and hives to at least the levels utilized in the 2019 program year, \$140 and \$258 respectively. This program is essential to protecting a fragile beekeeping industry that is responsible for pollinating billions of dollars in U.S. agricultural input.

*Inaccurate Estimates.*—The Committee reminds USDA that the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116–260 directed FSA to submit a report on how it will resolve inconsistencies in supplying Congress with estimates on funding available for the National Organic Certification Cost-Share Program [OCCSP] and other Farm Bill programs. The Committee is pleased by initial announcements by USDA that it intends to provide assistance to producers who rely on OCCSP and those transitioning to organic. This is especially important for small and midsized organic farmers, underserved farmers, and those just beginning the organic certification process.

*Information Technology.*—The Committee remains dedicated to ensuring FSA has reliable and functioning IT systems because it is critical that farmers and ranchers have access to the tools they need to succeed. The Committee has invested significant taxpayer dollars to modernize outdated systems and continues to provide resources above the budget request. The Committee continues statutory language that allows funds for IT to be obligated only after the Secretary meets certain reporting requirements. The Committee has reviewed the third-party IT analysis and expects the agency to follow the recommendations where applicable. FSA is directed to provide timely updates for future IT needs.

*Panther Depredation.*—The Committee is aware that livestock producers in Florida have suffered from panther depredation. To support the ongoing conservation and recovery of endangered Florida panthers while minimizing conflicts with ranchers, the Committee encourages FSA to work with ranchers to tailor the Livestock Indemnity Program to address unique circumstances currently preventing producers from receiving compensation for losses stemming from Florida panther depredation events.

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$6,914,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	6,914,000
Committee recommendation .....	7,000,000

This program is authorized under title V of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (Public Law 100–233). Originally designed to address agricultural credit disputes, the program was expanded by the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–354) to include other agricultural issues such as wetland determinations, conservation

compliance, rural water loan programs, grazing on National Forest System lands, and pesticides. Grants are made to States whose mediation programs have been certified by the FSA. Grants will be solely for operation and administration of the State’s agricultural mediation program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$7,000,000 for State Mediation Grants.

*Obligation Delays.*—The Committee is disappointed and perplexed by the repeated annual delays by the Department for issuing grants for this program. These funding delays have resulted in some State mediation programs operating for the first quarter of the fiscal year without any funding, which has forced them to turn down new requests for mediation or to stop paying staff. The Committee remains concerned by these unnecessary delays and directs USDA to obligate available funds within 30 days of enactment of this act.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$6,500,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	6,500,000
Committee recommendation .....	6,500,000

This program is intended to assist in the protection of ground-water through State rural water associations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$6,500,000 for Grassroots Source Water Protection.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$500,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	500,000
Committee recommendation .....	500,000

Under the program, the Department makes indemnification payments to dairy farmers and manufacturers of dairy products who, through no fault of their own, suffer income losses because they are directed to remove their milk from commercial markets due to contamination of their products by registered pesticides. The program also authorizes indemnity payments to dairy farmers for losses resulting from the removal of cows or dairy products from the market due to nuclear radiation or fallout.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary, estimated in fiscal year 2022 to be \$500,000, for indemnity payments to dairy farmers.

*PFAS Contamination.*—The Committee is aware that a small number of dairy farms are unable to sell their milk as a result of contamination from a family of synthetic chemicals, known as perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, collectively known as

“PFAS” chemicals. The Committee remains concerned that USDA’s own research has shown that PFAS residues remain detectable in contaminated livestock even after an extended withdrawal period, which could result in potential human exposure. Therefore, the Secretary shall utilize the Dairy Indemnity Payment Program to purchase and remove PFAS contaminated cows from the market, rather than paying for prolonged monthly production indemnities. The Secretary shall utilize the established, applicable Livestock Indemnity Program average fair market value price to compensate for PFAS contaminated cows at affected dairies. The Committee further notes that the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116–260 directed USDA to take such actions and the Secretary has yet to issue guidance or carry out the removal of contaminated cows.

GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	<sup>1</sup> \$2,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	.....
Committee recommendation .....	3,000,000

<sup>1</sup> Included in a General Provision in fiscal year 2021

This program is authorized under Title I of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8792). Under the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers, the Department offsets a portion of the costs of transporting agricultural inputs and products over long distances for farmers and ranchers outside the contiguous United States that face tremendously high costs for transporting agriculture products and inputs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers. This includes an increase of \$1,000,000 from the funding provided in a General Provision for the last several years in order to increase the cap on payments per producers that was has remained unchanged since it was first established in 2010 to ensure a fair and reasonable distribution of funds.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account [ACIF] is used to provide direct and guaranteed farm ownership, farm operating, conservation, Indian highly fractioned land, and emergency loans to individuals, as well as the following types of loans to associations: irrigation and drainage, grazing, Indian Tribe land acquisition, and boll weevil eradication.

FSA is also authorized to provide financial assistance to borrowers by guaranteeing loans made by private lenders having a contract of guarantee from FSA as approved by the Secretary of Agriculture and to establish Beginning Farmer and Rancher Individual Development grant accounts.

The following programs are financed through this fund:

*Boll Weevil Eradication Loans.*—Made to assist foundations in financing the operations of the boll weevil eradication programs provided to farmers.

*Credit Sales of Acquired Property.*—Property is sold out of inventory and is made available to an eligible buyer by providing FSA loans.

*Emergency Loans.*—Made to producers to aid recovery from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine. The loans may be used to restore or replace essential property; pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year; pay essential family living expenses; reorganize the farming operation; and refinance certain debts.

*Farm Operating Loans.*—Provide short-to-intermediate term production or chattel credit to farmers who cannot obtain credit elsewhere, to improve their farm and home operations, and to develop or maintain a reasonable standard of living. The term of the loan varies from one to 7 years.

*Farm Ownership Loans.*—Made to borrowers who cannot obtain credit elsewhere to restructure their debts, improve or purchase farms, refinance nonfarm enterprises which supplement but do not supplant farm income, or make additions to farms. Loans are made for 40 years or less.

*Heirs' Property Relending Program.*—Provide revolving loan funds to eligible intermediary lenders to resolve ownership and complete a succession plan on farmland that has multiple owners. The lenders will provide loans to qualified individuals to resolve these ownership issues and ensure fair access to land for farmers, ranchers, and future generations.

*Indian Tribe Land Acquisition Loans.*—Made to any Indian Tribe recognized by the Secretary of the Interior or Tribal corporation established pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act (Public Law 93-638) which does not have adequate uncommitted funds to acquire lands or interest in lands within the Tribe's reservation or Alaskan Indian community, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, for use of the Tribe or the corporation or the members thereof.

*Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans.*—Made to Indian Tribal members to purchase highly fractionated lands, as authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-234).

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends a total loan level of \$10,385,908,000 for programs within the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account.

*Loan Programs.*—The Committee continues to support FSA loan programs that ensure farmers and ranchers have access to credit to maintain and improve their operations. The Committee is aware of the heightened operating loan activity in fiscal year 2021 and notes the statutory authority allowing program level increases that do not require additional budget authority. The Committee will continue to monitor program demand in the coming months and directs FSA to provide timely estimates for future needs.

The following table reflects the program levels for farm credit programs administered by the Farm Service Agency recommended by the Committee, as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and the budget request levels:

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT PROGRAMS—LOAN LEVELS  
[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Farm Ownership:			
Direct .....	2,500,000	2,800,000	2,800,000
Guaranteed .....	3,300,000	3,500,000	3,500,000
Farm Operating:			
Direct .....	1,633,333	1,633,333	1,633,333
Guaranteed unsubsidized .....	2,118,482	2,118,482	2,118,482
Emergency Loans .....	37,668	37,668	37,668
Indian Tribe Land Acquisition .....	20,000	20,000	20,000
Conservation Loans:			
Guaranteed .....	150,000	150,000	150,000
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Boll Weevil Eradication .....	60,000	60,000	60,000
Relending Program .....	33,693	33,693	61,425
Total, Loan Authorizations .....	9,858,176	10,358,176	10,385,908

The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–508) established the program account. Appropriations to this account are used to cover the lifetime subsidy costs associated with the direct loans obligated and loan guarantees committed, as well as for administrative expenses.

The following table reflects the cost of programs under credit reform:

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Farm Operating:			
Direct .....	38,710	40,017	40,017
Guaranteed unsubsidized .....	23,727	16,524	16,524
Emergency Loans .....	207	267	267
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans .....	742	407	407
Relending Program .....	5,000	2,743	5,000
Total, Loan Subsidies .....	68,386	59,958	62,215
ACIF Expenses:			
Salaries and Expenses .....	294,114	294,114	294,114
Administrative Expenses .....	13,230	20,658	20,658
Total, ACIF Expenses .....	307,344	314,772	314,772

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$60,131,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	69,207,000
Committee recommendation .....	67,700,000

The Risk Management Agency performs administrative functions relative to the Federal Crop Insurance program that is authorized



by the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508), as amended by the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 [ARPA] (Public Law 106–224), the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334).

ARPA authorized significant changes in the crop insurance program. This Act provides higher government subsidies for producer premiums to make coverage more affordable; expands research and development for new insurance products and under-served areas through contracts with the private sector; and strengthens compliance. Functional areas of risk management are: research and development; insurance services; and compliance, the functions of which include policy formulation and procedures and regulations development.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$67,700,000 for Risk Management Agency, Salaries and Expenses.

The Committee recognizes that there are many research priorities that competitive funding may be used to address, including the feasibility of insurance programs to cover business interruption due to integrator bankruptcy and catastrophic loss in the poultry industry. The Committee encourages RMA to support research into these priorities.

*Corn Test Weight.*—The Committee is aware of concerns over whether discount tables used by FSA and RMA accurately reflect market conditions. The Committee directs the agency, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to study and update corn test weight discount tables to improve the accuracy of these discount factors.

*Haying and Grazing of Cover Crops.*—The Committee recognizes and applauds the Department’s recent efforts to provide flexibility to producers wishing to hay or graze cover crops on prevented planting acreage before November 1. This is an important step forward to ensure that producers planting decisions are based on sound agriculture practices, while also promoting smart agricultural practices that build soil health and resilience in our working lands.

*Improved Producer Education.*—The Committee recognizes that crop insurance is a vital public-private partnership and is the first line of defense for effectively managing risk for many farmers. However, the Committee believes that additional education is needed through the use of clear, comparative, and easy to understand information on the costs of selected crop insurance policies, the producer premium, and the Federal premium subsidy. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary to work with crop insurance providers and agents to ensure that all farmers have access to that cost information on their policies in a transparent and easy to understand manner.

*Whole-Farm Revenue Protection.*—The Committee remind USDA that the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 116–260 directed RMA to submit a report on the steps being taken by the Board of Directors of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to consider the feasibility of the proposed change to recognize

the difference in perils at different phases of growth for aquaculture species.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Natural Resources Conservation Service was established pursuant to the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-354). The NRCS works with conservation districts, watershed groups, and Federal and State agencies to bring about physical adjustments in land use that will conserve soil and water resources, provide for agricultural production on a sustained basis, and reduce flood damage and sedimentation.

CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$832,727,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	886,285,000
Committee recommendation .....	937,964,000

Conservation operations are authorized by Public Law 74-46 (16 U.S.C. 590a-590f). Activities include:

Conservation Technical Assistance provides assistance to district cooperators and other land users in the planning and application of conservation treatments to control erosion and improve the quantity and quality of soil resources; improve and conserve water; enhance fish and wildlife habitat; conserve energy; improve woodland, pasture, and range conditions; and reduce upstream flooding to protect and enhance the natural resource base.

Resource appraisal and program development ensures that programs administered by the Secretary for the conservation of soil, water, and related resources shall respond to the Nation's long-term needs.

Plant Materials Centers assemble, test, and encourage increased use of plant species which show promise for use in the treatment of conservation problem areas.

Snow Survey and Water Forecasting provides estimates of annual water availability from high mountain snow packs and summer stream flow in the Western States and Alaska. Information is used by agriculture, industry, and cities in estimating future water supplies.

Soil Surveys inventory the Nation's basic soil resources and determine land capabilities and conservation treatment needs. Soil survey publications include interpretations useful to cooperators, other Federal and State agencies, and local organizations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$937,964,000 for Conservation Operations. The Committee provides \$84,500,000 for Soil Surveys, \$16,500,000 for Snow Survey and Water Forecasting, \$9,540,000 for Plant Materials Centers, and \$784,813,000 for Conservation Technical Assistance, of which \$3,000,000 is for soil testing and remediation, \$8,000,000 is for climate hubs, \$12,000,000 is for climate smart agriculture, and \$20,000,000 is for the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (16 U.S.C. 3839bb). The Committee also provides \$15,000,000 for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to establish a Working Land Resilience Program and

\$8,000,000 for the Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Program. The Committee provides \$19,611,000 for congressionally directed projects, as specified in the table at the end of the report, for new and ongoing conservation activities. Amounts recommended by the Committee for specific conservation measures shall be in addition to levels otherwise made available to States.

*Acre-for-Acre Wetlands Mitigation.*—The Secretary is encouraged to use mitigation with the conversion of a natural wetland and equivalent wetlands functions at a ratio which does not exceed 1-to-1 acreage.

*Conservation Operations.*—In carrying out projects on public lands that would directly or indirectly prevent, prepare for, or respond to economic, environmental, or public health consequences resulting from climate change, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, seek out ways to utilize qualified youth or conservation corps, as defined in section 203(11) of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1722(11)), non-profit wilderness and trails stewardship organizations, and consult with public lands stewardship organizations for the purpose of identifying appropriate projects, activities, and workforce development outcomes.

*Congressionally Directed Spending [CDS].*—The Committee has provided CDS for certain activities and locations under Conservation Operations. While the Committee has provided the funding, recipients of CDS are still required to apply for the funding and must meet all statutory and regulatory requirements. The Committee expects the agency to review the applications and fund projects in the same manner as in previous years.

*Critical Conservation Areas [CCA].*—The Committee supports CCAs and the collaborative regional approach to address common natural resources goals while maintaining or improving agricultural productivity. The Committee urges NRCS to provide sufficient Conservation Technical Assistance funds to CCAs to address conservation planning backlogs. The Committee also encourages NRCS to leverage all possible resources to identify nutrient loss and reduce runoff to achieve the goals of the 2015 Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan.

*Drought Resilience.*—The Committee is particularly concerned about the severe and prolonged drought in the West and applauds the passage of the Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans. The Committee appreciates NRCS's efforts to increase efficiencies in current water use and expects NRCS to utilize all available opportunities to assist producers, irrigators, and irrigation districts in implementing area-wide plans to address drought resiliency and mitigation in a way that maintains strong rural and agriculture communities and protects our natural resources. In providing this assistance, the Committee further expects NRCS to prioritize support for implementation of Drought Contingency Plans, agreements, or programs that would conserve surface or ground water, improve drought resiliency, and address current and anticipated conservation needs and severe drought-related resource concerns.

*Energy Efficiency Opportunities.*—The Environmental Quality Incentive Program [EQIP] is an important tool to help farmers conserve energy, conduct energy audits, and develop conservation

plans through locally based technical service providers. The Committee is concerned that very few farmers who complete energy audits are able to actually utilize EQIP or other Federal programs to help them adopt much-needed energy efficiency measures to reduce their high energy expenses. The Secretary is urged to seek out and implement opportunities to encourage and support farmers to implement energy efficiency projects.

*Feral Hogs.*—The Committee is concerned that the feral hog population is rapidly expanding despite efforts to constrain their spread. To help prevent further damages to agriculture and urban lands, the Committee encourages NRCS to use available funds for a cost-share program for the construction and repair of perimeter fencing. The Committee directs NRCS, in conjunction with State soil and water conservation boards and agencies, to develop a strategy to exclude feral hogs from agricultural and urban areas at risk of damage from localized feral hog populations.

*Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative.*—The Committee provides \$20,000,000 for the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (16 U.S.C. 3839bb), of which at least \$16,000,000 shall be provided through State allocations as competitive grants to diverse partnerships, including socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and their organizations, to provide technical assistance to producers for grazing planning and implementation, conferences and other education, demonstrations, producer networks, workforce training, research, and outreach projects to improve agricultural resilience. NRCS is directed to provide at least \$2,000,000 through a cooperative agreement with a national grazing lands conservation coalition to establish diverse State-based coalitions and to undertake grazing education.

*Innovative Water Conservation.*—The Committee recognizes the devastating impacts wrought by severe and prolonged drought across many regions of the country. The Committee notes that the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334) made several updates to address water conservation and drought mitigation, including eligibility changes for water conservation and irrigation efficiency practices. NRCS is encouraged to work with eligible entities, including but not limited to producers, States, irrigation districts, and acequias, to help implement critical innovative drought resiliency and mitigation efforts, which maintain strong rural and agriculture communities while protecting natural resources.

*Land Grants and Acequias.*—The Committee recognizes that Section 2304(e) of Public Law 115–334 allows acequias and land grant mercedes to apply directly to the Environmental Quality Incentives Program [EQIP], which provides Federal funding and technical assistance to farmers throughout the Nation. The Committee appreciates that there are hundreds of acequias and dozens of land grants in New Mexico that can now gain direct access to this important conservation program. The Committee urges USDA to develop EQIP guidance that ensures timely input from local communities, including listening sessions with land grants and acequias.

*Private Land Conservation.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of providing private land owners with ready access to the many Federal, State, and local government and private resources

available to support conservation efforts on private lands. The Committee directs NRCS to implement a multi-year cooperative agreement with appropriate funding support to an organization that can make conservation solutions and best practices accessible daily to private land owners. This organization should also support efforts to conserve the lesser-prairie chicken and implement carbon sequestration conservation programs nationwide.

*Soil Health.*—The Committee recognizes that improving soil health on agricultural lands is key to achieving both meaningful conservation and economic benefits for producers. The Committee is pleased to see strong stakeholder interest in the new on-farm conservation innovation trials to test new or innovative conservation approaches and the soil health demonstration trial, which provides incentives to producers to implement practices that improve soil health and increase carbon levels in the soil. The Committee encourages the Secretary to dedicate more technical assistance funds to establish standard protocols for measuring and testing carbon levels to evaluate gains in soil health that will help producers to create positive economic, environmental, and social outcomes through ecosystem service markets. The Committee believes the Secretary should provide additional technical assistance related to healthy soil planning, soil carbon sequestration, and conservation activity planning. NRCS is urged to support the expansion of existing State soil health programs and to assist interested states in establishing new State soil health programs.

*Technical Assistance.*—The Committee directs NRCS to maintain a record of total technical assistance dollars for the past 3 years and annually in the future and to provide the data to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture and the Committee on Agriculture Nutrition and Forestry. This report should differentiate between mandatory and discretionary allocations.

*Technical Service Providers.*—The Committee urges NRCS to re-evaluate the current matching requirements for the Technical Service Provider program supporting State and Tribal soil health programs.

*Working Land Resilience Program.*—The Committee provides \$15,000,000 for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation [NFWF] to establish a Working Land Resilience Program that will collaborate with NRCS to offer technical and financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, and non-industrial private forestland owners to adopt voluntary practices that can restore and increase the resiliency of natural ecosystems and protect rural communities from future adverse weather events. The Committee believes that clear incentives are needed to encourage landowners to adopt more nature-based infrastructure and to increase the usage of agricultural resilience practices for drought, flood, and fire prone communities, and that this new program will help to address the current gaps that exist with the mandatory Farm Bill conservation programs. The Working Land Resilience Program shall be implemented in accordance with the authorization for NFWF, which requires that Federal funds be matched on at least a one-for-one basis, and the program will help to implement a wide range of soil health practices, strategic agricultural drainage management, wetlands, rotational graz-

ing, buffers, and other related management projects to help keep working lands working.

*Working Lands for Wildlife.*—The Committee recognizes the role of the Working Lands for Wildlife model in conservation efforts to enhance both wildlife habitat and productivity on working landscapes. In addition, the Committee is worried about the concerning population figures for the lesser prairie-chicken and the need to protect its habitat, particularly in times of drought. NRCS is directed to make every effort to strengthen and expand the work of the Working Lands for Wildlife model and the Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative.

WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$175,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	175,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	198,275,000

The Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law 83–566) (16 U.S.C. 1000–1005, 1007–1009) provides for cooperation between the Federal Government and the States and their political subdivisions in a program to prevent erosion, floodwater, and sediment damages in the watersheds or rivers and streams and to further the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water and the conservation and proper utilization of land in authorized watersheds.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$198,275,000 for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program [WFPO], of which the Committee provides \$23,275,000 for congressionally directed projects, as specified in the table at the end of the report, for new and ongoing watershed and flood prevention activities.

The Committee recognizes the critical challenges facing rural water resource management and protection and supports needed investments in watershed operations. These Federal-State-local partnerships are uniquely positioned to identify critical watershed protection and flood prevention needs in rural communities and implement projects that deliver multiple streams of benefits for homes, businesses, transportation infrastructure, and natural resources. In selecting projects for funding, the Committee expects the agency to balance the needs of addressing the project backlog, remediation of existing structures, and new projects.

*Congressionally Directed Spending [CDS].*—The Committee has provided CDS for certain activities and locations under Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations. While the Committee has provided the funding, recipients of CDS are still required to apply for the funding and must meet all statutory and regulatory requirements. The Committee expects the agency to review the applications and fund projects in the same manner as in previous years.

*Technical Assistance Flexibility.*—The Committee directs the Secretary to provide greater flexibility to State Conservationists to be able to utilize technical assistance dedicated for certain WFPO funds for administration and planning Statewide for all WFPO projects.

## WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$10,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	10,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	10,000,000

The Watershed Rehabilitation Program account provides for technical and financial assistance to carry out rehabilitation of structural measures, in accordance with section 14 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, approved August 4, 1954 (16 U.S.C. 1012, U.S.C. 1001, et seq.), as amended by section 313 of Public Law 106-472, November 9, 2000, and by section 2803 of Public Law 110-246.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$10,000,000 for the Watershed Rehabilitation Program.

The Committee recognizes the large backlog of community infrastructure projects eligible for financial and technical assistance from the Watershed Rehabilitation Program to address safety concerns, public health, and environmental impacts of aging dams. NRCS is urged to prioritize the rehabilitation of dams that pose the greatest risk to public safety.

## CORPORATIONS

## FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$8,748,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	9,660,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	9,660,000,000

The Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended by the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-354), authorizes the payment of expenses, which may include indemnity payments; loss adjustment; delivery expenses; program-related research and development; startup costs for implementing this legislation, such as studies, pilot projects, data processing improvements, and public outreach; and related tasks and functions.

All program costs, except for Federal salaries and expenses, are mandatory expenditures subject to appropriation.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary, estimated to be \$9,660,000,000 in fiscal year 2022, for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund.

## COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

The Commodity Credit Corporation is a wholly owned Government corporation created in 1933 to stabilize, support, and protect farm income and prices; to help maintain balanced and adequate supplies of agricultural commodities, including products, foods, feeds, and fibers; and to help in the orderly distribution of these commodities. CCC was originally incorporated under a Delaware charter and was reincorporated June 30, 1948, as a Federal cor-

poration within USDA by the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (Public Law 80–806), approved June 29, 1948.

The Commodity Credit Corporation engages in buying, selling, lending, and other activities with respect to agricultural commodities, their products, food, feed, and fibers. Its purposes include stabilizing, supporting, and protecting farm income and prices; maintaining the balance and adequate supplies of selected commodities; and facilitating the orderly distribution of such commodities. In addition, the Corporation makes available materials and facilities required in connection with the storage and distribution of such commodities. The Corporation also disburses funds for sharing of costs with producers for the establishment of approved conservation practices on environmentally sensitive land and subsequent rental payments for such land for the duration of CRP contracts.

Corporation activities are primarily governed by the following statutes: the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (Public Law 80–806), as amended; the Agricultural Act of 1949 (Public Law 81–439), as amended (1949 Act); the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (Public Law 75–430), as amended (the 1938 Act); the Food Security Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–198), as amended (1985 Act); the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246); the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79); and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334).

Management of the Corporation is vested in a board of directors, subject to the general supervision and direction of the Secretary of Agriculture, who is an ex officio director and chairman of the board. The board consists of seven members, in addition to the Secretary, who are appointed by the President of the United States with the advice and consent of the Senate. Officers of the Corporation are designated according to their positions in USDA.

The activities of the Corporation are carried out mainly by the personnel and through FSA facilities and FSA State and county committees. The Foreign Agricultural Service, the General Sales Manager, other agencies and offices of the Department, and commercial agents are also used to carry out certain aspects of the Corporation’s activities.

