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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MAHONEY of Florida).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 5, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM MAHONEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) for 5 minutes.

PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF OF PAKISTAN

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, this weekend a devastating blow was struck against the efforts to try to grow and make sustainable democracy in Pakistan when President Musharraf of Pakistan announced that he would have an emergency order which has essentially become martial law against all those in the country who disagreed with him; against all of those on the supreme court, all of those in the legal community, all of those in general society who disagree with him are now subject to arrest, are subject to beatings, are subject to imprisonment. That is wrong, and this country cannot look the other way.

For too long this administration and this Congress have looked the other way as President Musharraf has worked to limit and now crush democracy in Pakistan. Too many excuses have been offered to allow him to continue this trend against free and open elections, against a growing democracy, against a growing independent press and TV stations because we said he is helping us in Pakistan against the terrorists, the Taliban, in Afghanistan.

Of course, what we know is that he has played us over these many years as he has received billions of dollars in aid. He has continued to play us to suggest that he is really concentrating on the effort to rid both Afghanistan and Pakistan of terrorists, but in fact that is not what has been taking place. In fact, he has cut agreements, he has arranged for safe haven, for safe travel for the Taliban as they have moved back and forth against our troops and against people in Afghanistan who are trying to establish a democracy there.

Some months ago when I visited Afghanistan, we asked the commander of our troops there what was the biggest threat to our troops in Afghanistan, and he said the border with Pakistan. And that remains true today as the Taliban move back and forth, as recruits from al Qaeda move back and forth, and at a time when President Musharraf simply gives voice to the idea that he is going to stop this from happening, that he is going to create an environment where that will not be allowed to continue. That simply has not happened, because President Musharraf has been more interested in securing his reelection as the leader of Pakistan than he has been in getting rid of the extremists and the terrorists. In fact, he has allowed the extremists to grow even in Islamabad, where their presence wasn't known only a few years ago.

We must take a stand against these actions. We must speak out. The administration has spoken out now, but already questions are being raised as to whether or not we will condition aid, whether or not we will forcefully show Musharraf that we cannot have him crush democracy in Pakistan. Pakistan needs more democracy, not less. It needs democracy to strengthen that country so that it can reject extremism and terrorists. It needs free elections so that the people will believe that they are represented, not by the continuing building of a dictatorship by President Musharraf who controls the military, who controls the intelligence, and now is using them against the very people that he is supposed to represent, and that is the people of Pakistan. We cannot stand by while he takes this extraordinary effort to crush democracy, to potentially postpone the elections, to seize the independent media, and to throw hundreds and hundreds so far of his citizens into jail because they simply seek to oppose him and seek a brighter future, a more democratic future for the country of Pakistan.

The time has come for this country to take a very strong stand against the corruption of this government and the growing dictatorship presented by the rule of President Musharraf.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RUPPERSBERGER) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God of power and mercy, peace is not the absence of war, nor is it found in the simple balance of opposing forces. Peace cannot be imposed by absolute power. For us, Lord, peace will always be the work of justice.

You have implanted in human society an innate desire for order which can be realized only when people hunger and thirst for an ever more perfect justice.

Bring Congress to order, Lord, that it may model behavior for this democracy. Make it Your instrument, to instill in the minds and hearts of the Nation a fervent and consuming desire for equal justice among all peoples. Thus may this Nation give You glory now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KAGEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KAGEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF NAVAL CHIEF PETTY OFFICER PATRICK WADE

(Mr. KAGEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KAGEN. Mr. Speaker, kindly join me in honoring the memory of Naval Chief Petty Officer Patrick Wade from Manawa, Wisconsin, who perished in combat on July 17, 2007.

Pat Wade was a true American patriot.

While some people spend their time talking about what they think is wrong in the world, Chief Wade spent his time doing what he knew was right. Believing in personal sacrifice for the betterment of others, he made a selfless commitment to defend all of us.

Rear Admiral Michael Tillotson, deputy commander of the naval Expeditionary Combat Command on which Wade served said, ''Pat Wade gave his life saving lives. He was doing what he wanted.''

It is difficult for most of us to comprehend such selflessness. Chief Wade's life was one of putting principle into practice. He wanted us to be not only better Americans, but better people.

Today, with this in mind, please join me in honoring his life of service.

MILITARY FAMILY APPRECIATION MONTH

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, November is Military Family Appreciation Month. As many brave men and women fight overseas to protect American families at home, we must not forget to recognize the millions of military families.

Military families lead unique and often challenging lives. They can be separated from their loved ones for months or years at a time. This is offset by extraordinary opportunities of education and travel and meeting new people around the world.

As a member of a three-generation military family, I know these families share a kinship with each other. As a 31-year veteran of the South Carolina Army National Guard and the father of four sons serving in the military, I ask my colleagues to join me in showing our gratitude and appreciation for these families.

I wish to recognize and thank the incredible work being done by the South Carolina National Guard Family Readiness Program. Whether it is during times of peace or war, these individuals are always ready to help military families with whatever assistance they may require.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 1, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 1, 2007, at 5:56 pm:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3963.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 2, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 2, 2007, at 1:07 pm:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2546.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 797.

Appointments:

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 2, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on November 2, 2007, at 1:49 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he returns without his approval, H.R. 1495, the ''Water Resources Development Act of 2007.''

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110–71)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval H.R. 1495, the ''Water Resources Development Act of 2007.''

This bill lacks fiscal discipline. I fully support funding for water resources projects that will yield high economic and environmental returns to the Nation and each year my budget has proposed reasonable and responsible funding, including $4.9 billion for 2008, to support the Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) main missions. However, this authorization bill makes

promises to local communities that the Congress does not have a track record of keeping. The House of Representatives took a $15 billion bill into negotiations with a $14 billion bill from the Senate and instead of splitting the difference, emerged with a Washington compromise that costs over $23 billion. This is not fiscally responsible, particularly when local communities have been waiting for funding for projects already in the pipeline. The bill's excessive authorization for over 900 projects and programs exacerbates the massive backlog of ongoing Corps construction projects, which will require an additional $38 billion in future appropriations to complete.

This bill does not set priorities. The authorization and funding of Federal water resources projects should be focused on those projects with the greatest merit that are also a Federal responsibility. My Administration has repeatedly urged the Congress to authorize only those projects and programs that provide a high return on investment and are within the three main missions of the Corps' civil works program: facilitating commercial navigation, reducing the risk of damage from floods and storms, and restoring aquatic ecosystems. This bill does not achieve that goal. This bill promises hundreds of earmarks and hinders the Corps' ability to fulfill the Nation's critical water resources needs—including hurricane protection for greater New Orleans, flood damage reduction for Sacramento, and restoration of the Everglades—while diverting resources from the significant investments needed to maintain existing Federal water infrastructure. American taxpayers should not be asked to support a pork-barrel system of Federal authorization and funding where a project's merit is an afterthought.

I urge the Congress to send me a fiscally responsible bill that sets priorities. Americans sent us to Washington to achieve results and be good stewards of their hard-earned taxpayer dollars. This bill violates that fundamental commitment. For the reasons outlined above, I must veto H.R. 1495.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *November 2, 2007*.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and the veto message and the bill will be printed as a House document.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, November 1, 2007, further consideration of the veto message and the bill will be postponed until tomorrow.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

STOP TUBERCULOSIS (TB) NOW ACT OF 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1567) to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide increased assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1567

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Stop Tuberculosis (TB) Now Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Tuberculosis is one of the greatest infectious causes of death of adults worldwide, killing 1.6 million people per year—one person every 20 seconds.

(2) One-third of the world's population is infected with the tuberculosis bacterium and an estimated 8.8 million individuals develop active tuberculosis each year.

(3) Tuberculosis is the leading infectious killer among individuals who are HIV-positive due to their weakened immune systems, and it is estimated that one-third of people with HIV infection have tuberculosis.

(4) Today, tuberculosis is a leading killer of women of reproductive age.

(5) There are 22 countries that account for 80 percent of the world's burden of tuberculosis. The People's Republic of China and India account for 36 percent of all estimated new tuberculosis cases each year.

(6) Driven by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, incidence rates of tuberculosis in Africa have more than doubled on average since 1990. The problem is so pervasive that in August 2005, African Health Ministers and the World Health Organization (WHO) declared tuberculosis to be an emergency in Africa.

(7) The wide extent of drug resistance, including both multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR–TB) and extensively drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR–TB), represents both a critical challenge to the global control of tuberculosis and a serious worldwide public health threat. XDR–TB, which is characterized as being MDR–TB with additional resistance to multiple second-line anti-tuberculosis drugs, is associated with worst treatment outcomes of any form of tuberculosis. XDR–TB is converging with the HIV epidemic, undermining gains in HIV prevention and treatment programs and requires urgent interventions. Drug resistance surveillance reports have confirmed the serious scale and spread of tuberculosis with XDR–TB strains confirmed on six continents. Demonstrating the lethality of XDR–TB, an initial outbreak in Tugela Ferry, South Africa, in 2006 killed 52 of 53 patients with hundreds more cases reported since that time. Of the world's regions, sub-Saharan Africa, faces the greatest gap in capacity to prevent, find, and treat XDR–TB.

(8) With more than 50 percent of tuberculosis cases in the United States attributable to foreign-born individuals and with the increase in international travel, commerce, and migration, elimination of tuberculosis in the United States depends on efforts to control the disease in developing countries. Recent research has shown that to invest in tuberculosis control abroad, where treatment and program costs are significantly cheaper than in the United States, would be a cost-effective strategy to reduce tuberculosis-related morbidity and mortality domestically.

(9) The threat that tuberculosis poses for Americans derives from the global spread of tuberculosis and the emergence and spread of strains of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis and extensively drug resistant tuberculosis, which are far more deadly, and more difficult and costly to treat.

(10) DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short-course) is one of the most cost-effective health interventions available today and is a core component of the new Stop TB Strategy.

(11) The Stop TB Strategy, developed by the World Health Organization, builds on the success of DOTS and ongoing challenges so as to serve all those in need and reach targets for prevalence, mortality, and incidence reduction. The Stop TB Strategy includes six components:

(A) Pursuing high-quality expansion and enhancement of DOTS coverage.

(B) Implementing tuberculosis and HIV collaborative activities, preventing and controlling multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, and addressing other special challenges.

(C) Contributing to the strengthening of health systems.

(D) Engaging all health care providers, including promotion of the International Standards for Tuberculosis Care.

(E) Empowering individuals with tuberculosis and communities.

(F) Enabling and promoting research to develop new diagnostics, drugs, vaccines, and program-based operational research relating to tuberculosis.

(12) The Global Plan to Stop TB 2006–2015: Actions for Life is a comprehensive plan developed by the Stop TB Partnership that sets out the actions necessary to achieve the millennium development goal of cutting tuberculosis deaths and disease burden in half by 2015 and thus eliminate tuberculosis as a global health problem by 2050.

(13) While innovations such as the Global Tuberculosis Drug Facility have enabled low-income countries to treat a standard case of tuberculosis with drugs that cost as little as $16 for a full course of treatment, there are still millions of individuals with no access to effective treatment.

(14) As the global resource investment in fighting tuberculosis increases, partner nations and international institutions must commit to a corresponding increase in the technical and program assistance necessary to ensure that the most effective and efficient tuberculosis treatments are provided.

(15) The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is an important global partnership established to combat these three infectious diseases that together kill millions of people a year. Expansion of effective tuberculosis treatment programs constitutes a major component of Global Fund investment, along with integrated efforts to address HIV and tuberculosis in areas of high prevalence.

(16) The United States Agency for International Development and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are actively involved with global tuberculosis control efforts. Because the global tuberculosis epidemic directly impacts tuberculosis in the United States, Congress has urged the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention each year to increase its involvement with international tuberculosis control efforts.

(17) The United States Agency for International Development is the lead United

States Government agency for international tuberculosis efforts, working in close partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and with the President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief. The goal of the United States Agency for International Development is to contribute to the global reduction of morbidity and mortality associated with tuberculosis by building country capacity to prevent and cure tuberculosis and achieve global targets of 70 percent case detection and 85 percent treatment success rates. The United States Agency for International Development provides support for tuberculosis programs in countries that have a high burden of tuberculosis, a high prevalence of tuberculosis and HIV, and a high risk of MDR–TB.

SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT TUBERCULOSIS.

(a) POLICY.—Subsection (b) of section 104B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b–3) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) POLICY.—It is a major objective of the foreign assistance program of the United States to control tuberculosis. In all countries in which the Government of the United States has established development programs, particularly in countries with the highest burden of tuberculosis and other countries with high rates of tuberculosis, the United States Government should prioritize the achievement of the following goals by not later than December 31, 2015:

''(1) Reduce by half the tuberculosis death and disease burden from the 1990 baseline.

''(2) Sustain or exceed the detection of at least 70 percent of sputum smear-positive cases of tuberculosis and the cure of at least 85 percent of those cases detected.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''AUTHORIZATION'' and inserting ''ASSISTANCE REQUIRED''; and

(2) by striking ''is authorized to'' and inserting ''shall''.

(c) PRIORITY TO STOP TB STRATEGY.—Subsection (e) of such section is amended—

(1) in the heading, to read as follows: ''PRIORITY TO STOP TB STRATEGY.—'';

(2) in the first sentence, by striking ''In furnishing'' and all that follows through '', including funding'' and inserting the following:

''(1) PRIORITY.—In furnishing assistance under subsection (c), the President shall give priority to—

''(A) activities described in the Stop TB Strategy, including expansion and enhancement of DOTS coverage, treatment for individuals infected with both tuberculosis and HIV and treatment for individuals with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR–TB), strengthening of health systems, use of the International Standards for Tuberculosis Care by all providers, empowering individuals with tuberculosis, and enabling and promoting research to develop new diagnostics, drugs, and vaccines, and program-based operational research relating to tuberculosis; and

''(B) funding''; and

(3) in the second sentence—

(A) by striking ''In order to'' and all that follows through ''not less than'' and inserting the following:

''(2) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—In order to meet the requirements of paragraph (1), the President—

''(A) shall ensure that not less than'';

(B) by striking ''for Directly Observed Treatment Short-course (DOTS) coverage and treatment of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis using DOTS–Plus,'' and inserting ''to implement the Stop TB Strategy; and''; and

(C) by striking ''including'' and all that follows and inserting the following:

''(B) should ensure that not less than $15,000,000 of the amount made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year is used to make a contribution to the Global Tuberculosis Drug Facility.''.

(d) ASSISTANCE FOR WHO AND THE STOP TUBERCULOSIS PARTNERSHIP.—Such section is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

''(f) ASSISTANCE FOR WHO AND THE STOP TUBERCULOSIS PARTNERSHIP.—In carrying out this section, the President, acting through the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, is authorized to provide increased resources to the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Stop Tuberculosis Partnership to improve the capacity of countries with high rates of tuberculosis and other affected countries to implement the Stop TB Strategy and specific strategies related to addressing extensively drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR–TB).''.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (g) of such section, as redesignated by subsection (d)(1), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end before the period the following: '', including low cost and effective diagnosis and evaluation of treatment regimes, vaccines, and monitoring of tuberculosis, as well as a reliable drug supply, and a management strategy for public health systems, with health system strengthening, promotion of the use of the International Standards for Tuberculosis Care by all care providers, bacteriology under an external quality assessment framework, short-course chemotherapy, and sound reporting and recording systems''; and

(2) by adding after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

''(6) STOP TB STRATEGY.—The term 'Stop TB Strategy' means the six-point strategy to reduce tuberculosis developed by the World Health Organization. The strategy is described in the Global Plan to Stop TB 2007–2016: Actions for Life, a comprehensive plan developed by the Stop Tuberculosis Partnership that sets out the actions necessary to achieve the millennium development goal of cutting tuberculosis deaths and disease burden in half by 2016.''.

(f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Clause (iii) of section 104A(e)(2)(C) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b–2(e)(2)(C)) is amended by adding at the end before the semicolon the following: '', including the percentage of such United States foreign assistance provided for diagnosis and treatment of individuals with tuberculosis in countries with the highest burden of tuberculosis, as determined by the World Health Organization (WHO)''.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the President not more than $400,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and not more than $550,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 to carry out section 104B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b–3), as amended by subsections (a) through (e) of this section.

(2) FUNDING FOR CDC.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under paragraph (1), not more than $70,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and not more than $100,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 shall be made available for the purpose of carrying out global tuberculosis activities through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(3) ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under paragraph (1) and amounts made available pursuant to paragraph (2)—

(A) are in addition amounts otherwise made available for such purposes; and

(B) are authorized to remain available until expended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill. H.R. 1567, the Stop TB Now Act, which I introduced with my colleagues, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH), has 106 bipartisan cosponsors, and I am proud it is moving forward today. It is a very, very important and timely bill.

International tuberculosis control has become an important issue to me. It is remarkable in this day and age, with treatment available, that TB is the biggest infectious killer of young women in the world. In fact, TB kills more women worldwide than all causes of maternal mortality. As you know, tuberculosis is also the biggest killer of people with AIDS worldwide. Someone in the world is newly infected with TB every second, and TB counts for more than one-quarter of all preventable adult deaths in developing countries.

I strongly believe that the global community, with the United States in the lead, must do more to adequately address this disease by investing in quality TB control programs, using the groundbreaking Global Plan to Stop TB as a guide. It is for this reason that I have introduced this bill, the Stop TB Now Act, which will set forth the U.S. fair share towards achieving the goals of the Global Plan.

I believe if we don't make bold and wise investments in international tuberculosis control, not only will we fail to save millions of lives and miss out on the many accompanying benefits of controlling this killer, but also that this disease will become far more difficult and costly to treat.

Extremely drug-resistant TB, or XDR-TB for short, highlights this danger. It has been found on six continents, is a growing epidemic in southern Africa, and is already reported to be here in the U.S. Regular, or non-drug-resistant, TB is curable with drugs that cost just $16 in most developing countries.

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Cases of drug-resistant TB, however, can cost thousands of dollars to cure,

with treatment that is far more difficult for patients and practitioners. Drug-resistant tuberculosis is a man-made problem and is caused by poor TB treatment. We, the global community, have the power to prevent drug-resistant TB and the power to treat and control regular TB, and yet, unfortunately, we have chosen not to do so by our inaction.

Through aggressive, committed leadership, the U.S. has proven that it is feasible to massively scale-up our investment to fight HIV/AIDS and malaria, and well we should. We have increased funding to fight AIDS from $840 million in 2001 to $2.9 billion in 2004, to over $4.4 billion in the House Foreign Operations bill in fiscal year 2008.

U.S. funding for malaria efforts increased from $100 million in 2006 to an administration request of $387 million for fiscal year 2008, with a House Foreign Operations level of $350 million.

Even our response to the potential threat of avian flu has been aggressive, from just $4 million a few years ago to $100 million in the Foreign Operations budget for fiscal year 2008 and an additional $160 million in the fiscal year 2007 supplemental.

However, only tuberculosis, the greatest curable infectious killer on the planet, has been left behind, and we must correct that, and that's the purpose of this legislation.

Because of our chronic neglect of tuberculosis, this disease is not only responsible for the preventable deaths of some 4,000 people every day, it is undermining our enormous efforts and billions in investments to fight AIDS. Tuberculosis is the leading killer of people with AIDS. Through U.S. leadership, we are seeing increasing numbers of AIDS patients access life-saving antiretroviral therapy, but they're not dying of AIDS. They're dying instead of tuberculosis. And what a shame that is and how ridiculous it is when we have the power to stop and end it. And more recently, people have been dying in large numbers in southern Africa due to drug-resistant TB.

While the President's AIDS initiative has made commendable scale-ups in TB and HIV efforts, they are still, in my opinion, grossly insufficient. Much of PEPFAR's scale-up supports testing tuberculosis patients for HIV and ensuring that TB and AIDS programs work together. It's very important. I'm glad we're doing it, but it's not addressing the core TB program needs. And PEPFAR's TB-HIV efforts are focused on those co-infected with both diseases and mostly in Africa, again, while commendable, but TB is a global problem and we need to combat it everywhere.

The costs of inaction are greater than the costs laid out in this bill. This past spring, it became clearer than ever that tuberculosis knows no border when a gentleman named Andrew Speaker, an attorney from Atlanta, traveled across the globe and came back to the United States with a highly resistant form of TB. We all remember that. Many of us were shocked by it.

Being from New York, I'm very familiar with what happens when TB control is neglected. In the late 1980s to the early 1990s, the City of New York paid a dear price for its failure to invest adequately in tuberculosis control. The city, along with many other areas of the country at the time, experienced an epidemic of tuberculosis. In this case, the epidemic was a multidrug-resistant TB, which inevitably develops in the absence of basic TB control. New York City launched an aggressive tuberculosis control campaign and brought down its burden of drug-resistant TB. The cost to the city? Over $1 billion to control some 300 cases, far higher than it would have been and it would have cost to prevent the situation in the first place. Tuberculosis is not just a global issue, but as we can see, it's certainly a local one as well.

When it comes to tuberculosis, Mr. Speaker, we simply cannot afford to maintain the status quo. The resources authorized in this bill represent a realistic and urgently needed increase in funding for global TB control based on the needs laid out in a costed-out, comprehensive business plan. The cost of inaction is much, much greater.

In conclusion, I would especially like to pay tribute to our former colleague, Senator Sherrod Brown, who was a champion of global tuberculosis efforts during his time in the House. He's doing this great work as well now in the Senate.

I would also like to thank the many groups whose advocacy helped bring the Stop TB Now Act to the floor, particularly RESULTS and the American Thoracic Society.

Finally, I would like to thank Chairman LANTOS, Congressman PAYNE and their staffs for their unfailing support for tuberculosis control and this legislation and to the Energy and Commerce Committee and Mr. DINGELL for expediting consideration of this bill. I'm proud to serve on both the Foreign Affairs and the Energy and Commerce Committee, the two committees that have jurisdiction on this bill.

Again, this is truly a bipartisan bill. I wish to thank the ranking member, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and all the people, all the colleagues who have cooperated on both sides of the aisle because only by working together can we get at the scourge of TB.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The bill before us, H.R. 1567, the Stop Tuberculosis Act of 2007, has been put forward by its supporters to provide a very significant increase in our foreign aid spending on anti-TB programs abroad.

If we rely on figures gathered with the assistance of the Congressional Research Service, the bill would raise our spending on such programs through the U.S. Agency for International Development by about six times in the next 2 years.

According to a brief letter received late last week from the Congressional Budget Office, the bill would increase such spending somewhat less, by somewhere between two and three times in the next 2-year period.

Although it is possible that the latter estimate by CBO may inadvertently have included in its baseline comparison current funding levels for some anti-TB programs outside of the scope of this bill, it is clear that this measure seeks a major increase in the AID programs it covers.

Along those lines, the bill strongly encourages, if not directs, the President to ensure that the funds that would be provided under this bill will be transferred to the World Health Organization's ''Stop TB Partnership'' plan.

Finally, the funding amounts in the bill have apparently been formulated using a calculation meant to reflect what the United States' fair share might be in funding that international plan.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the determination of the supporters of this measure to do more to combat TB overseas.

On a personal note, my mother was afflicted with tuberculosis when she was in her mid to late teens and was on her back for a year, just didn't get out of bed. So we understand the importance of eradicating TB, not only worldwide but in the United States. She's done well, though. By coincidence, this is her 86th birthday, and so she recovered fully.

I also want to thank Congressman ENGEL for his work on this. I know that he's worked very, very hard, and also Congresswoman HEATHER WILSON of New Mexico.

With that, we don't have any more speakers, and if you all don't, I will yield back.

Do you have some more speakers?

Mr. ENGEL. I have no further speakers, but I would like to respond a bit to some of the points that you made.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I thank my colleague, and I just want to let him know and let my colleagues know that we worked together with Senator LUGAR, who's the ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and we specified that the funding would be a ceiling, not a floor.

The bill appropriates up to $400 million in 2008 and up to $550 million in 2009, including global activities to be carried out by USAID and CDC. So that's what we did. We negotiated it so we wouldn't necessarily spend all the money. We would spend up to that amount of money, and that would be the limit, but it would not be the

money that we would spend if we didn't need to spend it.

We worked closely with WHO, CDC and USAID, and the overall global number is derived from Stop TB Partnership's Global Plan to Stop TB 2006 through 2015, of which WHO is a partner and USAID is the current Chair of the Stop TB Partnership's coordinating board. The plan is well documented, detailed, costed out, and again, builds up from country estimates and was reviewed in an exhaustive process.

Finally and furthermore, the World Health Organization developed and released a ''Global MDR-TB and XDR-TB Response Plan'' that supplements the need calculated by the Global Plan's need in light of the outbreak of drug-resistant TB.

USAID and the CDC work together globally and both have agreed to this coordination of funding, and again, we have a ceiling of what we spend and not a floor.

So, again, I thank my colleague.

Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1567, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EURASIA FOUNDATION ACT

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2949) to authorize grants to the Eurasia Foundation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2949

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Eurasia Foundation Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) There has been established in the District of Columbia a private, nonprofit corporation known as the Eurasia Foundation (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Foundation''), which is not an agency or establishment of the United States Government.

(2) In recognition of the valuable contributions of the Foundation to long-range United States foreign policy interests, the United States Government has, through the United States Agency for International Development and the Department of State, provided financial support for the Foundation.

(3) It is in the interest of the United States, and the further strengthening of cooperation with the countries of Eurasia, to establish a more permanent mechanism for United States Government financial support for the ongoing activities of the Foundation, while preserving the independent character of the Foundation.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Foundation are—

(1) to promote civil society, private enterprise, and sound public administration and policy in the countries of Eurasia and in lending encouragement and assistance to citizens of such countries in their own efforts to develop more open, just, and democratic societies;

(2) to strengthen indigenous institutions that foster national development, constructive social change, equitable economic growth, and cooperative international relationships that are fully consistent with and supportive of long-term United States interests with respect to the countries of Eurasia; and

(3) to conduct programs in response to initiatives in the countries of Eurasia that would be difficult or impossible for an official United States entity, and, as a result of its position in the countries of Eurasia, to respond quickly and flexibly to meet new opportunities.

SEC. 3. GRANTS TO THE FOUNDATION.

(a) GRANTS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall make an annual grant to the Foundation to enable the Foundation to carry out its purposes as specified in section 2(b).

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—Each grant required under paragraph (1)—

(A) shall be made with funds specifically appropriated for grants to the Foundation; and

(B) shall be made pursuant to a grant agreement between the Secretary and the Foundation which—

(i) requires that grant funds will only be used for activities the Board of Directors of the Foundation determines are consistent with the purposes described in section 2(b), and that the Foundation will otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act; and

(ii) may not require the Foundation to comply with requirements other than those specified in this Act.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—The Foundation may use funds received under a grant described in subsection (a) to carry out the purposes described in section 2(b).

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to make the Foundation an agency or establishment of the United States Government or to make the members of the Board of Directors of the Foundation, or the officers or employees of the Foundation, officers or employees of the United States.

(d) OVERSIGHT.—The Foundation and its grantees shall be subject to the appropriate oversight procedures of Congress.

(e) OTHER FUNDING.—The Foundation shall have authority to accept funding from non-United States Government sources to complement United States Government funding.

(f) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a robust Foundation, funded at the levels authorized under section 6 of this Act, and at appropriate levels in subsequent fiscal years, can contribute significantly to the political, economic, and social development of democracy and human rights in the countries of Eurasia;

(2) notwithstanding the Foundation's distinguished record of performance, organizations that seek competitive grants typically perform in a more transparent and effective manner; and

(3) to the maximum extent possible, the Foundation should seek competitive grants to supplement appropriations from the United States Government, and at least 20 percent of the funding received in each fiscal year by the Foundation should be from non-United States Government sources to ensure continued strong performance of the Foundation.

SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY OF THE FOUNDATION FOR GRANTS.

(a) COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.—Grants may be made to the Foundation under this Act only if the Foundation agrees to comply with the requirements specified in this section and elsewhere in this Act.

(b) FUNDING FOR COVERED PROGRAMS ONLY.—The Foundation may provide funding only for programs that are consistent with the purposes set forth in section 2(b).

(c) COMPENSATION FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE FOUNDATION.—If an individual who is an officer or employee of the United States Government serves as a member of the Board of Directors or as an officer or employee of the Foundation, that individual may not receive any compensation or travel expenses in connection with service performed for the Foundation.

(d) PROHIBITION RESPECTING FINANCIAL MATTERS.—The Foundation shall not issue any shares of stock or declare or pay any dividends. No part of the assets of the Foundation shall inure to the benefit of any member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation, any officer or employee of the Foundation, or any other individual, except as salary or reasonable compensation for expenses incurred in the performance of duties to the Foundation.

(e) AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS.—The accounts of the Foundation shall be audited annually in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by independent certified public accountants or independent licensed public accountants certified or licensed by a regulatory authority of a State or other political subdivision of the United States.

(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The report of each such independent audit shall be included in the annual report required by subsection (h) of this section. The audit report shall set forth the scope of the audit and include such statements as are necessary to present fairly the Foundation's assets and liabilities, surplus or deficit, with an analysis of the changes therein during the year, supplemented in reasonable detail by a statement of the Foundation's income and expenses during the year, and a statement of the application of funds, together with the independent auditor's opinion of those statements.

(f) AUDIT OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.—

(1) AUDIT OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.—The financial transactions of the Foundation for each fiscal year may be audited by the Government Accountability Office in accordance with such principles and procedures and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States.

(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—A report of each such audit shall be made by the Comptroller General to the Congress. The report to the Congress shall contain such comments and information as the Comptroller General may deem necessary to inform the Congress of the financial operations and condition of the Foundation, together which such recommendations with respect thereto as the Comptroller General may deem advisable. A copy of each report shall be furnished to the President and to the Foundation at the time submitted to the Congress.

(g) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS; AUDIT AND EXAMINATION OF BOOKS.—

(1) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS.—The Foundation shall ensure that each recipient

of assistance provided through the Foundation under this Act keeps such records as may be reasonably necessary to fully disclose the amount and the disposition by such recipient of the proceeds of such assistance, the total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which such assistance is given or used, and the amount and nature of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources, and such other records as will facilitate an effective audit.

(2) AUDIT AND EXAMINATION OF BOOKS.—The Foundation shall ensure that it, or any of its duly authorized representatives, shall have access for the purpose of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records of the recipient that are pertinent to assistance provided through the Foundation under this Act. The Comptroller General of the United States or any duly authorized representative of the Comptroller General shall also have access thereto for such purpose.

(h) ANNUAL REPORT; TESTIMONY RELATING TO REPORT.—

(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 31 of each year, the Foundation shall submit an annual report for the preceding fiscal year to the President for transmittal to the Congress.

(B) CONTENTS.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall include a comprehensive and detailed report of the Foundation's operations, activities, financial condition, and accomplishments under this Act and may include such recommendations as the Foundation deems appropriate. The report should also include any information regarding allegations or reports on the misuse of funds and how such allegations or reports were addressed by the Foundation.

(2) TESTIMONY RELATING TO REPORT.—The Board members and officers of the Foundation shall be available to testify before appropriate committees of the Congress with respect to the report required under paragraph (1), the report of any audit made by the Comptroller General of the United States pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, or any other matter which any such committees may determine.

(i) GRANTEE; CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—A member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation who serves as a member of the board of directors or an officer of a grantee of the Foundation may not receive compensation for their services but shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel and other expenses incurred by them in connection with their duties on behalf of such grantee.

SEC. 5. AGREEMENT BETWEEN FOUNDATION AND SUCCESSOR OR RELATED ENTITY TO THE U.S. RUSSIA INVESTMENT FUND.

(a) AGREEMENT REQUIRED.—The Foundation and any successor or related entity to the U.S. Russia Investment Fund shall enter into a memorandum of understanding for the purpose of coordinating activities carried out by the Foundation and the successor or related entity. The memorandum of understanding shall include language that prohibits the same entities from carrying out the same activities.

(b) DEADLINE.—The memorandum of understanding described in subsection (a) shall be entered into between the Foundation and the successor or related entity described in subsection (a) by not later than the later of the following:

(1) If the successor or related entity is established on or before the date of the enactment of this Act, 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) If the successor or related entity is established after the date of the enactment of this Act, 90 days after the date on which the entity is established.

(c) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY OF STATE AND CONGRESS.—The Foundation and the successor or related entity described in subsection (a) shall submit to the Secretary of State and Congress a copy of the memorandum of understanding described in subsection (a) not later than 30 days after the date on which the parties enter into the memorandum of understanding.

(d) LIMITATIONS.—For the period beginning on the date on which the successor or related entity described in subsection (a) is established, or the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs later, and ending on the date on which the memorandum of understanding described in subsection (a) is entered into—

(1) United States assistance may not be provided to the Foundation under any other provision of law; and

(2) funds may not be transferred from the U.S. Russia Investment Fund to the successor or related entity or placed in a trust on behalf of the successor or related entity.

(e) SUCCESSOR OR RELATED ENTITY TO THE U.S. RUSSIA INVESTMENT FUND DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''successor or related entity to the U.S. Russia Investment Fund'' or ''successor or related entity'' means any organization, corporation, limited-liability partnership, foundation, or other corporate structure that receives any or all of the remaining funds of the U.S. Russia Investment Fund after liquidation of assets upon closure of the U.S. Russia Investment Fund.

SEC. 6. COUNTRIES OF EURASIA DEFINED.

In this Act, the term ''countries of Eurasia'' means Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act $15,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriation under subsection (a) are authorized to remain available for 2 years from the end of the fiscal year for which the amount was appropriated.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Let me first thank my good friend and colleague, the chairman of the Europe Subcommittee, Mr. WEXLER from Florida, for introducing this important bill.

The Eurasia Foundation has been a key U.S. government partner in the ongoing effort to promote democracy, expand economic opportunities, and facilitate government reform in countries that formerly comprised the Soviet Union.

Created in 1992 with bipartisan support, the Eurasia Foundation has invested over $360 million in Russia, the Caucasus, and Central Asia in programs that have complemented United States goals for participatory government and active citizenry in this region.

In addition, the Eurasia Foundation has been able to leverage significant private sector funding, in main part due to the annual funding support from the U.S. Government.

This bill seeks to enhance those efforts by recognizing the Eurasia Foundation as a distinct and independent entity that could continue to raise private capital while under a U.S. Government authorization.

Vital work remains unfinished in this part of the world. It is clear that political and economic stability in Eurasia will have a direct impact on the security of the United States.

For these reasons, it's imperative that we continue to support programs such as those conducted by the Eurasia Foundation.

I strongly support this legislation and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Eurasia Foundation has reportedly done some good work over the past few years of the region of the former Soviet Union. Because the aid programs for the countries of that region from which the foundation has received its funding are now closing down, the issue before us is whether that foundation should be authorized to continue to receive funds directly from the U.S. in order to continue its democracy promotion work independently. I suspect that for many of us in this House the answer would be yes.

Just as we have had an Asia foundation, it is possible to see the work of funding this kind of foundation to do democracy promotion in Eurasia.

□ 1430

The passage of this bill, H.R. 2949, would help ensure that funding.

At the request of Members from our side of the aisle and the Foreign Affairs Committee, this bill has been amended in committee to try to address a significant problem that is not directly related to the Eurasia Foundation but that is an issue of importance to the wise use of our United States Government funds if they are appropriated to the foundation under this bill in the future.

Independent of the Eurasia Foundation, our United States Government-funded Enterprise Fund in Russia, the major state of that region, is closing down and is seeking to use the hundreds of millions of dollars from the

sale of its assets to fund democracy promotion, civil society and rule-of-law programs in Russia, as well as economic reform efforts.

At the same time, we have democracy promotion programs under way across Russia and the rest of the region, through the National Endowment for Democracy, the National Democratic Institute, and the International Republican Institute.

So there is obviously a possibility that duplications of efforts will take place unless this Congress finds ways to ensure that it doesn't. We don't want to see U.S. Government-funded organizations compete to do the same kinds of activities if that leads to duplication and waste, and the democracy promotion in that region is too important to see money wasted at a time when Russian President Putin and others are forcing their own brand of authoritarian government on their nations.

This measure has been amended in a way that seeks to mandate that any successor to the U.S. Government-funded Enterprise Fund in Russia has to reach an agreement with the Eurasia Foundation before it engages in any democracy promotion efforts in that country. Hopefully, that will eliminate duplication to some degree.

The bill, as amended, does not go as far as some of us would like, I must note. It does not address the similar situation that will arise in the Ukraine in the next few years when our U.S. Government-funded Enterprise Fund there closes down and seeks to set up its own successor foundation that may, once again, end up duplicating the work done by the Eurasia Foundation in the Ukraine.

It also does not address a completely separate question about how the assets of such U.S. Government-funded Enterprise Funds in Russia and Ukraine will be disposed of, an issue that involves hundreds of millions of dollars in U.S. taxpayer funds. It has been the practice to ensure that the taxpayers get back at least 50 percent of the funds held by such funds when they close down their operations.

There is an effort in the House-passed fiscal year 2008 foreign aid appropriations bill, however, to allow our fund in Russia not to turn back to our Treasury half of its assets. That would mean that the taxpayers would lose $160 million, or perhaps even more than that, depending on the value of the assets sold in the case of the Russia fund alone. Those are monies that might otherwise go to help fund other worthwhile programs.

Perhaps this is not the bill in which to debate that issue, and our efforts in committee to address it in this measure were unsuccessful. But I take this opportunity to point out that issue in the hopes that the administration will be supported by Congress in its efforts to follow current practice and ensure that our Treasury gets back that very significant sum of money.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2949, authorizing 15 million dollars in appropriations to the Eurasia Foundation for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009. This legislation will enable the Eurasia Foundation—which has been operating in the former Soviet Union since 1992—to continue to engage at the highest level in democracy building, civil society promotion and private sector expansion.

I wish to thank Chairman LANTOS and Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN for their support of this legislation, as well as Congressman GALLEGLY who was the lead sponsor of this legislation in the 109th Congress. All of these Members have been tireless advocates for providing critical aid and support to former Soviet countries.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation comes at a critical time in our relations with Eurasian states that are still in political, economic and social transition following the collapse of the Soviet Union. It is also coming at a time when U.S. aid to the region is unconscionably shrinking. To this end, organizations such as the Eurasia Foundation are critical components of our strategy to remain engaged at governmental and non-governmental levels in a region that stretches from Armenia to Uzbekistan and from Ukraine to Kazakhstan.

This legislation recognizes the important work being done by the Eurasia Foundation and its efforts to promote civil society, public administration and rule of law—in a region of the world that needs America's attention, assistance and support. Passage of H.R. 2949 today will provide the Eurasia Foundation—a partner of the U.S.—the funds it needs to continue to issue thousands of grants and operate programs in Eurasia that have proven to be effective over fourteen years.

Again, I want to thank Chairman LANTOS and Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN for supporting this important legislation and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation when it comes to the floor for a vote.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2949, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING NICOLAS SARKOZY ON HIS ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF FRANCE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 379) congratulating Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 379

Whereas the Marquis de Lafayette and the people of France offered unparalleled friendship to the people of the United States in their pursuit of freedom and democracy during the American Revolution;

Whereas there are deep cultural ties between the American and French people, as exemplified by the large flow of visitors each year between the two nations, as well as extensive exchanges between United States and French academic institutions, museums, and sister cities;

Whereas the United States is France's 6th largest export market, and its top export market outside of the European Union, and for the United States, France is its 9th largest trading partner, and the United States is the largest foreign investor in France;

Whereas the United States and France are working together to solve important international crises;

Whereas Nicolas Sarkozy, upon winning the election to become the next President of France, said that the United States can count on France as a friend; and

Whereas the people of the United States support any effort by the Governments of France and the United States to maintain and grow a spirit of friendship and cooperation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France and welcomes President Sarkozy on the occasion of his appearance before a Joint Meeting of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would first like to commend our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE), for introducing this important resolution that congratulates Mr. Sarkozy on being elected the next President of France.