Under Public Law 87–155 (15 U.S.C. 713a–11, 713a–12), annual appropriations are authorized for each fiscal year, commencing with fiscal year 1961. These appropriations are to reimburse the Corporation for net realized losses.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$31,830,731,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	25,915,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	25,915,000,000

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary, estimated in fiscal year 2022 to be \$25,915,000,000, for the payment to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for reimbursement for net realized losses.



*CRP Wetland Restoration and Wildlife Enhancement.*—The Committee notes that agricultural commodity crops, if left unharvested, may help reduce degradation of wetlands and improve sediment trapping, surface and ground water supply, erosion control, and wildlife habitat while providing winter food for waterfowl and other wildlife. The Committee directs CCC, within 60 days of enactment of this Act, to amend its program policies and guidelines for CRP conservation practices CP23 and CP23A, to provide that current and future participants are permitted to plant, but not harvest, agricultural commodity crops as wildlife food plots on up to 10 percent of the enrolled land to enhance waterfowl and upland bird food and habitat.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

Limitation, 2021 .....	-\$15,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	- 15,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	- 15,000,000

The CCC’s hazardous waste management program is intended to ensure compliance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Public Law 96–510) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (Public Law 94–580). The CCC funds operations and maintenance costs as well as site investigation and cleanup expenses. Investigative and cleanup costs associated with the management of CCC hazardous waste are also paid from USDA’s hazardous waste management appropriation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$15,000,000 for the Commodity Credit Corporation’s hazardous waste management program.

TITLE III

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–354) abolished the Farmers Home Administration, Rural Development Administration, and Rural Electrification Administration and replaced those agencies with the Rural Housing and Community Development Service, (currently, the Rural Housing Service), Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service (currently, the Rural Business-Cooperative Service), and Rural Utilities Service and placed them under the oversight of the Under Secretary for Rural Economic and Community Development, (currently, Rural Development [RD]). These agencies deliver a variety of programs through a network of State and field offices.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$812,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,330,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,580,000

The Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development provides direction and coordination in carrying out laws with respect to the Department’s rural economic and community development activities. The Office has oversight and management responsibilities for the Rural Housing Service [RHS], Rural Business-Cooperative Service [RBS], and the Rural Utilities Service [RUS].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,580,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development.

*Persistent Poverty Areas.*—The Committee supports targeted investments in impoverished areas, particularly in persistent poverty counties, and directs the Department to complete the report requested on this matter.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Appropriation .....	264,024	367,447	363,922
Transfer from:			
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Loan Program Account .....	412,254	412,254	412,254
Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Program Account .....	33,270	33,270	33,270

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Rural Development Loan Program Account .....	4,468	4,468	4,468
Total, Rural Development salaries and expenses .....	714,016	817,439	813,914

These funds are used to administer the loan and grant programs of RHS, RBS, and RUS, including reviewing applications, making and collecting loans, providing technical assistance and guidance to borrowers, and assisting in extending other Federal programs to people in rural areas.

Under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–508), administrative costs associated with loan programs are appropriated to the program accounts. Appropriations to the salaries and expenses account will be for costs associated with grant programs.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends \$813,914,000 for salaries and expenses of Rural Development, including a direct appropriation of \$363,922,000.

*Collaboration with the Office of Tribal Relations.*—The Committee recognizes the difficulty that federally-recognized Tribes experience when applying for Rural Development loan and grant programs. The Committee directs Rural Development to collaborate with the Office of Tribal Relations to improve outreach and technical assistance to Tribes to improve their ability to apply to programs.

*Information Technology.*—The Committee remains concerned about IT systems within Rural Development and provides an increase of \$16,410,000 to continue making improvements and retiring legacy systems. The Committee directs the Department to provide a detailed IT spend plan for Rural Development and brief the Committees on Appropriations within 45 days of the enactment of this Act.

*Staffing Increases.*—The Committee provides \$38,600,000 to hire additional staff for the mission area. The Committee directs the Department to use a portion of this increase to hire additional staff to support the Tribal Liaison within the Rural Development Innovation Center.

*StrikeForce Initiative.*—The Committee provides \$32,000,000 for the StrikeForce Initiative and directs the Secretary to submit a report that includes key performance measures to evaluate the success of this new initiative within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

#### RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

The Rural Housing Service was established under the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–354).

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 (budget authority) .....	\$80,020,000
Budget estimate, 2022 (budget authority) .....	77,052,000
Committee recommendation (budget authority) .....	77,051,000

This fund was established in 1965 (Public Law 89–117) pursuant to section 517 of title V of the Housing Act of 1949 (Public Law 87–171). This fund may be used to insure or guarantee rural housing loans for single-family homes, rental and cooperative housing, farm labor housing, and rural housing sites. Rural housing loans are made to construct, improve, alter, repair, or replace dwellings and essential farm service buildings that are modest in size, design, and cost. Rental housing insured loans are made to individuals, corporations, associations, trusts, or partnerships to provide low-cost rental housing and related facilities in rural areas. These loans are repayable in terms up to 30 years. The Multi-family Housing Preservation and Revitalization Program [MPR] includes revitalization tools for maintenance of existing units. The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–508) established the Rural Housing Insurance Fund [RHIF] program account. Appropriations to this account will be used to cover the lifetime subsidy costs associated with the direct loans obligated and loan guarantees committed in fiscal year 2022, as well as for administrative expenses.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$77,051,000 for the Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account.

The following table presents the loan subsidy levels as compared to the 2021 levels and the 2022 budget request:

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
<b>Loan Levels:</b>			
Single-Family Housing (sec. 502):			
Direct .....	1,000,000	1,500,000	1,250,000
Guaranteed .....	24,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000
Housing repair (sec. 504) .....	28,000	28,000	28,000
Direct rental housing (sec. 515) .....	40,000	40,000	92,000
Guaranteed rental housing (sec. 538) .....	230,000	230,000	250,000
Site development loans (sec. 524) .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Credit sales of acquired property .....	10,000	10,000	10,000
Self help land development loans (sec. 523) .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Farm labor housing loans (sec. 514) .....	28,000	28,000	28,000
<b>Total, loan levels .....</b>	<b>25,374,000</b>	<b>31,878,000</b>	<b>31,700,000</b>
<b>Loan Subsidies and Grants:</b>			
Single-Family Housing (sec. 502):			
Direct .....	55,400	27,900	23,250
Housing repair (sec. 504) .....	2,215	484	484
Direct rental housing (sec. 515) .....	6,688	3,576	8,225
Site development loans (sec. 524) .....	355	206	206
Self help land development loans (sec. 523) .....	269	55	55
Farm labor housing loans (sec. 514) .....	5,093	2,831	2,831
Farm labor housing grants (sec. 516) .....	10,000	10,000	10,000

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT—Continued  
 [In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Multi-Family housing revitalization demonstration <sup>1</sup> .....	28,000	32,000	32,000
Total, loan subsidies and grants .....	80,020	77,052	77,051
Administrative Expenses .....	412,254	412,254	412,254
Total, loan subsidies and administrative expenses .....	492,274	489,306	489,305

<sup>1</sup>For fiscal year 2021, the Multi-Family Revitalization Demonstration is funded under the Multi-Family Revitalization Account, which is has been renamed to the Rural Housing Voucher Account in this bill.

*Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Demonstration [MPR].*—The Committee accepts the Department’s proposal to realign the MPR program under the RHIF account.

*Relending Program.*—The Committee applauds the initial success of the Single Family Housing Direct relending loan program and urges the Department to expand the pilot to other states, particularly in the southwestern United States.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$1,410,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,495,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,450,000,000

Rental assistance is authorized under section 521(a)(2) of the Housing Act of 1949 (Public Law 87–171). The objective of the program is to reduce rents paid by low-income families living in RHS-financed rental projects and farm labor housing projects. Under this program, low-income tenants will contribute the higher of: (1) 30 percent of monthly adjusted income; (2) 10 percent of monthly income; or (3) designated housing payments from a welfare agency.

Payments from the fund are made to the project owner for the difference between the tenant’s payment and the approved rental rate established for the unit.

The program is administered in tandem with RHS section 515 rural rental housing program and the farm labor loan and grant programs. Priority is given to existing projects for rental units occupied by over-burdened low-income families and projects experiencing financial difficulties beyond the control of the owner.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,450,000,000 for the Rental Assistance Program.

Housing vouchers are addressed in the Rural Housing Voucher Account.

*Rental Assistance Priority.*—The Secretary is encouraged to prioritize multi-family housing properties acquired by means of a section 515 loan within the current fiscal year when determining current rental assistance needs.

## RURAL HOUSING VOUCHER ACCOUNT

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$40,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	.....
Committee recommendation .....	45,000,000

The Rural Housing Voucher Program was authorized under the Housing Act of 1949 (Public Law 81–171) to assist very low-income families and individuals who reside in rental housing in rural areas. Housing vouchers may be provided to residents of rental housing projects financed by section 515 loans that have been pre-paid or paid off after September 30, 2005. Voucher amounts reflect the difference between comparable market rents and tenant-paid rent prior to loan pre-payment. Vouchers allow tenants to remain in existing projects or move to other rental housing.

The MPR program has been transferred to the Rural Housing Insurance Fund Account.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$45,000,000 for the Rural Housing Voucher Program.

*Multi-Family Housing Preservation.*—The Committee still awaits the report estimating the cost of providing rural housing vouchers to all low-income households currently receiving USDA rental assistance and residing in a property financed with a Section 515 loan that are set to mature in the subsequent fiscal year and subsequent 10 fiscal years. In addition, the Secretary is reminded to provide quarterly reports to the Committee on transfers between vouchers and the housing preservation demonstration program within the Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account.

## MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$31,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	32,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	32,000,000

The Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants Program is authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949 (Public Law 81–171). Grants are made to local organizations to promote the development of mutual or self-help programs under which groups of usually six to ten families build their own homes by mutually exchanging labor. Funds may be used to pay the cost of construction supervisors who work with families in the construction of their homes and for administrative expenses of the organizations providing the self-help assistance.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$32,000,000 for Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants.

## RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$45,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	45,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	45,000,000

The Rural Housing Assistance Grants Program consolidates funding for rural housing grant programs. This consolidation of

housing grant funding provides greater flexibility to tailor financial assistance to applicant needs.

*Very Low-Income Housing Repair Grants.*—The Very Low-Income Housing Repair Grants Program is authorized under section 504 of title V of the Housing Act of 1949 (Public Law 81–171). The rural housing repair grant program is carried out by making grants to very low-income families to conduct necessary repairs to their homes in order to make such dwellings safe and sanitary and to remove hazards to the health of the occupants, their families, or the community.

These grants may be made to cover the cost of improvements or additions, such as repairing roofs, providing toilet facilities, providing a convenient and sanitary water supply, supplying screens, repairing or providing structural supports, or making similar repairs, additions, or improvements, including all preliminary and installation costs in obtaining central water and sewer service. A grant can be made in combination with a section 504 very low-income housing repair loan.

No assistance can be extended to any one individual in the form of a loan, grant, or combined loans and grants in excess of \$7,500, and grant assistance is limited to persons or families headed by persons who are 62 years of age or older.

*Supervisory and Technical Assistance Grants.*—Supervisory and technical assistance grants are made to public and private non-profit organizations for packaging loan applications for housing assistance under sections 502, 504, 514/516, 515, and 533 of the Housing Act of 1949 (Public Law 81–171). The assistance is directed to very low-income families in underserved areas where at least 20 percent of the population is below the poverty level and at least 10 percent or more of the population resides in substandard housing. In fiscal year 1994, a Homebuyer Education Program was implemented under this authority. This program provides low-income individuals and families with education and counseling on obtaining and/or maintaining occupancy of adequate housing and supervised credit assistance to become successful homeowners.

*Compensation for Construction Defects.*—Compensation for construction defects provides funds for grants to eligible section 502 borrowers to correct structural defects or to pay claims of owners arising from such defects on a newly constructed dwelling purchased with RHS financial assistance. Claims are not paid until provisions under the builder's warranty have been fully pursued. Requests for compensation for construction defects must be made by the owner of the property within 18 months after the date financial assistance was granted.

*Rural Housing Preservation Grants.*—Rural housing preservation grants (section 533) of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (Public Law 98–181) authorizes the Rural Housing Service to administer a program of home repair directed at low- and very low-income people.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$45,000,000 for the Rural Housing Assistance Grants Program.

The following table compares the grant program levels recommended by the Committee to the fiscal year 2021 levels and the budget request:

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Very low-income housing repair grants .....	30,000	30,000	30,000
Housing preservation grants .....	15,000	15,000	15,000
Total .....	45,000	45,000	45,000

RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$74,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	74,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	172,690,000

Community facility loans were created by the Rural Development Act of 1972 (Public Law 92–419) to finance a variety of rural community facilities. Loans are made to organizations, including certain Indian Tribes and corporations not operated for profit and public and quasi-public agencies, to construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services to rural residents. Such facilities include those providing or supporting overall community development, such as fire and rescue services, healthcare, transportation, traffic control, and community, social, cultural, and recreational benefits. Loans are made for facilities which primarily serve rural residents of open country and rural towns and villages of not more than 20,000 people. Healthcare, fire and rescue facilities, and educational facilities are the priorities of the program and receive the majority of available funds.

The Community Facility Grant Program authorized in the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–127) is used in conjunction with the existing direct and guaranteed loan programs for the development of community facilities such as hospitals, fire stations, and community centers. Grants are targeted to the lowest income communities. Communities that have lower population and income levels receive a higher cost-share contribution through these grants with a maximum contribution of 75 percent of the cost of developing the facility.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$172,690,000 for the Rural Community Facilities Program Account.

The following table provides the Committee's recommendations, as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and budget request levels:



## RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
<b>Loan Levels:</b>			
Community facilities direct loans .....	2,800,000	2,800,000	2,800,000
Community facilities guaranteed loans .....	500,000	500,000	500,000
<b>Total, loan levels .....</b>	<b>3,300,000</b>	<b>3,300,000</b>	<b>3,300,000</b>
<b>Budget Authority:</b>			
Community facilities grants .....	32,000	58,000	48,000
Congressionally Directed Spending .....			83,690
Economic initiative grants .....	6,000		
Rural community development initiative .....	6,000	6,000	6,000
Tribal college grants .....	5,000	10,000	10,000
Non-conforming subsidy .....	25,000		25,000
<b>Total, budget authority .....</b>	<b>74,000</b>	<b>74,000</b>	<b>172,690</b>

*Congressionally Directed Spending [CDS].*—The Committee has provided CDS for certain activities and locations under Rural Community Facilities Program. While the Committee has provided the funding, recipients of CDS are still required to apply for the funding and must meet all statutory and regulatory requirements. The Committee expects the agency to review the applications and fund projects in the same manner as in previous years.

*Rural Community Facilities Program Priorities.*—The Committee recognizes the important role that the Rural Community Facilities program can play in addressing the Nation’s opioid epidemic. Community Facilities programs have previously supported efforts to address substance use disorders through projects such as mobile treatment clinics and telemedicine services. The Committee encourages the Secretary to make funds available through the Rural Community Facilities program to provide prevention, treatment, or recovery services for individuals with substance use disorders.

## RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE

The Rural Business-Cooperative Service was established by the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–354), dated October 13, 1994. Its programs were previously administered by the Rural Development Administration, the Rural Electrification Administration, and the Agricultural Cooperative Service.

## RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$56,400,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	81,150,000
Committee recommendation .....	81,150,000

The Rural Business and Industry Loan Program was created by the Rural Development Act of 1972 (Public Law 92–419), and finances a variety of rural industrial development loans. Loans are made for rural industrialization and rural community facilities under Rural Development Act amendments to the Consolidated

Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932 et seq.) authorities. Business and industrial loans are made to public, private, or cooperative organizations organized for profit; to certain Indian tribes; or to individuals for the purpose of improving, developing, or financing business, industry, and employment or improving the economic and environmental climate in rural areas. Such purposes include financing business and industrial acquisition, construction, enlargement, repair or modernization; financing the purchase and development of land, easements, rights-of-way, buildings, and payment of startup costs; and supplying working capital.

Rural business development grants were authorized by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79) and can be made to governmental and nonprofit entities and Indian Tribes. Up to 10 percent of appropriated funds may be used to identify and analyze business opportunities; identify, train, and provide technical assistance to existing or prospective rural entrepreneurs and managers; assist in the establishment of new rural businesses and the maintenance of existing businesses; conduct economic development planning, coordination, and leadership development; and establish centers for training, technology, and trade. The balance of appropriated funding may be used for projects that support the development of business enterprises that finance or facilitate the development of small and emerging private business enterprise; the establishment, expansion, and operation of rural distance learning networks; the development of rural learning programs; and the provision of technical assistance and training to rural communities for the purpose of improving passenger transportation.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$81,150,000 for the Rural Business Program Account.

The following table provides the Committee’s recommendations, as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and budget request levels:

#### RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Loan levels:			
Business and industry guaranteed loans loan levels .....	1,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Total, loan levels .....	1,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Budget Authority:			
Business and industry guaranteed loans .....	10,400	30,150	30,150
Rural business development grants .....	37,000	37,000	37,000
DRA, NBRC, and ARC .....	9,000	9,000	9,000
Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Grants <sup>1</sup> .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total, budget authority .....	56,400	81,150	81,150

<sup>1</sup> RISE grants are funded under a general provision in fiscal year 2021.

*Federal Regional Commissions and Authorities.*—The Committee recognizes that strong partnerships exist between RD and Federal Regional Commissions and Authorities. The Committee encourages RD to coordinate with the Regional Commissions to promote effi-

ciency during the grant planning and review process. Additionally, the Committee encourages RD to ensure flexible processes are available for each Regional Commission as appropriate.

*Meat Processing Facilities.*—The Committee directs the Secretary to prioritize applications that establish or expand very small and small meat processing facilities.

*Rural Innovation Stronger Economy [RISE] Grants.*—The Committee provides \$5,000,000 for the RISE grant program enacted as part of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334). These grants have the potential to help struggling communities by funding jobs accelerators in low-income rural areas. The Committee recommends funding be prioritized for entities leveraging next generation gigabit broadband service to promote entrepreneurship and entities based in geographical areas with established agriculture and technology sectors which are focused on the development of precision and autonomous agriculture technologies as a way to strengthen rural economies and create jobs.

*Rural Business Program Account.*—The Committee recommends \$500,000 for transportation technical assistance.

The Committee directs that of the \$4,000,000 recommended for grants to benefit federally Recognized Native American Tribes, \$250,000 shall be used to implement an American Indian and Alaska Native passenger transportation development and assistance initiative.

#### INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Estimated loan level .....	18,889	18,889	18,889
Direct loan subsidy .....	2,939	1,524	1,524
Administrative expenses .....	4,468	4,468	4,468
Total, loan subsidies and administrative expenses .....	7,407	5,992	5,992

The Rural Development Intermediary Relending Loan program was originally authorized by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (Public Law 88–452). The making of rural development loans by USDA was reauthorized by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79).

Loans are made to intermediary borrowers (small investment groups) who in turn will reloan the funds to rural businesses, community development corporations, private nonprofit organizations, public agencies, et cetera, for the purpose of improving business, industry, community facilities, employment opportunities, and diversification of the economy in rural areas.

The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 74–605) established the program account. Appropriations to this account will be used to cover the lifetime subsidy costs associated with the direct loans obligated in 2022, as well as administrative expenses.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$5,992,000 for the Intermediary Relending Program Fund.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

[In thousands of dollars]

	Estimated loan level
Fiscal year 2021 level .....	50,000
Fiscal year 2022 request .....	50,000
Committee recommendation .....	50,000

The Rural Economic Development Loans program was established by the Reconciliation Act of December 1987 (Public Law 100–203), which amended the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901), by establishing a new section 313. This section of the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 901) established a cushion of credit payment program and created the rural economic development subaccount. The Administrator of RUS is authorized under the Act to utilize funds in this program to provide zero interest loans to electric and telecommunications borrowers for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, including funding for feasibility studies, startup costs, and other reasonable expenses for the purpose of fostering rural economic development.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a loan program level of \$50,000,000, to be funded from earnings on the Cushion of Credit and fees on guaranteed underwriting loans made pursuant to section 313A of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901).

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$26,600,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	26,600,000
Committee recommendation .....	26,800,000

Rural cooperative development grants are authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (Public Law 113–79), as amended. Grants are made to fund the establishment and operation of centers for rural cooperative development with the primary purpose of improving economic conditions in rural areas. Grants may be made to nonprofit institutions or institutions of higher education. Grants may be used to pay up to 75 percent of the cost of the project and associated administrative costs. The applicant must contribute at least 25 percent from non-Federal sources, except 1994 institutions, which only need to provide five percent. Grants are competitive and are awarded based on specific selection criteria.

Cooperative research agreements are authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2204b. The funds are used for cooperative research agreements, primarily with colleges and universities, on critical operational, organizational, and structural issues facing cooperatives.

Cooperative agreements are authorized under 7 U.S.C. 2201 to any qualified State departments of agriculture, universities, and other State entities to conduct research that will strengthen and enhance the operations of agricultural marketing cooperatives in rural areas.

The Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas [ATTRA] program was first authorized by the Food Security Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–198). The program provides information and technical assistance to agricultural producers to adopt sustainable agricultural practices that are environmentally friendly and lower production costs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$26,800,000 for Rural Cooperative Development Grants.

Of the funds recommended, \$3,000,000 is for the Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas program.

The Committee includes bill language directing that not more than \$3,000,000 be made available to cooperatives or associations of cooperatives whose primary focus is to provide assistance to small, minority producers.

*Agriculture Innovation Centers.*—The Committee recommends \$3,000,000 for Agriculture Innovation Center funding, as authorized in section 6402 of Public Law 107–171, to be available as grants to States authorized to host, and that have previously hosted, a USDA Agriculture Innovation Center and where the State continues to demonstrate support and provide non-Federal grant funding to producers developing, producing, and marketing value-added agricultural and food products. Prior year or current grant awardees shall be eligible for these funds.

*Council on Rural Community Innovation and Economic Development.*—The Committee is still awaiting the report on implementation of Section 6306 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334), including a projected timeline for full implementation of this provision.

*Value-Added Producer Grants.*—The Committee directs that Value-Added Producer Grants be prioritized to support the production of value-added agricultural products, including dairy, with significant potential to expand production and processing in the United States.

RURAL MICROENTREPRENEUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$6,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	8,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	6,000,000

The Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program is authorized under section 379E(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008s). This program provides direct loans and grants to microentrepreneur development organizations with the skills necessary to establish new rural microenterprises and provide technical assistance to maintain the successful operation of rural microenterprises.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriations of \$6,000,000 for the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program.

## RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$392,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	30,168,000
Committee recommendation .....	22,168,000

The Rural Energy for America Program is authorized under section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–171). This program may fund energy audits, direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants to farmers, ranchers, and small rural businesses for the purchase of renewable energy systems and for energy efficiency improvements.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$22,168,000 for the Rural Energy for America Program.

The following table provides the Committee’s recommendation as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and budget request levels:

## RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Estimated loan level .....	20,000	20,000	20,000
Guaranteed loan subsidy .....	392	168	168
Grants .....		30,000	20,000

*Rural Energy for America Program.*—The Committee encourages the Department to focus a portion of funding on underserved renewable technologies. The Committee also notes that the 2018 Farm Bill provides annual mandatory funds for this program as follows: \$38,000,000 for grants and \$12,000,000 in loan subsidy for guaranteed loans, which has an estimated loan level of \$1,428,571,000 in fiscal year 2022.

## HEALTHY FOOD FINANCING INITIATIVE

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$5,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	5,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	6,000,000

The Healthy Food Financing Initiative is authorized under section 4206 of the Agricultural Act of 2014. This program provides financial and technical assistance to regional, State and local partnerships, and helps fund projects to improve access to fresh, healthy foods in underserved rural areas. This program is funded under a general provision for fiscal year 2021.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriations of \$6,000,000 for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative. The program is funded under a general provision in fiscal year 2021.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

The Rural Utilities Service was established under the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-354). RUS administers the electric and telephone programs of the former Rural Electrification Administration and the water and waste programs of the former Rural Development Administration.

RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$621,567,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	716,557,000
Committee recommendation .....	665,702,000

The water and waste disposal program is authorized by sections 306, 306A, 309A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (Public Law 87-128). This program makes loans for water and waste development costs. Development loans are made to associations, including corporations operating on a nonprofit basis, municipalities, and similar organizations generally designated as public or quasi-public agencies, that propose projects for the development, storage, treatment, purification, and distribution of domestic water or the collection, treatment, or disposal of waste in rural areas. Such grants may not exceed 75 percent of the development cost of the projects and can supplement other funds borrowed or furnished by applicants to pay development costs.