Over two centuries ago, the people of France assisted the people of the United States in their pursuit of independence during the American Revolution. Since then, the U.S. and France have shared an extensive and mutually beneficial relationship. Today, the United States and France are major economic partners, with nearly $1 billion in trade taking place between the two countries each and every day.

France is the United States' ninth largest partner for trade in goods and sixth largest partner for trade and services. The United States and France are scientific and technical partners as well. Research institutions and private companies in both countries participate in extensive scientific collaboration on a wide range of issues, including computer development, biotechnology, and space exploration.

This spirit of cooperation also typifies the cultural exchange that takes place between American and French academic institutions, museums, and theatres. In light of our continued friendship between the people of the United States and France, we are honored that President Sarkozy will be appearing before a joint session of Congress this week on November 7, 2007.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, which congratulates Mr. Nicholas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France and welcomes President Sarkozy to Washington.

I might also add that it is especially nice that the leader of France has demonstrated time and time again that he has warm feelings towards the United States of America and is, indeed, a pro-American leader of France. The relations between the United States and France in the past several years has been a little frosty, and it's nice to see that those frosty relations have thawed. It's nice to see a leader of France who understands and wants to work with the United States and understands that we have a very close, long-standing relationship between our people.

I welcome President Sarkozy. I look forward to hearing him when he speaks before a joint session of the House and Congress later on this week. I think that this resolution is a fitting tribute to him, and I believe that the United States and France, under his leadership, will enjoy warm ties.

If I can think a bit about my French from grammar school, I could say, Vive la France.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The great nation of France and the United States of America have a shared heritage of commitment to freedom and independence. From time to time, of course, we have made different choices or followed different paths in our commitment to the rule of law, human rights and democracy, but we in the United States are always grateful to have France's collaboration in advancing important foreign policy and security objectives. The newly elected President of France, Mr. Nicholas Sarkozy, is this week paying an official visit to Washington and will address a joint meeting of this Congress during his visit.

His visit prompts us to recall some of the expressions of support Mr. Sarkozy has offered to our country and some of the concrete steps he has, indeed, taken to join with the United States in addressing key issues of our day.

On the eve of the fifth anniversary of the September 11 attacks, then-French Interior Minister Nicholas Sarkozy traveled to New York City to demonstrate solidarity with the American people on that occasion. During his visit, Mr. Sarkozy paid tribute to New York City's Police and Fire Departments as part of the commemoration of the anniversary and noted as part of his remarks the following: ''One thing is sure in the history of our two peoples, each time we faced a challenge, France was able to count on the United States of America.''

He then presented to the New York Fire Department the French Medal of Honor, the very first time that the medal, the highest award for French firefighters, has been awarded to foreigners. By taking such actions, as both Minister of the Interior and now as the President of France, Mr. Sarkozy has won the appreciation of the American people.

I note that his attitude regarding the necessity of preventing Iran from achieving its nuclear ambitions, his expressed support for the nation of Israel and his praise for the United States as a land of opportunity are very much appreciated as well.

Mr. Speaker, we are glad to have France as an ally, and we hope to deepen the friendship and partnership that the United States and France have enjoyed so many times in the history of our two countries. As the cochair of the Congressional French Caucus, I believe that the resolution before us today helps send a message of continued friendship with the people of France while congratulating President Sarkozy on his election and welcoming him to the United States.

I ask all of my colleagues to join in supporting this very timely resolution.

I have one additional speaker.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) as much time as he may consume.

Mr. DREIER. I thank my good friend from Arkansas, the cochair of the U.S.-French Caucus, and appreciate his thoughtful remarks as well as the remarks of my friend from New York.

Mr. Speaker, I rise because I think it is really a great day that we are once again, after what could only be considered as somewhat of a hiatus in this institution, underscoring the importance of the relationship between the United States and France. It's very clear that there was a period of time when we were quite critical of France and, in fact, we all know that the sort of the politically correct thing to do was to engage in French bashing.

I always had a tough time with that myself. One of the reasons is that as we are here in this Chamber, the portrait just to my right is of the man who underwrote the American Revolution, Marquis de Lafayette. In fact, his portrait is the only portrait of a non-American that hangs anywhere in this great building, the U.S. Capitol.

For us to recognize, as my friend from Arkansas just has said in his remarks, the great new, renewed friendship with the election of President Sarkozy between the United States and France is, I think, a great thing. I am very enthused about 11 o'clock Wednesday morning when we are in this very Chamber going to hear the words of France's new President.

As my friend said, for Nicholas Sarkozy, before he became President, when he was a minister on the fifth anniversary of September 11, to go to New York and demonstrate his solidarity with those who stood up to the terrorists and, again, his great assistance in working with us in supporting the State of Israel, in making sure that we do everything that we can to diminish the threat of the potential nuclear buildup in Iran; of course, the kinds of missions that Nicholas Sarkozy has embarked on most recently to return the hostages of many conflicts around is something that, I believe, is to be heralded. We just had the news this morning that President Sarkozy personally was able to see the return of, I think it was seven nurses, who had been held hostage.

So his commitment to the cause of freedom and liberty, and I will say, yes, his underscoring the great importance of the relationship and the alliance between France and the United States of America is a great thing for us. I congratulate my colleagues for their support and urge everyone to support this resolution.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 379, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EXPRESSING CONCERN RELATING TO IRANIAN REGIME AND MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 435) expressing concern relating to the threatening behavior of the Iranian regime and its leader

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and the activities of terrorist organizations sponsored by that regime in Latin America, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 435

Whereas the Department of State has said that Iran is the ''most active state sponsor of terrorism'';

Whereas the Department of State 2007 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report moved Iran to a ''Jurisdiction of Primary Concern'';

Whereas in February 2006, the chairman of the Iranian legislative body announced an offer to assist Venezuela with a nuclear program;

Whereas in February 2006, Cuba, Venezuela, and Syria were the only 3 member nations of the 35-nation board of the International Atomic Energy Agency to vote against referring Iran to the United Nations Security Council for its nuclear program;

Whereas in September 2007, Iran requested observer-status membership in the Bolivarian Alternative for the Peoples of the Americas (ALBA), an organization led by Hugo Chavez, President of Venezuela, to counter United States-led efforts for free trade in that region;

Whereas in September 2007, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the President of Iran, made his third visit in one year to Latin America, this time visiting Venezuela and Bolivia, where Mr. Ahmadinejad announced a commitment of Iranian investment in Bolivia of up to $1,000,000,000 over five years;

Whereas Mr. Ahmadinejad and Mr. Chavez have announced plans for a $2,000,000,000 shared fund to invest in projects in countries that Mr. Chavez characterized as seeking to ''liberate themselves from the U.S. imperialist yoke'';

Whereas in July 2007, the Venezuelan energy minister announced plans to sell gasoline to Iran following riots in Iran opposing the Iranian Government's policy of gas rationing;

Whereas in March, 2007 routine civilian airline flights were established from Tehran, Iran directly to Caracas, Venezuela;

Whereas the 2006 State Department's Country Reports on Terrorism stated that Venezuela is not ''fully cooperating'' with United States antiterrorism efforts;

Whereas according to the State Department, ''an individual claiming to be a member of an Islamic extremist group in Venezuela placed two pipe bombs outside the American Embassy in Caracas on October 23, 2006. Venezuelan police safely disposed of the two pipe bombs and immediately made one arrest. The investigation by Venezuelan authorities resulted in the additional arrest of the alleged ideological leader of the group. At year's end, both suspects remained in jail and prosecutors were pressing terrorism charges against them'';

Whereas Hizbollah, Iran's proxy terrorist group, executed the deadliest terrorist attack against Americans abroad since World War II, the 1983 suicide bombing of a United States Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, that killed 241 American servicemen;

Whereas Iran and Hizbollah were involved in the two deadliest terrorist attacks in Argentina: the March 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which killed 29 people and the July 1994 attack against the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association (AMIA), which killed 85 people;

Whereas the Government of Argentina is currently seeking legal action against the perpetrators of the 1994 AMIA terrorist attack;

Whereas in September 2007, the President of Argentina said to the United Nations General Assembly, ''I want to stress here, in the United Nations headquarters, that unfortunately until now, the Islamic Republic of Iran has not collaborated with the Argentine justice system to clarify what occurred'';

Whereas according to a 2003 report by the Library of Congress, money laundered in the tri-border region, the area where Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil meet, ''probably are in the billions of dollars per year'' and ''Hizbollah has reaped hundreds of millions of dollars in profits from narcotics and arms trafficking, product piracy, and other illicit activities in the tri-border area'';

Whereas the television station Telemundo interviewed residents of the tri-border region who said that ''they're only waiting for an order to put bombs on their body and attack the United States'';

Whereas in March 2007, Brazilian officials arrested 31 people for illegally issuing passports over the past 14 years, and press reports indicate that some of these passports may have been provided to members of terrorist organizations, including members of Hizbollah;

Whereas Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and the United States have formed the 3+1 Group, which has focused on the financing of terrorism, drug and arms trafficking, and border security, as well as the exchange of information, with the purpose of preventing terrorism and transnational crimes in the tri-border region;

Whereas in November 2006, Brazil established a new Regional Intelligence Center in the tri-border region, dedicated to coordinating intelligence activities of the police forces of Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, and invited Argentina and Paraguay to send official representatives to the Center;

Whereas in March 2007, the Organization of American States' Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE) reaffirmed that ''terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, whatever its origin or motivation, has no justification whatsoever, affects the full enjoyment and exercise of human rights, and constitutes a grave threat to international peace and security, democratic institutions, and the values enshrined in the OAS Charter, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and other regional and international instruments'';

Whereas in July 2007, the Government of Argentina enacted anti-terrorism legislation that put in place harsher penalties for cooperating with terrorists; and

Whereas as of March 2007, the Government of Brazil was considering expanded anti-terrorism legislation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses concern over the emerging national security implications of the Iranian regime's efforts to expand its influence in Latin America;

(2) supports the existing counterterrorism efforts of Latin American countries, including the successful counterterrorism efforts of the 3+1 Group (consisting of Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and the United States);

(3) emphasizes the importance of eliminating Hizbollah's financial network in the tri-border region of South America where Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina meet and throughout the Western Hemisphere;

(4) commends and supports the efforts of individual countries and regional bodies in the Western Hemisphere that have led efforts to eliminate terrorist financing and other terrorist operations;

(5) calls on the United States Government to work with governments in the Western Hemisphere to pursue an antiterrorism campaign based on cooperation and constant vigilance;

(6) urges the United States Government to work bilaterally and multilaterally with countries in the Western Hemisphere to help them create antiterrorism legislation that would give governmental authorities new tools to take action against terrorist networks; and

(7) recommends that the President of the United States create more mechanisms for joint counterterrorism operations and intraregional information sharing among supportive countries in the Western Hemisphere, especially in light of Iran's increased involvement in the region.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

□ 1445

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentlemen from Florida, Mr. KLEIN and Mr. MACK, both active and valued members of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, which I chair, for their work on this timely and important resolution that raises awareness about Iran's growing foothold in the Western Hemisphere and its national security implications for all countries of this region.

This resolution is particularly valuable as it catalogues a series of facts and actions related to the growing presence of Iran south of our border.

Last month, immediately after his address to the United Nations General Assembly, Iranian President Ahmadinejad flew to Venezuela and Bolivia. This was his third trip the region this year. Mr. Ahmadinejad has used these trips to announce increased diplomatic cooperation and multilateral agreements on energy and industry.

Iranian involvement, Mr. Speaker, in Latin America is not new, as we all know. In 1994, Iran and its proxy terrorist group, Hezbollah, were involved in planning the bombing of the AMIA Jewish Cultural Center in Buenos Aires, where 85 people lost their lives in the bombing.

In fact, just last week I met with the U.S. Ambassador to Argentina, who updated me on Argentina's progress on the AMIA bombings.

Hezbollah remains operational in parts of Latin America, and they continue to fundraise for their global operations.

The United States must do everything we can to help Latin America crack down on terrorist groups in the region, both through joint military exercises and through legislation, giving to governments new tools to eliminate the terrorist threats.

I strongly urge passage of this timely resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I welcome the focus this bill places on the growing influence of Iran in Latin America. Because Iran is the leading state sponsor of terrorism, we dare not lose sight of its increasing presence and activities in the region, nor can we forget its past transgressions.

One year ago, Argentina's State Prosecutor concluded that the horrific 1994 AMIA bombing was ''decided and organized by the highest leaders of the former government of Iran.''

Yet, somehow the leader of Iran continues to be warmly received by many in the hemisphere. In fact, he has found much strength in his friendship formed with Hugo Chavez, Ahmadinejad's key ally in the region.

The implications of Iran's presence in Latin America are disconcerting in themselves. When partnered with the power of Venezuela's petroleum, it is truly a cause for alarm and concern.

Ahmadinejad has capitalized on his relationship with Chavez to inject his influence throughout the hemisphere, recently signing a cooperation agreement worth $1 billion with Bolivia, and is reportedly making plans to establish an embassy for the first time in Quito, Ecuador.

Furthermore, the disturbing alliance between Venezuela, Iran and Cuba cannot be ignored. The radical efforts of Ahmadinejad, Chavez and Castro to stir anti-U.S. resentment in the region and support for anti-American regimes across the hemisphere are an increasing and undeniable threat to our security. For this reason, we must remain vigilant in our attention to the hemisphere and be sincere in our efforts to strengthen our relationships with the nations of Latin America.

I commend the efforts being taken by the U.S. and our partners in Latin America to combat terrorist activities. However, we must recognize that if the U.S. is to support the efforts of our friends in the region, we must support them wholeheartedly. We cannot continue to send mixed signals. Denying free trade agreements with Colombia, while calling for increased cooperation on any front is not good, fair or effective policy.

I thank my colleague for introducing this measure and look forward to additional efforts by Congress to comprehensively support our security in the Western Hemisphere.

Again, I have one more speaker, Mr. ENGEL.

Mr. ENGEL. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he would like to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I again thank my friend from Arkansas for yielding, and I thank the gentleman from New York for his very thoughtful remarks on this important resolution. I rise in strong support of it.

I think that both my friends from New York and Arkansas have underscored the grave concern that we have about Iran's entry into this hemisphere, and especially in the remarks offered by the gentleman from Arkansas, Mr. Speaker, he underscored this nexus which has been developed by Hugo Chavez in Caracas, Venezuela and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Now, what is it that we have seen? Obviously there are a great deal of differences that exist when it comes to the vision that a Hugo Chavez would have and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad would have. But they have rallied around one particular point, and that is, virulent opposition to everything that the United States of America stands for. Both of them have been hypercritical of the United States and our policies and the cause of freedom, quite frankly, based on what we've seen in both countries.

The thing that is most troubling is the fact that Mr. Chavez has had this pattern of inviting Mr. Ahmadinejad into this hemisphere and, basically, continuing to promote the anti-American sentiment. And it is cause for concern, and I believe this resolution is very important.

Mr. Chavez took Mr. Ahmadinejad to the inauguration of Rafael Correa in Quito, Ecuador. And again, as my friend from Arkansas has just said, the prospect of an Iranian Embassy opening in Quito is something that's very troubling.

Similarly, he took him to meet with Evo Morales, the President of Bolivia, again, a very, very troubling sign. And I will say, quite frankly, I am even concerned about, while we've heralded the election that took place a week ago yesterday in Argentina, I do believe that there is reason for concern of the potential for this linkage there that exists. I think it's very exciting to see Cristina Kirchner become the President, succeeding her husband in Argentina, but I do believe that we need to remain very vigilant in looking at this linkage between Hugo Chavez, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and others within this hemisphere.

I would also like to laud my colleague from Arkansas for underscoring the importance of continuing to build our economic alliances with those countries in the hemisphere that are committed to political pluralism, the development of democratic institutions, the rule of law and self-determination.

We are on the verge, this week, we're going to be addressing the issue of a U.S.-Peru free trade agreement. We also have on the horizon, as we all know, in this hemisphere both the Panama and the Colombia free trade agreements.

And so I will say, Mr. Speaker, I think this resolution is very timely. I congratulate my friends for underscoring the importance of this. And I hope that a by-product of it will be the recognition that working with our allies in this region to develop even stronger economic ties should be the next step for us to take.

Again, I urge strong support of this resolution.

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for House Resolution 435, concerning Iran's growing influence in Latin America.

I also want to thank my colleague from Florida, Congressman RON KLEIN, for all of his hard work on this resolution.

He is passionate about Latin America and it has been a pleasure to work with you to get this important resolution to the floor today.

This resolution, which has garnered wide, bi-partisan support, formally expresses what many of us have known for quite some time: Iran's growing ties and meddling in Latin America is a grave concern for us all.

There is no doubt that Iran has given strategic, financial, logistical, and tactical support and safe haven to terrorists groups such as Hezbollah and others.

And, according to military leaders at U.S. Southern Command, there is no doubt that Islamic terrorist groups, such as Hezbollah, have infiltrated indigenous groups throughout significant areas of Latin America in order to develop terrorist networks throughout the region.

Of particular concern to me is the growing and burgeoning friendship between Iran's Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

Iran, in my opinion, is seeking to do in Venezuela what the former Soviet Union did in Cuba: establish a base of operations in the Western Hemisphere in order to foment hatred and instability throughout the region.

This should cause great alarm for us all.

But this problem is bigger than Iran and Venezuela alone.

For far too long we have ignored growing unrest and loss of freedoms and the foundations for democracy throughout Latin America.

I have publicly and privately urged this administration and Congress to embrace our allies and do more throughout the region.

Our neglect has allowed leaders such as President Chavez to whip up opposition to the United States.

And further neglect, should we not act now to support our friends in the region, will allow Iran and others to continue to grow their terrorist networks throughout Latin America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, having no further speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the

rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 435, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 236) recognizing the close relationship between the United States and the Republic of San Marino, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 236

Whereas the Republic of San Marino is the oldest republic in the world;

Whereas the Republic of San Marino was founded by those fleeing the religious persecution of the Roman Empire, and has adhered to the principles of tolerance and individual liberty throughout its history;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of San Marino have long held close ties based on common interests and common values;

Whereas the special bond between the Republic of San Marino and the United States was first expressed nearly a century and a half ago in an exchange of letters between President Abraham Lincoln and the Captains Regent of San Marino;

Whereas President Lincoln expressed in his letter his deep respect for the Republic of San Marino as ''one of the most honored in all of history'' and took encouragement from its example that a ''government founded on republican principles is capable of being so administered as to be secure and enduring'';

Whereas the Republic of San Marino has been a steadfast ally of the United States in many international organizations, such as the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund;

Whereas the Republic of San Marino has been a close collaborator on a number of key economic issues, such as the protection of intellectual property;

Whereas the Republic of San Marino has been a close collaborator in the fight against terrorism, including efforts to combat international terrorist financing;

Whereas through its chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, the Republic of San Marino has worked to promote inter-religious and inter-cultural dialogue;

Whereas earlier this year, the United States and the Republic of San Marino upgraded their diplomatic relations to ambassador-level, and exchanged the first bilateral Ambassadors in our history;

Whereas Paolo Rondelli, the first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of San Marino to the United States, presented his credentials to President Bush at a ceremony at the White House on July 25, 2007; and

Whereas the Honorable Ronald P. Spogli presented credentials to the Captains Regent (co-Heads of State) in a ceremony in San Marino's Palazzo Publico on March 8, 2007: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the close relationship between the United States and the Republic of San Marino;

(2) expresses its deep gratitude to the Republic of San Marino for its close collaboration and support in issues of critical importance to our economic and national security interests; and

(3) commemorates the first bilateral exchange of Ambassadors in the history of our long relationship.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I would like to thank my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), for introducing this resolution that recognizes a small but important friend of the United States.

It is often said, Mr. Speaker, that good things come in small packages, and in the case of San Marino, this is certainly true. San Marino is the third smallest country in Europe, only Vatican City and Monaco being smaller.

San Marino, which is home to 29,000 inhabitants in a territory one-third the size of the District of Columbia, attracts several million visitors a year. The tourist industry makes up over 50 percent of the country's GDP.

San Marino is said to be the oldest republic in the world. It was founded in 301 A.D. by Marinus of Rab, a Christian fleeing from religious persecution by the Roman Emperor.

Its constitution, which dates back to 1600, is the world's oldest written constitution, and remains in effect to this day.

San Marino has been an active player at the international level, including the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, and Council of Europe. Through these bodies, San Marino has sought to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, as well as the protection of intellectual property.

San Marino has also cultivated a close friendship with the United States based on our shared values and interests. This relationship was first expressed when President Abraham Lincoln exchanged letters with the Captains Regent of San Marino.

Nearly 150 years after these letters were sent, the United States and San Marino upgraded their bilateral relations to include the first ever exchange of ambassadors. President Bush welcomed San Marino's new Ambassador, Paulo Rondelli, during a White House ceremony on July 25. U.S. Ambassador Ronald Spogli presented his credentials to the Captains Regent in San Marino's Palazzo Publico on March 8. I welcome this development in our bilateral relations, and look forward to ever closer cooperation with our European ally.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution which recognizes the close relationship between our two countries, expresses gratitude to San Marino for its friendship and support, and commemorates the first ever exchange of ambassadors.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let's take a moment to recognize an ally whose relationship with the United States certainly exceeds its size. Completely surrounded by Italy, the European microstate of San Marino has the smallest population of all the members of the Council of Europe. Yet, San Marino has made a strong ally of the United States, most notably within a number of international institutions, including the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund. In fact, the U.S. and San Marino have collaborated closely on several key issues such as combating international terrorist financing and protecting intellectual property rights.

Moreover, San Marino has been a leader in promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue within the European Union. The value of our relationship was marked earlier this year by the first exchange of ambassadors between the U.S. and San Marino.

I, therefore, ask my colleagues to join me in supporting Ranking Member DREIER's H. Con. Res. 236, recognizing our close relationship with the Republic of San Marino.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the author of this resolution, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) such time as he may consume.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), for their very thoughtful remarks on this resolution.

I also want to join in expressing my appreciation to my fellow Californian, the distinguished Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Mr. LANTOS and, of course, the ranking Republican, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

□ 1500

I think both of the sets of remarks offered underscore something that is extraordinarily important, and that is that we thank and express our appreciation to our allies, no matter how

large or how small their populations, in dealing with the challenges that we face internationally.

But I will say I have a particular interest in the world's oldest republic because I am privileged to represent its namesake, the City of San Marino, California.

I had the privilege, Mr. Speaker, of leading the first bipartisan delegation to what, as my friend from New York correctly said, is the oldest republic on the face of the Earth, and we took this delegation back in 2004 to the Republic of San Marino. I had the opportunity to present to the Captains Regent, as was said, the co-heads of their state, of their government, a proclamation passed by the San Marino City Council expressing its greetings and appreciation for the friendship that they share.

San Marino, California, was named at its founding for the republic on the Adriatic Sea and displays in its seal Mount Titano, where the republic was first established. Today, like its namesake, San Marino, California, is known for its beauty. It is home to the Huntington Library and Gardens, one of Southern California's great treasures. But the relationship with the Republic of San Marino reaches far beyond beauty. It's my hope that this resolution will help to make us all more aware of the great bond the United States shares with this small, but very important, country.

The Republic of San Marino, as was said, was founded over 17 centuries ago by those who were fleeing the religious persecution of the Roman Empire. They founded a community based on liberty and tolerance 1,300 years before the Pilgrims would land on Plymouth Rock on a similar endeavor. Since those early days of the republic, San Marino has continued its strong tradition of democracy and freedom.

Our close bond, based on a shared commitment to these principles, was first, as my friend from New York said, recorded in history through an exchange of letters between President Lincoln and the Captains Regent. President Lincoln expressed in that letter his deep respect for the Republic of San Marino, saying, ''as one of the most honored in all of world history.''

Mr. Speaker, he took encouragement from its example that any ''government founded on republican principles is capable of being so administered as to be secure and enduring.'' Those are the words of President Lincoln. Now, as our Nation faced a great crisis, Lincoln looked to the example of San Marino, which had endured for so long while standing with its small ''r'' republican foundation.

As the United States has faced new crises in the 20th and 21st centuries, it has again relied upon San Marino for its steadfast support within international institutions such as the United Nations. San Marino has been a close collaborator on a number of critical issues like combating international terrorist financing. This year we have honored their friendship and support, as was said, by elevating our relationship to the ambassadorial level.

My good friend and fellow Californian Ron Spogli, as the first U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino, presented his credentials to the Captains Regent in a ceremony in San Marino's Palazzo Publico on March 8 of 2007. And as my friend from New York said, the exchange was completed when on July 25 of this year, Paolo Rondelli, the first Ambassador of the Republic of San Marino to the United States, presented his credentials to President Bush at the White House.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor this exchange of ambassadors, and we honor the close relationship between our Nation and the world's oldest republic and the fundamental values that bind us.

And, again, I thank my colleagues for their support of this resolution.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of Congressman DREIER's resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 236, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF ETHIOPIA ON ETHIOPIA'S SECOND MILLENNIUM

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 550) congratulating the people of Ethiopia on the second millennium of Ethiopia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 550

Whereas Ethiopia is a proud country with a long, rich history;

Whereas the earliest known hominid, internationally known as Lucy and classified as the Australopithecus Afarensis, was found in Ethiopia;

Whereas in the 9th century, Ethiopians discovered coffee beans in what is now known as the Kaffa region;

Whereas Lalibela, a group of 11 medieval monolithic rock-hewn churches, was constructed in the 13th-century during the Zagwe Dynasty;

Whereas in 1978, Lalibela was recognized on the World Heritage List as a property considered to have outstanding universal cultural value by the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

Whereas in the mid-19th century, Emperor Tewodros II began the modernization of Ethiopia and led a successful campaign to unify Ethiopia;

Whereas the proud and courageous people of Ethiopia defeated the invading Italian army in the Battle of Adowa in 1896;

Whereas United States-Ethiopian relations were established on December 27, 1903, by Emperor Menelik II and President Theodore Roosevelt;

Whereas since then, the Ethiopian-American community has grown to become the second largest African immigrant group in the United States;

Whereas in 1908, European colonial powers recognized Ethiopia's borders and sovereignty;

Whereas in 1923, Ethiopia officially banned the slave trade;

Whereas in 1923, Ethiopia joined the League of Nations;

Whereas Ethiopia is the only country in Africa that was never colonized, with the exception of the 6 years of occupation by the Fascist government of Italy;

Whereas Ethiopia played an important role in the struggle for freedom for many African countries during the colonial period;

Whereas in 1930, Ras Tafari Makonnen was crowned as Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia;

Whereas Emperor Haile Selassie modernized Ethiopia, kept the country united, and largely peaceful;

Whereas in 1974, Emperor Haile Selassie was ousted from power through a military coup by the Derg junta and Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam was installed as Head of State;

Whereas in May 1991, the brutal Mengistu dictatorship came to an end after a 17-year reign of terror;

Whereas Ethiopia was a founding member of the United Nations and one of the original drafters of the Security Council Charter;

Whereas Ethiopia played a pivotal role in creating the Organization of Africa Unity (OAU), which was founded on May 25, 1963;

Whereas Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, became the headquarters of the OAU and remains the headquarters of its successor, the African Union; and

Whereas the 8th African Union Summit, held from January 29–30, 2007, officially declared the second Ethiopian millennium as the second African millennium: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the people of Ethiopia on the second millennium of Ethiopia;

(2) recognizes the long, rich history of Ethiopia;

(3) commends Ethiopia's contribution to peace and stability on the African continent through the role it played in the creation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU);

(4) recognizes the longstanding relationship between Ethiopia and the United States;

(5) commends the organizers of the second millennium celebration in Ethiopia and the United States; and

(6) commends the peaceful and jubilant celebration of the second millennium of Ethiopia.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of this resolution.

I first want to thank the gentleman from California, our colleague Mr. HONDA, for this resolution congratulating the Ethiopian people for their nation's second millennium. I also commend America's large Ethiopian community, the Committee for the Celebration of the Ethiopian Millennium, and Ambassador Samuel Assefa and his staff for making the celebration in Washington, D.C. a truly memorable event. That celebration brought together the finest Ethiopian artists, musicians, scientists, and scholars from around the world for the purpose of making the event not just a social festival but also a learning experience.

Mr. Speaker, Ethiopia is one of the most fascinating countries in the world. It is a country of great antiquity with a culture and tradition dating back thousands of years. The most recent humanoid remains yet discovered, known as ''Lucy,'' were found in Ethiopia.

Modern-day Ethiopia is a multiethnic country with some 83 languages spoken, most of which belong to four main language groups. It is a multireligious country where for centuries, Christians, Muslims, and Jews have co-existed.

In a region of the country known as Kaffa, Ethiopians in the ninth century discovered what we now know as coffee. Ethiopians still practice a traditional ceremony around coffee, a significant social event of the day for family and community.

Today Ethiopia is an emerging democracy, a leader on the continent of Africa, and a friend to the United States. Ethiopia stood by the American people on September 11 and has continued to cooperate with the U.S. Government and the world community in the fight against terrorism.

I wish to express our gratitude and to extend our best wishes to the people of Ethiopia as their nation observes the beginning of its third millennium.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to rise in support of H. Res. 550, which congratulates the people of Ethiopia as they celebrate their second millennium. This commends Ethiopia's contribution to peace and stability on the African continent and recognizes the longstanding relationship between Ethiopia and the United States.

While much of the world celebrated the dawn of the second millennium in January of 2000, Ethiopia recognizes the Coptic calendar, which falls 7 years behind our own. This practice is in keeping with Ethiopia's long and rich cultural heritage.

Ethiopia is the only country on the African continent never to have been colonized and, in fact, played an important role in the liberation struggles of numerous other African countries during the colonial period. It continues to play an important role in promoting peace across the continent, both as a major supporter of peacekeeping efforts and the home of the African Union.

Ethiopia has served as a model of religious toleration in the region, a place where Christianity, Judaism, and Islam have co-existed peacefully for centuries. Ethiopia also is home to countless historical artifacts and world heritage sites, including the earliest known hominid, Lucy; and the medieval rock churches of Lalibela, which have been recognized as a wonder of the world. All of these facts have contributed to the strong sense of pride and nationalism that Ethiopians enjoy today.

And while Ethiopia continues to face significant challenges in terms of security and democratic and economic development, this is a country that has served as one of the strongest allies of the United States in the region. The value of our relationship should not be taken lightly.

I was particularly pleased to learn that Prime Minister Meles, Ethiopia's Prime Minister, kicked off the celebrations in September by granting amnesty to thousands of political prisoners, including a number of opposition leaders.

It is my hope that the spirit of rebirth and reconciliation engendered in the celebration will continue to take root as Ethiopia embarks on a second millennium.

So I rise to congratulate our friends in Ethiopia on this joyous occasion, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have now concluded six bills that came out of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and I just want to congratulate all the sponsors of the bills and the members of the committee. You can see these bills were all supported with strong bipartisan support. But I want to especially commend the staffs on both sides of the aisle for working very, very hard in getting these bills through.

The very first bill we did was H.R. 1567, which was my bill, the Stop TB Now Act of 2007. And I want to especially commend my legislative director, Emily Gibbons, who was so responsible for this bill. If it wasn't for her, I don't think this bill would have come to its fruition. She was tenacious and was extraordinarily helpful to me in passing this legislation, and this legislation is clearly also a tribute to her fine work.

So I wanted to mention that, and I wanted to again thank my colleague from Arkansas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 550, congratulating the people of Ethiopia on the second millennium of Ethiopia, and for other purposes, introduced by my distinguished colleague from California, Representative MICHAEL HONDA. This important legislation recognizes the significant efforts made by the government of Ethiopia to move forward in peace and stability, and it encourages our continued relationship.

Ethiopia is currently on the road to democracy. This is a path that should be paved with civil and political discourse, peaceful transitions of power, and respect for human rights. By necessity, the achievement of a modern democracy requires the implementation of electoral reforms, the separation of powers in the government, and the establishment of a truly independent judiciary. These are the founding principles of our American Republic, and I have seen firsthand the progress on the path to democracy Ethiopia has made since the brutal dictatorship of Mengistu Haile Mariam was brought down in 1991. I strongly believe that the United States should do all it can to support this transition, including bolstering civil society and speaking out when fundamental human rights are violated.

Ethiopia has a long and proud history. It is the cradle of mankind, as illustrated by Lucy, also known as Dinkinesh (Amharic for "you are wonderful"), which is the nearly complete hominid skeleton discovered by archaeologists in the Awash Valley of Ethiopia on November 30, 1974. Lucy is estimated to have lived 3.2 million years ago and has redefined science's understanding of human evolution. I was happy to work with Texas State Senator Rodney Ellis, Ethiopian Ambassador Samuel Assefa, and the Houston Museum of Natural Science to bring Lucy to Houston, which is one of only nine American cities and the only city in Texas to host the exhibit. The bones are currently on display in Houston, and will be until April 2008.

Ethiopia is also the oldest independent nation in Africa, has never been colonized, and is home to the African Union. Despite Ethiopia's rich history, however, recent decades have brought hardship and suffering to Ethiopia's people, through military conflict, natural disasters, and a military dictatorship.

For over a decade in the House of Representatives, and prior to that in the Houston city council, I have been an outspoken and unwavering advocate for the country of Ethiopia and its people, both in Ethiopia and in the diaspora. Following in the legendary footsteps of my predecessor, Mickey Leland, who died attempting to alleviate the starvation faced by Ethiopia's innocent populace, I have been a champion of increasing foreign aid to, political, economic, and social cooperation with, and improving human rights in Ethiopia.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this legislation is extremely important in encouraging the progressive strides of the government of Ethiopia. This legislation not only congratulates the people of Ethiopia on Ethiopia's second millennium and their long and rich history, but also commends Ethiopia's contribution to peace and stability on the African continent through its role in the creation of the Organization of African Unity. It further recognizes the longstanding Ethiopia-U.S. relationship and commends the organizers of the second millennium celebrations both in Ethiopia and the United States.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 550, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL HEROES CREDIT PROTECTION ACT

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 513) to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance the protection of credit ratings of active duty military personnel who are activated for military service, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 513

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''National Heroes Credit Protection Act''.

SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF CREDIT RATINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 521 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 208. PROTECTION OF CREDIT RATINGS OF MEMBERS OF RESERVE COMPONENTS DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.

''(a) REQUEST FOR MILITARY SERVICE DEPLOYMENT EXPLANATION.—At any time during or after serving on active duty in support of a contingency operation, an eligible servicemember may request that a consumer reporting agency include a military service deployment explanation with respect to a qualifying account in the file of that servicemember at the consumer reporting agency.

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES.—Upon receiving a request from an eligible servicemember under subsection (a), a consumer reporting agency shall—

''(1) include a military service deployment explanation with respect to a qualifying account in the file of that servicemember and provide the military service deployment explanation to each person who requests the credit score or consumer report of the servicemember;

''(2) develop and maintain procedures for the referral to other such agencies of any military service deployment explanation received by the agency; and

''(3) notify the servicemember in writing that the inclusion of any explanation or notation in the file of the servicemember could potentially negatively affect the credit rating of the servicemember and may not mitigate a low credit score.

''(c) DUTY OF RESELLER TO RECONVEY MILITARY SERVICE DEPLOYMENT EXPLANATION.—A reseller shall include in any report of the reseller on a servicemember any military service deployment explanation placed in the file of that servicemember by another consumer reporting agency pursuant to this section.

''(d) ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MILITARY SERVICE DEPLOYMENT EXPLANATION.—Any prospective user of a consumer credit report containing a military service deployment explanation shall acknowledge such military service deployment explanation.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

''(1) The term 'eligible servicemember' means a member of a reserve component who serves on active duty outside the continental United States in support of a contingency operation under a call or order specifying a period of such service of not less than 180 days (or who enters such service under a call or order specifying a period of 180 days or less and who, without a break in service, receives orders extending the period of such service to a period of not less than 180 days).

''(2) The term 'military service deployment explanation' means a code generated by a consumer reporting agency that is delivered in conjunction with a consumer report or credit score to a user of the consumer report or credit score to indicate that the consumer report or credit score of the consumer was adversely affected during a period in which the consumer was a servicemember serving on active duty outside the continental United States in support of a contingency operation.

''(3) The term 'contingency operation' has the meaning given that term under section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United States Code.

''(4) The term 'active duty' has the meaning given that term under section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code.

''(5) The term 'consumer reporting agency' has the meaning given that term under section 603 of the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

''(6) The term 'reseller' has the meaning given that term under section 603 of the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

''(7) The term 'qualifying account' means an account that was opened by a servicemember before the date on which the servicemember was deployed outside the continental United States in support of a contingency operation, but only with respect to obligations incurred before such date.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 207 the following new item:

''Sec. 208. Protection of credit ratings of certain servicemembers.''.

(c) MILITARY SERVICE DEPLOYMENT EXPLANATION NOT TO AFFECT CERTAIN FUTURE TRANSACTIONS.—Section 108 of such Act (50 U.S.C. App. 518) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting after ''liability of that servicemember'' the following: '', or the inclusion of a military service deployment explanation in a file of the servicemember at a consumer reporting agency pursuant to section 208,''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As we approach Veterans Day in another week, it is important that we, as Members of the House, not just give our speeches and ride in the parades on Veterans Day but we actually do things that will help our veterans, say thank you for their service, and make sure they get the benefits that are due them when they return home, and that they also avoid pitfalls that come about because they are serving their Nation abroad. There are many examples of this, and we are going to correct a few today.

The first and most important, I think, is to assure that when our service men and women are abroad, when they are in active duty, that they do not face credit problems as a result of that duty if they miss some payments on bills back home. Our colleague, Mr. BRADY from Philadelphia, chairman also of our House Administration Committee, has looked at this problem and has come up with a solution.

Mr. Speaker. I rise in strong support of H.R. 513, as amended.

I would like to thank my distinguished colleague, Congressman ROBERT BRADY of Pennsylvania, for crafting this important bill to help protect our Nations veterans. I'd also like to thank the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity Chairwoman, STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN, and Ranking Member JOHN BOOZMAN for the strong bipartisan leadership they demonstrated in working on this legislation.

When called to duty, servicemembers across our Nation leave their loved ones, school, and work behind.

Unfortunately as we are witnessing today, some of these servicemembers are returning to letters of delinquency from credit lenders and credit bureaus due to their extended military service abroad.

Mr. Speaker, we must honor our servicemembers' sacrifice by providing them with the resources and financial security needed to protect what they have left behind, so that they may have the peace of mind that their financial interests are protected while serving our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, a credit score impacts all aspects of your life. It represents you as a consumer and indicates to the potential lender if you are trustworthy of repaying your debt. It also determines whether you will qualify for a good interest for a home loan, buying a car, or even school loans.

H.R. 513, as amended, would protect these men and women while they are at war, by providing an explanation in their credit report. This explanation would be generated by a consumer reporting agency, and delivered in conjunction with a consumer report or credit score.

It will indicate in the consumer report, or credit score, that the consumer was adversely affected during a period in which the servicemember was on active duty outside the continental United States in support of a contingency operation.

To qualify, a person would have to be a member of the National Guard or Reserve, have the account open prior to deployment, and served a specifying period of service of no less than 180 days. By including a military service deployment explanation, any person who requests the credit score or consumer report of the servicemember will be informed of a potential reason of non-payment or missed payments.

Currently, there is no credit protection offered to the men and women in the National Guard and Reserve.

Furthermore, this legislation alleviates the servicemembers' concerns over negative financial implications of their deployment.

Regardless of your view on the war, we all stand united in caring for our veterans. I urge all my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 513, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) to explain how this bill will help our active duty forces when they return home.

(Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1515

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

I rise in support of H.R. 513, the National Heroes Credit Protection Act.