The solid waste grant program is authorized under section 310B(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (Public Law 87-128). Grants are made to public entities and private nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance to local and regional governments for the purpose of reducing or eliminating pollution of water resources and for improving the planning and management of solid waste disposal facilities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$665,702,000 for the Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account.

The Committee recommends \$73,000,000 for water and waste disposal systems grants for Native Americans, including Native Alaskans, Native Hawaiians, and the Colonias. The Committee recognizes the special needs and problems for delivery of basic services to these populations and encourages the Secretary to distribute these funds in line with the fiscal year 2014 distribution to the degree practicable. In addition, the Committee makes up to \$20,157,000 available for the circuit rider program.

The following table provides the Committee's recommendations, as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and budget request levels:

## RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Loan levels:			
Water and waste disposal direct loans .....	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Water and waste disposal guaranteed loans .....	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total, loan levels .....	1,450,000	1,450,000	1,450,000
Budget authority:			
Water and waste disposal guaranteed loans .....	60	45	45
Water and waste disposal grants .....	463,350	528,355	500,000
Solid waste management grants .....	4,000	4,000	4,000
Water well systems grants .....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Colonias, AK, HI and Native American grants .....	68,000	93,000	73,000
Water and waste water revolving funds .....	1,000	1,000	1,000
High energy cost grants .....	10,000	10,000	10,000
Circuit rider .....	20,157	20,157	20,157
Emergency community water assistance grants .....	15,000	15,000	15,000
Technical assistance grants .....	35,000	40,000	37,500
Total, budget authority .....	621,567	716,557	665,702

*Septic-related Pollution.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of investing in water and wastewater infrastructure to significantly improve water quality, mitigate and reduce environmental contamination, and promote long-term economic growth for local rural communities. Therefore, the Committee supports funding to facilitate the development and installation of sanitary sewer lines and waste water lift stations in rural communities and encourages the Department to evaluate proposed projects giving priority to those projects whose goal is mitigating and reducing septic-related pollution and establishing comprehensive sewer service to homes and businesses in rural areas where such projects would be essential to preserving environmental health and the health, safety and general welfare of local citizens.

*Small-Scale Water and Wastewater Technologies Pilot Program.*—The Committee recognizes that small and rural communities located within Central Appalachia can lack access to reliable water and sanitation because they do not have the capacity or population bases to support centralized water systems. Within the funds provided for the Rural Water and Wastewater Disposal program, the Committee encourages the Department to fund pilot projects intended to provide decentralized small-scale water and wastewater services to communities in distressed counties within Central Appalachia.

*Technical Assistance.*—The Committee provides a \$2,500,000 increase for technical assistance and directs no less than \$1,000,000 of the increase to be used to support manufactured homes.



RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM  
ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (Public Law 74–605) provides the statutory authority for the electric and telecommunications programs.

The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–508) established the program account. An appropriation to this account will be used to cover the lifetime subsidy costs associated with the direct loans obligated and loan guarantees committed in fiscal year 2022, as well as administrative expenses.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The following table reflects the Committee’s recommendation for the Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account, the loan subsidy and administrative expenses, as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and budget request levels:

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Loan authorization:			
Electric:			
Direct FFB .....	5,500,000		
Electric Direct, Treasury Rate .....		6,500,000	6,500,000
Guaranteed underwriting .....	750,000		750,000
Telecommunications:			
Direct, Treasury Rate .....	345,000	690,000	690,000
Direct, FFB .....	345,000		
Rural Energy Savings Program <sup>1</sup> .....	107,317	398,551	208,333
Total, Loan authorization .....	6,940,000	7,588,551	8,148,333
Direct, Treasury Rate Telecomm Subsidy .....	2,277	2,070	2,070
Electric Loan Modifications .....		400,000	
Rural Energy Savings Program <sup>1</sup> .....	11,000	22,000	11,500
Telecomm. Treasury Modification .....		25,000	
Administrative Expenses .....	33,270	33,270	33,270
Total budget authority .....	35,547	482,340	46,840

<sup>1</sup> This Rural Energy Savings Program is funded under a general provision in fiscal year 2021.

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Loan and grant levels:			
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program:			
Grants .....	60,000	60,000	60,000
Congressionally Directed Spending .....			2,510
Broadband Program:			
Treasury rate loans budget authority .....	2,000	1,772	2,272
Grants .....	35,000	35,000	37,500
Re-Connect <sup>1</sup> .....		650,000	

## DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Total, DLT and Broadband budget authority .....	97,000	746,772	102,282

<sup>1</sup>The bill continues to fund the ReConnect loan and grant program under a general provision.

The Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program is authorized by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–624), as amended by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–127). This program provides incentives to improve the quality of phone services, provide access to advanced telecommunications services and computer networks, and improve rural opportunities.

This program provides the facilities and equipment to link rural education and medical facilities with more urban centers and other facilities, providing rural residents access to better healthcare through technology and increasing educational opportunities for rural students. These funds are available for loans and grants.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$102,282,000 for the Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program.

The Committee provides \$3,000,000 to address critical healthcare needs, as authorized by section 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (Public Law 115–334).

*Broadband Interagency Agreement.*—The Committee directs the Department to provide quarterly updates on the progress of the interagency agreement between the Federal Communications Commission, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and USDA.

*Congressionally Directed Spending [CDS].*—The Committee has provided CDS for certain activities and locations under Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program. While the Committee has provided the funding, recipients of CDS are still required to apply for the funding and must meet all statutory and regulatory requirements. The Committee expects the agency to review the applications and fund projects in the same manner as in previous years.

*Mountainous Terrain.*—The Committee is concerned that States with challenging, mountainous terrain incur higher costs when it comes to broadband deployment. The Committee recognizes the importance of the Community Connect Program and its ability to bring much needed broadband to rural America and requests that the Secretary prioritize awarding funding in areas with mountainous terrain.

*ReConnect.*—The Committee provides \$700,000,000 for the ReConnect pilot, which was established in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141). The Committee recognizes that the Department is in the process of drafting and publishing the next funding announcement and expects the Department to address concerns related to barriers with the application process mentioned in the fiscal year 2021 appropriations act and report. Until the announcement is published, the Committee reiter-

ates previous concerns on this matter and directs the Secretary to allow entities of any structure, including partnerships and infrastructure applications, to apply provided sufficient assurances are given that broadband service will be provided to the subject area through contractual arrangements. In addition, the Committee reminds USDA to avoid efforts that could duplicate existing networks built by private investment or those built leveraging and utilizing other Federal programs and to coordinate with the National Telecommunications Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission to ensure wherever possible that any funding provided to support deployment of last-mile broadband infrastructure is targeted to areas that are currently unserved. Further, the Committee encourages the agency to prioritize projects financed through public-private partnerships and projects where Federal funding will not exceed 50 percent of the project's total cost. The Committee also supports efforts to increase transparency and encourages the Secretary to follow the notice and comment rulemaking procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act (Public Law 79-404) with respect to all program administration and activities, including publishing a written decision on RUS' website of how challenges were decided and the agency's reasons for such decision. In addition, the Committee intended the pilot to be technology neutral and encourages the Secretary to eliminate or revise the awarding of extra points under the ReConnect program to applicants from States without restrictions on broadband delivery by utilities service providers in order to ensure this criteria is not a determining factor for funding awards. The Committee also encourages the Department to allow service areas that received CAF II funds to allow other entities to apply for ReConnect funding for the same service area if the CAF II funds supported satellite deployment and the entity that received CAF II funds cannot provide terrestrial broadband. In addition, the Committee is concerned that states and territories outside the contiguous United States are having difficulty participating with the USDA broadband programs, and encourages the Secretary to consider grants or loans for satellite, or other technologies, if such middle mile infrastructure predominantly serves a "rural area" as defined in section 601(b) and do not lead to overbuilding.

*Rural in Character.*—The Committee is concerned that the current weighting scale for the ReConnect program disadvantages rural households and communities that are not necessarily located on farms. In addition, the Committee is concerned that providing preference to 100mbps symmetrical service also unfairly disadvantages these communities by limiting the deployment of other technologies capable of providing service to these areas. Further, the Committee is concerned that the current program does not effectively recognize the unique challenges and opportunities that different technologies, including satellite, provide to delivering broadband in noncontiguous States or mountainous terrain.

TITLE IV  
DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

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

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$809,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,327,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,327,000

The Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services provides direction and coordination in carrying out the laws enacted by the Congress with respect to the Department’s nutrition assistance activities. The Office has oversight and management responsibilities for the Food and Nutrition Service [FNS].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,327,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services.

*Application Process.*—The Committee is concerned that the application process for organizations which participate in both the Summer Food Service Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program diverts resources away from serving vulnerable populations. The Committee directs USDA to determine ways to streamline the application process to reduce the administrative burden to providers. USDA is specifically directed to consider allowing organizations in good standing for 3 years participating in both programs to file only one application to administer both programs each year. USDA is further directed to provide a report to the Committee on steps they have taken to address this issue, including any additional streamlining actions the agency would recommend but lacks the authority to execute.

*Mobile Food Services Support.*—The Committee applauds the work that the department has done during the COVID–19 pandemic to address the increase in need for emergency food assistance. The Committee urges FNS to focus efforts on providing support to states with high levels of food insecurity, including high density vulnerable populations in areas without adequate transportation most affected by unemployment due to the pandemic. The Committee encourages FNS to assess gaps in current feeding programs in order to reduce inadequacies that lead to nutrition gaps.

*Food Security in Frontier Communities.*—The Committee appreciates the intent of FNS to focus on implementing locally-designed initiatives to increase food security in frontier communities within its area of responsibility. Helping these communities adapt to changing growing conditions and subsistence food availability and develop the capacity to grow more food locally will improve their

tenuous food security and provide opportunities for economic development in extremely low-income regions. Therefore, the Committee strongly encourages FNS to continue to work closely with relevant stakeholders in States with frontier communities to support activities and policies that will result in increased food security. The Committee directs FNS to collaborate with AMS in implementing Micro-Grants for Food Security.

*Nutrition Program Efficiency.*—The Committee encourages the Secretary to focus process and technology improvement grants within FNS to expand public-private partnerships to increase food security in a cost-efficient and accountable manner.

*Online Purchasing.*—The Committee recognizes that online purchasing provides flexibility to low-income families who lack access to reliable transportation and is an important option to mitigate the spread of infectious diseases. USDA should make every effort to expand the acceptance of program benefits through online transactions, including at virtual farmers' markets and farm stores, to all States across the Nation as quickly as possible.

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP] Eligibility.*—The Committee understands that there are frequent changes to SNAP eligibility criteria to best serve those most in need. The Committee is concerned about the effects specific changes in SNAP eligibility can have on children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and rural and poor communities that are not always looked at on a State-by-State level. The Committee encourages the Secretary to include these State-by-State demographic profiles in the regulatory impact analysis for any newly proposed or currently pending eligibility criteria changes.

#### FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

The Food and Nutrition Service represents an organizational effort to eliminate hunger and malnutrition in this country. Nutrition assistance programs provide access to a nutritionally adequate diet for low-income individuals and families and encourage better eating patterns among the Nation's children. These programs include:

*Child Nutrition Programs [CNP].*—The National School Lunch and School Breakfast, Summer Food Service, and Child and Adult Care Food programs provide funding to the States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Guam for use in serving nutritious lunches and breakfasts to children attending schools of high school grades and under, to children of preschool age in child care centers, and to children in other institutions in order to improve the health and well-being of the Nation's children and broaden the markets for agricultural food commodities. Through the Special Milk Program, assistance is provided to the States for making reimbursement payments to eligible schools and child care institutions which institute or expand milk service in order to increase the consumption of fluid milk by children. Funds for this program are provided by direct appropriation and transfer from section 32.

*Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children [WIC].*—This program safeguards the health of pregnant, postpartum, and breast-feeding women, and infants and children up to age five who are at nutritional risk because of inad-

equate nutrition and income by providing supplemental foods. The delivery of supplemental foods may be done through health clinics, vouchers redeemable at retail food stores, or other approved methods which a cooperating State health agency may select. Funds for this program are provided by direct appropriation.

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP].*—This program seeks to improve nutritional standards of needy persons and families. Assistance is provided to eligible households to enable them to obtain a better diet by increasing their food purchasing capability, usually by furnishing benefits in the form of electronic access to funds. The program includes Nutrition Assistance to Puerto Rico [NAP]. The program also includes the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations [FDPIR], which provides nutritious agricultural commodities to low-income persons living on or near Indian reservations who choose not to participate in SNAP.

*Commodity Assistance Program [CAP].*—This program provides funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program [CSFP], the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program [FMNP], Disaster Assistance, Pacific Island Assistance, and administrative expenses for the Emergency Food Assistance Program [TEFAP]. CSFP provides supplemental foods to low-income elderly persons age 60 and over. TEFAP provides commodities and grant funds to State agencies to assist in the cost of storage and distribution of donated commodities. Nutritious agricultural commodities are provided to residents of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands. Cash assistance is provided to distributing agencies to assist them in meeting administrative expenses incurred. CAP also provides funding for use in non-presidentially declared disasters and for FNS’s administrative costs in connection with relief for all disasters. Funds for this program are provided by direct appropriation.

*Nutrition Programs Administration.*—Most salaries and Federal operating expenses of FNS are funded from this account. Also included is the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, which oversees improvements in and revisions to the food guidance systems and serves as the focal point for advancing and coordinating nutrition promotion and education policy to improve the health of all Americans.

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$25,118,440,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	26,887,922,000
Committee recommendation .....	26,878,922,000

Child Nutrition Programs, authorized by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (Public Law 79–396) and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (Public Law 89–642), provide Federal assistance to State agencies in the form of cash and commodities for use in preparing and serving nutritious meals to children while they are attending school, residing in service institutions, or participating in other organized activities away from home. The purpose of these programs is to help maintain the health and proper physical development of America’s children. Milk is provided to children either free or at a low cost, depending on their family income level. FNS

provides cash subsidies to States for administering the programs and directly administers the program in the States which choose not to do so. Grants are also made for nutritional training and surveys and for State administrative expenses. Under current law, most of these payments are made on the basis of reimbursement rates established by law and applied to lunches and breakfasts actually served by the States. The reimbursement rates are adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for food away from home.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends \$26,878,922,000 for the Child Nutrition Programs.

The Committee's recommendation provides for the following annual rates for the child nutrition programs.

#### TOTAL OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY [In thousands of dollars]

Child nutrition programs	Committee recommendation
School Lunch Program .....	14,665,855
School Breakfast Program .....	5,188,750
Child and Adult Care Food Program .....	4,314,605
Summer Food Service Program .....	581,074
Special Milk Program .....	6,250
State Administrative Expenses .....	332,000
Commodity Procurement .....	1,567,663
Team Nutrition/HUSSC/CMS .....	3,048
Food Safety Education .....	10,000
Coordinated Review .....	26,753
Computer Support .....	41,498
Training and Technical Assistance .....	15,607
CNP Studies and Evaluation .....	11,656
Farm to School Team .....	6,159
Payment Accuracy .....	20,004
School Meal Equipment Grants .....	35,000
Summer EBT Demonstration .....	45,000
Child Nutrition Training .....	2,000
School Breakfast Expansion Grants .....	6,000

The Committee expects FNS to utilize the National Food Service Management Institute to carry out the food safety education program.

*Crediting System.*—The Committee recognizes that the current crediting system used by FNS in administering the School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program has not been updated to keep pace with products in the marketplace. Specifically, Greek yogurt receives the same protein crediting as other products with less protein. The Committee directs the Secretary to update the system of crediting high-protein yogurt to accurately reflect scientifically demonstrated higher protein content in strained yogurt.

*Farm to School Program.*—Successful implementation of Farm to School programs requires broad-based knowledge of best practices regarding coordination among farmers, processors, distributors, students, teachers, dietary and food preparation staff, and USDA professionals. Since the scope of some Farm to School projects has expanded in recent years, the Committee has included language to

allow maximum grant amounts to increase to \$500,000. Of the grant funds provided, the Committee directs the Secretary to use \$500,000 to form at least one cooperative agreement with an established entity, such as regional a Farm to School institute, for the creation and dissemination of information on farm to school program development and to provide practitioner education, training, ongoing school year coaching, and technical assistance.

*Pulse Crops.*—The Committee recognizes the nutritional value of pulse crops for children and encourages FNS to support school food authorities in sourcing and serving pulse crops.

*School Breakfast Commodities.*—Of the \$485,000,000 appropriated for Child Nutrition Programs Entitlement Commodities under Section 714 of this Act, \$20,000,000 shall be proportionally offered to States based on the number of breakfasts served in the preceding school year.

*Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer [EBT].*—The Committee understands that Summer EBT has been proven to lower food insecurity among children during the summer months when school is not in session. The Committee is displeased that the Food and Nutrition Service changed the methodology for funding this program in fiscal year 2019. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary to fund this program in fiscal year 2022 in the same manner, including the same States and tribal organizations, as it was funded in fiscal year 2018.

*Summer Food Service Program.*—The Committee recognizes that in many rural and frontier areas of the country where homes are widely scattered, children and youth are unable to access congregate feeding sites that participate in the Summer Food Service Program and that existing mobile food delivery efforts are not able to meet the need. The Committee supports FNS allowing State Agencies to enable Summer Food Service Program service institutions that serve such areas where eligible children and youth have barriers to access or limited access to a congregate feeding site to use their customary reimbursement payments to develop and implement innovative methods to deliver or otherwise make available foods to eligible children and youth by non-congregate means or in non-congregate settings. The Committee also supports USDA extending the pilot of meal delivery directly to the homes of rural and frontier children by providing available funding through a grant or cooperative agreement to a non-profit provider that works with local service institutions to enroll eligible low-income children. In addition, the Committee requests USDA submit a report within 1 year of enactment of this Act describing how many Summer Food Service Program grantees, in which States, put in place innovative methods of food delivery by non-congregate means and in non-congregate settings, what innovative methods were used, and how many additional youth were served as a result.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS,  
AND CHILDREN [WIC]

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$6,000,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	6,000,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	6,278,000,000



The WIC program is authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966. Its purpose is to safeguard the health of pregnant, breast-feeding, and postpartum women and infants and children up to age five who are at nutritional risk because of inadequate nutrition and inadequate income.

The WIC program food packages are designed to provide foods which studies have demonstrated are lacking in the diets of the WIC program target population. The authorized supplemental foods are iron-fortified breakfast cereal, fruit or vegetable juice which contains vitamin C, dry beans, peas, and peanut butter.

There are three general types of delivery systems for WIC foods: (1) retail purchase in which participants obtain supplemental foods through retail stores; (2) home delivery systems in which food is delivered to the participant's home; and (3) direct distribution systems in which participants pick up food from a distribution outlet. The food is free of charge to all participants.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$6,278,000,000 for the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

The Committee recommendation fully funds estimated WIC participation in fiscal year 2022. The Committee provides \$90,000,000 for breastfeeding support initiatives and \$13,600,000 for infrastructure.

*Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Recommendations.*—WIC designated Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome [NAS] as a nutrition risk factor in 2017, and WIC agencies across the country actively screen for symptoms of substance use, referring mothers who may be struggling with substance use disorder to appropriate services. The Committee encourages USDA to collaborate with the Department of Health and Human Services on the development of uniform, evidence-based nutrition education materials in order to best serve WIC-eligible pregnant women and caregivers to infants impacted by NAS. Uniform materials will enhance WIC's ongoing efforts to screen and support infants exhibiting symptoms of NAS.

*WIC Food Package.*—The Committee appreciates the work of the National Academies of Science to review and make recommendations for updating the WIC food packages to reflect current science and cultural factors. The Committee notes, however, that while all revised packages now allow some fish, the amounts remain low and, in some cases, sporadic, compared to the recommendations of authoritative agencies such as the World Health Organization. The Committee strongly encourages the Department to prioritize the health and cultural benefits of fish consumption as regulations are revised to implement the NAS recommendations and to increase the amount of healthful fish above the amounts recommended by the NAS. The Committee also strongly encourages the Department to allow States to prioritize fish over legumes and peanut butter to respond to the cultural preferences of WIC participants in States like Alaska.

## SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$114,035,578,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	105,797,197,000
Committee recommendation .....	105,829,347,000

SNAP attempts to alleviate hunger and malnutrition among low-income persons by increasing their food purchasing power. Eligible households receive SNAP benefits with which they can purchase food through regular retail stores.

Other programs funded through SNAP include Nutrition Assistance to Puerto Rico and American Samoa, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and the Community Food Projects program.

SNAP is currently in operation in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. Participating households receive food benefits, the value of which is determined by household size and income. The cost of the benefits is paid by the Federal Government. As required by law, FNS annually revises household benefit allotments to reflect changes in the cost of the thrifty food plan.

*Administrative Costs.*—All direct and indirect administrative costs incurred for certification of households, issuance of benefits, quality control, outreach, and fair hearing efforts are shared by the Federal Government and the States on a 50–50 basis.

*State Antifraud Activities.*—Under the provisions of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246), States are eligible to be reimbursed for 50 percent of the costs of their fraud investigations and prosecutions.

States are required to implement an employment and training program for the purpose of assisting members of households participating in SNAP in gaining skills, training, or experience that will increase their ability to obtain regular employment. USDA has implemented a grant program to States to assist them in providing employment and training services.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends \$105,829,347,000 for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Of the amount recommended, \$3,000,000,000 is made available as a contingency reserve.

*Data Matching.*—The Committee continues to support the implementation of the National Accuracy Clearinghouse [NAC]. The Committee directs the Department to move forward with the NAC to prevent duplicative issuances of SNAP benefits and improve program integrity. When the USDA implements and expands the NAC, the Committee urges the Department to allow States to use a blended workforce including contractors and subcontractors that have the capability to use complex match technology with multiple data elements and administer a robust appeals process to ensure individuals are not automatically removed from receiving benefits.

*Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Food Package.*—The Committee commends the Department for convening the FDPIR Food Package Review Work Group, which includes Tribal representatives and staff from FNS, to increase the amount and va-

riety of traditional foods included in FDPIR food packages and to increase the amount of foods purchased from American Indian and Alaska Native producers and businesses. The Committee directs the Department to provide a report detailing its plans to include a greater variety of traditional foods as regular components of FDPIR food baskets; its plans to identify additional Native American and Alaska Native producers of traditional foods, including wild salmon, caribou, reindeer, elk, and other foods; and its plans to purchase additional traditional foods from a greater number of indigenous producers and businesses.

*SNAP Fraud.*—A January 2017 OIG report entitled “Detecting Potential SNAP Trafficking Using Data Analysis” found that FNS lacked methods to reconcile data discrepancies across its administration systems and that retailers were providing benefits to individuals using fraudulent credentials. The Committee directs FNS to provide an update on the implementation of controls to address these problems, as well as data demonstrating whether the controls have reduced error rates.

*SNAP Payment Integrity.*—The Committee encourages the Secretary to implement an electronic data matching solution using third party income databases. The data matching solution should be made available to all States to assist with the verification of SNAP program applicant earned income at certification and recertification, as required by law. The Committee encourages FNS to make an electronic data matching solution available in fiscal year 2022, with a single negotiated price that reduces costs by taking advantage of economies of scale, and will facilitate greater efficiency and streamlined service delivery at the State level.

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$426,700,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	442,070,000
Committee recommendation .....	447,070,000

The Commodity Assistance Program includes funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and funding to pay expenses associated with the storage and distribution of commodities through The Emergency Food Assistance Program.

*The Commodity Supplemental Food Program.*—Authorized by section 4(a) of the Agricultural and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note), as amended in 1981 by Public Law 97–98 and in 2014 by Public Law 113–79, this program provides supplemental food to low-income senior citizens and, in some cases, low-income infants and children up to age six and low-income pregnant and postpartum women. The Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79) discontinued the admission of new pregnant and postpartum women and children into the program. Those already in the program can continue to receive assistance until they are no longer eligible.

The foods for CSFP are provided by USDA for distribution through State agencies. The authorized commodities include iron-fortified infant formula, rice cereal, cheese, canned juice, evaporated milk and/or nonfat dry milk, canned vegetables or fruits, canned meat or poultry, egg mix, dehydrated potatoes, farina, pea-

nut butter, and dry beans. Elderly participants may receive all commodities except iron-fortified infant formula and rice cereal.