Just after the start of the Iraq war, I met a lady who served in Operation Desert Storm. This young lady told me that problems in notifying her creditors of deployment had almost cost her to lose her home. Her problems are all too common. This simple piece of legislation was written with those heroes in mind.

H.R. 513 would amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to require credit reporting agencies, when asked, to include a notation in a consumer report or credit score for reserved members of the U.S. Armed Forces when they are called up or deployed. The bill would also require consumer reporting agencies to refer the explanations to other consumer reporting agencies.

More than 300,000 guardsmen and reservists have been called up since September 11. They are doing more missions and activations with fewer personnel. They shouldn't have to worry about protecting their credit while they're keeping us safe.

This bill is revenue neutral. CBO estimates that it would have no significant effect on the Federal budget and minimal costs to the private sector. My staff have discussed this report with representatives of the credit and credit reporting agencies. They have been helpful in suggesting ways to improve the bill's protection for our troops and support the purpose and intent of the measure.

This legislation protects creditors by continuing to require repayment of a soldier's debts, but it provides important new protections for our troops by making it easier for them to take advantage of rights they already have.

I know that Chairman FILNER and Chairwoman HERSETH SANDLIN have worked closely with the minority on their committee, and we are happy to include provisions suggested by the minority. I want to thank them as well as Ranking Members BUYER and BOOZMAN.

Mr. Speaker, the bill will make a major difference in the lives of our heroes and their families. I urge all my colleagues to support the National Heroes Credit Protection Act.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I think we've talked about this bill, and it's a very good bill. I thought I might take from my colleagues and just read the summary of it just to remind ourselves that H.R. 513 is to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance the protection of credit ratings of active duty military personnel who are activated for military service.

And the question usually comes up on some of these bills, what do they cost. Mr. BRADY, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, talked about that. So we have a Congressional Budget Office cost estimate that I would share with my colleagues, and it says, ''The requirements imposed on credit reporting agencies would be private sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, the UMRA. CBO suspects the cost of the mandates would be minimal and unlikely to exceed the threshold for private sector mandates established in the UMRA.''

So, I think we have a bill that we can all support. So, obviously on this side, we do support it.

The bill, as amended, will improve the protections of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act by providing the opportunity for certain servicemembers experiencing financial difficulties, while deployed, to simply request that their credit record be annotated to reflect simply that deployment. It also requires the credit industry to take such deployment into consideration.

This new protection, my colleagues, would cover credit accounts opened before the servicemember was deployed. While these protections are important, it is also critical that Members understand that such an annotation may have adverse effects on their credit rating, despite all the existing laws prohibiting such actions. Therefore, my colleagues, the bill also requires the National Credit Bureau to inform applicants of that potential in writing.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think that, in terms of its strong support for veterans, and in their case, when they're deployed, I urge support for the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this war in Iraq has involved our National Guard and Reserve units to an extent that has never before been the case. And many of our laws simply do not reflect the new force structure that you see in Iraq. And that is what we, as a committee, are working to change. For example, the National Guard and Reserve units, even if they are in active duty, as they are in Iraq, are not eligible for the same benefits from the GI Bill as our active duty troops. We are going to change that. We are going to change a number of things. And I thank Mr. BRADY, the gentleman from Philadelphia, for making sure that the Guard and Reserve groups have the protections in law that our active duty troops already have. We must protect their jobs, their credit ratings, and their quality of life as they are away from home in active duty supporting our Nation.

The laws have not kept up with this force structure. This is one of the ways that we're going to change that. So we're going to make sure that when they come home, they are recognized and not penalized for their active duty.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 513, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUPPERSBERGER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 513, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF A NATIONAL VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT WEEK

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 770) expressing support for designation of a National Veterans History Project Week to encourage public participation in a nationwide project that collects and preserves the stories of the men and women who served our nation in times of war and conflict.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 770

Whereas the Veterans History Project was established by a unanimous vote of the

United States Congress to collect and preserve the wartime stories of American veterans;

Whereas Congress charged the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to undertake the Veterans History Project and to engage the public in the creation of a collection of oral histories that would be a lasting tribute to individual veterans and an abundant resource for scholars;

Whereas there are 17,000,000 wartime veterans in America whose stories can educate people of all ages about important moments and events in the history of the United States and the world and provide instructive narratives that illuminate the meanings of ''service'', ''sacrifice'', ''citizenship'', and ''democracy'';

Whereas the Veterans History Project relies on a corps of volunteer interviewers, partner organizations, and an array of civic minded institutions nationwide who interview veterans according to the guidelines it provides;

Whereas increasing public participation in the Veterans History Project will increase the number of oral histories that can be collected and preserved and increase the number of veterans it so honors; and

Whereas ''National Veterans Awareness Week'' commendably preceded this resolution in the years 2005 and 2006: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes ''National Veterans Awareness Week'';

(2) supports the designation of a ''National Veterans History Project Week'';

(3) calls on the people of the United States to interview at least one veteran in their families or communities according to guidelines provided by the Veterans History Project; and

(4) encourages local, State, and national organizations along with Federal, State, city and county governmental institutions to participate in support of the effort to document, preserve, and honor the service of American wartime veterans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the author of this legislation, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER), who will speak on his resolution in a few minutes.

I want to point out that Abraham Lincoln, during his address at Gettysburg, said that ''the world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.'' In that spirit, and to make sure that people will long remember what was done, Congress created the Veterans History Project in the year 2000 with unanimous support from this body.

The Project directed the Library of Congress to establish a national archives for the collection and preservation of videotaped oral histories of our veterans, as well as the copying of letters written during their time of service and diaries they kept. So there is a national repository of this very important part of our Nation's history. This worthwhile investment of time and resources is a gift that can be given for generations and centuries to come. The goal of the project is to capture the personal stories of our Nation's heroes so our children and their children can more fully understand the history of this century.

For a lot of reasons, we find that our Nation's heroes, when they come back from combat, do not even let their families know exactly what happened. They feel like they were just doing their job or don't want to bring up some memories, and so those stories will go with them to their grave. But with this project, we can tap into the stories of more than 24 million veterans who are still alive today, including 3 million from World War II, who are leaving us at the rate of more than 1,000 per day.

It is important that these stories are told, and more important that these stories are told from the mouths of those that were on the front lines and participated firsthand as history was made.

This oral history project requires the cooperation of volunteers across the country to get not only the veterans to come forward to offer their stories, but also the family members and friends to capture their accounts.

So, H. Res. 770 calls on the people of the United States to interview at least one veteran in their families or communities according to guidelines provided by the Veterans History Project. It also encourages local, State and national organizations to participate in support of the effort to document, preserve and honor the service of American wartime heroes.

As chairman of the Veterans' Committee in the House of Representatives, I have had the opportunity and the honor to hear the many accounts from these veterans. I hear the sense of pride that comes along with the duty of defending this country. I know that my father served in World War II, but I never fully got the stories, I don't think, that he had in his memory, and I wish we had captured before he died.

So, I encourage all Americans to reach out to their veterans, thank them and their families for their amazing sacrifice, learn more about their great contributions to our Nation, and gain the wisdom of their personal stories of our Nation's history. Each and every one of us should learn more about the American Folk Life Center at the Library of Congress because their staff is always glad to work with researchers and volunteers to expand their library of these stories.

Volunteers and participants become historians themselves. They can collect audio and video recordings, create a collection of recordings to be available for public use, or collect written materials relevant to personal histories of war veterans.

So, on this Veterans Day, let us, again, do more than just give speeches and ride in parades. Let's join and take the time to show the gratitude that we have to these veterans by asking them to relate their stories for the preservation of history.

Mr. Speaker, I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thought again I would just say that H. Res. 770, summarized, it says ''it encourages public participation in a nationwide project that collects and preserves the stories of the men and women who served our Nation in times of war and conflict.''

This is very appropriate, and we're coming to Veterans Day. And I commend JON PORTER from Nevada for sponsoring this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

In 2000, Congress unanimously voted to create the Veterans History Project as part of the American Folk Life Center at the Library of Congress. Since its creation, the Veterans History Project has collected thousands of veterans' accounts of their military experiences. My staff has actually gone down to my district with a tape recorder and was participating, recording these histories with our veterans. Each of these accounts is easily accessible on the history project's Web site and will be an invaluable source for future generations.

While there are several ways to record a veteran's history, the most common form of record in this project is through oral interviews. That is what my staff did. They would stand at the town square, and we notified through the newspapers that these individuals could come in. They would come in, and through a tape recorded oral interview, we were able to do that. These oral interviews are conducted all across the country by volunteer interviewers. These narrations provide a firsthand account of the courageous and patriotic sacrifices of our Nation's veterans. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am happy that this resolution calls on all Americans to take time to interview at least one veteran in their family or their community; just a simple request. With over 17 million wartime veterans living in the United States, we have our work cut out for us. And my colleagues, I think it's imperative that we increase participation in the program while members of these great generations are still among us. And we don't have long to do so.

So, I want to thank Chairman FILNER and the ranking member, Mr. BUYER, for bringing this important resolution to the floor. I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I recognize the author of the bill, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER), for 3 minutes.

□ 1530

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 770, which recognizes the goals and ideals of National Veterans History Project Week.

This resolution will help highlight the ongoing efforts of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress to collect and to document the personal histories of our Nation's greatest heroes, our Nation's veterans. I can't imagine a better way to recognize these heroes. They are amongst us. They are in our families. They are in our neighborhoods. They need some encouragement, but I can't think of a better way.

National Veterans History Project Week will focus the Nation's attention on the importance of veterans' history. The goal is to honor veterans and to ensure that their stories are available for future generations. We owe every freedom we have to the service and, of course, the sacrifice of America's veterans and their families. Their experience teaches us about the power of the human spirit and the realities of war. It is incumbent upon us to ensure that their history is honored and preserved.

This resolution calls upon the people of the U.S. to interview at least one veteran from their families or their communities, following the guidelines set forth by the Veterans History Project, encourages local, State and national organizations, along with the Federal, State and local government institutions to document, to preserve and honor the service of American wartime veterans.

I only wish my father, who passed away in 1995 and was a World War II veteran, had the opportunity to share his history and the past experiences that he had. As a matter of fact, my father was very cautious in even talking about his experiences in the war until the final weeks of his life. I truly only wish that he had had this opportunity to share with his grandchildren.

The Veterans History Project relies on the efforts of volunteer interviewers from the veterans service organizations, libraries, historical societies, museums, retirement communities, professional associations, governmental agencies, universities, high school students, boy scouts, girl scouts, and families to contribute to its collection which currently has more than 50,000 individuals.

Yes, veterans need some encouragement. They want to be asked. I and a number of individuals that we have interviewed and we have placed their history into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, many of them served our Nation's wars from World War II, Jack Mates, Martin Schlesinger, and Jack Watson. From the Korean War, Johnnie Phillips, from Vietnam, Johnny Kinder, Chuck Baker, and Stephen Long. From the Cold War, Al O'Donnell from Las Vegas. And from Iraq and Afghanistan, Henry Lujan.

I am proud to be an original sponsor of this bipartisan resolution. While this issue is not and shall not be forgotten, we need to continue reminding our veterans that we need and we appreciate who they are and what they have done. I believe that preserving the histories of our Nation's veterans is of the utmost importance for us as Americans. This is an appropriate way to honor our veterans and the volunteers to seek and collect those wonderful stories of heroism.

I would also like to thank my friend and colleague, Mr. KIND from Wisconsin, for his strong support.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, just a few words, and then I think we will yield back the balance of our time.

The ranking member, Mr. BUYER, of the Veterans Committee also has recorded his experience when he was the United States captain in the Gulf War in this project. So I think it is appropriate to bring that to our colleagues' attention.

I conclude about the bill, in addition to encouraging veterans, it encourages the local government, the State and national organizations, along with the Federal, State, city and county government institutions, to encourage, to participate in support of this effort to document, preserve, and honor the service of American wartime veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) for bringing us this resolution. As an historian myself who has worked with oral histories, I know how important it is professionally and, as he said, also personally. So I urge everyone to support this bill.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I also ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 770.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 770 which encourages the designation of a National Veterans History Project Week. This resolution encourages increased public participation in the Veterans History Project.

As you may know, the Veterans History Project collects and saves the stories of America's veterans who have bravely served this country from World War I to today's conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. This project provides Americans an important way to honor our soldiers: by preserving the story of their service, in their own words, for the use and benefit of future generations.

In 2000, I authored and Congress unanimously passed legislation creating the Veterans History Project. Since its beginning, the project has collected more than 50,000 stories and documents. In addition, the Veterans History Project was honored by Harvard University as one of the finalists for the Innovations in American Government Award competition in 2005.

We must get the word out to all veterans about this important initiative. We have millions of wartime veterans and civilians in this country and their stories are a reminder to us all of the costs of the freedoms we so deeply cherish. Let this resolution also serve as a reminder to the distinguished members of this body that the decisions we make here in Washington have a far-reaching impact in the homes and communities all over this great country. We must support these brave men and women whom we send out to the front lines to fight for the freedoms we are privileged to enjoy.

Since the beginning of our Nation, the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines of the armed forces have been called on to risk their lives and fight for the ideals that make America great. Regardless of what one thinks about the wars that they fought in, or the wisdom of our involvement, all Americans must agree that the men and women of our armed forces have responded to the call of their country and performed with honor and dignity. War veterans and the civilians who have supported them all across this Nation have stepped forward once again, this time answering the call of civic duty by recording their stories and contributing personal documents for the Veterans History Project. Their participation ensures that their accounts are recorded and preserved, becoming a part of this Nation's memory and history.

The volume of materials already collected by the Veterans History Project is a testament to its success. I believe, however, we can do even better. By passing this resolution today, we can encourage more participation in this important program and ensure that this vital collection of American history continues to grow even further.

Capturing the stories of our war veterans is more important now than ever before. Every day, America loses over 1,000 of our aging World War II veterans and with them, their firsthand accounts of that war. As our country faces new challenges and threats in foreign policy, we must not forget the events and lessons of World War II. That is why it is imperative that we capture the stories and personal histories of those veterans today before it is too late. The Veterans History Project is instrumental in accomplishing this important goal.

I call upon all members of this body to publicize and promote the Veterans History Project in their own districts and communities. I cannot think of a better way to honor our veterans than by trying to preserve as many of their memories and stories as possible.

I commend the gentleman from Nevada for introducing this resolution and I strongly urge my colleagues for their support.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 770.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF VETERANS EDUCATE TODAY'S STUDENTS (VETS) DAY

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 60) expressing support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students (VETS) Day, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 60

Whereas the United States has, in the course of its history, fought in many wars and conflicts to defend freedom and protect the interests of the Nation;

Whereas millions of men and women have served the Nation in time of need as members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the service of veterans has been vital to the Nation, and the sacrifices made by veterans and their families should not be forgotten with the passage of time;

Whereas children throughout the Nation would benefit from programs that provide education about veterans and that instill a patriotic appreciation of the sacrifices made by veterans to defend freedom and to protect the interests of the Nation;

Whereas efforts are being made throughout the Nation to devote November 10, or another date as may be designated, to an event known as Veterans Educate Today's Students Day; and

Whereas schools that participate in Veterans Educate Today's Students Day set aside a portion of the school day for the study, recognition, and appreciation of veterans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) recognizes the importance of veterans to the United States;

(2) expresses support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students Day;

(3) urges teachers, civic leaders, and veterans to carry out programs that educate children about the service of veterans and the sacrifices made by veterans and their families; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to participate in local and national activities recognizing Veterans Educate Today's Students Day and other events that foster education about the importance of veterans to the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Again, I am proud to bring to the floor another motion, another resolution, another action that will help us understand and better appreciate the contributions of our veterans from many wars. I want to thank Congressman FRANK PALLONE from New Jersey, who offers this resolution, and it will recognize our Nation's veterans for their sacrifice to our country.

Currently, brave men and women who are fighting in missions throughout the world, including in Iraq and Afghanistan, do not have an exact avenue to let us know what has occurred or let us know how to appreciate or spread that appreciation to others in our society. This resolution will provide an avenue to educate our children about the sacrifice our servicemembers and their families are making.

Veterans Educate Today's Students Day will designate November 10 as VETS Day that would call for teachers, civic leaders, and veterans to carry out programs to educate children about the service of our Nation's veterans and their sacrifice. VETS Day is a day students can be taught to appreciate that because of our Nation's veterans we are able to enjoy the many freedoms that we take for granted. VETS Day should be the day we highlight veterans' service, American freedoms and pass on to our children our American ideals. This is why I urge all my colleagues to join me in support of H. Con. Res. 60.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This is a simple resolution, just basically expressing support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students Day, and for other purposes. I believe that in this case it will be November 10, the day before Veterans Day, when this will be celebrated. So obviously we need to support this resolution. It expresses the sense of the support of Congress for the goals of this VETS Day.

It is noticeable that we recognize the importance of educating the children of today about this sacrificial history of veterans and their families so close to the national day of honor for those same veterans, which is on November 11, Veterans Day.

My colleagues, the number of veterans today is not as large as it used to be. The children in schools are less likely to have a parent, uncle or aunt who served in the military who could tell them about their experiences. My father served in Iwo Jima. He could tell me about his experience during that Pacific war. He has since been deceased. But I remember him talking about it and how much education it was for me. So those from the Greatest Generation who have passed from this world leave behind a legacy of courage, loyalty, and honor. This legacy was picked up and continued by the next generation of veterans from the Korean War, the Vietnam War, military engagements in Haiti and Kosovo, Gulf War I, and today in the current conflicts in Afghanistan and in Iraq.

So, Mr. Speaker, to set aside a specific day to educate our children about the sacrifice, the gallantry of our Nation's heroes demonstrates the importance of that service. It is because of them that we still have the freedom in this Chamber and the freedom we cherish today.

Now, some school districts are already taking steps in this direction by inviting veterans to speak in their classrooms on Veterans Day and share their stories with the students and all the teachers. We should encourage this worthwhile educational activity in more schools across the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of H. Con. Res. 60.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to yield such time as he may consume to the author of this resolution, a man who fights for veterans in his district and around the Nation, Mr. PALLONE from New Jersey.

Mr. PALLONE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day on November 11 of this month, I want to say a few words about why I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 60 which, as you know, expresses support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students Day, or VETS Day.

Throughout our Nation's history, millions of men and women have served the U.S. in times of need as members of the armed services, and these veterans and their families have made sacrifices that should not be forgotten with the passage of time. In the U.S., hundreds of memorials and monuments stand to honor those who have served in the armed services. While these tributes help remind Americans of the great sacrifices that were made to protect our freedoms, they can't educate today's youth the way actual veterans can.

The VETS Day essentially would urge teachers and civic leaders to organize events and forums where students can interact with America's veterans.

H. Con. Res. 60 would encourage schools to set aside a portion of the day in November to allow veterans to answer students' questions while conveying important stories and lessons about their service. I actually have participated in these kinds of programs in my own district, Mr. Speaker; and I know how valuable they can be.

At a time when the men and women of our armed services are in harm's way, we should be educating today's students on the sacrifices these brave men and women make every day. The children of our Nation will benefit from programs that provide education about veterans and instill a patriotic appreciation of the sacrifices made by veterans to defend freedom and protect the interests of our Nation.

Again, I think the most important thing is hearing firsthand accounts from veterans themselves, and that is the best way that students can better understand veterans' service and sacrifice. Again, I want to thank the chairman for his assistance and urge swift passage of this resolution.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I will conclude by saying that obviously encouraging the people of the United States to participate in local and national activities, recognizing Veterans Educate Today's Students Day, or VETS Day, is something that we should remind all Americans about

how important it is and realize that it not only fosters education of our youth, but it also provides the veterans an opportunity to explain things perhaps that no one has ever asked them or taken the time to say, what was it like? So in a way, it is an opportunity for them, as well as the students.

I urge adoption of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, again I want to thank Mr. PALLONE for authoring this resolution. I know many of us who give speeches on Memorial Day and on Veterans Day note always that there are not many youth in the audience. And to bring these stories to our students, to our youth, is extremely important.