*The Emergency Food Assistance Program.*—Authorized by the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7501 et seq.), as amended, the program provides nutrition assistance to low-income people through prepared meals served on site and through the distribution of commodities to low-income households for home consumption. The commodities are provided by USDA to State agencies for distribution through State-established networks. State agencies make the commodities available to local organizations, such as soup kitchens, food pantries, food banks, and community action agencies, for their use in providing nutrition assistance to those in need.

Funds are administered by FNS through grants to State agencies which operate commodity distribution programs. Allocation of the funds to States is based on a formula which considers the States' unemployment rate and the number of persons with income below the poverty level.

*Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.*—The Farmers' Market Nutrition Program provides WIC or WIC-eligible participants with coupons to purchase fresh, nutritious, unprepared foods, such as fruits and vegetables, from farmers' markets. This benefits both participants and local farmers by increasing the awareness and use of farmers' markets by low-income households.

*Pacific Island and Disaster Assistance.*—This program provides funding for assistance to the nuclear-affected islands in the form of commodities and administrative funds. It also provides funding for use in non-presidentially declared disasters and for FNS's administrative costs in connection with relief for all disasters.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$447,070,000 for the Commodity Assistance Program. The Committee continues to encourage the Department to distribute Commodity Assistance Program funds equitably among the States, based on an assessment of the needs and priorities of each State and the State's preference to receive commodity allocations through each of the programs funded under this account.

*Commodity Supplemental Food Program.*—The Committee recommends \$332,000,000 for CSFP. This amount fully funds participation in fiscal year 2022.

*Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.*—The Committee is aware that FMNP provides fresh fruits and vegetables to low-income mothers and children, benefiting not only WIC participants, but local farmers as well. Therefore, the Committee recommends \$24,000,000 for FMNP and directs the Secretary to obligate these funds within 45 days of enactment of this Act.

*The Emergency Food Assistance Program.*—The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334) provides \$337,000,000 for TEFAP commodities to be purchased with SNAP funds. The Committee provides \$90,000,000 in discretionary funding for TEFAP transportation, storage, and program integrity. In addition, the Committee recommendation grants the Secretary authority to

transfer up to an additional 20 percent from TEFAP commodities for this purpose and urges the Secretary to use this authority.

The Committee encourages the Secretary to identify opportunities for increasing the supply of TEFAP commodities in the coming fiscal year through bonus and specialty crop purchases. The Department shall make available to the States domestically produced catfish filets for distribution to local agencies.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$156,805,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	191,533,000
Committee recommendation .....	178,233,000

The Nutrition Programs Administration appropriation provides for most of the Federal operating expenses of FNS, which includes CNP, the Special Milk Program, WIC, SNAP, NAP, and CAP.

The major objective of Nutrition Programs Administration is to efficiently and effectively carry out the nutrition assistance programs mandated by law. This is to be accomplished by the following: (1) giving clear and consistent guidance and supervision to State agencies and other cooperators; (2) assisting the States and other cooperators by providing program, managerial, financial, and other advice and expertise; (3) measuring, reviewing, and analyzing the progress being made toward achieving program objectives; and (4) carrying out regular staff support functions.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$178,233,000 for Nutrition Programs Administration. The Committee provides funding of \$2,998,000 for pay costs and FERS; \$10,300,000 to ensure the scientific integrity of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans [DGA]; \$5,630,000 for expanded staffing needs; \$1,800,000 for administrative expenses of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program; \$1,700,000 for civil rights staffing; and a decrease of \$1,000,000 for DGA review.

TITLE V  
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS  
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND FOREIGN  
AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$887,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,408,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,408,000

The Office of the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs provides direction and coordination in carrying out the laws enacted by the Congress with respect to the Department’s international affairs (except for foreign economic development). The Office has oversight and management responsibilities for the Foreign Agricultural Service [FAS].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,408,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs.

*Food Chain Systems.*—The Committee is aware that the lack of comprehensive cold food chain systems is one of the main causes of food loss and results in a significant percentage of food spoilage from farm-to-market. Preventing food loss and implementing a robust cold food chain results in substantial benefits such as increased nutrition, a safer food supply, greater economic opportunity, and increased resilience. In order to maximize the benefit investment in the agricultural productivity of the developing world, the Committee encourages the Department to give strong consideration to the use of cold chain technologies and include the development of appropriate cooling technologies in programs, policies, and strategic plans aimed at hunger prevention and food security in developing agricultural markets.

*Food for Progress.*—The Committee is concerned with the recent fiscal year 2021 Food for Progress award, which granted \$100,000,000 to a single entity. Granting the entirety of funding to a single entity runs counter to Congressional intent, is detrimental to the continuity of the international value chain development, and could prevent the global objectives of the Food for Progress program from being fully realized. The Committee urges USDA to ensure this does not set a precedent for future awards and to report on steps the Department will take for future awards to ensure this anomaly does not set a precedent.

*Market Access Program [MAP] and Foreign Market Development Program [FMD] Reporting.*—The Committee directs the Department to publish an annual report describing the recipients of funds, including the quantity and specific uses of such funding

awards, granted through MAP and FMD for the purpose of promoting agricultural sales in Cuba, to ensure compliance with Sec. 3201 of Public Law 115–334.

*Tariffs.*—The Committee is concerned about the long-term impacts of tariffs on the domestic farm economy. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, USDA is directed to submit a report that examines the impact that tariffs imposed pursuant to sections 232 and 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 and associated retaliatory tariffs are having and have had on: (1) the rate at which farms, particularly small and medium sized operations, go into bankruptcy; (2) the ability of farmers and ranchers to receive loans; and (3) the overall size of the agriculture workforce. The report should include projections on each of these impacts should these tariffs continue without relief for the next 5 years, an assessment of how much market share has been lost by the American agriculture sector as a result of ongoing trade disputes, and how long USDA expects it will take to reestablish export markets that have been lost or diminished due to the imposition of tariffs.

OFFICE OF CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$4,805,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	4,841,000
Committee recommendation .....	4,841,000

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,841,000 for the Office of Codex Alimentarius.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

[In thousands of dollars]

	Appropriations	Transfers from loan accounts	Total
Appropriations, 2021 .....	221,835	6,063	227,898
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	228,644	6,063	234,707
Committee recommendation .....	229,644	6,063	235,707

The Foreign Agricultural Service was established March 10, 1953, by Secretary’s Memorandum No. 1320, supplement 1. Public Law 83–690, approved August 28, 1954, transferred the agricultural attachés from the Department of State to FAS.

The mission of FAS overseas is to represent U.S. agricultural interests, promote export of domestic farm products, improve world trade conditions, and report on agricultural production and trade in foreign countries. FAS staff are stationed at 98 offices around the world, where they provide expertise in agricultural economics and marketing, as well as attaché services.

FAS carries out several export assistance programs to counter the adverse effects of unfair trade practices by competitors on U.S. agricultural trade. The Market Access Program [MAP] conducts both generic and brand-identified promotional programs in conjunction with nonprofit agricultural associations and private firms financed through reimbursable CCC payments.

The General Sales Manager was established pursuant to section 5(f) of the charter of the Commodity Credit Corporation and 15 U.S.C. 714–714p. The funds allocated to the General Sales Manager are used for conducting the following programs: (1) CCC Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM–102), including facilities financing guarantees; (2) Food for Peace; (3) section 416b Overseas Donations Program; (4) Market Access Program; and (5) programs authorized by the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (Public Law 87–155) including barter, export sales of most CCC-owned commodities, export payments, and other programs as assigned to encourage and enhance the export of U.S. agricultural commodities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends \$235,707,000 for the Foreign Agricultural Service, including a direct appropriation of \$229,644,000.

The Committee provides \$1,198,000 for International Cooperative Administrative Support Services; \$481,000 for Capital Security Cost Sharing; \$1,800,000 for pay costs for Locally Employed Staff; \$3,330,000 for pay costs and FERS; and \$1,000,000 for the International Agricultural Education Fellowship program.

*Borlaug Fellows Program.*—The Committee provides 3.5 million for the Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellows Program. This program provides training for international scientists and policymakers from selected developing countries. The fellows work closely with U.S. specialists in their fields of expertise and apply that knowledge in their home countries. The Committee recognizes the importance of this program in helping developing countries strengthen their agricultural practices and food security.

*Cochran Fellowship Program.*—The Committee provides \$6,500,000 for the Cochran Fellowship Program. The Committee encourages the Secretary to continue to provide additional support for the program through the CCC Emerging Markets Program.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$1,740,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	1,570,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	1,760,000,000

*Commodities Supplied in Connection with Dispositions Abroad (Title II) (7 U.S.C. 1721–1726).*—Commodities are supplied without cost through foreign governments to combat malnutrition and to meet famine and other emergency requirements. Commodities are also supplied for non-emergencies through public and private agencies, including intergovernmental organizations. The CCC pays ocean freight on shipments under this title and may also pay overland transportation costs to a landlocked country, as well as internal distribution costs in emergency situations. The funds appropriated for title II are made available to private voluntary organizations and cooperatives to assist these organizations in meeting administrative and related costs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,760,000,000 for Food for Peace title II grants.



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

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$230,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	230,112,000
Committee recommendation .....	245,000,000

The McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program helps support education, child development, and food security for some of the world’s poorest children. The program provides for donations of U.S. agricultural products, as well as financial and technical assistance, for school feeding and maternal and child nutrition projects in low-income, food-deficit countries that are committed to universal education. Commodities made available for donation through agreements with private voluntary organizations, cooperatives, intergovernmental organizations, and foreign governments may be donated for direct feeding or for local sale to generate proceeds to support school feeding and nutrition projects.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$245,000,000 for the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.

*Local and Regional Procurement.*—The Committee provides an appropriation of \$24,000,000 for efforts to build long-term agriculture sustainability and establish a local investment in school feeding programs. With direct U.S. commodity contributions, projects supported by the McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program have significantly improved the attendance, nourishment, and learning capacity of school-aged children in low-income countries throughout the impoverished world. New funding authorities would enable school feeding programs to proactively transition from direct commodity assistance to locally sourced agriculture products. The Committee directs the Secretary to conduct the Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement Project Program in accordance with the priorities of the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT [LOANS]

CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

[In thousands of dollars]

	Guaranteed loan levels	Administrative expenses
Appropriations, 2021 .....	6,063	318
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	6,063	.....
Committee recommendation .....	6,063	.....

In 1980, the CCC instituted the Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) under its charter authority. With this program, CCC guarantees, for a fee, payments due U.S. exporters under deferred payment sales contracts (up to 36 months) for defaults due to commercial as well as noncommercial risks. The risk to CCC ex-

tends from the date of export to the end of the deferred payment period covered in the export sales contract and covers only that portion of the payments agreed to in the assurance agreement. Operation of this program is based on criteria which will assure that it is used only where it is determined that it will develop new market opportunities and maintain and expand existing world markets for U.S. agricultural commodities. The program encourages U.S. financial institutions to provide financing to those areas where the institutions would be unwilling to provide financing in the absence of the CCC guarantees. CCC also provides facilities financing guarantees.

The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-508) establishes the program account. The subsidy costs of the CCC export guarantee programs are exempt from the requirement of advance appropriations of budget authority according to section 504(c)(2) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-508). Appropriations to this account will be used for administrative expenses.

TITLE VI  
RELATED AGENCY AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

The Food and Drug Administration [FDA] is a scientific regulatory agency whose mission is to promote and protect the public health and safety of Americans. FDA's work is a blend of science and law. The Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–85) reaffirmed the responsibilities of the FDA: to ensure safe and effective products reach the market in a timely way and to monitor products for continued safety while they are in use. In addition, the FDA is entrusted with two critical functions in the Nation's war on terrorism: preventing willful contamination of all regulated products, including food; and improving the availability of medications to prevent or treat injuries caused by biological, chemical, radiological, or nuclear agents.

The FDA Foods program has the primary responsibility for assuring that the food supply, quality of foods, food ingredients, and dietary supplements are safe, sanitary, nutritious, wholesome, and honestly labeled and that cosmetic products are safe and properly labeled. The variety and complexity of the food supply has grown dramatically while new and more complex safety issues, such as emerging microbial pathogens, natural toxins, and technological innovations in production and processing, have developed. This program plays a major role in keeping the U.S. food supply among the safest in the world.

In January 2011, the Food Safety Modernization Act [FSMA] (Public Law 111–353) was signed into law. This law enables the FDA to better protect public health by strengthening the food safety system. It enables the FDA to focus more on preventing food safety and feed problems rather than relying primarily on reacting to problems after they occur. The law also provides the FDA with new enforcement authorities designed to achieve higher rates of compliance with prevention- and risk-based food and feed safety standards and to better respond to and contain problems when they do occur. The law also gives the FDA important new tools to hold imported food and feed to the same standards as domestic food and feed and directs the FDA to build an integrated national food safety system in partnership with State and local authorities.

The FDA Drugs programs are comprised of four separate areas: Human Drugs, Animal Drugs, Medical Devices, and Biologics. The FDA is responsible for the lifecycle of products, including pre-market review and post-market surveillance of human and animal drugs, medical devices, and biological products to ensure their safety and effectiveness. For Human Drugs, this includes assuring that

all drug products used for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease are safe and effective. Additional procedures include reviewing and evaluating investigational new drug applications; evaluation of market applications for new and generic drugs and labeling and composition of prescription and over-the-counter drugs; monitoring the quality and safety of products manufactured in, or imported into, the United States; and regulating the advertising and promotion of prescription drugs. The Animal Drugs and Feeds program ensures only safe and effective veterinary drugs, intended for the treatment and/or prevention of diseases in animals and the improved production of food-producing animals, are approved for marketing.

The FDA Biologics program assures that blood and blood products, blood test kits, vaccines, and therapeutics are pure, potent, safe, effective, and properly labeled. The program inspects blood banks and blood processors; licenses and inspects firms collecting human source plasma; evaluates and licenses biologics manufacturing firms and products; lot releases licensed products; and monitors adverse events associated with vaccine immunization, blood products, and other biologics.

The FDA Devices and Radiological program ensures the safety and effectiveness of medical devices and eliminates unnecessary human exposure to man-made radiation from medical, occupational, and consumer products. In addition, the program enforces quality standards under the Mammography Quality Standards Act (Public Law 108-365). Medical devices include thousands of products from thermometers and contact lenses to heart pacemakers, hearing aids, and MRIs. Radiological products include items such as microwave ovens and video display terminals.

The FDA’s National Center for Toxicological Research [NCTR] in Jefferson, Arkansas, serves as a specialized resource, conducting peer-review scientific research that provides the basis for the FDA to make sound, science-based regulatory decisions through its pre-market review and post-market surveillance. The research is designed to define and understand the biological mechanisms of action underlying the toxicity of products and lead to developing methods to improve assessment of human exposure, susceptibility, and risk of those products regulated by the FDA.

In 2009, Congress granted the FDA new authority to regulate the manufacture, distribution, and marketing of tobacco products. The FDA exercises this responsibility by protecting the public health from the health effects of tobacco, setting scientific standards and standards for tobacco product review, conducting compliance activities to enforce its authority over tobacco, and conducting public education and outreach about the health effects of tobacco products.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Appropriation	User fees	Total
Appropriations, 2021 .....	3,201,928	2,674,097	5,876,025
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	3,526,928	2,723,229	6,250,157
Committee recommendation .....	3,399,428	2,723,229	6,122,657

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,399,428,000 for salaries and expenses of the Food and Drug Administration.

The Committee also recommends \$2,723,229,000 in definite user fees, including: \$1,141,861,000 in Prescription Drug user fee collections; \$241,431,000 in Medical Device user fee collections; \$33,836,000 in Animal Drug user fee collections; \$23,137,000 in Animal Generic Drug user fee collections; \$712,000,000 in Tobacco Product user fee collections; \$527,848,000 in Generic Drug user fee collections; and \$43,116,000 in Biosimilar user fee collections. The Committee recommendation does not include permanent, indefinite user fees for the Mammography Quality Standards Act; Color Certification; Export Certification; Priority Review Vouchers Pediatric Disease; Food and Feed Recall; Food Reinspection; Voluntary Qualified Importer Program; the Third Party Auditor Program; Outsourcing Facility; or Over-the-Counter Monograph. The Committee includes bill language that prohibits the FDA from developing, establishing, or operating any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701. The Committee recommendation does not include proposed user fees requested in the President's budget for food facility registration and inspection, food import, food contact substance notification, cosmetics, and international courier imports. None of these user fee proposals have been authorized by Congress. The Committee will continue to monitor any action by the appropriate authorizing Committees regarding these proposed user fees.

The Committee expects the FDA to continue all projects, activities, laboratories, and programs as included in fiscal year 2021 unless otherwise specified. The Committee provides a net increase of \$17,900,000 for pay costs; \$7,500,000 for infrastructure; \$8,000,000 for Data Modernization and Enhanced Technology [DMET] New Era for Smarter Food Safety; \$3,000,000 for New Era for Smarter Food Safety; \$7,000,000 for Animal Food Safety Oversight; \$14,050,000 for Maternal and Infant Health; \$12,750,000 for Emerging Chemical and Toxicology Issues; \$2,000,000 for Animal Feed Reviews; \$5,000,000 for Standards of Identity; \$10,000,000 for Device Shortages and Supply Chain; \$2,300,000 for Medical Product Supply Chain; \$2,000,000 for Drug Safety Surveillance and Oversight; \$24,000,000 for Opioids; \$7,500,000 for Predictive Toxicology Roadmap; \$5,000,000 for DMET Medical Product Safety; \$25,000,000 for DMET Enterprise Wide; \$15,000,000 for Inspections; \$4,700,000 for the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity; \$3,000,000 for Laboratory Safety; \$3,000,000 for the Office of the Chief Counsel; \$500,000 for BioFilm Regulatory Research; \$5,000,000 for Rare Cancers; \$5,000,000 for Rare Diseases; and \$8,300,000 for Essential Services.

The following table reflects the Committee's recommendations, as compared to the fiscal year 2021 and budget request levels:

## FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2021 enacted	Fiscal year 2022 budget request	Committee recommendation
Centers and related field activities:			
Foods .....	1,099,160	1,182,085	1,153,405
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition [CFSAN] .....	343,789	398,906	382,149
Field Activities .....	755,371	783,179	771,256
Human Drugs .....	689,195	774,469	740,401
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research [CDER] .....	510,226	573,081	542,772
Field Activities .....	178,969	201,388	197,629
Biologics .....	254,138	270,114	271,376
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research [CBER] .....	212,132	222,145	222,119
Field Activities .....	42,006	47,969	49,257
Animal Drugs .....	192,369	231,946	211,135
Center for Veterinary Medicine [CVM] .....	123,599	146,204	134,838
Field Activities .....	68,770	85,742	76,297
Medical and Radiological Devices .....	408,108	452,046	431,758
Center for Devices and Radiological Health .....	323,103	360,827	342,582
Field Activities .....	85,005	91,219	89,176
National Center for Toxicological Research .....	66,712	76,945	75,180
Other Activities .....	194,951	222,528	211,378
Rent and related activities .....	130,176	150,509	138,509
Rental payments to GSA .....	167,119	166,286	166,286
Total, FDA salaries and expenses, new budget authority .....	3,201,928	3,526,928	3,399,428

*501(k) Guidance.*—The Committee expresses concern that the 510(k) guidance for menstrual products has not been updated since 2005. The Committee directs the FDA to update its guidance, and if necessary, to publish new guidance inclusive of additional categories of menstrual products not currently covered by the existing guidance. This guidance should include recommendations that intentionally added ingredients, including fragrances, for menstrual products covered under the guidance be disclosed on the label; that products be tested for common contaminants, and that steps be taken to eliminate sources of contamination when found; and to implement testing to assess the impact of product use on the body and microbiomes, including through testing methods approved or recommended by the agency.

*Added Sugar Labeling.*—The Committee remains concerned about potential consumer confusion over FDA nutritional labeling requirements and guidelines for added sugar for single ingredient products like maple syrup and honey, where sugar is naturally occurring in the product rather than added to the product. The Committee notes that the FDA issued guidance to the industry on June 18, 2019, to verify that the phrase “added sugar” is not required in the regulated portion of the nutrition facts label for these products. This guidance instructed producers that the percent daily value would be required to appear on the label and allowed for the voluntary use of a footnote to explain that this refers to a percent daily value of “added sugar.” The Committee is concerned, and industry- conducted consumer studies suggest, that continued use of the term “added sugar” in relation to percent daily value will mislead consumers to think that sugar has been added to a pure single-ingredient maple or honey product, and directs the FDA to continue working with impacted industries to ensure clear and appropriate labeling.

*Animal Drug Compounding.*—The Committee is concerned that the Guidance for Industry [GFI] #256, Compounding Animal Drugs from Bulk Drug Substances, issued on November 20, 2019, raises similar issues to the GFI #230, which has been withdrawn. The Committee encourages the FDA to draft and finalize guidance on compounding animal drugs that is consistent with statutory authority and will ensure access to appropriate treatment is available for veterinarians, animal shelters, zoos and other stakeholders.

*Animal Food Ingredients.*—The Committee is concerned about the time associated with the ingredient review and approval process, and uniform acceptance of animal food ingredients by the delegated authorities. The Committee is also concerned that the Center for Veterinary Medicine Policy and Procedures Manual Guide 1240.3605 has not been updated since 1998 and has not kept pace with science, prohibiting manufacturers of animal food ingredients from making certain marketing claims about the product's use because the Guide's outdated policy interpretation classifies the claim to be associated with an animal drug. The Committee directs the agency to review the Policy and Procedures Manual Guide 1240.3605 for solutions on how these ingredient claims can be regulated as animal food and report back to the Committee within 120 days with their findings. To address these concerns, the Committee includes \$2,000,000 to improve animal food ingredient reviews to enable innovation and address challenges and opportunities in the animal food industry.

*Animal Product Terminology.*—The Committee is concerned about the increase of products, which do not include meat or egg products, that are labeled and marketed using animal food product terminology and related iconography. As the FDA works to modernize standards of identity, the Committee encourages the agency to coordinate with USDA to prevent misleading labeling of these food products.

*Autoantibody Qualification.*—The appearance of certain islet autoantibodies in the serum of individuals increases the chance of developing type 1 diabetes at some point in the future. Therefore, the Committee encourages the FDA to work with the Type 1 diabetes community on the assessment of potential diabetes biomarkers related to islet autoimmunity, which might help inform the design of clinical studies.

*Biofilm Regulatory Science Research.*—As previously mentioned, the Committee provides a \$500,000 increase for Biofilm Research and encourages the FDA to continue to invest in research to improve the understanding of biofilms and the regulatory science of biofilms associated medical devices (especially devices that may be used multiple times within a healthcare setting), drug delivery, and public health. The Committee encourages the FDA to meet its objectives to reduce healthcare associated infections as described in the FDA Center for Devices and Radiological Health Regulatory Science Priorities report and to continue to support the domestic manufacture of novel medical products that are safe and effective. The Committee also encourages FDA to engage with institutes of higher education with research and engineering expertise.

*Botanical Dietary Supplements.*—The Committee encourages the FDA to further invest in the science base for regulatory decisions

on botanical dietary supplements. Expanding outreach and broadening safety evaluations of botanical supplements will help further that work. Studies of the interactions between botanical supplements and prescription drugs would help further patient safety and help inform the FDA's scientific review of botanical dietary supplements.

*Botanical Drugs and Drug Interactions.*—The Committee encourages FDA to further invest in research to identify potential drug interactions with botanical drugs.

*Cancer Clinical Trials.*—The Committee encourages the FDA to identify opportunities to make participation in clinical trials less burdensome for individuals and families, and increase opportunities to make clinical trials more representative of the overall population. The Committee requests that FDA provide this information within 180 days of enactment.

*Cancer Immunotherapy.*—The Committee commends the FDA for its continued efforts to accelerate the review and approval of cell and gene therapies for cancer, which have provided hope for many patients when more traditional treatments have failed. Research suggests that therapies that combine cellular products and other cancer drugs may prove more effective for some patients, including those who do not benefit from single-drug treatments. These combination treatments increase the complexity of trial design, especially regarding treatment sequencing and the number of treatment arms per trial. Therefore, the Committee urges the FDA to work with and provide guidance to industry and the broader research community on how to standardize clinical trial designs for cellular therapy treatments combined with other cancer therapies. This will allow sponsors to streamline trial designs, while still ensuring adequate safety and maximizing efficacy for patients.

*Cannabis and Cannabis Derivatives.*—The Committee notes that budget did not request additional resources for Cannabis and Cannabis Derivatives activities, and therefore directs the FDA to maintain funding levels to support regulatory activities, including developing policy, and for the FDA to continue to perform its existing regulatory responsibilities, including review of product applications, inspections, enforcement, and targeted research for cannabis-derived substances, such as cannabidiol [CBD]. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the FDA shall issue a policy of enforcement discretion with regard to certain products containing CBD meeting the definition of hemp as defined by section 297A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1964 (7 U.S.C. 1639). Such enforcement discretion shall be in effect until the FDA establishes a process for stakeholders to notify the FDA of use of CBD in products that include safety studies for intended use per product and 112 makes a determination about such product. In addition, the FDA is encouraged to consider existing and ongoing medical research related to CBD that is being undertaken pursuant to an Investigational New Drug application in the development of a regulatory pathway for CBD in products under the jurisdiction of the FDA and to ensure that any future regulatory activity does not discourage the development of new drugs. The Committee also encourages the FDA to partner with an academic institution to expand sampling studies of CBD products currently on the market.



*Centers for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition Centers of Excellence.*—The Committee is aware of the important contribution of the FDA CFSAN Centers of Excellence [COEs] program in supporting critical basic research as well as facilitating FSMA implementation. The Committee encourages the agency to continue to fully utilize the COEs to accomplish these goals and instructs that it enhance its level of support for FDA FSMA activities.

*Complex Generics.*—The Committee continues to be aware of the challenges associated with the approval of complex generics. To help reduce the burden of the approval process, the Committee believes FDA should consider the use of advanced analytic techniques such as artificial intelligence [AI]. Specifically, AI technology should be considered that reduces the number of review cycles for generic drugs by (a) using text analytics to identify deficiencies in drug applications faster and earlier, and (b) automating the review of complex supporting materials (both structured data and supporting narrative).

*Conflicts of Interest.*—The Committee is concerned with reports on the FDA's objectiveness in approving new drug applications and potential conflicts of interest. The FDA exists to be a trusted regulatory body to review the merits of drug applications, and as such, the Committee instructs the Inspector General to review conflicts of interest between agency employees and companies, including consulting firms, interested in receiving drug approvals and the FDA's review of these drugs, and report back to the Committee on the results of this review.

*Corneal Crosslinking.*—The Committee remains concerned about the marketing and use of unapproved drug and device products for corneal crosslinking procedures and directs the FDA to provide a briefing on the development of the 503B Bulks List and regulation of devices intended for corneal crosslinking procedures.

*Cyclospora Cayetanensis.*—Cyclosporiasis, a severe gastro-enteric disease affecting roughly 150,000 Americans annually, is caused by the protozoan parasite *Cyclospora cayetanensis* and continues to be a U.S. public health concern with seasonal reported cases rising during spring and summer months. Compared to other foodborne pathogens, it's thought that only a few cells of the parasite can cause an infection. Once considered a "tropical" pathogen, *Cyclospora* has now been detected in several produce items grown in the United States, requiring growers to take risk mitigation measures as appropriate. However, there are no known mitigation measures, and the current inability to grow the organism limits the ability for researchers to provide answers. Therefore, the Committee encourages FDA to work with USDA to coordinate and increase research directed at identifying mitigation strategies for *Cyclospora* as well as increasing basic Federal research on this disease.

*Decentralized Trials.*—The Committee is encouraged by the development of novel health digital technologies to facilitate the use of virtual decentralized clinical trials [DCTs], sometimes referred to as virtual trials, that would make it easier for patients to participate in trials, regardless of where they live. Through telemedicine and digital health technologies, (e.g. connected sensors and direct data capture tools), DCTs are conducted geographically near the

patient. Direct contact with the patient is still maintained remotely, but, when appropriate, reducing or eliminating on-site visits has the potential to increase patient convenience and operational efficiencies in trial conduct. The Committee recommends that the FDA develop the necessary policy to advance the use of DCTs while still maintaining quality data necessary for FDA approval.

*Dietary Supplements.*—The Committee applauds the FDA’s inspection of and enforcement actions against manufacturers of dietary supplement products that are adulterated or misbranded products that are contaminated, either intentionally or unintentionally, with unsafe ingredients. The Committee has been pleased with ongoing interagency collaborations and urges the FDA to continue working with the Department of Justice to remove illegal dietary supplements from the market. As previously noted, the Committee provides a \$3,000,000 increase for Dietary Supplements to be used for enforcement of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–417), including inspection and enforcement activities.

*Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.*—Several clinical trials for potential Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy therapies have demonstrated a small effect over a 1 year period. In order to increase study power and minimize time on placebo in trials longer than 1 year, the Committee urges FDA to convene a multi-stakeholder meeting to evaluate the use of external controls. The Committee encourages FDA to explore the use of external control arms in novel trial design.

The Committee is aware of the 2018 Guidance on developing therapies for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and related Dystrophinopathies. Given the potential that gene therapies may hold to treat these devastating diseases, the Committee urges FDA to consider whether the 2018 Guidance should be modified to reflect these developments. Any such effort should involve the relevant experts at both CBER and CDER.

*Essential Medicines.*—The Committee is concerned about Americans’ access to essential medicines, as defined by the FDA’s October 2020 essential medicines and medical countermeasures list. As the agency in charge of approving drugs, reporting drug shortages, and protecting public health, the Committee directs the FDA to produce a report by the end of fiscal year 2022 on domestic and foreign manufacturing of drugs included on FDA’s list of Essential Medicines and Medical Countermeasures published in October 2020 pursuant to Executive Order 13944 based on the manufacturing amount data submitted by manufacturers pursuant to section 510(j)(3) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

*Food Mislabeling.*—The Committee is concerned about the proliferation of products marketed using standards of identity for dairy products that do not contain dairy ingredients and the lack of enforcement of these products. The Committee directs the FDA to provide clarity around the appropriate naming of plant-based dairy alternatives. The Committee further directs the FDA to implement an updated enforcement approach and report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on steps taken to

enforce against dairy imitation products marketed using dairy names.

*Food Labeling Accuracy.*—The Committee encourages the FDA’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition to use technology-driven audit tools in assessing food labeling accuracy.

*Food Traceability.*—The Committee recognizes that the ability to trace back contaminated products is critical to containing food safety outbreaks, but that challenges associated with tracing these products through the supply chain continue to persist. While the traceability from origin holds potential for a range of advancements in food safety, the Committee recognizes the substantial technological, logistical, and resource demands underlying this concept. Therefore, it encourages FDA to engage with stakeholders to evaluate currently available and emerging technologies, barriers to their widespread adoption, and to utilize pilots, studies, and technology development competitions to further explore, enhance and expedite traceability while minimizing the burden of new systems on the supply chain.

*Foreign High Risk Inspections.*—Ensuring that the global supply chain for products regulated by the FDA entering the United States is complying with U.S. laws and regulations related to safety and good manufacturing practices is a high priority. Due to limited resources, the Committee encourages the FDA to focus its inspection activities on the highest risk foreign suppliers. The Committee maintains funding for the evaluation of foreign high-risk sites to allow the FDA to continue efforts to develop and utilize targeted, risk-based, and efficient models that incorporate commercially available information as appropriate, including onsite facility verification, about all foreign establishments for the purpose of regulatory compliance and surveillance of manufacturing practices. The FDA is directed to provide the Committee with an update on these efforts, including estimated efficiencies and concerns and plans to continue or expand these efforts in the future. The funding can be used to support the Centers’ ongoing effort to improve the scientific evaluation of manufacturing for risk-based surveillance. The Committee expects this effort to provide the FDA with data-driven models that will help it target its overseas inspection activities in a global economy.

*FSMA Outreach for Small Farms.*—The Committee expects FDA to prioritize efforts to provide outreach, training, and technical assistance to farmers for compliance with the FSMA Produce Safety Rule. The Committee expects CFSAN to provide funding for critical outreach and training services at not less than the fiscal year 2021 level as the Produce Safety Rule continues to be implemented.

*Heavy Metals in Baby Food.*—The Committee is concerned that lead, arsenic, cadmium and mercury are often present in dangers quantities in foods intended for consumption by infants and toddlers. As previously mentioned the Committee provided funding for Maternal and Infant Health, including \$12,930,000 for FDA’s Closer to Zero plan. FDA is encouraged to coordinate with the Department of Agriculture to ensure that a wide variety of healthy nutritious foods remain available to participants of Federal nutrition programs.

*Human Drug Review Committee.*—The Committee encourages the FDA to work diligently to include no less than two members with an expertise in the indication the drug is intended to treat or other relevant rare diseases on each Advisory Committee when that Committee is reviewing a drug that has been designated as an Orphan Drug. The Committee also requests that the FDA report the percentage of recommendations made by Advisory Committees with respect to orphan drugs that include at least two members with expertise in the indication the drug is intended to treat or other relevant rare diseases.

*Imported Poppy Seeds.*—The Committee is concerned with reports of positive drug tests, addiction, overdose, and death related to contaminated imported poppy seeds, and directs the agency to establish a maximum permissible threshold of opiate alkaloid content for poppy seeds and carry out appropriate regulatory or enforcement measures to ensure the safety of poppy seeds.

*Inflammatory Bowel Disease Therapies.*—The Committee understands that the incidence of IBD in pediatric patients is on the rise and recognizes that there are currently limited FDA-approved treatments for this population. This lack of treatments creates barriers to effective care, which can lead to worse health outcomes for children and adolescents impacted by these conditions. The Committee is aware of and encourages the FDA to participate in ongoing efforts within the IBD community to streamline the development and approval of new pediatric IBD therapies and expand the indications for therapies approved to treat IBD in adults to children, particularly through innovative trial designs that minimize the burden to pediatric patients and their caregivers and through the use of real-world evidence to support regulatory decision-making.

*Infant Formula Reviews.*—The Committee is aware that before a new infant formula (including any infant formula that has had a major change in its formulation or processing) can be marketed in the United States, the infant formula manufacturer must provide FDA with a notification about the proposed infant formula as required under section 412 of the FFDCFA. In late 2020 and early 2021, there was an increase in the number and complexity of infant formula submissions, resulting in the FDA notifying manufacturers in early 2021 that an additional 60 days would be necessary to review the submissions, delaying market entry. The Committee is concerned about these delays and understands that the number of infant formula notifications continues to rise as well as the complexity of information FDA is requesting to review as part of the submission, potentially exacerbating the issue and extending the delays for an unspecified period of time. Therefore, within the previously mentioned funds for Maternal and Infant Health, the Committee provides \$1,120,000 for Infant Formula Reviews.

*Innovative Glass Packaging.*—The Committee directs the FDA to work with glass packaging suppliers and pharmaceutical manufacturers to evaluate and promote streamlined approval requirements designed to expedite the adoption and use of innovative glass packaging technologies with the capacity to improve product quality, reduce product recalls, reduce drug shortages, and protect public health. Such streamlined approval requirements should address

stability testing and other relevant types of data to be submitted in support of product approval.

*International Mail Facilities.*—The Committee remains concerned about the opioid epidemic that has taken the lives of thousands of Americans. The Committee provides an additional \$10,000,000 and continues to support FDA's investments in International Mail Facilities and Ports of Entry to prevent illicit drugs, including unapproved and counterfeit pharmaceuticals, from entering the United States.

*Inspections.*—The Committee is concerned that the ongoing pandemic has forced the FDA to postpone hundreds of facility inspections, creating a backlog that may delay new drug approvals and lead to possible shortages of existing medicines. When practicable, the Committee urges the FDA use the authorities provided to them under Sec. 704 of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [FDCA] to conduct remote inspections and evaluations to help ensure drug application approvals assessments are not delayed by limitations on in-person inspections. As previously noted, the Committee provides a \$15,000,000 increase for inspection activities.

*ISTAND.*—The Committee supports the assessment of non-animal approaches for qualification within the Innovative Science and Technology Approaches for New Drugs [ISTAND] pilot program. The Committee is pleased that ISTAND provides a pathway for regulatory acceptance of innovative non-animal methods that may better protect public health, improve the safety and efficacy of drug development, and reduce animal testing.

*Lupus.*—The Committee is aware of barriers that have long affected the development of therapeutics for lupus, a disease that primarily targets women. A chronic and complex autoimmune disease, lupus can affect the joints, skin, brain, lungs, kidneys, and blood vessels, causing widespread inflammation and tissue damage in the affected organ. The Committee is pleased that FDA participated in an externally-led patient-focused drug development meeting with the lupus community and identified some of these barriers and that potential treatments are now in clinical trials. The Committee urges FDA to expedite its ongoing work with the lupus community to develop solutions to identified barriers that will accelerate development of new therapies.

*Margarine Definition.*—The Committee is aware that the FDA continues to review standards of identity. The Committee therefore encourages the FDA to consider revisions to the definition of margarine which will serve consumers by removing outdated and obsolete descriptive terminology and allow for the inclusion of additional nutrients and ingredients, while maintaining a description that is clear and consistent with FDA intent.

*Medical Foods.*—The Committee recognizes the unique role medical foods play in the nutritional management of inborn errors of metabolism and encourages a flexible regulatory process that would enhance access to safe medical foods for individuals with serious or life-threatening inborn errors of metabolism. The Committees encourages the FDA to continue focusing on this issue.

*Medical Gas.*—The Committee is concerned that healthcare providers, consumers, and medical gas manufacturers have been waiting for 42 years for the FDA to follow through on its commitment

to issue separate regulations for medical gases since it first committed to doing so in the 1978 final rulemaking on current good manufacturing practices. The FDA has missed the statutory deadlines for medical gas rulemaking required in section 1112 of Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (Public Law 112–144) and section 756 of the Fiscal Year 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law 115–31). Therefore, the Committee directs the FDA to issue the final separate regulations required by the Fiscal Year 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law 115–31). Should the FDA not issue proposed regulations by December 31, 2021, the agency shall submit a report to the Committee explaining the status of the rulemaking and reasons for delay.

*Menthol Cigarettes.*—The Committee understands that FDA responded to a Citizen Petition calling for the prohibition of menthol as characterizing flavor in cigarettes on April 29, 2021. In 2018, FDA indicated that the agency would initiate a rulemaking to prohibit menthol cigarettes. The Committee encourages the agency to take action on this issue.

*Nanotechnology.*—The Committee recognizes the increased capabilities that the FDA has developed to study environment, health, and safety of nanomaterials within FDA’s Jefferson Laboratory Campus, including NCTR, and its consolidated headquarters at White Oak, Maryland. The Committee expects the FDA to continue to support collaborative research with universities and industry on the toxicology of nanotechnology products and processes in accordance with the National Nanotechnology Initiative Environment, Health, and Safety Research Strategy, as updated in October 2011.

*New Era of Smarter Food Safety.*—The Committee applauds the FDA for launching the initiative to bring together data from several agencies to enable the agency to identify and predict vulnerabilities in the food supply chain and inform resource allocation decisions to keep facilities open and workers safe. As previously mentioned, the Committee provides an additional \$3,000,000 to support this initiative.

*Opioid Epidemic.*—For the past two decades, the FDA has approved new drug applications for opioids following completion of clinical trials using enriched enrollment, randomized, withdrawal [EERW] designs. EERW studies exclude patients who do not tolerate or respond well to the investigational drug prior to randomization. After randomization, patients remain on the investigational drug or they are tapered to placebo. FDA should ensure that scientific experts have the opportunity to review the methodology EERWs use to approve new opioids for uses that are both safe and effective. The Commissioner is directed to conduct a study to review EERW study designs used in the approval of new prescription opioids for chronic pain.

*OTC Switch.*—The Committee is concerned with the multiple delays in FDA’s promulgation of a proposed regulation that may broaden the types of products that may be approved for use in a nonprescription setting. The Agency initiated its Nonprescription Drug Safe Use Regulatory Expansion initiative in 2013 and issued draft guidance in 2018 as a first step, promising sponsors and patients additional regulatory options through rulemaking in the

near future. The Committee strongly encourages the Agency to issue this important proposed rule as soon as possible

*Oversight Activities.*—The Committee provides \$1,500,000 for the HHS Office of Inspector General specifically for oversight of FDA activities.

*Pancreatitis Guidance Document.*—The Committee notes the important ongoing work to ensure safe and effective therapies become available for patients impacted by pancreatitis. The Committee urges FDA to build on recent community engagement efforts, including the externally-led Patient-Focused Drug Development meeting on this topic by continuing engagement with stakeholders in this area with the aim of developing and releasing Guidance for Industry in this area to help stimulate additional activity and to further guide ongoing efforts, including those facilitated by meaningful scientific progress at NIH and NIDDK

*Pathogen Reduction and Deferral Policies for Blood Donation.*—The Committee is pleased that FDA plans to continue to expand its use of real-world evidence, including the Transfusion Transmissible Infections Monitoring System [TTIMS], and encourages greater investment in real-world evidence to inform its policies concerning blood donor deferral policies and the safety of the U.S. blood supply. The Committee also encourages FDA to prioritize further investments in pathogen reduction technologies to reduce the risk of transfusion-transmitted infections and safeguard the blood supply. The Committee directs the FDA to swiftly collect, analyze, and act on the necessary scientific data to update its blood product donor deferral policies to ensure that its recommendations are based on current science and on individualized risk assessment rather than community-wide prevalence while maintaining the safety of the blood supply and not impeding HIV prevention efforts including uptake of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and to work with the Secretary and appropriate agency and stakeholder partners to ensure that any revisions to its policies are appropriately communicated to stakeholders and potential donors.

*Patient Experience Information.*—The Committee supports the FDA's efforts to implement policies to promote public access to information about how patient experience information is factored into the review of approved products. The Committee requests that within 60 days of enactment of this Act, FDA submit to the Committee a report providing an update on the agency's efforts to develop and issue guidance documents to provide uniform methodologies to capture and measure patient experiences in clinical trials, as required under Sec. 3004 of Public Law 114–255. The Committee urges the FDA to expedite the completion and release of all relevant guidance documents. The Committee directs the FDA to collaborate with stakeholders by holding no less than two stakeholder meetings within 90 days from the enactment of the Act to identify specific tools for screening, identification, reporting, consideration, and labeling of patient experience data in clinical trials of a drug or biological product.

Not later than 1 year after enactment of this Act, the FDA shall submit to the Committee a report describing FDA's efforts to engage stakeholders and solicit feedback on patient experience data in research, including the current definition of patient experience

data used by industry; patient experience measures that are acceptable to the FDA; the extent to which patient experience data informs clinical trial design, trial endpoint development and selection, and regulatory reviews; and the feasibility and impact of requiring the inclusion of patient experience data in clinical trials of a drug or biological development.

*Pediatric Device Consortia Grants.*—Pediatric Device Consortia grants fund consortia to assist innovators in developing medical and surgical devices designed for the unique needs of children, which often go unmet by devices currently available on the market. The Committee is pleased that the FDA-funded Pediatric Device Consortia have assisted in advancing the development of more than 1,400 potential pediatric medical devices since 2009. The Committee encourages the FDA to fund the program at its authorized level in fiscal year 2022.

*Pediatric Labeling.*—The Committee continues to be concerned that Over-the-Counter [OTC] single-ingredient acetaminophen does not contain weight-based dosing instructions for children ages 6 months to 2 years despite the recommendations of the FDA Non-prescription Drugs Advisory Committee and Pediatric Advisory Committee in 2011 that data supported this information being added to the labeling. The Committee is concerned that the lack of dosing information for this vulnerable population may lead to dosing errors, adverse events, and inadequate treatment of fever and pain. As such, the FDA is urged to provide to the Committee with an update no later than 240 days after enactment of this Act on the timing and progress of developing a plan and timetable for updating the monograph labeling for acetaminophen-containing products under the OTC Drug Review to include weight-based dosing instructions for children ages 6 months to 2 years.

*Pesticide Residues in Imported Foods.*—The Committee is concerned that imported human food continues to have significantly higher pesticide violation rates than domestically produced food. The most recent FDA report for fiscal year 2017 found that violation rates for imported food were 2.5 times higher than domestic food, which is consistent with fiscal year 2012 through 2016 trends and is an outcome of the FDA targeting specific commodities and countries that might warrant special attention based upon historically high violations rates and trends. The Committee directs the FDA to continue to partner with State inspection services and develop emerging technologies to enhance the imported food sampling efforts. Additionally, the Committee encourages the FDA to conduct a multi-year data review to better identify imported food samples that are more likely to have pesticide violations. The FDA shall treat products that are among those that are more likely to have pesticide violations as warranting special attention with higher priority for increased inspections. The Committee notes that, while some imported products may not have the 10 percent violation rate that may cause FDA to select the commodities for special attention in the annual pesticide report, certain imported products in the 2017 report had disproportionately higher violation rates than domestic products. The FDA shall review data in its 2019 report to determine whether it is appropriate to modify the special attention list to include imported products that have a violation rate of less



than 10 percent but for which imported products have significantly higher violation rates than identical domestic products. Therefore, the Committee encourages the FDA to work with partners such as the U.S. International Trade Commission and to conduct a multi-year data review to better identify imported food samples that are more likely to have pesticide violations.

*PFAS in Cosmetics.*—The Committee is concerned about the presence of perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl [PFAS] substances in cosmetics. The Committee directs the FDA to develop a plan outlining research needed to inform regulatory decisionmaking, including potential development of a proposed rule to ban intentionally added PFAS substances in cosmetics. Not later than 90 days after enactment, FDA will brief the committee on the research plan, potential regulatory options, and discuss considerations and anticipated challenges with issuing such a proposed rule.

*Predictive Toxicology Roadmap.*—The Committee is aware that, pursuant to its Predictive Toxicology Roadmap, FDA is offering training in new predictive toxicology methods and encouraging sponsors to submit scientifically valid approaches for using a new method early in the regulatory process. The Committee directs FDA to produce a report no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act detailing metrics regarding the number of trainings held, the number of participants that attended each training, and the agendas corresponding with each training. Additionally, the Committee directs the FDA to include in the report any methods used to measure the success of the trainings and continuous learning programs.

*Premium Cigars.*—The Committee notes that the issuance of regulations under the Family Smoking Prevention & Tobacco Control Act may place burdens on the legal production of premium cigars that were in production before this rule was finalized. The Committee directs FDA to periodically report back to Congress on the status of premarket review with regard to premium cigars. The Committee encourages the FDA to re-evaluate these regulations. Further, the agency may want to develop recommendations that consider the concerns of premium cigar manufacturers while taking a risk based approach to public health. The Committee directs the FDA to provide a report to the Committee with its recommendation within 90 days, including a recommendation on whether or not to exempt premium cigars from this rule.

*Promoting Domestic Manufacturing.*—The Committee supports the agency's work to promote the domestic manufacturing of drug and biological products and encourages the FDA to increase its efforts to encourage the pharmaceutical industry to adopt advanced manufacturing technologies that have the potential to improve product quality. The Committee directs the FDA to brief the Committee on its efforts to promote advanced manufacturing technologies.

*Rare Cancers.*—The FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence is commended for its leadership in streamlining the development of cancer therapies and promoting adaptive clinical trials and use of real world evidence. However, there continues to be very few rare cancer patients enrolled in clinical trials and a significant development gap for rare cancer therapies as almost 80 percent of all patients

who lack an FDA-targeted therapy are rare cancer patients. As previously noted, the Committee provides an additional \$5,000,000 to address these gaps, streamline resources, hire rare cancer experts, improve recruitment of rare cancer patients through clinical trials that reduce barriers to participation uniquely faced by rare cancer patients, low-income patients, those living in rural communities and people of color, facilitate the use of novel small patient population clinical trial strategies, conduct natural history studies, and advance the field of research overall, mirroring the efforts of the National Cancer Institute's Developmental Therapeutics Program. FDA is directed to build lines of communications and process with NCI to expedite rare cancer therapeutic development. Further, the Committee directs the Agency to issue a report no later than 60 days after enactment on what the Agency has done to address rare cancer, the participation of rare cancer patients in clinical trials, work with the NCI National Clinical Trial Network, and recommendations on what is needed to increase patient enrollment and accelerate rare cancer drug development.

*Rare Diseases.*—The Committee is concerned that FDA's efforts to harness the revolutionary potential of cell and gene therapy are not sufficient to meet the expectations of patients or keep pace with global competition for this cutting edge science. As previously noted, the Committee included a \$5,000,000 for Rare Diseases, including funding for the CBER Office of Tissues and Advanced Therapies to increase staff capacity and leverage internal CDER expertise to close this gap in understanding the science and challenges in rare disease and precision medicine drug development, and to engage in active dialogue, timely responses and product specific guidance as necessary to efficiently advance products all the way through later stages of development via the most appropriate facilitative regulatory approaches.