I ask unanimous support of this resolution.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I would also ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in way to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 60.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 60.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 744) recognizing the contributions of Native American veterans and calling upon the President to issue a proclamation urging the people of the United States to observe a day in honor of Native American veterans.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 744

Whereas there are 195,871 Native American veterans in the United States;

Whereas Native Americans have participated for over 200 years in United States military actions;

Whereas the participation of Native Americans in the War of 1812, the Civil War, and the Spanish-America War was significant;

Whereas in World War I, it is estimated that more than 12,000 Native Americans served the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas more than 44,000 Native Americans served in the Armed Forces during World War II, in both the European and Pacific fronts, representing a substantial portion of the 350,000 Native Americans then living in the United States;

Whereas Native Americans fought in the Korean conflict, and more than 42,000 Native Americans fought in the Vietnam War, 90 percent of whom served as volunteers;

Whereas Native Americans also provided significant contributions in the military operations in Grenada and Panama and the Persian Gulf War in 1980s and 1990s; and

Whereas Native Americans should also be recognized for their participation in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom: Now, therefore, be it—

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes all Native American veterans who have served the Nation with honor, pride, devotion, wisdom and strength for serving their country and protecting their homeland; and

(2) calls upon the President to issue a proclamation urging the people of the United States to observe a day honoring Native American veterans with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution to recognize our Native American veterans who have served and continue to serve this Nation with honor and with pride. I represent a county in California, San Diego, that has one of the largest numbers of Native American tribes in our Nation, and I have heard many of their stories. We know that Native Americans have participated with distinction in U.S. military actions for more than 200 years. Their courage, determination, and fighting spirit are well documented throughout our history.

It is well recognized, also, that Native Americans have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. Presently, there are almost 200,000 Native American military veterans alive today. At least 18,000 of the 22,000 Native Americans currently in uniform have been deployed at least once to Iraq or Afghanistan as of July of this year.

Native Americans who volunteer for military service aspire to uphold their proud cultural tradition. This warrior tradition is a willingness to engage the enemy in battle. This characteristic has been clearly demonstrated by the courageous deeds of our Native Americans in combat. Five Native Americans have been among those soldiers who distinguished themselves by receiving the military's highest award, the Medal of Honor. This medal is given for military heroism ''above and beyond the call of duty.'' These warriors exhibited extraordinary bravery in the face of the enemy and, in two cases, made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

This House, led by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, had the enormous privilege of naming two Veterans Affairs Medical Centers in honor of these heroes just last June. Charles George was a member of the Cherokee tribe from North Carolina and private first class in Korea when he was killed on November 30 of 1952. During battle, George threw himself upon a grenade and smothered it with his body. In doing so, he sacrificed his own life, but saved the lives of his comrades.

□ 1545

Ernest Childers was a member of the Creek Tribe from Oklahoma and a First Lieutenant with the 45th Infantry Division. He received a Medal of Honor for heroic action in 1943 when, up against machine gun fire, he and eight men charged the enemy. Although suffering a broken foot in this assault, Childers ordered covering fire and advanced up the hill, single-handedly killing the snipers, silencing two machine gun nests, and capturing an enemy mortar observer.

The warrior tradition is exemplified by strength, honor, pride, devotion and wisdom. These qualities are a perfect fit with our Nation's proud military traditions.

I urge the people of our Nation, I urge the Members of this Congress, to make sure we have a day honoring our proud and brave Native American veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important resolution, H. Res. 744, obviously, recognizing the contributions of Native American veterans is important, and asking the President to issue a proclamation urging the people of the United States to also observe a day of honor for Native American veterans. My colleague from California has talked about this. It's interesting; we recognize the contributions of Native American veterans to our society and, of course, by so doing, we are recognizing their achievements, their singular achievements, if I might add. I compliment the resolution that was introduced by my good friend, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON), and the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN) for their support and also their prescience for bringing this bill forward.

We have Veterans Day less than a week away, my colleagues. I think it's important this body recognize one often overlooked group of veterans. These veterans have made numerous contributions to the United States military, not just recently in World War II, but as far back as the War of 1812. Currently, there are 195,000 Native American veterans who live in the United States. According to the U.S. Army Center of Military History Web site, there have been 24 Native American Medal of Honor recipients since the Civil War. Let me just repeat that. There have been, according to the U.S. Army Center of Military History Web site, there have been 24 Native American Medal of Honor recipients.

During World War II, we know about the Navajo Code Talkers, whose ranks

in the Pacific Theater exceeded 400 during World War II, and in all six Marine divisions from 1942 to 1945. They were credited with saving thousands of lives and actually hastening the end of the war itself. At the time of the war, World War II, fewer than 30 non-Native speakers understood the Navajo's unwritten language. The size and simple complexity of the language made the code extremely difficult to comprehend, much less decipher. In fact, it was not until 1968 that the United States Government declassified the code. The Japanese never were able to decode this code. So that is a compliment to their accomplishments with the Navajo Code Talkers. In fact, there has been a movie made on it.

In Congress, we have begun to recognize the extraordinary achievement from veterans such as these. This past June, the House passed H.R. 366. This was introduced by Congressman John Sullivan of Oklahoma, naming the Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the Ernest Childers Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic. This man was a Native American from the Creek nation, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions during World War II.

In addition, the House passed H.R. 2546, which names the Asheville VA Medical Center after another brave Native American, PFC Charles George. He also was honored with the Medal of Honor posthumously for his actions in the Korean War. H.R. 2546 was passed last week by the Senate and now is awaiting the President's signature.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is because of the gallant actions of our Native American veterans like those of Lieutenant Colonel Childers and PFC George, as well as the bravery and fortitude of the Navajo Code Talkers who served with the Marines, that I and other Members are proud to sponsor this resolution. We urge its passage. It actually recognizes the many contributions throughout the history of our Nation of our Native American veterans in protecting the freedoms that we enjoy in this country today. So I encourage all Americans, take time to recognize the sacrifice and achievement of these veterans.

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 744, which recognizes the contributions of Native American veterans and calls upon the president to issue a day in honor of their service.

As an original cosponsor of H.R. 744, I would like to thank Representative WILSON for introducing this important resolution to honor the service of our nation's Native American Veterans. I also would like to recognize Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman BOB FILNER and Ranking Member STEVE BUYER for their strong leadership and unwavering dedication to Native American veterans and for working to quickly move this resolution to the House floor.

For more than 200 years Native Americans have served in the military—at a higher rate than any other ethnic group. Now, in Iraq and Afghanistan, a new generation of Native Americans serve their country. These young men and women, such as Private First Class Sheldon Hawk Eagle, from Eagle Butte, South Dakota and Corporal Brett Lundstrom from Pine Ridge, South Dakota, who were both killed while serving in Iraq, join a long line of Native Americans that have answered the call to duty on behalf of their country. Their service to our nation must never be forgotten.

To honor the sacrifice of countless Native American veterans, like Private First Class Hawk Eagle and Corporal Lundstrom, I encourage my colleagues to support final passage of this resolution.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 744 and in honor of this country's Native American veterans.

For well over 200 years, Native Americans have provided military and strategic service to the U.S., acting as patriotic soldiers and standing side-by-side their fellow citizens in defense of our country. There are nearly 200,000 Native American veterans in the U.S. today, including members of every single tribe and pueblo. In New Mexico, there are countless stories of heroic Native American men and women serving in uniform.

I am proud to have sponsored earlier legislation to honor Native American veterans. During the 106th Congress, I introduced a bill to honor the Navajo Code Talkers with the Congressional Gold Medal in honor of their dedicated service during World War II. These brave interpreters used their native tongue to carefully transmit confidential Allied messages regarding the movement and strategy of millions of fellow soldiers. Not once was their code broken. Sixty years after their service, these men were honored in the Capitol Rotunda with the Congressional Gold Medal.

This past Congress, I was privileged to sponsor a measure to allow Native American tribes to be eligible for grants to establish state veterans cemeteries on tribal land. This long overdue legislation ensures that those Native American veterans who desire to be buried at home will not have their final wishes denied. I was happy that it was passed and am encouraged that we will soon see the first state veterans cemetery locate on tribal land.

To date, 47 Native Americans have given their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq. We honor their memory and their sacrifice by ensuring the Native American veterans who return home and granted the respect they deserve. As we approach Veterans Day later this week, we must remember that Native American have served our nation with pride, and continue to put on the uniform with bravery, honor, and dignity. I urge all of my colleagues to thank all veterans for their service, and to recognize the considerable sacrifice given by our country's Native Americans.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 744.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on H. Res. 744.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ROGER W. SANT AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate joint resolution (S.J. Res. 7) providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate joint resolution.

The text of the Senate joint resolution is as follows:

S.J. RES. 7

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring because of the expiration of the term of Roger W. Sant of Washington, D.C., is filled by the reappointment of Roger W. Sant, for a term of 6 years, effective October 25, 2007.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks in the RECORD and include extraneous matter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this joint resolution will reappoint Roger W. Sant to be a citizen regent of the Smithsonian Institution for a second 6-year term. The last few years have been very difficult ones for the Smithsonian. The aftermath of the September 11 attacks

caused a significant drop in public attendance at the Smithsonian facilities, which has only recently begun to bounce back. Many believe the Institution has become too closely identified with donors and corporate sponsors of its buildings and activities, which threatens its reputation for independence.

Mr. Speaker, the House Administration Committee thought long and hard about whether it would be appropriate to replace some members of the Board of Regents. In prior years, the committee had essentially rubber-stamped appointment recommendations from the board, and candidates seeking a second term routinely received it. This year, two citizens regents are seeking reappointment, including Mr. Sant, and two additional seats will be filled by new members who have who not yet been recommended to us. So there is a process of natural rotation.

We ultimately decided to give the board more time to implement the promising reforms recommended both by its Governance Committee and the Independent Review Committee. The committee expects the board to appoint a secretary who will be fully responsive to the board and protect the values the American public has expected of the Smithsonian.

As part of the process of considering this joint resolution, committee members met with Mr. Sant 2 weeks ago to hear his views about recent events in the Smithsonian and assessment of the pace of the ongoing reforms at the Institution. We were cautiously optimistic that the board is on the right track. Mr. Sant has broad understanding of the Smithsonian operation and its past flaws, and we believe he can make a useful contribution to the restructuring of the board.

He also informed the committee that he is not running for the new and enhanced position of chairman of the board, which is expected to be created January 2008 as one of the principal reform recommendations. We think the new occupant of this position should bring a fresh perspective of the management of the board's affairs.

For these reasons, we have decided to recommend Mr. Sant's reappointment to the board for a second 6-year term and urge his approval by the House.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as ranking member of the House Administration Committee, I am pleased to support S.J. Res. 7, a bill that allows for the reappointment of Roger Sant as a citizen regent of the Smithsonian Institution.

Several other members of the Committee on House Administration and I had the opportunity recently to meet with Mr. Sant and discuss the road ahead for the Smithsonian in this time of change and opportunity, and also to discuss the mistakes of the past. Mr. Sant assured me that, with his reappointment, he would do his part to ensure that the ''Nation's attic,'' which is the common name for the Smithsonian, is not being looted by those who have put personal gain above the interests of the Institution.

In the last Congress, this committee conducted an oversight hearing into Smithsonian Business Ventures in what would turn out to be a prophetic concern about the museum's financial operations. While my colleague Chairman BRADY and and I are committed to continuing vigorous oversight of the Smithsonian, an effective and engaged Board of Regents is an essential first line of defense in ensuring that we do not experience a repeat of those problems that plagued the immediate past president of the Smithsonian.

I am confident, based on the statements made by Mr. Sant, that he is committed to earning back the trust of the Congress and the American people regarding the board's role of safeguarding our Nation's most treasured assets and ensuring proper governance of the Smithsonian and all its different enterprises.

I appreciate the leadership given by the chairman of this committee, Mr. BRADY, and the way he has taken hold of this issue, among others, and I am pleased to join him in approving this resolution.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the reappointment of Roger Sant to the Smithsonian Board of Regents.

I am a new member of the Board of Regents since January. And although the past eleven months have been challenging for the Smithsonian . . . this period of transition will result in a new Secretary, an improved governance structure and a stronger relationship with Congress and the American people. I believe that much of the changes can be attributed to Mr. Sant's leadership during this time.

In March, Mr. Sant led the effort to create both an Independent Review Committee, headed by Chuck Bowsher, formerly the Comptroller General of the United States . . . and an internal Governance Committee, on which I serve.

As a result of both of the committees' work, the Regents adopted a comprehensive set of governance reforms, comprised of 25 specific changes in June, 2007. In broad terms, these reforms will ensure that the Board of Regents and the Secretary of the Smithsonian work together in a constructive partnership, and will improve the Smithsonian's culture of accountability and transparency. To date, eleven of these 25 reforms have been implemented in whole or in part, and the remainder will be implemented by May, 2008.

Additionally, Mr. Sant serves on the new Facilities Revitalization Committee. The Committee is addressing shortfalls in funding for Smithsonian facilities revitalization and maintenance, estimated to require $1 billion above current funding levels over the next ten years. The Regents are hard at work developing a plan to fund this shortfall and return the Smithsonian's museums and other facilities to the condition expected by the American public.

My colleagues and I on the Board of Regents are fully committed to ensuring that the Institution operates at the highest level of integrity and transparency. Mr. Sant has been involved at every level of reform and has done a tremendous amount of work, as have my fellow Regents. The Board is guided by the same principals that guide our work in Congress . . . operating as a public trust . . . following only the highest ethical standards . . . and conducting business with an increased ethos of transparency.

The Board's accomplishments during these few months are notable, as are its plans for future improvements. The Board of Regents is currently conducting a search for a new Secretary, and is still in the midst of a thorough and thoughtful process to reform its governance structure. We have the momentum and the dedication from the Board Members and need to be able to continue our work.

I applaud Chairman BRADY and Ranking Member EHLERS for moving Mr. Sant's reappointment at this time. And for their continued commitment to the betterment of the Institution.

Let me conclude by saying that each year, over 25 million visitors come to the Smithsonian. The National Collections, containing over 135 million items, are cared for, displayed, and made available for research by this beloved institution.

The Smithsonian faces many challenges as it pursues its mission for ''the increase and diffusion of knowledge.'' While the Board works to find a new Secretary, institute governance reforms and address facilities needs . . . the Smithsonian continues to mount world-class exhibitions and conduct cutting-edge research in science, history, art, and culture.

The Smithsonian offers a uniquely American experience to all of our constituents when they come to the nation's capitol. Mr. Sant's dedication and commitment to the Smithsonian benefit us all.

I would urge my colleagues to support his reappointment to ensure that all of the reforms that he has helped to implement are executed in a prompt and timely manner. I thank him for his leadership during this period of transition.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate joint resolution, S.J. Res. 7.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate joint resolution was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO PUBLIC LAW 109–116

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2206) to provide technical corrections to Public Law 109–116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2206

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ROSA PARKS STATUE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1(a) of Public Law 109–116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) is amended by—

(1) striking ''2 years'' and inserting ''4 years''; and

(2) adding at the end the following: ''The Joint Committee may authorize the Architect of the Capitol to enter into the agreement and related contracts required under this subsection on its behalf, under such terms and conditions as the Joint Committee may require.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of Public Law 109–116.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks in the RECORD and include extraneous matter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will provide technical corrections to Public Law 109–116 to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue honoring Rosa Parks, and for other purposes.

In November of 2005, this House passed Public Law 109–116, then H.R. 4145, which provided for the placement of a statue of Rosa Parks in the National Statuary Hall. Due to technical drafting errors, we failed to provide the Architect of the Capitol with the resources necessary to acquire such a statue.

The original bill set a deadline of December 1, 2007, for acquisition of the statue, and S. 2206 would extend the deadline for 2 years. Further, the bill authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to enter into any agreement or contract necessary to have the statue rendered.

It is imperative that we honor the memory of Rosa Parks in Statuary Hall as soon as possible. The House is in agreement today, as it was 2 years ago, that this is long overdue. Her contributions to the civil rights movement and to the historical record of this country deserve to be reflected in Statuary Hall.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1600

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2206, which will extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks.

A tireless advocate for equality, Rosa Parks is best remembered for a single act of civil disobedience that would change the history of our Nation. By refusing to move to the back of the bus in her native Alabama, to make room for white passengers, Mrs. Parks ignited passions on both sides of the civil rights movement. This led to the Montgomery bus boycott and helped to elevate the work of another great American of the civil rights movement, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as an august Member of this body, Congressman John Lewis, who also participated and played a leading role in some of the demonstrations of that time.

Even in her passing, Rosa Parks was a trailblazer as the first woman and only the second African American to lie in state in the Capitol rotunda.

I am especially pleased to speak on her behalf since she decided to take up residence in Michigan for the remainder of her life after she had gone through various demonstrations and activities surrounding her initial act of defiance. She was a distinguished citizen of our State, and in fact we recently dedicated a new park in downtown Grand Rapids in her honor. It is named the Rosa Parks Park.

By extending the time period to procure a statue of Mrs. Parks, this bill will allow the Joint Committee on the Library to delegate the administration of the statue selection process to the Architect of the Capitol. The JCL was not designed for, nor is it equipped, to run an arts competition. Allowing the Architect of the Capitol to administer the competition process will ensure that the statue selected is a fitting tribute to this marvelous civil rights pioneer.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) for such time as he may consume.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2206, a bill that simply provides technical corrections to Public Law 109–116.

This legislation authorizes the Architect of the Capitol to enter into agreement on behalf of the Joint Committee of the Library to acquire a statue of Mrs. Rosa Parks. It also extends the time period for that agreement by 2 years.

In 2005, it was my privilege to introduce this very important legislation with Senator JOHN KERRY and Senator MITCH MCCONNELL of the other body to honor the life and work of the late Mrs. Rosa Parks by placing a statue in National Statuary Hall.

Everyone knows the story of how Mrs. Parks helped spark the modern civil rights movement when she refused to give up her seat on a legally segregated bus that fateful day, December 1, 1955, leading to the Montgomery bus boycott and the emergence of Martin Luther King, Jr.

From the beginning, Mrs. Parks led a life dedicated to social change, becoming an active member of the Montgomery, Alabama, chapter of the NAACP, which in the 1940s and 1950s was considered a dangerous organization. It could cost you your job. It could even cost you your life.

In 1943, along with the State president of the NAACP, she mobilized a historic voter registration drive in Montgomery and was later elected NAACP chapter secretary. Mrs. Parks was a courageous woman who possessed the firm and quiet strength necessary to challenge injustice.

Following the 1954 Brown Supreme Court decision which provided equal protection under the law's legal framework, her refusal to give up her seat eventually led to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act, the 1968 Open Housing Act, all of which helped make America better for all Americans.

Rosa Parks remained a committed activist until the end of her life. In the 1980s, she worked in support of the South Africa anti-apartheid movement. In Detroit with Congressman JOHN CONYERS in 1997, she founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development, a career counseling center for African American youth.

With dignity, with grace and with courage, Rosa Parks inspired generations and helped to make the world a more just and compassionate place. In life she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996 and the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999, the highest honors our Nation bestows on civilians.

This placing of a Rosa Parks statue in National Statuary Hall is a testament to the fact that the long arc of history bends towards freedom and justice and equality. When Statuary Hall was created by law in 1864, African Americans could not be citizens of the United States. Indeed, the term ''African Americans'' did not exist. Under that law it was impossible for us to be considered favorite sons or favorite daughters of States.

When Rosa Parks takes her place in National Statuary Hall, she takes with her Frederick Douglass. She takes with her the United States coloreds troops. She takes with her Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth. She takes them there. Indeed, she takes the legacy and history of redefining what it means to be an American for all Americans as she takes her place among the enormous statues that presently represent the various States within that great Hall.

She takes with her countless nameless people of African descent, who from slavery to today, sacrificed for an America many would never live to see.

As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose half statue is not in Statuary

Hall, would implore us, Now is the time.

I want to thank Senator FEINSTEIN for introducing this bill in the other body. I want to thank Matt McGowan and Khalil Abboud from the Joint Committee on the Library for diligently working to get this extension enacted into law. I want to thank Barbara Wolanin from the Architect of the Capitol's Office for working with all of us to make sure that the goals of my original bill are realized.