*Ready-to-Eat [RTE] Foods.*—The Committee is aware that the FDA is in the process of finalizing guidance regarding *Listeria monocytogenes* [Lm] in RTE foods. Reducing incidents of listeriosis is an important health goal, and the Committee supports efforts to accomplish this objective. The Committee urges the FDA to consider all available information relevant to the risk of listeriosis, including available exposure models, outbreak data, dose-response models, and existing risk assessments in determining a reliable and achievable Lm action level for frozen foods.

*Shellfish Safety.*—The Committee urges the FDA to complete the single laboratory validation of the liquid chromatography mass spectrometry [LC-MS]-based method for detecting brevetoxins association with neurotoxic shellfish poisoning in molluscan shellfish. The Committee further urges the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference to adopt the FDA's proposal for the LC-MS method for brevetoxin testing of shellfish as an Approved Method under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.

*Shrimp Importation Inspections.*—The Committee maintains funding for the Shrimp Importation Pilot Program and directs the FDA to provide the annual reports to the Committee related to FDA's oversight of the safety of shrimp products imported into the United States.

*Sodium.*—As the agency considers next steps in finalizing short-term sodium reduction guidance, the Committee urges FDA to monitor progress towards the short-term targets and engage with industry stakeholders on implementation of the guidance. The Committee acknowledges the investment and technology challenges that exist for food manufacturers in reaching the proposed long-term reduction targets, including those that jeopardize food safety and integrity of food products, and believes it is critical that FDA demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of the long-term targets before moving forward.

*Sunscreen Labeling Regulations.*—The Committee is encouraged that the FDA has proposed regulations dealing with the sunscreen monograph and urges the FDA to issue a revised sunscreen order in accordance with the procedures described in section 505G(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Public Law 75-717) as required by section 3854(c) of the CARES Act. The Committee is pleased that the proposed sunscreen monograph aims to make sunscreens more effective and safer, and that the proposal addresses issues related to maximum Sun Protection Factor [SPF] and sunscreen sprays. The Committee encourages FDA to educate stakeholders about its administrative order process and ensure that any final order related to sunscreen ingredients balances the value of currently marketed sunscreens as a proven skin cancer prevention tool. The Committee also encourages FDA to coordinate with the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Math [NASEM] in coordination with EPA as directed by House Report 116-446 to help inform its upcoming study on sunscreen's effects on the environment and the public health as authorized under the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, and to communicate its jurisdiction over the regulatory status of over-the-counter drug products.

*Temporomandibular Disorder.*—The Committee is encouraged by the work of the TMJ Patient-Led RoundTable, which took the first steps in formalizing a proposed interagency research plan and has called repeatedly for a transformation of TMD research. The Committee supports ongoing collaborations among medical product centers and with external stakeholders related to the development of treatments for TMD, and urges FDA to work with Federal partners, including the National Institutes of Health, to improve care for individuals with TMD.

*Tobacco Issues.*—The Committee remains deeply concerned about underage nicotine vaping and data from the National Youth Tobacco Survey showing increase in e-cigarette use among youth, and urges FDA to use its full authority to address this serious public health problem. The Committee is concerned about the continued lack of effective tobacco cessation products, less harmful alternatives, and Electronic Nicotine Delivery System [ENDS] cessation treatments for adolescents. Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the FDA shall provide an update to the Committee on its effort to provide additional guidance to drug manufacturers on developing tobacco cessation and ENDS cessation products for youth and its premarket reviews of e-cigarette and other deemed tobacco product applications, as well as provide an analysis of proven, effective programs to support underage tobacco preven-

tion and adolescent cessation. The Committee urges FDA to deny authorization for any product whose public health risks outweigh the benefits, including initiation by youth or non-tobacco consumers.

*Vibrio*.—The Committee is aware of the public health challenge related to the naturally occurring bacteria called *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* that can accumulate in shellfish and believes that more scientific research is necessary to develop proper controls that will reduce the risk to consumers and sustain a healthy domestic shellfish industry. The Committee encourages the FDA to increase funding for research into *Vibrio* illnesses associated with the consumption of raw molluscan shellfish, improve risk assessment models, and develop improved rapid detection methods for virulent *Vibrio* strains.

*White Oak*.—The FDA’s growing staff will require the GSA to lease additional office locations for the FDA until GSA can implement the 2018 Federal Research Master Plan for the White Oak Campus expansion. To determine the lowest cost technically acceptable for a prospectus lease, The GSA and FDA should consider the effect of local travel on staff productivity, adjacency to existing FDA-occupied leases, and the cost of lost productivity when evaluating the costs of lease proposals.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$12,788,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	30,788,000
Committee recommendation .....	15,288,000

FDA maintains offices and staff in 49 States and in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, including field laboratories and specialized facilities, as well as the National Center for Toxicological Research complex. Repairs, modifications, improvements, and construction to FDA headquarters and field facilities must be made to preserve the properties, ensure employee safety, meet changing program requirements, and permit the agency to keep its laboratory methods up to date.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$15,288,000 for FDA buildings and facilities.

This funding shall be used to upgrade FDA facilities and laboratories which are currently below public safety standards and incapable of performing agency requirements. The Committee is aware that several FDA-owned facilities need significant renovations and repairs. The Committee understands that high-quality, reliable buildings are a necessity to support the FDA’s mission-critical work.

FDA INNOVATION ACCOUNT, CURES ACT

Appropriations, 2021 .....	\$70,000,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	50,000,000
Committee recommendation .....	50,000,000

The Committee recommends \$50,000,000 for the FDA as authorized in the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114–255).

INDEPENDENT AGENCY  
FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION  
LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Limitation, 2021 .....	\$80,870,000
Budget estimate, 2022 .....	84,200,000
Committee recommendation .....	84,200,000

The Farm Credit Administration [FCA] is the independent agency in the executive branch of the Government responsible for the examination and regulation of the banks, associations, and other institutions of the Farm Credit System.

Activities of FCA include the planning and execution of examinations of Farm Credit System institutions and the preparation of examination reports. FCA also promulgates regulations, establishes standards, enforces rules and regulations, and approves certain actions of the institutions.

The administration and the institutions under its jurisdiction now operate under authorities contained in the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (Public Law 92–181), effective December 10, 1971. Public Law 99–205, effective December 23, 1985, restructured FCA and gave the agency regulatory authorities and enforcement powers.

The Act provides for the farmer-owned cooperative system to make sound, adequate, and constructive credit available to farmers and ranchers and their cooperatives, rural residences, and associations and other entities upon which farming operations are dependent, and to modernize existing farm credit law to meet current and future rural credit needs.

The Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (Public Law 100–233) authorized the formation of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation [FAMC] to operate a secondary market for agricultural and rural housing mortgages. FCA, under section 8.11 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (Public Law 92–181), as amended, is assigned the responsibility of regulating this entity and assuring its safe and sound operation.

Expenses of FCA are paid by assessments collected from the Farm Credit System institutions and by assessments to the FAMC.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends a limitation of \$84,200,000 on administrative expenses of the Farm Credit Administration.

*Eligibility Criteria for Outside Directors.*—The Committee is concerned with the FCA final rule on eligibility criteria for outside directors, which expands the list of persons who are excluded from serving as outside directors. The Farm Credit Act of 1971 (Public Law 92–181) specifies that outside directors must not be a director, officer, employee, agent, or stockholder of a System institution. This is accurately reflected under FCA’s existing regulations at 12 CFR 611.220. The Committee believes the new rule extends unnecessarily beyond the requirements of the Act and creates a number of unnecessary restrictions and implementation challenges that must be addressed. The new rule would prevent many qualified individuals from serving and would even exclude a number of currently serving outside directors from being reappointed. These indi-

viduals have valuable skills and give voice to underrepresented communities of borrowers. As such, the Committee expects FCA to pause to reconsider the rule in light of these and other concerns expressed since the rule was initially approved by the Board of Directors. One of the concerns the Committee expects FCA to consider is ensuring that those currently serving in outside director positions are not adversely impacted by the rule, including future re-appointment by their respective stockholder-elected boards.

*Hemp-Based Products.*—The Committee recognizes the growing interest for U.S. hemp and hemp-based products for a variety of uses and directs FCA to work with the institutions under its jurisdiction to provide access to guaranteed loans for hemp producers and businesses.

TITLE VII  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The Committee recommends the following provisions:

Section 701. This section includes language regarding passenger motor vehicles.

Section 702. This section includes language regarding the Working Capital Fund.

Section 703. This section limits the funding provided in the bill to 1 year, unless otherwise specified.

Section 704. This section includes language regarding indirect costs.

Section 705. This section includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 706. This section includes language regarding new information technology.

Section 707. This section includes language regarding conservation programs.

Section 708. This section includes language regarding Rural Utilities Service program eligibility.

Section 709. This section includes language regarding information technology expenses.

Section 710. This section includes language regarding first-class travel.

Section 711. This section includes language regarding the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Section 712. This section includes language regarding advisory committees.

Section 713. This section includes language regarding information technology systems.

Section 714. This section includes language regarding section 32 activities.

Section 715. This section includes language regarding user fee proposals without offsets.

Section 716. This section includes language regarding the reprogramming of funds and notification requirements.

Section 717. This section includes language regarding fees for the guaranteed business and industry loan program.

Section 718. This section includes language regarding the appropriations hearing process.

Section 719. This section includes language regarding pre-packaged news.

Section 720. This section includes language regarding details and assignments of Department of Agriculture employees.

Section 721. This section includes language regarding spending plans.

Section 722. This section includes language regarding a rescission of funds.

Section 723. This section includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 724. This section includes language regarding loans and loan guarantees.

Section 725. This section includes language regarding credit card refunds.

Section 726. This section includes language regarding SNAP.

Section 727. This section includes language regarding housing loan programs.

Section 728. This section includes language regarding new user fees.

Section 729. This section includes language regarding dried spent grain products.

Section 730. This section includes language regarding disclosure of information for pharmaceuticals.

Section 731. This section includes language regarding APHIS inspections.

Section 732. This section includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 733. This section includes language regarding animal welfare.

Section 734. This section includes language regarding domestic preference.

Section 735. This section includes language regarding lobbying.

Section 736. This section includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 737. This section includes language regarding Farm to School programs.

Section 738. This section includes language regarding the Food and Drug Administration.

Section 739. This section includes language regarding a NIFA pilot program.

Section 740. This section includes language regarding school meals program.

Section 741. This section includes language regarding hemp.

Section 742. This section includes language regarding gene editing.

Section 743. This section includes language regarding Agricultural Research Service.

Section 744. This section includes language regarding FDA seafood advisory.

Section 745. This section includes language regarding matching requirement.

Section 746. This section includes language regarding housing.

Section 747. This section includes language regarding fluid milk.

Section 748. This section includes language regarding Farming Opportunities Training and Outreach.

Section 749. This section includes language regarding tribal demonstration.

Section 750. This section includes language regarding Water Bank.

Section 751. This section includes language regarding REAP.



Section 752. This section includes language regarding potable water.

Section 753. This section includes language regarding mitigation banking.

Section 754. This section includes language regarding the Food and Drug Administration.

Section 755. This section includes language regarding watershed programs.

Section 756. This section includes language regarding school meals.

Section 757. This section includes language regarding school meals.

Section 758. This section includes language regarding broadband.

Section 759. This section includes language regarding pollinator research.

Section 760. This section includes language regarding hemp.

Section 761. This section includes language regarding SNAP.

Section 762. This section includes language regarding NOAA working group.

Section 763. This section includes language regarding school meals.

Section 764. This section includes language regarding flavored milk.

Section 765. This section includes language regarding Rural Development.

Section 766. This section includes language regarding the Good-fellow Federal Center.

Section 767. This section includes language regarding congongrass.

Section 768. This section includes language regarding meat and poultry facilities.

Section 769. This section includes language regarding a technical fix.

Section 770. This section includes language regarding Institute for Rural Partnership.

Section 771. This section includes language regarding a library.

Section 772. This section includes language regarding University of Vermont.

Section 773. This section includes language regarding disaster assistance.

Section 774. This section includes language regarding horse slaughter.

Section 775. This section includes language regarding the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Section 776. This section includes language regarding the Southwest Border Regional Commission.

## PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY

During fiscal year 2022, for purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–177) or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Reaffirmation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100–119), the following information provides the definition of the term “program, project, and activity” for departments and agencies under the jurisdiction of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee. The term “program, project, and activity” shall include the most specific level of budget items identified in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2022, and the accompanying report.

If a sequestration order is necessary, in implementing the Presidential order, departments and agencies shall apply any percentage reduction required for fiscal year 2022 pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–177 or Public Law 100–119 to all items specified in the explanatory notes submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate in support of the fiscal year 2022 budget estimates, as amended, for such departments and agencies, as modified by congressional action, and in addition:

For the Agricultural Research Service the definition shall include specific research locations as identified in the explanatory notes.

For the Natural Resources Conservation Service the definition shall include individual flood prevention projects as identified in the explanatory notes and individual operational watershed projects as summarized in the notes.

For the Farm Service Agency the definition shall include individual, regional, State, district, and county offices.

## COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7, RULE XVI OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 7 of rule XVI requires that Committee reports accompanying general appropriations bills identify each recommended amendment which proposes an item of appropriation which is not made to carry out the provisions of an existing law, a treaty stipulation, or an act or resolution previously passed by the Senate during that session.

The Committee is filing an original bill, which is not covered under this rule, but reports this information in the spirit of full disclosure.

The Committee recommends funding for the following programs or activities which currently lack authorization for fiscal year 2022:

- Multi-family Housing Revitalization Program
- Broadband Loan and Grant Pilot Program
- Child Nutrition Programs
- Child Nutrition Program State Administrative Expenses

- Summer Food Service Program
- Access to Local Food: Farm to School Program
- National School Lunch Act-Information Clearinghouse
- School Meals Program-Compliance and Accountability
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children
- Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Livestock Mandatory Reporting

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7(C), RULE XXVI OF THE  
STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Pursuant to paragraph 7(c) of rule XXVI, on August 4, 2021, the Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill (S. 2599) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes, provided, that the bill be subject to amendment and that any amendment increasing budget authority be offset by a reduction of equal or greater budget authority, by a recorded vote of 25–5, a quorum being present. The vote was as follows:

Yeas	Nays
Chairman Leahy	Mr. McConnell
Ms. Murray	Mr. Kennedy
Mrs. Feinstein	Mr. Braun
Mr. Durbin	Mr. Hagerty
Mr. Reed	Mr. Rubio
Mr. Tester	
Mrs. Shaheen	
Mr. Merkley	
Mr. Coons	
Mr. Schatz	
Ms. Baldwin	
Mr. Murphy	
Mr. Manchin	
Mr. Van Hollen	
Mr. Heinrich	
Mr. Shelby	
Ms. Collins	
Ms. Murkowski	
Mr. Graham	
Mr. Blunt	
Mr. Moran	
Mr. Hoeven	
Mr. Boozman	
Mrs. Capito	
Mrs. Hyde-Smith	

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 12, RULE XXVI OF THE  
STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 12 of rule XXVI requires that Committee reports on a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part of any statute include “(a) the text of the statute or part thereof which is proposed to be repealed; and (b) a comparative print of that part of the bill or joint resolution making the amendment and of the statute or part thereof proposed to be amended, showing by stricken-through type and italics, parallel columns, or other appropriate typographical devices the omissions and insertions which would be made by the bill or joint resolution if enacted in the form recommended by the Committee.”

In compliance with this rule, changes in existing law proposed to be made by the bill are shown as follows: existing law to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italic; and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman.

**TITLE 7—AGRICULTURE**

**CHAPTER 38—DISTRIBUTION AND MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

**§ 1632b. Agriculture Innovation Center Demonstration Program**

**(a) Purpose**

\* \* \* \* \*

**(f) Use of funds**

An eligible entity to which a grant is made under the Program may use the grant only for the following purposes (but only to the extent that the use is not described in [section 210A(d)(2)] *section 210A(d)(5)(D)* of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.

\* \* \* \* \*

**CHAPTER 51—SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**§ 2018. Approval of retail food stores and wholesale food concerns**

**(a) Authorization to accept and redeem benefits**

\* \* \* \* \*

**(i) Review of program operations**

**(1) Review by the Secretary**

\* \* \* \* \*

**(2) Limitation**

Nothing in this subsection shall authorize the Secretary to deny any application for continued authorization, any application for authorization, or any request to withdraw the authorization of any such facility, program, or arrangement based on a determina-

tion that residents of any such facility or entity are residents of an institution prior to **[December 31, 2021]** *December 31, 2022*.

\* \* \* \* \*

**CHAPTER 88—RESEARCH**

SUBCHAPTER VII—MISCELLANEOUS RESEARCH PROVISIONS

**§ 5940. Legitimacy of industrial hemp research**

\* \* \* \* \*

EDITORIAL NOTES

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Pub. L. 115–334, title VII, §7605(b), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4829 , as amended by Pub. L. 116–159, div. A, §122, Oct. 1, 2020, 134 Stat. 714 ; Pub. L. 116–260, div. A, title VII, §782, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 1230 , provided that: “Effective on **[January 1, 2022]** *January 1, 2023*, section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 5940) is repealed.”

**TITLE 42—THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE**

**CHAPTER 13—SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS**

**§ 1758. Program requirements**

**(a) Nutritional requirements**

\* \* \* \* \*

**(h) Food safety**

**(1) In general**

\* \* \* \* \*

**(3) Audits and reports by States**

**[For fiscal year 2021]** *For fiscal year 2022*, each State shall annually—

\* \* \* \* \*

**(4) Audit by the Secretary**

**[For fiscal year 2021]** *For fiscal year 2022*, the Secretary shall annually audit State reports of food safety inspections of schools submitted under paragraph (3).

\* \* \* \* \*

**§ 1769g. Information clearinghouse**

**(a) In general**

\* \* \* \* \*

**(d) Funding**

Out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay to the Secretary to provide to the organization selected under this section, to establish and maintain the information clearinghouse, \$200,000 for each of fiscal

years 1995 and 1996, \$150,000 for fiscal year 1997, \$100,000 for fiscal year 1998, \$166,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2004, and \$250,000 for each of fiscal years ~~2010 through 2022~~ *2010 through 2023*. The Secretary shall be entitled to receive the funds and shall accept the funds, without further appropriation.

CONSOLIDATION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021,  
PUBLIC LAW 116-260

**DIVISION N—ADDITIONAL  
CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF**

**TITLE I—NUTRITION AND AGRICULTURE RELIEF**

SUBTITLE B—AGRICULTURE

CHAPTER 1—AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

**SEC. 764. GRANTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO MEAT AND POULTRY FACILITIES TO ALLOW FOR INTERSTATE SHIPMENT.**

- \* \* \* \* \*
- (d) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.
- (1) AMOUNT.—\* \* \*
- \* \* \* \* \*
- (3) MATCHING FUNDS.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—\* \* \*
- (B) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary shall not require any recipient of a grant under this section to provide matching funds with respect to a grant awarded in fiscal year 2021 and fiscal year 2022.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT OF BILL**

PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE PURSUANT TO SEC. 308(a), PUBLIC LAW 93-344, AS AMENDED

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority		Outlays	
	Committee allocation <sup>1</sup>	Amount in bill	Committee allocation <sup>1</sup>	Amount in bill
Comparison of amounts in the bill with the subcommittee allocation for 2022: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies:				
Mandatory .....		156,104		<sup>2</sup> 142,759
Discretionary .....		25,855		<sup>2</sup> 25,102
Defense .....				NA
Non-defense .....		25,855	NA	NA
Projection of outlays associated with the recommendation:				
2022 .....				<sup>3</sup> 151,397
2023 .....				8,535
2024 .....				1,947
2025 .....				885
2026 and future years .....				760
Financial assistance to State and local governments for 2022 .....	NA	48,446	NA	<sup>2</sup> 34,697

<sup>1</sup> As of the date that this bill was reported, there is no section 302(a) allocation to the Committee on Appropriations for fiscal year 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Includes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

NA: Not applicable.

NOTE.—Pursuant to section 1002(b)(3)(B) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114-255), \$50,000,000 in budget authority and the resulting outlays do not count for the purposes of estimates under the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. Pursuant to section 4112(b) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, \$7,045,000,000 in budget authority and the resulting outlays do not count for the purposes of section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

## DISCLOSURE OF CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

The Constitution vests in the Congress the power of the purse. The Committee believes strongly that Congress should make the decisions on how to allocate the people's money. As defined in Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the term "congressionally directed spending item" means a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Senator, providing, authorizing, or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific State, locality or congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative, formula-driven, or competitive award process. For each item, a Member is required to provide a certification that neither the Member nor the Member's immediate family has a pecuniary interest in such congressionally directed spending item. Such certifications are available to the public on the website of the Senate Committee on Appropriations (<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/congressionally-directed-spending-requests>). Following is a list of congressionally directed spending items included in the Senate recommendation discussed in this report, along with the name of each Senator who submitted a request to the Committee of jurisdiction for each item so identified. Neither the Committee recommendation nor this report contains any limited tax benefits or limited tariff benefits as defined in rule XLIV.



CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS

Account	Recipient	Location	Description	Amount Provided	Requestor(s)
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	Arkansas Department of Agriculture .....	Arkansas .....	Feral Swine Management .....	650,000	Boozman
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	Nevada Department of Agriculture .....	Nevada .....	Horse Management .....	500,000	Cortez Masto, Rosen
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	City of Chicago .....	Illinois .....	O'Hare Federal Inspection Station .....	250,000	Durbin
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	New York Farm Viability Institute .....	New York .....	New York Dairy Farms Antimicrobial Stewardship .....	180,000	Gillibrand, Schumer
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources .....	Hawaii .....	Invasive Species Surveillance .....	600,000	Hirono, Schatz
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	Oklahoma Department of Agriculture .....	Oklahoma .....	Biorepository .....	594,000	Inhofe
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	Alaska Division of Agriculture .....	Alaska .....	Statewide Pest Surveys .....	100,000	Murkowski
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	Mau Office of Economic Development .....	Hawaii .....	Kula Agricultural Fencing .....	600,000	Schatz
Conservation Operations .....	Natural Resources Conservation Service .....	Connecticut .....	Long Island Sound Coastal Zone Soil Survey .....	5,000,000	Blumenthal, Murphy
Conservation Operations .....	Western Reserve Land Conservancy .....	Ohio .....	Tree Restoration .....	1,500,000	Brown
Conservation Operations .....	Ohio Energy and Advanced Manufacturing Center .....	Ohio .....	Reduce Runoff Contamination in the Great Lakes .....	263,000	Brown
Conservation Operations .....	Chesapeake Bay Foundation .....	Pennsylvania .....	Susquehanna River Basin Restoration Perquea Creek Watershed Plan .....	2,184,000	Cardin, Casey
Conservation Operations .....	Chesapeake Bay Foundation .....	Pennsylvania .....	Halfmoon Creek Watershed Management Plan .....	1,063,000	Casey
Conservation Operations .....	John G. Shedd Aquarium .....	Illinois .....	River Habitat Restoration and Conservation Initiative .....	1,000,000	Durbin
Conservation Operations .....	One Generation-Indigenous Farm Hub .....	New Mexico .....	Sustainable and Regenerative agriculture practices .....	100,000	Henrich
Conservation Operations .....	New Mexico State University .....	New Mexico .....	Carbon Management and Soil Health .....	995,000	Heinrich, Luján
Conservation Operations .....	The National Latino Farmers and Ranchers Trade Assoc. .....	New Mexico .....	Education and agricultural training outreach .....	50,000	Heinrich, Luján
Conservation Operations .....	Vermont Land Trust .....	Vermont .....	Farmland Futures Fund .....	5,000,000	Leahy
Conservation Operations .....	Northern Forest Center .....	Vermont .....	Infrastructure Projects .....	500,000	Leahy
Conservation Operations .....	Richmond Land Trust .....	Vermont .....	Gillett Dam Replacement .....	250,000	Leahy
Conservation Operations .....	Rio de Chama Acequia Association .....	New Mexico .....	Water Irrigation Infrastructure .....	82,000	Luján
Conservation Operations .....	Deschutes River Conservancy .....	Oregon .....	McKay Irrigation Efficiency Project .....	750,000	Merkley, Wyden
Conservation Operations .....	Scituate Rhode Island Land Trust .....	Rhode Island .....	Esek Hopkins Reforestation .....	290,000	Reed
Conservation Operations .....	Interface Commons .....	Vermont .....	Regenerative Soil Capacity and Improved Soil Health .....	500,000	Sanders
Conservation Operations .....	African Alliance of Rhode Island .....	Rhode Island .....	Technical Assistance for Beginning Farmers .....	84,000	Whitehouse

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS—Continued

Account	Recipient	Location	Description	Amount Provided	Requestor(s)
Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program	West Virginia University	West Virginia	Distance Learning	328,000	Capito
Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program	Illini Community Hospital	Illinois	Rural Telemedicine Initiative	115,000	Durbin
Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program	Ben Archer Health Center	New Mexico	Ben Archer Health Center Telemedicine Library	104,000	Hennrich, Lujan Hennrich, Lujan
Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program	New Mexico State Library	New Mexico	Dual Enrollment Hub Sites	890,000	Capito, Manchin
Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program	Shepherd University	West Virginia	Distance Learning	111,000	Capito, Manchin
Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program	Pocahontas County Board of Education	West Virginia	Telehealth Services	462,000	Sanders
Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program	Vermont Program for Quality Health Care	Vermont		500,000	
General Provision	University of Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Plant Germplasm Research Facility	39,700,000	Baldwin
General Provision	Shelburne Farms	Vermont	National Farm to School Institute	5,000,000	Leahy
General Provision	University of Vermont	Vermont	Institute for Rural Partnerships	10,000,000	Leahy
Rural Community Facilities Program	Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program	Wisconsin	Food Pantry Upgrades	54,000	Baldwin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Glidden Area Ambulance Service	Wisconsin	Ambulance Services	151,000	Baldwin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County	Wisconsin	Hospital Replacement Facility	4,000,000	Baldwin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe College	Wisconsin	College Student Housing	5,000,000	Baldwin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Friends of the Sparta Free Library	Wisconsin	Library	250,000	Baldwin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Frederic Arts	Wisconsin	Accessibility Updates	23,000	Baldwin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe	Colorado	Kwiyegat Community Academy K Through 5 Education Building	2,000,000	Bennet
Rural Community Facilities Program	Moffat County	Colorado	Moffat County Courthouse	4,650,000	Bennet
Rural Community Facilities Program	Lake County Board of County Commissioners	Colorado	Community Justice Center	3,575,000	Bennet, Hickenlooper
Rural Community Facilities Program	Norwescap Foodbank	New Jersey	Foodbank Expansion	1,050,000	Booker
Rural Community Facilities Program	Borough of Penns Grove	New Jersey	Facility Improvements	413,000	Booker
Rural Community Facilities Program	Mead Township	Ohio	Government Services Building	75,000	Brown
Rural Community Facilities Program	Great Lakes Community Action Partnership	Ohio	Fremont Senior Center Expansion	184,000	Brown
Rural Community Facilities Program	Arrowhead Joint Fire District	Ohio	Fire District Expansion	74,000	Brown
Rural Community Facilities Program	Sandy Creek Joint Fire District	Ohio	Fire District Ladder Truck	195,000	Brown
Rural Community Facilities Program	Montville Fire Department	Ohio	Fire Department Upgrades	637,000	Brown
Rural Community Facilities Program	Carroll Township Police Department	Ohio	Police Department Building Project	160,000	Brown
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Fremont	Ohio	Fremont Community Amphitheater Project	1,608,000	Brown
Rural Community Facilities Program	Dylan Jude Harrell DIPG Foundation	Washington	Community Center	1,275,000	Cantwell
Rural Community Facilities Program	Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe	Washington	Computer Lab	210,000	Cantwell

Rural Community Facilities Program	Columbia County Health System	Washington	Childcare Center	413,000	Cantwell
Rural Community Facilities Program	Port Angeles Food Bank	Washington	Foodbank Expansion	175,000	Cantwell
Rural Community Facilities Program	Calliope Project Inc	Delaware	Capital Improvements	100,000	Carper, Coons
Rural Community Facilities Program	Commission on Economic Opportunity	Pennsylvania	Foodbank Expansion	250,000	Casey
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Corinna	Maine	Fire Station Improvements	1,725,000	Collins
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Washburn	Maine	Public Safety Building Improvements	750,000	Collins
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Machiasport	Maine	Public Works Building Improvements	1,125,000	Collins
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Rumford	Maine	Fire Station Improvements	1,000,000	Collins
Rural Community Facilities Program	Harrison Food Bank	Maine	Foodbank Expansion	388,888	Collins, King
Rural Community Facilities Program	Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital	Illinois	Facility Improvements	334,000	Duckworth, Durbin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Los Amigos de Guadalupe	California	Facility Improvements	1,700,000	Feinstein
Rural Community Facilities Program	Del Norte County Board of Supervisors	California	Facility Improvements	3,080,000	Feinstein
Rural Community Facilities Program	County of Nevada	California	North San Juan Fire Suppression System	1,050,000	Feinstein, Padilla
Rural Community Facilities Program	County of Inyo	California	Inyo County Eastern Sierra Small Business Center	205,000	Feinstein, Padilla
Rural Community Facilities Program	Essex County Board of Supervisors	New York	County Agriculture and Youth Center	270,000	Gillibrand
Rural Community Facilities Program	Hunter Foundation Inc	New York	Food and Agriculture Culinary Hub	500,000	Gillibrand, Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	Royalton-Hartland Central School	New York	Outdoor Learning Lab	268,000	Gillibrand, Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Glens Falls	New York	City Hall Restoration	439,000	Gillibrand, Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Sunland Park	New Mexico	Public Safety Complex	950,000	Heinrich
Rural Community Facilities Program	Village of Questa	New Mexico	Fire Station	1,000,000	Heinrich, Lujan
Rural Community Facilities Program	Fort Lewis College	Colorado	Regional Agriculture and Food Security Courthouse Renovation	159,999	Hickenlooper
Rural Community Facilities Program	Montrose County	Colorado	Courthouse Renovation	7,725,000	Hickenlooper
Rural Community Facilities Program	Waianae Community Re-Development Corporation	Hawaii	Post Harvest Processing Facility	896,000	Hirono, Schatz
Rural Community Facilities Program	Blue Ridge Discovery Center	Virginia	Historic Konnarock Training School	50,000	Kaine
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Superior	Arizona	Workforce, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation Center	1,988,000	Kelly, Sinema
Rural Community Facilities Program	Maine 4-H Foundation	Maine	Innovation Lab and Learning Center	450,000	King
Rural Community Facilities Program	Millinocket Memorial Library	Maine	Library	56,000	King
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of St. Albans	Maine	Town Hall Improvements	23,000	King
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of New London	Minnesota	Library and City Hall	665,000	Klobuchar
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Dilworth	Minnesota	Dilworth Fire Hall	975,000	Klobuchar, Smith
Rural Community Facilities Program	Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior	Minnesota	Community Center Upgrades	157,000	Klobuchar, Smith
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Chisholm	Minnesota	Public Safety Building	3,500,000	Klobuchar, Smith
Rural Community Facilities Program	Prairie Pines Childcare Center	Minnesota	Childcare Facility	418,000	Klobuchar, Smith
Rural Community Facilities Program	Southwestern Vermont Medical Center	Vermont	Downtown Child Care Center	750,000	Leahy
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Grafton	Vermont	Community Center Waste Water Project	200,000	Leahy
Rural Community Facilities Program	Rupert Village Trust	Vermont	The Sheldon Store Restoration	120,000	Leahy

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING ITEMS—Continued

Account	Recipient	Location	Description	Amount Provided	Requestor(s)
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of St. Johnsbury	Vermont	Three Rivers Lamolite Valley Rail Trail	543,000	Leahy
Rural Community Facilities Program	Jeudevine Memorial Library	Vermont	Library	600,000	Leahy
Rural Community Facilities Program	Catamount Film and Arts	Vermont	Facility Improvements	109,000	Leahy
Rural Community Facilities Program	Village of Questa	New Mexico	Municipal Building Expansion	350,000	Lujan
Rural Community Facilities Program	Village of Wagon Mound	New Mexico	Senior Center	164,000	Lujan
Rural Community Facilities Program	The Ridgeley Volunteer Fire Company No. 1	West Virginia	Fire Station	875,000	Manchin
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Anmore	West Virginia	Safety Complex Stair Replacement	55,000	Manchin, Capito
Rural Community Facilities Program	Detroit Lake Foundation	Oregon	Community Center in Response to Wildfire Recovery	500,000	Merkley, Wyden
Rural Community Facilities Program	Sherman County Court	Oregon	Broadband Solar Trailers	50,000	Merkley, Wyden
Rural Community Facilities Program	Friends of Fossil Library	Oregon	Library	50,000	Merkley, Wyden
Rural Community Facilities Program	Warm Springs Community Action Team	Oregon	Warm Springs Commissary Project	450,000	Merkley, Wyden
Rural Community Facilities Program	Community Connection of Northeast Oregon	Oregon	Food Bank	50,000	Merkley, Wyden
Rural Community Facilities Program	Oregon Food Bank	Oregon	Food Bank	100,000	Merkley, Wyden
Rural Community Facilities Program	Main Street Development	Kansas	Public Building Renovations	100,000	Moran
Rural Community Facilities Program	Matsu Food Bank	Alaska	Food Bank Renovations	1,500,000	Murkowski
Rural Community Facilities Program	Sitka Sound Science Center	Alaska	Educational Facility Renovations	840,000	Murkowski
Rural Community Facilities Program	Flint River Fresh	Georgia	Community Food Space Expansion	299,000	Ossoff
Rural Community Facilities Program	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	California	South System Groundwater Recharge Improvement	395,000	Padilla
Rural Community Facilities Program	Cass County	Michigan	Cass County Courthouse Renovation	1,500,000	Peters
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Three Rivers	Michigan	Hospital Redevelopment	750,000	Peters
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Warren	Rhode Island	Fire and EMS Center	2,000,000	Reed
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Richmond	Rhode Island	Police Station Renovations	150,000	Reed
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Central Falls	Rhode Island	Central Falls Ralph Holden Community Center	2,000,000	Reed, Whitehouse
Rural Community Facilities Program	Alburgh Family Clubhouse	Vermont	Childcare and Early Education Expansion	189,000	Sanders
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Castleton	Vermont	Library	125,000	Sanders
Rural Community Facilities Program	The Center for Discovery	New York	Greenhouse	605,000	Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	Waverly Central School District	New York	Chemung Center for Innovation	2,750,113	Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of North Collins	New York	Community Center	89,000	Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	YMCA of Plattsburgh	New York	Family YMCA	1,973,000	Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	M-ARK Project Inc	New York	Child Care Facility	88,000	Schumer

Rural Community Facilities Program	BluePrint Geneva	New York	Healthy Neighborhoods Project	44,000	Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	Herkimer County	New York	Day Care	315,000	Schumer
Rural Community Facilities Program	Mid-State Community Development Corporation.	New Hampshire	Children's Learning Center	200,000	Shaheen
Rural Community Facilities Program	Mt. Washington Valley Economic Council.	New Hampshire	Facility Improvements	200,000	Shaheen
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Northumberland	New Hampshire	Northumberland Public Safety Building	200,000	Shaheen
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Swanzy	New Hampshire	Swanzy Center Fire Station	200,000	Shaheen
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Campton	New Hampshire	Campton Emergency Communications Initiative.	175,000	Shaheen
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Claremont	New Hampshire	Fire Sprinkler System	100,000	Shaheen
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Chino Valley	Arizona	Rodeo Drive Improvements	240,000	Sinema
Rural Community Facilities Program	The Link of Northern Kandiyohi County	Minnesota	Food Pantry	193,000	Smith
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Little Falls	Minnesota	Childcare Facility	825,000	Smith
Rural Community Facilities Program	Capital Area United Way	Michigan	Mobile Wi-Fi Unit	76,000	Stabenow
Rural Community Facilities Program	The Good Stuff	Maryland	Job Training and Technical Assistance	138,000	Van Hollen
Rural Community Facilities Program	Town of Pulaski	Virginia	Calfee Community Center	38,000	Warner
Rural Community Facilities Program	City of Eatonton	Georgia	Eatonton City Center Community Facility.	250,000	Warnock
Rural Community Facilities Program	County of Warren	Georgia	Volunteer Fire Department	1,400,000	Warnock
Rural Community Facilities Program	Fuerza Laboral	Rhode Island	Cooperative Hub	157,000	Whitehouse
Rural Community Facilities Program	Cowden Street Collaborative dba Segue Institute.	Rhode Island	Modular Building Construction	250,000	Whitehouse
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	Mississippi Watershed Operations	Mississippi	Flood mitigation	8,400,000	Hyde-Smith
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	Ochocho Irrigation District	Oregon	Ochocho Irrigation District Watershed Projects.	4,875,000	Merkey, Wyden
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	East Fork Irrigation District	Oregon	East Fork Irrigation Modernization	2,500,000	Merkey, Wyden
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	Wallowa Lake Irrigation District	Oregon	Wallowa Lake Dam Rehabilitation Project.	2,000,000	Merkey, Wyden
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	North Sector Upper Walnut Floodwater Retarding Dam No. 21.	Kansas	Flood mitigation	450,000	Moran
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	Kickapoo Tribe Water Supply Project	Kansas	Preliminary studies of new water supply reservoir.	50,000	Moran
Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	City of Cranston and Town of Johnston	Rhode Island	Pecasset River Flood Damage Reduction.	5,000,000	Reed

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022  
 [In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
<b>TITLE I—AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS</b>					
Processing, Research, and Marketing					
Staff Offices					
Office of the Secretary					
Office of the Secretary .....	5,101	14,801	5,703	+ 602	- 9,098
Office of Homeland Security .....	1,324	13,429	4,749	+ 3,425	- 8,680
Office of Tribal Relations .....	.....	2,860	1,025	+ 1,025	- 1,835
Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement .....	7,002	13,294	6,044	- 958	- 7,250
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration .....	881	1,399	1,649	+ 768	+ 250
Departmental Administration .....	21,440	26,001	21,782	+ 342	- 4,219
Subtotal .....	22,321	27,400	23,431	+ 1,110	- 3,969
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs .....	3,908	4,480	4,480	+ 572	.....
Office of Communications .....	7,342	10,509	7,484	+ 142	- 3,025
Total, Office of the Secretary .....	46,998	86,773	52,916	+ 5,918	- 33,857
<b>Executive Operations</b>					
Office of the Chief Economist .....	24,192	31,050	25,499	+ 1,307	- 5,551
Office of Hearings and Appeals .....	15,394	16,173	16,173	+ 779	.....
Office of Budget and Program Analysis .....	9,629	12,760	12,310	+ 2,681	- 450
Subtotal .....	49,215	59,983	53,982	+ 4,767	- 6,001
Office of the Chief Information Officer .....	66,814	101,001	84,746	+ 17,932	- 16,255
Office of the Chief Financial Officer .....	6,109	7,118	7,118	+ 1,009	.....
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights .....	908	1,426	1,426	+ 518	.....

Office of Civil Rights .....	22,789	29,328	29,328	29,328	+ 6,539	.....
Office of Safety, Security, and Protection .....	23,218	27,034	23,306	23,306	+ 88	- 3,728
Agriculture Buildings and Facilities .....	108,124	133,443	313,443	313,443	+ 205,319	+ 180,000
Hazardous materials management .....	6,514	6,545	6,545	6,545	+ 31	.....
Office of Inspector General .....	99,912	106,309	106,309	106,309	+ 6,397	.....
Office of the General Counsel .....	45,390	60,723	60,723	60,723	+ 15,333	.....
Office of Ethics .....	4,184	4,277	4,277	4,277	+ 93	.....
Total, Executive Operations .....	433,177	537,187	691,203	691,203	+ 258,026	+ 154,016
Total, Staff Offices .....	480,175	623,960	744,119	744,119	+ 263,944	+ 120,159
Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics .....	809	1,327	1,327	1,327	+ 518	.....
Office of the Chief Scientist .....	.....	5,000	.....	.....	.....	- 5,000
Economic Research Service .....	85,476	90,594	90,794	90,794	+ 5,318	+ 200
National Agricultural Statistics Service .....	183,921	193,662	191,662	191,662	+ 7,741	- 2,000
Census of Agriculture .....	(46,300)	(46,300)	(46,850)	(46,850)	(+ 550)	(+ 550)
Agricultural Research Service .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salaries and expenses .....	1,491,784	1,849,590	1,675,040	1,675,040	+ 183,256	- 174,550
Buildings and facilities .....	35,700	45,405	45,405	45,405	+ 9,705	.....
Total, Agricultural Research Service .....	1,527,484	1,894,995	1,720,445	1,720,445	+ 192,961	- 174,550
National Institute of Food and Agriculture .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
National Institute of Food and Agriculture .....	.....	1,955,863	.....	.....	.....	- 1,955,863
Research and education activities .....	992,642	.....	1,057,420	1,057,420	+ 64,778	+ 1,057,420
Native American Institutions Endowment Fund .....	(11,880)	(11,880)	(11,880)	(11,880)	.....	.....
Extension activities .....	538,447	.....	559,400	559,400	+ 20,953	+ 559,400
Integrated activities .....	39,000	.....	40,000	40,000	+ 1,000	+ 40,000
Total, National Institute of Food and Agriculture .....	1,570,089	1,955,863	1,656,820	1,656,820	+ 86,731	- 299,043
Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs .....	809	1,327	1,577	1,577	+ 768	+ 250
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salaries and expenses .....	1,064,179	1,102,222	1,118,642	1,118,642	+ 54,463	+ 16,420
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests .....	.....	.....	3,474	3,474	+ 3,474	+ 3,474

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued

(In thousands of dollars)

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
Buildings and facilities .....	3,175	3,175	3,175		
Total, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service .....	1,067,354	1,105,397	1,125,291	+ 57,937	+ 19,894
Agricultural Marketing Service					
Marketing Services .....	188,358	213,157	231,063	+ 42,705	+ 17,906
(Limitation on administrative expenses, from fees collected) .....	(61,227)	(61,786)	(61,786)	(+ 559)	
Funds for strengthening markets, income, and supply (Section 32): .....					
Permanent, Section 32 .....	1,359,864	1,391,211	1,391,211	+ 31,347	
Marketing agreements and orders (transfer from Section 32) .....	(20,705)	(20,705)	(20,817)	(+ 112)	
Payments to States and Possessions .....	1,235	1,235	4,000	+ 2,765	+ 2,765
Limitation on inspection and weighing services .....	(55,000)	(55,000)	(55,000)		
Total, Agricultural Marketing Service program .....	1,665,684	1,722,389	1,743,060	+ 77,376	+ 20,671
Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety					
Food Safety and Inspection Service .....	809	1,327	1,327	+ 518	
Lab accreditation fees .....	1,075,703	1,165,589	1,153,064	+ 77,361	- 12,525
(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)		
Total, title I, Agricultural Programs .....	7,542,086	8,644,644	8,312,700	+ 770,614	- 331,944
(By transfer) .....	(20,705)	(20,705)	(20,817)	(+ 112)	(+ 112)
(Limitation on administrative expenses) .....	(116,227)	(116,786)	(116,786)	(+ 559)	
TITLE II—Farm Production and Conservation Programs					
Farm Production Programs					
Office of the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation .....	916	1,437	1,687	+ 771	+ 250



Farm Production and Conservation Business Center	231,302	238,177	238,177	+ 6,875	.....
(by transfer from CCC)	(60,228)	(60,228)	(60,228)	.....	.....
(by transfer from Food for Peace (Public Law 480))	(112)	.....	.....	(- 112)	.....
(by transfer from export loans)	(318)	.....	.....	(- 318)	.....
Total, FPAC Business Center (including transfers)	291,960	298,405	298,405	+ 6,445	.....
Farm Service Agency					
Salaries and expenses	1,142,924	1,175,670	1,178,324	+ 35,400	+ 2,654
(by transfer from ACIF)	(294,114)	(294,114)	(294,114)	.....	.....
Subtotal, transfers	(294,114)	(294,114)	(294,114)	.....	.....
Total, Salaries and expenses (including transfers)	1,437,038	1,469,784	1,472,438	+ 35,400	+ 2,654
State mediation grants					
Grassroots source water protection program	6,914	6,914	7,000	+ 86	+ 86
Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers	6,500	6,500	6,500	.....	.....
Dairy indemnity program	500	500	3,000	+ 3,000	+ 3,000
Subtotal, Farm Service Agency	1,156,838	1,189,584	1,195,324	+ 38,486	+ 5,740
Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund [ACIF] Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Farm ownership loans:					
Direct	(2,500,000)	(2,800,000)	(2,800,000)	(+ 300,000)	.....
Guaranteed	(3,300,000)	(3,500,000)	(3,500,000)	(+ 200,000)	.....
Subtotal	(5,800,000)	(6,300,000)	(6,300,000)	(+ 500,000)	.....
Farm operating loans:					
Direct	(1,633,333)	(1,633,333)	(1,633,333)	.....	.....
Unsubsidized guaranteed	(2,118,482)	(2,118,482)	(2,118,482)	.....	.....
Subtotal	(3,751,815)	(3,751,815)	(3,751,815)	.....	.....
Emergency loans	(37,668)	(37,668)	(37,668)	.....	.....
Indian tribe land acquisition loans	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	.....	.....
Conservation loans:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Guaranteed	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	.....	.....