I want to thank Chairman BRADY and Ranking Member EHLERS for their sensitivity on this critical issue at this critical hour. And I want to thank in a special way our late Chair, Juanita Millender-McDonald, who worked with me tirelessly on this effort.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I might add that in the 13 years I have had the privilege of serving in this body, I have only missed two votes: one vote because my pager died and the battery did not forward my pager the power to let me know to vote; and the other vote was when I was on the other side of the aisle so overwhelmed by the number of Republicans who were willing to sign onto a Rosa Parks statue in Statuary Hall that the Democratic clerks could not find me to tell me to vote. I was overwhelmed by that occasion.

I am hoping, Mr. Speaker, that today Members of Congress will once again vote ''aye'' on S. 2206. I know of no American more worthy of an honor than the late Mrs. Rosa Parks.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, but I would like to close with a few additional comments.

First of all, I admire my colleague's voting record. It is a rare person who misses only two votes during 13 years.

But above all, I want to comment on a few things relating to Rosa Parks. First, what impresses me is how much one person who is determined to fight for what is right can accomplish. She was a marvelous person and stuck to her guns in tough situations, and she carried the day and inspired a lot of other people to carry the day.

The other factor is, as I look around the world today, and the United States especially, and compare that to the world before Rosa Parks, what a mammoth change we have undergone. But also as I look around, I still remember how much further we have to go. And let us always work in the spirit of Rosa Parks to destroy discrimination of all sorts and make certain that every American and in fact every citizen of this planet enjoys the freedom that we enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would again like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) for his participation and for his voting record also. And I thank my friend from Michigan, the ranking member, for all he has done. We have a great working relationship, and I thank him for continuing that relationship.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2206.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1833

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee) at 6 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3685, EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007

Ms. CASTOR, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–422) on the resolution (H. Res. 793) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3685) to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 3222, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXII and by direction of the Committee on Appropriations, I move to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3222) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees: Messrs. MURTHA, DICKS, VISCLOSKY, MORAN of Virginia, Ms. KAPTUR, Messrs. CRAMER, BOYD of Florida, ROTHMAN, BISHOP of Georgia, OBEY, YOUNG of Florida, HOBSON, FRELINGHUYSEN, TIAHRT, WICKER, KINGSTON, and LEWIS of California.

There was no objection.

MOTION TO CLOSE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON H.R. 3222, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008, WHEN CLASSIFIED NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION IS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, I move that meetings of the conference between the House and the Senate on H.R. 3222 be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information may be broached, providing that any sitting Member of the Congress shall be entitled to attend any meetings of the conference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, the motion is not debatable and the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on permitting closed conference committee meetings on H.R. 3222 will be followed by 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules with regard to H.R. 513, by the yeas and nays, and H. Res. 744, by the yeas and nays.

The votes on H. Res. 379 and H. Con. Res. 236 will be taken later in the week.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 351, nays 0, not voting 81, as follows:

[Roll No. 1034]

YEAS—351

Abercrombie	Calvert	Dingell
Aderholt	Camp (MI)	Doggett
Allen	Campbell (CA)	Donnelly
Altmire	Cantor	Drake
Andrews	Capito	Dreier
Arcuri	Capps	Edwards
Baca	Capuano	Ehlers
Bachmann	Cardoza	Ellison
Bachus	Carnahan	Ellsworth
Baker	Carter	Emerson
Baldwin	Castle	Engel
Barrett (SC)	Castor	English (PA)
Barrow	Chabot	Eshoo
Bartlett (MD)	Chandler	Etheridge
Barton (TX)	Clarke	Everett
Becerra	Clay	Fallin
Berkley	Cleaver	Farr
Berry	Clyburn	Fattah
Biggert	Coble	Feeney
Bilbray	Cohen	Filner
Bilirakis	Cole (OK)	Fortenberry
Bishop (GA)	Conaway	Fossella
Bishop (NY)	Conyers	Foxx
Bishop (UT)	Cooper	Frank (MA)
Blackburn	Costa	Franks (AZ)
Blumenauer	Courtney	Frelinghuysen
Boehner	Cramer	Gallegly
Bonner	Crenshaw	Garrett (NJ)
Bono	Cuellar	Gerlach
Boozman	Culberson	Gilchrest
Boren	Davis (AL)	Gillibrand
Boucher	Davis (CA)	Gingrey
Boustany	Davis (KY)	Gonzalez
Boyd (FL)	Davis, David	Goode
Boyda (KS)	Davis, Lincoln	Goodlatte
Brady (PA)	Davis, Tom	Gordon
Brady (TX)	Deal (GA)	Granger
Broun (GA)	DeFazio	Graves
Brown (SC)	DeGette	Green, Al
Brown-Waite, Ginny	Delahunt	Green, Gene
	DeLauro	Grijalva
Buchanan	Dent	Hall (NY)
Burgess	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hall (TX)
Burton (IN)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hastings (FL)

Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kildee
Kilpatrick
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Nunes
Obey
Ortiz
Pallone
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—81

Ackerman
Akin
Alexander
Baird
Bean
Berman
Blunt
Boswell
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Buyer
Cannon
Carney
Carson
Costello
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Davis (IL)
Dicks
Doolittle
Doyle
Duncan
Emanuel
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Giffords
Gohmert
Gutierrez
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Herseth Sandlin
Holden
Inslee
Israel
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Kennedy
Kind
Kucinich
Linder
Lipinski
Lowey
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
McNulty
Meeks (NY)
Murphy, Tim
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Olver
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Rush
Saxton
Schakowsky
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (WA)
Tancredo
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Towns
Visclosky
Weller
Westmoreland
Wilson (OH)
Yarmuth

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are less than 2 minutes to vote.

□ 1857

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL HEROES CREDIT PROTECTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 513, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 513, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 349, nays 0, not voting 83, as follows:

[Roll No. 1035]

YEAS—349

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Filner
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Nunes
Obey
Olver
Pallone
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—83

Ackerman
Akin
Alexander
Baird
Bean
Berman
Blunt
Boswell
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Buyer
Cannon
Carney
Carson
Costello
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Davis (IL)
Dicks
Doolittle
Doyle
Duncan
Emanuel
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Giffords
Gohmert
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Herseth Sandlin
Holden
Inslee
Israel
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
Kucinich
Linder
Lipinski
Lowey
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
McNulty
Meeks (NY)
Murphy, Tim
Nadler
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Ortiz
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Reyes
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Saxton
Schakowsky
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (WA)
Sullivan
Tancredo
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Towns
Visclosky
Weller
Westmoreland
Wilson (OH)
Yarmuth

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1904

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A Bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance the protection of credit ratings of members of the reserve component who serve on active duty in support of a contingency operation, and for other purposes''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 744, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 744.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 351, nays 0, not voting 81, as follows:

[Roll No. 1036]

YEAS—351

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Filner
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Nunes
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Tierney
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Wexler
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—81

Ackerman
Akin
Alexander
Baird
Bean
Berman
Blunt
Boswell
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Buyer
Cannon
Carney
Carson
Costello
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Davis (IL)
Dicks
Doolittle
Doyle
Duncan
Emanuel
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Giffords
Gohmert
Granger
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Herseth Sandlin
Holden
Inslee
Israel
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
Kucinich
Linder
Lipinski
Lowey
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
McNulty
Meeks (NY)
Murphy, Tim
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Saxton
Schakowsky
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (WA)
Tancredo
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Towns
Visclosky
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Yarmuth

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1911

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the Chamber for rollcall votes 1034, 1035, and 1036 on November 5, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on all three rollcall votes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber today. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall votes 1034, 1035 and 1036.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I regret that flight delays prevented me from being to vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on the motion to close portions of the conference on H.R. 3222, H.R. 513, and H. Res. 744.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE FIND HARRIET MIERS AND JOSHUA BOLTEN IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS

Mr. CONYERS from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–423) on the resolution recommending that the House of Representatives find Harriet Miers and Joshua Bolten, Chief of Staff, White House, in contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with subpoenas duly issued by the Committee on the Judiciary, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

OKLAHOMA IS OK WITH NEW IMMIGRATION LAW

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, there is a new immigration law in effect, and even Federal judges refused to stop it.

On November 1 it became a felony to knowingly harbor and hide illegals. It is against the law to give illegals driver's licenses or give them public benefits. Local police may now hold illegals

they arrest for felonies and detain them for Federal deportation. And employers must use the new Federal verification system to determine legal status of workers.

This, unfortunately, is not a new Federal law, but one passed recently by the Sooner State: Oklahoma. Apparently, Okies are frustrated with too few results from Federal enforcement folk so they passed their own State law on immigration.

And good for them. Hopefully, other States will follow.

Of course, noncitizen groups and the ''give America away'' crowd sued Oklahoma in Federal court. And they lost. Early results of the law indicate illegals are leaving Oklahoma, some even going back to their own country, as it ought to be. They are getting the message: come to America the legal way or don't come at all.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1915

PERU FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly oppose the proposed U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement.

My opposition to the Peru FTA reflects America's opposition to the recent string of trade pacts that benefitted the wealthiest few at the expense of hardworking Americans. A recent poll revealed that six in 10 Republicans think free trade has been bad for the U.S., and that's just Republicans.

The American public is tired of waiting for this administration to ''get it'' and to start negotiating fair and smart trade deals that can benefit the little guy as well as the corporate fat cat.

The American public is impatient and, frankly, so am I. Fair trade can create economic opportunities for everyone, big business and working families alike, at home and abroad. Fair trade can advance our economy without jeopardizing good jobs and encourage development without ravaging our environment.

Some say that the Peru FTA is better than what we've had in the past. I join the American people in saying, ''It's not good enough.''

Join me in standing up for American families. I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the Peru Free Trade Agreement.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlemen from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCINTYRE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, what a privilege it is to speak on National Bible Week as we celebrate the written Word of God, as we anticipate the upcoming celebration, the week of November 18–25. In fact, this book, the number one best seller of all time, the book is known as a book of encouragement, a book of enlightenment, and a book of edification.

Encouragement. When I think about what the Bible has meant to me, I remember some of the great verses from the Old Testament, such as Joshua 1:9, ''Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified. Do not be discouraged. For the Lord God will be with you wherever you go.'' And Psalm 118:13–15 says, ''I was pushed back and about to fall, but the Lord has helped me. The Lord is my strength and my song, He has become my salvation.''

And then Psalm 138:8, which precedes my favorite Psalm, 139, it says, ''The Lord will accomplish that which concerns me. Your love, O Lord, endures forever.''

When we think of this day, when so many people are discouraged, I know, as we celebrate National Bible Week, that the Bible has been a Word of encouragement that I've experienced and I know many others have.

In addition to encouragement, it's a Word of enlightenment. Psalm 19 says, ''Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. The unfolding of Your Word gives light and gives understanding to the simple.'' And as many of my friends back home in North Carolina know, my favorite Old Testament verse is from Proverbs, 29:18, that says, ''Where there is no vision, the people perish.'' And I think that's a great challenge to us, as leaders in this country, to have vision for where we want to take our country and what we want to do and how we want to solve the problems. In fact, this verse, ''Where there is no vision, the people perish,'' is inscribed in our own Science Committee room in the Rayburn House Office Building.

In addition to encouragement and enlightenment, the Bible is a book of edification. Paul writes in the Book of Romans 10:17 that faith comes from hearing and hearing by the Word. And then James 1:22 reminds that we should be doers of the Word and not hearers only.

The Bible allows us to see ourselves through its many stories and parables and prophesies and teachings. It also shows the flaws and frailties that we all share in common in humanity. It also shows the fellowship, both human and divine, that calls forth those values that so often we look for in our society today, values of forgiveness, of faithfulness and of fulfillment in becoming all that we know that we can become.

I'm grateful that we take time in this country to celebrate the national week of the Bible coming up the week of November 18–25, and that we would take time tonight to celebrate not only the historical importance, but the personal importance that this great book, the best seller of all time, has for people literally the world over.

PRESIDENT NICOLAS SARKOZY ADDRESSES CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to congratulate President Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France, and also welcome him to Washington, DC, as he addresses a joint meeting of this Congress on Wednesday of this week. I look forward to hearing his remarks in this Chamber.

This past May, Mr. Speaker, Nicolas Sarkozy became the 23rd President of France. His election has ushered in a new and welcomed era in positive relations between France and the United States.

The history of friendship between these two countries, the United States and France, runs deep and it runs wide. Since the American Revolution, we have shared a deep commitment to freedom and independence; both of our countries have. Perhaps one of the best early demonstrations of France's commitment to our shared heritage of freedom is the example of General Marquis de Lafayette—General Lafayette, a young Frenchman who believed so passionately in the cause of freedom and liberty for all individuals that he left his homeland of France and came to join the American colonies in their fight for independence against Great Britain.

It was General Lafayette who persuaded the French to help Americans in their fight for freedom and independence from Great Britain. He served courageously under the command of General George Washington. George Washington's and Lafayette's portraits both hang in this hall tonight.

General Lafayette is the only non-American portrait in the entire Capitol building, and is the only other portrait besides General Washington in this House Chamber. There is a reason for that; both of them, General Washington and his friend Lafayette, were committed to liberty for all.

The American people will always be grateful to the commitment of General Lafayette and the people of France throughout our pursuit for freedom and democracy through the American Revolution. And the American Revolution was successful because of their help.

In the same way, Mr. Speaker, we are hopeful that the election of President Sarkozy will renew the ties of friendship that bind our two countries and our long heritage together.

On the eve of the election, President Sarkozy said that ''American friends can rely on France's friendship. France will always be next to them when they need us.'' We are hopeful, Mr. Speaker, that in the midst of many international crises, most notably, the threat of nuclear Iran and the global war on terrorism, that France will remain an ally committed to world peace and democracy for all and continue to pursue freedom for all peoples throughout the world.

I am pleased to be the sponsor of legislation H. Res. 379, which honors President Sarkozy and his appearance before Congress. I look forward to his continued friendship and an alliance between not only him and the United States, but the people of France and the United States.

And that's just the way it is.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on the week of November 18 we begin to celebrate in this Nation National Bible Week.

National Bible Week is the National Bible Association's signature event which is celebrated the week before Thanksgiving every year since it began in 1941.

In this week, we encourage the citizens of this Nation to read the Bible. Mr. Speaker, I must admit that I was not always an ardent Bible reader. I was always in and around the church, but as so many of us who belong to church, I was in the church, but church wasn't in me.

Mr. Speaker, I came to this Congress in 1993 and almost immediately upon my presence here I received a Bible similar to this given by Rev. Dr. D. James Kennedy. And, Mr. Speaker, I found my evenings alone, my wife and my family back in Chicago, and somehow I had a prompting to pick up the Bible and to read the Bible. I must admit, Mr. Speaker, that although I wasn't an ardent reader, now I'm a ferocious reader of the Bible, avaricious in my interests in terms of the words recorded in God's living book.

Mr. Speaker, I must say that I have been renewed as a man by the renewing of my mind according to the dictates and the Spirit that's incorporated in the reading of the Bible. I am a changed man; I am a new man. I don't have the same friends I used to have. I don't walk the same way; I don't talk the same way, and it's all because of this Bible.

Mr. Speaker, I am an activist, and for years I had shunned this Bible because it didn't speak to my activism. And then the Holy Spirit spoke to me through my conversations and through my interests in reading the Bible. And, Mr. Speaker, I came across a Scripture that really moved me, two, as a matter of fact. One is taken from the Old Testament, Micah 6:6–8: ''With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before the high God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of ram, 10,000 rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?''

The Lord answers, ''He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? But to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.''

Mr. Speaker, in those words, it encapsulated all that I had attempted to be, my activism, my love for humanity and my love for the Lord. Mr. Speaker, Luke 4 and 4:18: ''The spirit of the Lord is upon Me. Because He has anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.''

Mr. Speaker, my life had been, and continues today, to be a reflection of the spirit that is within me, the Holy Spirit that is within me. I call on all good citizens, Christians and non-Christians alike, during this week and every week of the year, pick up your Bible. Read the Bible. You have no better friend. You have no better solution than what is recorded in these words.

□ 1930

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING ROSS AND MARIANNA BEACH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the testimony and words as spoken by the gentleman from Illinois. I rise tonight to speak to congratulate Ross and Marianna Beach and the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art on the occasion of the museum's grand reopening. Located in Manhattan, on the campus of Kansas State University, the Beach Museum of Art has become a cherished cultural center in the Flint Hills of my home State. Over the years, the museum has nearly tripled the number of their works of art and has enhanced the lives of thousands of patrons.

Originally opening on October 16, 1996, the museum offers a wide array of services to the area. While continually adding to the collection of regionally inspired art, the museum contributors have also made educational programs, lectures, tours, and workshops available. The new 15,000 square-foot addition of the Mary and Morgan Jarvis Wing is evidence of the museum's continuing success and benefit.

Believing in art appreciation and education, the Beach Museum is poised to contribute to the culture in Kansas for generations to come. The impact the museum has on Kansas is immeasurable. Located on the campus of a nationally ranked university and in close proximity to Fort Riley, the Beach Museum serves a highly diverse population. Students, along with military personnel and their families, come from all over the globe to live, work, and learn. This oftentimes short-term community is always pleased to discover an art museum of such fine quality.

Through the efforts of Kansas State University president Dr. Jon Wefald and his wife, Ruth Ann, the museum has gained national notoriety. Mrs. Wefald's leadership on the museum advisory board has proven to be a major factor in the museum's rapid growth and expansion.

The university, the City of Manhattan and the State of Kansas have benefited tremendously from the Wefalds' dedication. Gratitude is owed for their committed devotion to the museum. Museum director Lorne Render should be commended for guiding the museum into the 21st century. Through Lorne's service to the arts, the Beach Museum continues to offer exhibits and programs that enhance the quality of life of all Kansans and, in fact, many Americans. As the museum continues to contribute to the appreciation of the arts, appreciation should be extended to Lorne for the museum and the museum's knowledgeable staff.

The museum would not have been possible but for the generous philanthropic ideals exhibited by the lead donors, Ross and Marianna Beach. The Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art was named by Mr. Beach for his wife in commemoration of their 50th wedding anniversary. Mr. And Mrs. Beach are longtime donors of talent and treasure to the State of Kansas. Their commitments to the arts extend beyond the Beach Museum in Manhattan. They were instrumental in establishing the Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center on the campus of Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas. This center has been providing a venue for plays, speeches, debates, and concerts for more than 20 years. The Beachs' commitment to the arts extends across the State and is appreciated by Kansans from all walks of life.

My wife and I are proud to serve on the museum's board of visitors. We have witnessed, firsthand, the results Ross and Marianna Beach have attained. It is certain that the Beach legacy will be experienced by thousands of people for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in acknowledging the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art along with Ross and Marianna Kistler Beach for their contributions to our society. Kansas is proud to have the museum for our enlightenment and enjoyment. And I am also proud to call Ross and Marianna Beach my friends and fellow Kansans.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Mrs. BOYDA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Last weekend, I spoke on a panel about civics and civility at Kansas State University. And during the question-and-answer time, a teacher stood up and asked me a question. She said, Do you know of any books that might be like a checklist that I could share, be a checklist on teaching my kids civics and civility? I thought for a minute, and I said, As a matter of fact, I do.

I am holding it right here in my hand, Mr. Speaker. It is the Bible. This particular copy was my mother's Bible. And it is the one that I was sworn in last January. So it has a great deal of meaning to me. The lessons in the Bible are truly a checklist for decent living. In Matthew 22, when the disciples asked what is the greatest commandment, it is to love our God with all of our heart and soul and mind, and the second is likened to it, to love thy neighbor as thyself. And then He says, on these hang all the laws and the prophets. Love thy neighbor as thyself. Very clear. Judge not lest you be judged.

The Bible has all the wisdom that we need to bring our country together. And that's why I'm glad the House is pausing tonight to recognize the start of National Bible Week. Faith has an important role to play in the lives of all Americans. It is a role that may be more important today in these dangerous and complicated times than ever before. And it is a role that we, yes, we as public servants have to defend.