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued  
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans .....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)		
Boll weevil eradication loans .....	(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)		
Relending program loans .....	(33,693)	(33,693)	(61,425)	(+ 27,732)	(+ 27,732)
Total, Loan authorizations .....	(9,858,176)	(10,358,176)	(10,385,908)	(+ 527,732)	(+ 27,732)
Loan subsidies:					
Farm operating loans:					
Direct .....	38,710	40,017	40,017	+ 1,307	
Unsubsidized guaranteed .....	23,727	16,524	16,524	- 7,203	
Subtotal .....	62,437	56,541	56,541	- 5,896	
Emergency Loans .....	207	267	267	+ 60	
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans .....	742	407	407	- 335	
Relending program loans .....	5,000	2,743	5,000		+ 2,257
Total, Loan subsidies and grants .....	68,386	59,958	62,215	- 6,171	+ 2,257
ACIF administrative expenses:					
Administrative Expenses .....	307,344	314,772	314,772	+ 7,428	
(Program Loan Cost Expenses) .....	(13,230)	(20,658)	(20,658)	(+ 7,428)	
(Transfer out to FSA Salaries and expenses) .....	(- 294,114)	(- 294,114)	(- 294,114)		
Total, Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account .....	375,730	374,730	376,987	+ 1,257	+ 2,257
(Loan authorizations) .....	(9,858,176)	(10,358,176)	(10,385,908)	(+ 527,732)	(+ 27,732)
Total, Farm Service Agency .....	1,532,568	1,564,314	1,572,311	+ 39,743	+ 7,997

Risk Management Agency								
RMA Salaries and Expenses .....	60,131	69,207	67,700	+ 7,569	- 1,507			
Total, Farm Production Programs .....	1,824,917	1,873,135	1,879,875	+ 54,958	+ 6,740			
Natural Resources Conservation Service:								
Private Lands Conservation Operations .....	832,727	886,285	918,353	+ 85,626	+ 32,068			
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests .....			19,611	+ 19,611	+ 19,611			
Farm Security and Rural Investment Program:								
Administrative expenses—FPAC Business Center (transfer out) .....	(- 60,228)	(- 60,228)	(- 60,228)					
Total, Conservation operations .....	832,727	886,285	937,964	+ 105,237	+ 51,679			
Watershed flood and prevention operations .....	175,000	175,000	175,000					
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests .....			23,275	+ 23,275	+ 23,275			
Watershed rehabilitation program .....	10,000	10,000	10,000					
Healthy forests reserve program .....		20,000			- 20,000			
Urban Agriculture Program .....		9,458			- 9,458			
Total, Natural Resources Conservation Service .....	1,017,727	1,100,743	1,146,239	+ 128,512	+ 45,496			
Corporations								
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:								
Federal crop insurance corporation fund .....	8,748,000	9,660,000	9,660,000	+ 912,000				
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:								
Reimbursement for net realized losses .....	31,830,731	25,915,000	25,915,000	- 5,915,731				
Hazardous waste management (limitation on expenses) .....	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)					
Total, Corporations .....	40,578,731	35,575,000	35,575,000	- 5,003,731				
Total, title II, Farm Production and Conservation Programs .....	43,421,375	38,548,878	38,601,114	- 4,820,261	+ 52,236			
(By transfer) .....	(354,772)	(354,342)	(354,342)	(- 430)				
(Transfer out) .....	(- 354,342)	(- 354,342)	(- 354,342)					
TITLE III—RURAL DEVELOPMENT								
Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development .....	812	1,330	1,580	+ 768	+ 250			

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
<b>Rural Development</b>					
Rural development expenses:					
Salaries and expenses:					
.....	264,024	367,447	363,922	+ 99,898	- 3,525
(by transfer from RHIF) .....	(412,254)	(412,254)	(412,254)		
(by transfer from RDLFP) .....	(4,468)	(4,468)	(4,468)		
(by transfer from RETLP) .....	(33,270)	(33,270)	(33,270)		
Subtotal, transfers from program accounts .....	449,992	449,992	449,992		
Total, Rural development expenses .....	714,016	817,439	813,914	+ 99,898	- 3,525
<b>Rural Housing Service</b>					
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Single family direct (Sec 502) .....	(1,000,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,250,000)	(+ 250,000)	(- 250,000)
Unsubsidized guaranteed .....	(24,000,000)	(30,000,000)	(30,000,000)	(+ 6,000,000)	
Subtotal, Single family .....	25,000,000	31,500,000	31,250,000	+ 6,250,000	- 250,000
Housing repair (Sec 504) .....	(28,000)	(28,000)	(28,000)		
Rental housing (Sec 515) .....	(40,000)	(40,000)	(92,000)	(+ 52,000)	(+ 52,000)
Multi-family housing guarantees (Sec 538) .....	(230,000)	(230,000)	(250,000)	(+ 20,000)	(+ 20,000)
Site development loans (Sec 524) .....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)		
Single family housing credit sales .....	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)		
Self-help housing land development housing loans (Sec 523) .....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)		
Farm Labor Housing (Sec 514) .....	(28,000)	(28,000)	(28,000)		
Total, Loan authorizations .....	25,346,000	31,846,000	31,668,000	+ 6,322,000	- 178,000

Loan subsidies:								
Single family direct (Sec 502)	55,400	27,900	23,250	-32,150	-4,650			
Housing repair (Sec 504)	2,215	484	484	-1,731				
Rental housing (Sec 515)	6,688	3,576	8,225	+1,537	+4,649			
Multi-family housing revitalization program		32,000	32,000	+32,000				
Farm labor housing (Sec514)	5,093	2,831	2,831	-2,262				
Self-Help Land Development Housing Loans (Sec523)	269	55	55	-214				
Site Development Loans (Sec524)	355	206	206	-149				
Total, Loan subsidies	70,020	67,052	67,051	-2,969	-1			
Farm labor housing grants	10,000	10,000	10,000					
RHIF administrative expenses	412,254	412,254	412,254					
(transfer out to Rural Development)	(-412,254)	(-412,254)	(-412,254)					
Total, Rural Housing Insurance Fund program	492,274	489,306	489,305	-2,969	-1			
(Loan authorization)	(25,346,000)	(31,846,000)	(31,668,000)	(+6,322,000)	(-178,000)			
Rental assistance program:								
Rental assistance (Sec 521)	1,410,000	1,450,000	1,450,000	+40,000				
Rural housing vouchers		45,000			-45,000			
Subtotal, Rental Assistance Program	1,410,000	1,495,000	1,450,000	+40,000	-45,000			
Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account:								
Rural housing voucher program	40,000			-40,000				
Multi-family housing revitalization program	28,000			-28,000				
Rural Housing Vouchers			45,000	+45,000	+45,000			
Mutual and self-help housing grants	31,000	32,000	32,000	+1,000				
Rural housing assistance grants	45,000	45,000	45,000					
Rural community facilities program account:								
Loan authorizations:								
Community facility:								
Direct	(2,800,000)	(2,800,000)	(2,800,000)					
Guaranteed	(500,000)	(500,000)	(500,000)					
Total, Loan authorizations	3,300,000	3,300,000	3,300,000					

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Community facility:					
Non-conforming Subsidy .....	25,000	.....	25,000	.....	+ 25,000
Grants .....	32,000	58,000	48,000	+ 16,000	- 10,000
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests .....	.....	.....	83,690	+ 83,690	+ 83,690
Rural community development initiative .....	6,000	6,000	6,000	.....	.....
Economic impact initiative grants .....	6,000	.....	.....	- 6,000	.....
Tribal college grants .....	5,000	10,000	10,000	+ 5,000	.....
Subtotal, loan subsidies and grants .....	74,000	74,000	172,690	+ 98,690	+ 98,690
Total, grants and payments .....	150,000	151,000	249,690	+ 99,690	+ 98,690
Total, Rural Housing Service .....	2,120,274	2,135,306	2,233,995	+ 113,721	+ 98,689
(Loan authorization) .....	(28,646,000)	(35,146,000)	(34,968,000)	(+ 6,322,000)	(- 178,000)
Rural Business Program Account:					
(Guaranteed business and industry loan authorization) .....	(1,000,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(+ 500,000)	.....
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Guaranteed business and industry subsidy .....	10,400	30,150	30,150	+ 19,750	.....
Rural business development grants .....	37,000	37,000	37,000	.....	.....
Delta Regional Authority and Appalachian Regional Commission .....	9,000	9,000	9,000	.....	.....
Rural Innovation Stronger Economy Grant Program .....	.....	5,000	5,000	+ 5,000	.....
Total, RBP loan subsidies and grants .....	56,400	81,150	81,150	+ 24,750	.....

Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account:					
(Loan authorization) .....	(18,889)	(18,889)	(18,889)		
Loan subsidy .....	2,939	1,524	1,524	- 1,415	
Administrative expenses .....	4,468	4,468	4,468		
(transfer out to Rural Development) .....	(-4,468)	(-4,468)	(-4,468)		
Total, Intermediary Relending Program Account .....	7,407	5,992	5,992	- 1,415	
Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account:					
(Loan authorization) .....	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)		
Limit cushion of credit interest spending .....	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)		
Rural Cooperative Development Grants:					
Cooperative development .....	5,800	2,800	5,800		+ 3,000
Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas .....	2,800	2,800	3,000	+ 200	+ 200
Grants to assist minority producers .....	3,000	3,000	3,000		
Value-added agricultural product market development .....	12,000	15,000	12,000		-3,000
Agriculture innovation centers .....	3,000	3,000	3,000		
Total, Rural Cooperative development grants .....	26,600	26,600	26,800	+ 200	+ 200
Healthy Food Financing Initiative .....					
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program:					
(Loan authorization) .....		5,000	6,000	+ 6,000	+ 1,000
Loan subsidies and grants .....	6,000	(150,000)	(150,000)	(+ 150,000)	
Rural Energy for America Program:					
(Loan authorization) .....	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)		
Loan subsidy and grants .....	392	30,168	22,168	+ 21,776	-8,000
Total, Rural Business-Cooperative Service .....	96,799	154,910	148,110	+ 51,311	- 6,800
(Loan authorizations) .....	(1,088,889)	(1,738,889)	(1,738,889)	(+ 650,000)	
Rural Utilities Service:					
Rural water and waste disposal program account:					
(Loan authorizations):					
Direct .....	(1,400,000)	(1,400,000)	(1,400,000)		
Guaranteed .....	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)		

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL  
 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued  
 [In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
Total, Loan authorizations .....	1,450,000	1,450,000	1,450,000		
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Guaranteed subsidy .....	60	45	45	-15	
Water and waste revolving fund .....	1,000	1,000	1,000		
Water well system grants .....	5,000	5,000	5,000		
Colonias and AK/HI grants .....	68,000	93,000	73,000	+5,000	-20,000
Water and waste technical assistance .....	35,000	40,000	37,500	+2,500	-2,500
Circuit rider program .....	20,157	20,157	20,157		
Solid waste management grants .....	4,000	4,000	4,000		
High energy cost grants .....	10,000	10,000	10,000		
Water and waste disposal grants .....	463,350	528,355	500,000	+36,650	-28,355
306A(1)(2) grants .....	15,000	15,000	15,000		
Total, Loan subsidies and grants .....	621,567	716,557	665,702	+44,135	-50,855
Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Electric:					
Direct, FFB .....	(5,500,000)	(6,500,000)	(6,500,000)	(-5,500,000)	
Electric Direct, Treasury Rate .....			(750,000)	(+6,500,000)	(+750,000)
Guaranteed underwriting .....	(750,000)	(398,551)	(208,333)	(+208,333)	(-190,218)
Rural Energy Savings Program .....					
Subtotal, Electric .....	6,250,000	6,898,551	7,458,333	+1,208,333	+559,782
Telecommunications:					
Telecomm Direct, Treasury .....	(345,000)	(690,000)	(690,000)	(+345,000)	



Direct, FFB .....	(345,000)				(- 345,000)	
Subtotal, Telecommunications .....	690,000	690,000	690,000	690,000		
Total, Loan authorizations .....	6,940,000	7,588,551	8,148,333	8,148,333	+ 1,208,333	+ 559,782
<b>Loan Subsidy:</b>						
Rural electric modifications .....		400,000				- 400,000
Rural Energy Savings Program .....		22,000	11,500		+ 11,500	- 10,500
Telecommunications Direct, Treasury Rate .....	2,277	2,070	2,070		- 207	
Treasury modifications .....		25,000				- 25,000
RETLP administrative expenses .....	33,270	33,270	33,270			
(transfer out to Rural Development) .....	(- 33,270)	(- 33,270)	(- 33,270)			
Total, Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account (Loan authorization) .....	35,547 (6,940,000)	482,340 (7,588,551)	46,840 (8,148,333)	46,840 (8,148,333)	+ 11,293 (+ 1,208,333)	- 435,500 (+ 559,782)
<b>Broadband Program:</b>						
Loan authorizations:						
Broadband telecommunications .....	(11,869)	(11,869)			(- 11,869)	(- 11,869)
Loan subsidies and grants:						
Distance learning and telemedicine:						
Grants .....	60,000	60,000	60,000			
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests .....			2,510		+ 2,510	+ 2,510
Broadband telecommunications:						
Direct .....	2,000	1,772	2,272		+ 272	+ 500
Grants .....	35,000	35,000	37,500		+ 2,500	+ 2,500
Broadband E-Connect:						
Loan subsidies and grants .....		650,000				- 650,000
Total, Loan subsidies and grants .....	97,000	746,772	102,282	102,282	+ 5,282	- 644,490
Total, Rural Utilities Service .....	754,114	1,945,669	814,824	814,824	+ 60,710	- 1,130,845
(Loan authorization) .....	(8,401,869)	(9,050,420)	(9,598,333)	(9,598,333)	(+ 1,196,464)	(+ 547,913)
Total, title III, Rural Development Programs (By transfer) .....	3,236,023	4,604,662	3,562,431	3,562,431	+ 326,408	- 1,042,231
(Transfer out) .....	(449,992)	(449,992)	(449,992)	(449,992)		
	(- 449,992)	(- 449,992)	(- 449,992)	(- 449,992)		

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
(Loan authorizations) .....	(38,136,758)	(45,935,309)	(46,305,222)	(+ 8,168,464)	(+ 369,913)
TITLE IV—DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services .....	809	1,327	1,327	+ 518	.....
Food and Nutrition Service:					
Child nutrition programs .....	25,046,440	26,800,922	26,790,922	+ 1,744,482	- 10,000
School breakfast program equipment grants .....	30,000	35,000	35,000	+ 5,000	.....
Demonstration projects (Summer EBT) .....	42,000	45,000	45,000	+ 3,000	.....
School Breakfast Expansion Grants .....	.....	6,000	6,000	+ 6,000	.....
Farm to School .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Child Nutrition Training .....	.....	1,000	2,000	+ 2,000	+ 1,000
Total, Child nutrition programs .....	25,118,440	26,887,922	26,878,922	+ 1,760,482	- 9,000
Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC) .....	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,278,000	+ 278,000	+ 278,000
Supplemental nutrition assistance program:					
(Food stamp program) .....	111,034,580	102,792,199	102,828,349	- 8,206,231	+ 36,150
Reserve .....	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	.....	.....
FDPPIR nutrition education services .....	998	998	998	.....	.....
Forward funding .....	.....	17,805,255	.....	.....	- 17,805,255
Healthy Fluid Milk .....	.....	1,000	.....	.....	- 1,000
Tribal Demonstration Projects .....	.....	3,000	.....	.....	- 3,000
Total, Food stamp program .....	114,035,578	123,602,452	105,829,347	- 8,206,231	- 17,773,105
Commodity assistance program:					
Commodity supplemental food program .....	325,000	332,000	332,000	+ 7,000	.....

Farmers market nutrition program .....	21,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	+ 3,000	.....	
Emergency food assistance program .....	79,630	85,000	90,000	90,000	+ 10,370	+ 5,000	
Pacific island and disaster assistance .....	1,070	1,070	1,070	1,070	.....	.....	
Total, Commodity assistance program .....	426,700	442,070	447,070	447,070	+ 20,370	+ 5,000	
Nutrition programs administration .....	156,805	191,533	178,233	178,233	+ 21,428	- 13,300	
Congressional Hunger Center .....	(2,000)	(2,000)	.....	.....	(- 2,000)	(- 2,000)	
Total, Food and Nutrition Service .....	145,737,523	157,123,977	139,611,572	139,611,572	- 6,125,951	- 17,512,405	
Total, title IV, Domestic Food Programs .....	145,738,332	157,125,304	139,612,899	139,612,899	- 6,125,433	- 17,512,405	
TITLE V—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS							
Office of the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs .....	887	1,408	1,408	1,408	+ 521	.....	
Office of Codex Alimentarius .....	4,805	4,841	4,841	4,841	+ 36	.....	
Foreign Agricultural Service							
Salaries and expenses .....	221,835	228,644	229,644	229,644	+ 7,809	+ 1,000	
(By transfer from export loans) .....	(6,063)	(6,063)	(6,063)	(6,063)	.....	.....	
Total, Salaries and expenses (including transfers) .....	227,898	234,707	235,707	235,707	+ 7,809	+ 1,000	
Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account:							
Administrative expenses .....	112	.....	.....	.....	- 112	.....	
FPAC Business Center Salaries and expenses (transfer out) .....	(- 112)	.....	.....	.....	(+ 112)	.....	
Food for Peace Title II Grants:							
Expenses .....	1,740,000	1,570,000	1,760,000	1,760,000	+ 20,000	+ 190,000	
Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Program Account:							
Administrative expenses .....	6,381	6,063	6,063	6,063	- 318	.....	
Foreign Agriculture Service, Salaries and expenses (transfer out) .....	(- 6,063)	(- 6,063)	(- 6,063)	(- 6,063)	.....	.....	
FPAC Business Center Salaries and expenses (transfer out) .....	(- 318)	.....	.....	.....	(+ 318)	.....	
Total, CCC Export Loans Program Account .....	6,381	6,063	6,063	6,063	- 318	.....	

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 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued  
 [In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program grants .....	230,000	230,112	245,000	+ 15,000	+ 14,888
Total, title V, Foreign Assistance and Related Programs .....	2,204,020	2,041,068	2,246,956	+ 42,936	+ 205,888
(By transfer) .....	(6,063)	(6,063)	(6,063)	.....	.....
(Transfer out) .....	(-6,493)	(-6,063)	(-6,063)	(+ 430)	.....
TITLE VI—RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION					
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
Food and Drug Administration					
Salaries and expenses:					
Direct appropriation .....	3,201,928	3,526,928	3,399,428	+ 197,500	- 127,500
Transfer to OIG (transfer out) .....	(-1,500)	(-1,500)	(-1,500)	.....	.....
Spending from appropriated user fees:					
Prescription drug user fees .....	1,107,199	1,141,861	1,141,861	+ 34,662	.....
Medical device user fees .....	236,059	241,431	241,431	+ 5,372	.....
Human generic drug user fees .....	520,208	527,848	527,848	+ 7,640	.....
Biosimilar biological products user fees .....	42,494	43,116	43,116	+ 622	.....
Animal drug user fees .....	33,340	33,836	33,836	+ 496	.....
Animal generic drug user fees .....	22,797	23,137	23,137	+ 340	.....
Tobacco product user fees .....	712,000	712,000	712,000	.....	.....
Subtotal, user fees (appropriated) .....	2,674,097	2,723,229	2,723,229	+ 49,132	.....
Subtotal (including appropriated user fees) .....	5,876,025	6,250,157	6,122,657	+ 246,632	- 127,500
Mammography user fees .....	18,618	18,991	18,991	+ 373	.....
Export user fees .....	4,886	4,983	4,983	+ 97	.....
Color certification user fees .....	10,469	10,678	10,678	+ 209	.....

Food and Feed Recall user fees .....	1,492	1,522	1,522	+ 30	.....
Food Reinspection fees .....	6,673	6,805	6,805	+ 132	.....
Voluntary qualified importer program fees .....	5,514	5,624	5,624	+ 110	.....
Pharmacy compounding fees .....	1,581	1,613	1,613	+ 32	.....
Priority review vouchers (PRV) pediatric disease .....	7,997	8,156	8,156	+ 159	.....
Priority review vouchers (PRV) tropical disease .....	2,556	2,608	2,608	+ 52	.....
Priority review vouchers (PRV) medical countermeasures .....	2,556	2,608	2,608	+ 52	.....
Third party auditor .....	741	755	755	+ 14	.....
Over-the-Counter Monograph fees .....	28,400	28,968	28,968	+ 568	.....
Increased export certification fees (legislative proposal) .....	.....	4,366	.....	.....	- 4,366
Expand tobacco products fees (legislative proposal) .....	.....	100,000	.....	.....	- 100,000
Subtotal, spending from FDA user fees .....	2,765,580	2,920,906	2,816,540	+ 50,960	- 104,366
Total, Salaries and expenses (including user fees) .....	5,966,008	6,446,334	6,214,468	+ 248,460	- 231,866
HHS Office of Inspector General (by transfer) .....	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	.....	.....
Buildings and facilities .....	12,788	30,788	15,288	+ 2,500	- 15,500
FDA Innovation account .....	70,000	50,000	50,000	- 20,000	.....
Offset of appropriation pursuant to Section 1002 (b)(3)(B) of the 21st Century Cures Act (PL 114-255) .....	-70,000	-50,000	-50,000	+ 20,000	.....
Spending of FDA innovation account (transfer) .....	(70,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(- 20,000)	.....
Total, FDA (w/user fees, including proposals) .....	5,980,296	6,478,622	6,231,256	+ 250,960	- 247,366
Total, FDA (w/enacted user fees only) .....	5,980,296	6,374,256	6,231,256	+ 250,960	- 143,000
FDA user fees .....	- 2,765,580	- 2,920,906	- 2,816,540	- 50,960	+ 104,366
Total, Food and Drug Administration (excluding user fees) .....	3,214,716	3,557,716	3,414,716	+ 200,000	- 143,000
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Commodity Futures Trading Commission <sup>1</sup> .....	304,000	278,000	.....	- 304,000	- 278,000
CFTC fees (legislative proposal) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total, Commodity Futures Trading Commission .....	304,000	278,000	.....	- 304,000	- 278,000

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[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
Farm Credit Administration (limitation on administrative expenses)	(80,400)	(84,200)	(84,200)	(+ 3,800)	
Total, title VI, Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration	3,518,716	3,835,716	3,414,716	- 104,000	- 421,000
TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Rural Energy Savings Program	11,000			- 11,000	
Farm to School	12,000	12,000	17,000	+ 5,000	+ 5,000
Healthy Food Financing Initiative	5,000			- 5,000	
Citrus Greening	8,500			- 8,500	
Broadband Pilot	531,000		650,000	+ 119,000	+ 650,000
Section 313 funds	(104,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(- 54,000)	
NIFA Military Veteran Grants	5,000		5,000		+ 5,000
Centers of Excellence	10,000			- 10,000	
Rural Hospital Technical Assistance	2,000			- 2,000	
Protecting Animals with Shelter Grants	2,500			- 2,500	
Tribal Demonstration Projects	3,000		3,000		+ 3,000
International Agricultural Education Fellowship	1,000			- 1,000	
School Breakfast Expansion Grants	6,000			- 6,000	
Urban Agriculture Office	7,000			- 7,000	
Food Loss Liaison	500			- 500	
Healthy Fluid Milk	1,000		3,000	+ 2,000	+ 3,000
Pollinator Research Coordinator	400		400		+ 400
Farm Opportunities Training and Outreach	5,000		5,000		+ 5,000
Tribal Student Scholarships	5,000			- 5,000	
Genome to Phenome	1,000			- 1,000	
Micro-grants for Food Security	5,000			- 5,000	
Water Bank program	4,000		4,000		+ 4,000
Geographic Disadvantaged farmers	2,000			- 2,000	
Maturing mortgage pilot	2,000		2,000		+ 2,000

WIC (rescission) .....	- 1,250,000	.....	.....	.....	+ 735,340	- 514,660	- 514,660
Dairy innovation .....	22,000	.....	.....	.....	- 22,000	.....	.....
RISE grants .....	5,000	.....	.....	.....	- 5,000	.....	.....
Mitigation banking .....	5,000	.....	.....	5,000	.....	.....	+ 5,000
Waste water pilot program .....	5,000	.....	.....	.....	- 5,000	.....	.....
Agriculture Business Innovation Center .....	2,000	.....	.....	.....	- 2,000	.....	.....
Child nutrition training .....	1,000	.....	.....	.....	- 1,000	.....	.....
Renewable energy .....	10,000	.....	.....	.....	- 10,000	.....	.....
NOAA working group .....	1,000	.....	.....	1,000	.....	.....	+ 1,000
Goodfellow facility .....	45,861	.....	.....	24,525	- 21,336	.....	+ 24,525
Broadband program (rescission) .....	- 12,000	.....	.....	.....	+ 12,000	.....	.....
WI Germplasm Facility .....	.....	.....	.....	39,700	+ 39,700	.....	+ 39,700
Institute for Rural Partnership .....	.....	.....	.....	30,000	+ 30,000	.....	+ 30,000
VT Institute for Rural Partnership .....	.....	.....	.....	10,000	+ 10,000	.....	+ 10,000
FDA Seafood Safety .....	1,000	.....	.....	.....	- 1,000	.....	.....
Cogongrass Pilot .....	3,000	.....	.....	3,000	.....	.....	+ 3,000
Blue Ribbon Panel .....	300	.....	.....	.....	- 300	.....	.....
Farm of the Future .....	4,000	.....	.....	.....	- 4,000	.....	.....
Livestock Library .....	.....	.....	.....	1,000	+ 1,000	.....	+ 1,000
Open Data Standards .....	500	.....	.....	.....	- 500	.....	.....
Agriculture Quarantine Inspection Services (emergency) .....	635,000	.....	.....	.....	- 635,000	.....	.....
Crop Insurance Requirements .....	.....	.....	.....	15,000	+ 15,000	.....	+ 15,000
Southwest Regional Border Commission .....	.....	.....	.....	1,000	+ 1,000	.....	+ 1,000
Disaster Assistance .....	.....	.....	.....	7,030,000	+ 7,030,000	.....	+ 7,030,000
<b>Total, title VII, General Provisions .....</b>	<b>108,561</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>7,334,965</b>	<b>7,334,965</b>	<b>+ 7,226,404</b>	<b>+ 7,322,965</b>	<b>+ 7,322,965</b>
<b>Grand total .....</b>	<b>205,769,113</b>	<b>214,812,272</b>	<b>203,085,781</b>	<b>203,085,781</b>	<b>- 2,683,332</b>	<b>- 11,726,491</b>	<b>- 11,726,491</b>
Appropriations .....	(209,161,693)	(217,733,178)	(199,332,281)	(199,332,281)	(- 9,829,412)	(- 18,400,897)	(- 18,400,897)
Emergency appropriations .....	(635,000)	.....	(7,045,000)	(7,045,000)	(+ 6,410,000)	(+ 7,045,000)	(+ 7,045,000)
Offsetting collections .....	(- 2,765,580)	(- 2,920,906)	(- 2,816,540)	(- 2,816,540)	(- 50,960)	(+ 104,366)	(+ 104,366)
Rescissions .....	(- 1,262,000)	.....	(- 474,960)	(- 474,960)	(+ 787,040)	(- 474,960)	(- 474,960)

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[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2021 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2021 appropriation	Budget estimate
(By transfer) .....	(1,623,154)	(1,622,294)	(1,622,294)	(- 860)	.....
(By transfer) (emergency) .....	(104,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(- 54,000)	.....
(Transfer out) .....	(- 1,623,154)	(- 1,622,294)	(- 1,622,294)	(+ 860)	.....
(Loan authorization) .....	(47,994,934)	(56,293,485)	(56,691,130)	(+ 8,696,196)	(+ 397,645)
(Limitation on administrative expenses) .....	(211,627)	(215,986)	(215,986)	(+ 4,359)	.....

<sup>1</sup> Funding for CFTC is included here for comparability. Actual fiscal year 2021 appropriation was provided in the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act.