Just last month, the Architect of the Capitol refused to fulfill a citizen's request for a flag certificate that referred to devotion to God. Just last week, the National Cemetery Administration banned a flag folding ceremony used at veterans' funerals because of references to God. Let's be clear: neither mentioning God in a flag certificate nor speaking of God in a funeral ceremony poses any threat to the separation of church and State. Not only is speaking about religion permitted by the Constitution; it is a right that is protected by the first amendment.

Thankfully, both of these bans have been reversed, and not a moment too soon. As we begin National Bible Week, I hope that all of my colleagues and citizens across America will pause to recognize the role that faith plays in all of our lives to reflect on the lessons of the Bible. It is our guidebook. It is our guidebook to civics and civility, as well. It is our how-to guide for public service. Everything we need is right here, folks. It is right here between these two covers.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I look at the time, it is about 13 years ago exactly at this moment that I was standing at the altar saying, ''I do'' to the love of my life. So I must begin by wishing a happy 13th anniversary to the most beautiful woman in the world, with all respect to those ladies that are here present. I guess every marriage has obviously some high points and some disappointments.

And the other reason for me coming to floor is to actually speak about the disappointment that I have with the White House, particularly with its veto of H.R. 1495, the Water Resources Development Act, often referred to as WRDA. This veto, if I must say so, was ill advised and I expect will be overridden by this House tomorrow and the Senate in the coming days.

I acknowledge that the President, during the veto message, mentioned that when the WRDA bill left the House, it was about $15 billion. The Senate's version was at 14 billion. And the final version of the water resources bill was somewhere around 23 billion. Yet certainly the White House understands that the bill that left the House had different priorities emphasized, different projects were being considered by the Senate and as such when the conference was convened, those bills had to be combined. The President, in his veto message, said, in essence, I fully support funding for water resources projects.

Respectfully, I must point out that the President's budget each year woefully underfunds the Army Corps of Engineers budget in my view, the operations and maintenance budget. And the White House went on with its veto message to say, My administration has repeatedly urged Congress to authorize only those projects that provide a high return on investment.

Well, I share the White House's belief that taxpayers deserve a dollar's worth of services for every dollar they remit in taxes. But just looking at water resources projects in terms of dollars and cents is what caused us to only have category 3 levees in New Orleans. We have seen how short-sighted that decision was. In fact, I would suggest that over the last 25 years, every dollar that the Corps has invested in flood control has been returned six-fold in potential damages that had been averted.

A WRDA bill has not been passed by Congress in 7 years. Communities around this Nation are now in desperate need for projects such as levees and protective coastal wetlands. Moreover, in the past 7 years, our waterborne transportation infrastructure has continued to crumble. There are 192 active locks on navigable waterways in this Nation. The average age is 60. The President, by his veto, is choosing to ignore these needs, possibly harming the lives and certainly the livelihoods of millions of people in this country.

One of the most important projects for the Missouri-Illinois delegations is the much-needed modernization of the five locks on the upper Mississippi River and two on the Illinois waterway. This is something that we helped author back in the 108th Congress. And certainly I acknowledge my good friends and supporters of this, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL), the dynamic duo from Illinois, Mr. COSTELLO and Mr. SHIMKUS on our side of the aisle, and also Chairman OBERSTAR and Ranking Member BAKER have been instrumental in bringing this project to fruition.

Look, these locks are vital to farmers, manufacturers and many other industries in Missouri, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. These locks on the Mississippi and Illinois rivers facilitate the movement of 100 million tons of cargo every year. While almost 50 percent, half of this is cargo, is agricultural, the river also transports asphalt for road construction, coal for electricity. In fact, did you know that every gallon of jet fuel that is used at O'Hare and Midway Airports in Chicago is transported on our navigable waterways?

The shipments of these products via the river saves the American public between $800 million and $2 billion over other modes of transportation. Certainly I would suggest that while not every farmer in the region uses the river to ship crops, all growers are impacted by it. Every day the price of grain a farmer receives at his home market is based on the price of grain that moves on the Mississippi River to export markets. The lower the cost of transportation here within our own borders, the lower the cost of U.S. grain is on the world market, the more grain the United States is able to sell to our foreign trading partners.

As some in this Chamber know, I have a personal experience shipping on the river. I grew up in the shadow of the levees along the Mississippi in southeast Missouri. Lock modernization, I can assure you, will ensure that farmers in Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin and elsewhere continue to have the same benefit that my family had growing up on our family's farm, the ability to ship crops to international markets via the most cost-effective method.

Now, many of these locks, unfortunately, are being held together with bailing wire and duct tape. Our senior

Senator, Senator BOND, is fond of saying that these locks belong on the National Register of Historic Places. He is actually mistaken. They are already on the National Registry of Historic Places.

I urge this House to override the President's veto.

□ 1945

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is interesting that I come after the gentleman from Missouri, because before leaving home down in South Carolina this morning, I went to dedicate a water project in a part of my State where they have a real problem with potable water, and extensive health problems as well. During that ceremony, it was asked of me what kind of guarantee that I have that this water project would be seen to fruition. This morning we were dedicating the first phase. There are two others.

In answering the question, I referred to the greatest of all books, the Bible. I referred to the Book of Hebrew, the 11th chapter. I call that the faith chapter of the Bible. I quoted Hebrew 11.1: Faith, the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things unseen. I quoted that because in our work here, much of the time, though we don't view our work as being grounded in the Bible, we often strike out on faith. We have a little idea sometimes of exactly where any issue is going. I do believe that as we carry out our duties and responsibilities to the people of this great Nation, sometimes we ought to pause and give credence to where that emanates from.

So I am pleased that my good friend from Illinois asked me to come down tonight and to join in this special order commemorating the Bible during National Bible Week. When I was growing up, my father, who was a fundamentalist minister, never asked me to read the Bible, never instructed me to do so. He just told me every morning at the breakfast table to recite a Bible verse. Now, it would be a little difficult to do that without reading the Bible. He made sure that we didn't do the same one twice. Daddy set down the rule. He took Jesus' whip off the table. So it was very, very important for me to read the Bible daily.

He also had a second rule, and that is that every night before retiring to bed, we had to share with our parents, or one of them, some current event. He would often have ways of showing us how that particular event that we may have shared was grounded in the Good Book.

So long before I became House Majority Whip, I assumed the leadership of the Democrats' Faith Working Group. For the last 3 years now, Mr. Speaker, it has been my great joy to work with the members of our caucus, trying to get our membership comfortable with the fact that our work here is in fact faith-based.

If you doubt it, then I ask all of my colleagues to just take a look at my favorite book of the Bible, the Book of James. It has got nothing to do with my name, though that would not be a bad thing. It's a very short book, but it tells us a lot about our responsibility. There, in the second chapter of James, we are all instructed that if your brother or sister comes to you hungry and naked, it is not enough to tell them to go in faith; you feed them and you clothe them.

That is what this Congress is all about. This Congress is about doing those things that are necessary to make sure that our constituents and make sure that our citizens are fed that need to be fed or clothed that need to be clothed. I do believe if James were writing his epistle today, he would also tell us it is also important to house them when they need shelter.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, this year the week of November 18–24th has been designated "National Bible Week," a week to renew our interest in the Bible and to recognize the influence that the Bible has had in our lives and on our nation throughout its history.

As a child growing up in West Virginia, I was encouraged by my father to read the Bible daily, because he found such solace and comfort in the Word. As Paul wrote in Philippians 4:13, "I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want, I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength."

Knowing this soothes and comforts my soul in times of distress. It is my guiding light that keeps me centered and focused and I derive great joy from reading the scriptures during my time of mediation and reflection.

Today, God's Word written in the Holy Scriptures of the Bible is important to me both as an individual and as a leader. It is the Bible that guides me through the day, as I seek to make decisions that will affect people in my state and in our nation—decisions that require a wisdom that is found throughout the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

It is the Word of God written in the Bible that gives me the fortitude I need to carry out my responsibilities as a friend, a father, a husband, and a Congressman. The Bible provides the wisdom to know how to respond to my family and constituents during times of dire crisis.

For these reasons, and many more, I thank God that we have a manual for our daily living in the Bible.

As we face the unforeseen challenges that lie ahead, both at home and abroad, I encourage all Americans to read the Bible and read it often, to study its teachings, and to make it an important part of their lives.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3043, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. OBEY submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health And Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 110–424)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3043) "making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes", having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

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

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

SECTION 1. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Table of contents.
Sec. 2. References.
Sec. 3. Statement of Appropriations.
DIVISION A—LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS, 2008
Title I—Department of Labor
Title II—Department of Health and Human Services
Title III—Department of Education
Title IV—Related Agencies
Title V—General Provisions
DIVISION B—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS, 2008
Title I—Department of Defense
Title II—Department of Veterans Affairs
Title III—Related Agencies
Title IV—General Provisions

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to "this Act" contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The following sums in this Act are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

DIVISION A—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

For necessary expenses of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 ("WIA"), the Denali Commission Act of 1998, and the Women in Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Occupations Act

of 1992, including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and other facilities, and the purchase of real property for training centers as authorized by the WIA; $3,618,940,000, plus reimbursements, is available. Of the amounts provided:

(1) for grants to States for adult employment and training activities, youth activities, and dislocated worker employment and training activities, $2,994,510,000 as follows:

(A) $864,199,000 for adult employment and training activities, of which $152,199,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, and of which $712,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;

(B) $940,500,000 for youth activities, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009; and

(C) $1,189,811,000 for dislocated worker employment and training activities, of which $341,811,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, and of which $848,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009:

Provided, That notwithstanding the transfer limitation under section 133(b)(4) of the WIA, up to 30 percent of such funds may be transferred by a local board if approved by the Governor;

(2) for federally administered programs, $483,371,000 as follows:

(A) $282,092,000 for the dislocated workers assistance national reserve, of which $6,300,000 shall be available on October 1, 2007, of which $63,792,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, and of which $212,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009: Provided, That up to $125,000,000 may be made available for Community-Based Job Training grants from funds reserved under section 132(a)(2)(A) of the WIA and shall be used to carry out such grants under section 171(d) of such Act, except that the 10 percent limitation otherwise applicable to the amount of funds that may be used to carry out section 171(d) shall not be applicable to funds used for Community-Based Job Training grants: Provided further, That funds provided to carry out section 132(a)(2)(A) of the WIA may be used to provide assistance to a State for State-wide or local use in order to address cases where there have been worker dislocations across multiple sectors or across multiple local areas and such workers remain dislocated; coordinate the State workforce development plan with emerging economic development needs; and train such eligible dislocated workers: Provided further, That funds provided to carry out section 171(d) of the WIA may be used for demonstration projects that provide assistance to new entrants in the workforce and incumbent workers: Provided further, That $2,600,000 shall be for a noncompetitive grant to the National Center on Education and the Economy, which shall be awarded not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act: Provided further, That $1,500,000 shall be for a non-competitive grant to the AFL–CIO Working for America Institute, which shall be awarded not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act: Provided further, That $2,200,000 shall be for a non-competitive grant to the AFL–CIO Appalachian Council, Incorporated, for Job Corps career transition services, which shall be awarded not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act;

(B) $55,039,000 for Native American programs, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;

(C) $82,740,000 for migrant and seasonal farmworker programs under section 167 of the WIA, including $77,265,000 for formula grants (of which not less than 70 percent shall be for employment and training services), $4,975,000 for migrant and seasonal housing (of which not less than 70 percent shall be for permanent housing), and $500,000 for other discretionary purposes, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009: Provided, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law or related regulation, the Department shall take no action limiting the number or proportion of eligible participants receiving related assistance services or discouraging grantees from providing such services;

(D) $1,000,000 for carrying out the Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations Act, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009; and

(E) $62,500,000 for YouthBuild activities as described in section 173A of the WIA, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;

(3) for national activities, $141,059,000, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through July 30, 2009 as follows:

(A) $50,569,000 for Pilots, Demonstrations, and Research, of which $5,000,000 shall be for grants to address the employment and training needs of young parents (notwithstanding the requirements of sections 171(b)(2)(B) or 171(c)(4)(D) of the WIA): Provided, That funding provided to carry out projects under section 171 of the WIA that are identified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act, shall not be subject to the requirements of section 171(b)(2)(B) and 171(c)(4)(D) of the WIA, the joint funding requirements of sections 171(b)(2)(A) and 171(c)(4)(A) of the WIA, or any time limit requirements of sections 171(b)(2)(C) and 171(c)(4)(B) of the WIA;

(B) $78,694,000 for ex-offender activities, under the authority of section 171 of the Act, notwithstanding the requirements of sections 171(b)(2)(B) or 171(c)(4)(D), of which not less than $59,000,000 shall be for youthful offender activities: Provided, That $50,000,000 shall be available from program year 2007 and program year 2008 funds for competitive grants to local educational agencies or community-based organizations to develop and implement mentoring strategies that integrate educational and employment interventions designed to prevent youth violence in schools identified as persistently dangerous under section 9532 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act;

(C) $4,921,000 for Evaluation under section 172 of the WIA; and

(D) $6,875,000 for the Denali Commission, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

Of the amounts made available under this heading in Public Law 107–116 to carry out the activities of the National Skills Standards Board, $44,000 are rescinded.

Of the unexpended balances remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Labor under this heading for fiscal years 2005 and 2006 to carry out the Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker formula programs under the Workforce Investment Act, $245,000,000 are rescinded: Provided, That the Secretary of Labor may, upon the request of a State, apply any portion of the State's share of this rescission to funds otherwise available to the State for such programs during program year 2007: Provided further, That notwithstanding any provision of such Act, the Secretary may waive such requirements as may be necessary to carry out the instructions relating to this rescission in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

To carry out title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965, $530,900,000, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES

For payments during fiscal year 2008 of trade adjustment benefit payments and allowances under part I of subchapter B of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, and section 246 of that Act; and for training, allowances for job search and relocation, and related State administrative expenses under Part II of subchapter B of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, $888,700,000, together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent appropriation for payments for any period subsequent to September 15, 2008.

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS

For authorized administrative expenses, $90,517,000, together with not to exceed $3,337,506,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund (''the Trust Fund''), of which:

(1) $2,510,723,000 from the Trust Fund is for grants to States for the administration of State unemployment insurance laws as authorized under title III of the Social Security Act (including $10,000,000 to conduct in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments in one-stop career centers of claimants of unemployment insurance), the administration of unemployment insurance for Federal employees and for ex-service members as authorized under sections 8501–8523 of title 5, United States Code, and the administration of trade readjustment allowances and alternative trade adjustment assistance under the Trade Act of 1974, and shall be available for obligation by the States through December 31, 2008, except that funds used for automation acquisitions shall be available for obligation by the States through September 30, 2010, and funds used for unemployment insurance workloads experienced by the States through September 30, 2008 shall be available for Federal obligation through December 31, 2008;

(2) $10,500,000 from the Trust Fund is for national activities necessary to support the administration of the Federal-State unemployment insurance system;

(3) $693,000,000 from the Trust Fund, together with $22,883,000 from the General Fund of the Treasury, is for grants to States in accordance with section 6 of the Wagner-Peyser Act, and shall be available for Federal obligation for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;

(4) $32,766,000 from the Trust Fund is for national activities of the Employment Service, including administration of the work opportunity tax credit under section 51 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the administration of activities, including foreign labor certifications, under the Immigration and Nationality Act, and the provision of technical assistance and staff training under the Wagner-Peyser Act, including not to exceed $1,228,000 that may be used for amortization payments to States which had independent retirement plans in their State employment service agencies prior to 1980;

(5) $52,985,000 from the General Fund is to provide workforce information, national electronic tools, and one-stop system building under the Wagner-Peyser Act and shall be available for Federal obligation for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009; and

(6) $14,649,000 from the General Fund is to provide for work incentive grants to the States and shall be available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009:

Provided, That to the extent that the Average Weekly Insured Unemployment (''AWIU'') for fiscal year 2008 is projected by the Department of Labor to exceed 2,786,000, an additional $28,600,000 from the Trust Fund shall be available for obligation for every 100,000 increase in the AWIU level (including a pro rata amount for any increment less than 100,000) to carry out title III of the Social Security Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this Act that are allotted to a State to carry out activities under title III of the Social Security Act may be used by such State to assist other States in carrying out activities under such title III if the other States include areas that have suffered a major disaster declared by the President under

the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act: Provided further, That the Secretary of Labor may use funds appropriated for grants to States under title III of the Social Security Act to make payments on behalf of States for the use of the National Directory of New Hires under section 453(j)(8) of such Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this Act which are used to establish a national one-stop career center system, or which are used to support the national activities of the Federal-State unemployment insurance or immigration programs, may be obligated in contracts, grants, or agreements with non-State entities: Provided further, That funds appropriated under this Act for activities authorized under title III of the Social Security Act and the Wagner-Peyser Act may be used by States to fund integrated Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service automation efforts, notwithstanding cost allocation principles prescribed under the Office of Management and Budget Circular A–87.

In addition, $40,000,000 from the Employment Security Administration Account of the Unemployment Trust Fund shall be available to conduct in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments in one-stop career centers of claimants of unemployment insurance: Provided, That not later than 180 days following the end of the current fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit an interim report to the Congress that includes available information on expenditures, number of individuals assessed, and outcomes from the assessments: Provided further, That not later than 18 months following the end of the fiscal year, the Secretary of Labor shall submit to the Congress a final report containing comprehensive information on the estimated savings that result from the assessments of claimants and identification of best practices.

ADVANCES TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND AND OTHER FUNDS

For repayable advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund as authorized by sections 905(d) and 1203 of the Social Security Act, and to the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund as authorized by section 9501(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954; and for nonrepayable advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund as authorized by section 8509 of title 5, United States Code, and to the ''Federal unemployment benefits and allowances'' account, to remain available until September 30, 2009, $437,000,000.

In addition, for making repayable advances to the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund in the current fiscal year after September 15, 2008, for costs incurred by the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund in the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

For expenses of administering employment and training programs, $88,451,000, together with not to exceed $88,211,000, which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, $142,925,000.

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION FUND

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation is authorized to make such expenditures, including financial assistance authorized by subtitle E of title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), within limits of funds and borrowing authority available to such Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act (31 U.S.C. 9104), as may be necessary in carrying out the program, including associated administrative expenses, through September 30, 2008, for such Corporation: Provided, That none of the funds available to the Corporation for fiscal year 2008 shall be available for obligations for administrative expenses in excess of $411,151,000: Provided further, That to the extent that the number of new plan participants in plans terminated by the Corporation exceeds 100,000 in fiscal year 2008, an amount not to exceed an additional $9,200,000 shall be available for obligation for administrative expenses for every 20,000 additional terminated participants: Provided further, That an additional $50,000 shall be made available for obligation for investment management fees for every $25,000,000 in assets received by the Corporation as a result of new plan terminations, after approval by the Office of Management and Budget and notification of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

For necessary expenses for the Employment Standards Administration, including reimbursement to State, Federal, and local agencies and their employees for inspection services rendered, $435,397,000, together with $2,111,000 which may be expended from the Special Fund in accordance with sections 39(c), 44(d), and 44(j) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act: Provided, That the Secretary of Labor is authorized to establish and, in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3302, collect and deposit in the Treasury fees for processing applications and issuing certificates under sections 11(d) and 14 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and for processing applications and issuing registrations under title I of the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act.

Of the unobligated funds collected pursuant to section 286(v) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, $102,000,000 are rescinded.

SPECIAL BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses (except administrative expenses) accruing during the current or any prior fiscal year authorized by chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code; continuation of benefits as provided for under the heading ''Civilian War Benefits'' in the Federal Security Agency Appropriation Act, 1947; the Employees' Compensation Commission Appropriation Act, 1944; sections 4(c) and 5(f) of the War Claims Act of 1948; and 50 percent of the additional compensation and benefits required by section 10(h) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, $203,000,000, together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent year appropriation for the payment of compensation and other benefits for any period subsequent to August 15 of the current year: Provided, That amounts appropriated may be used under section 8104 of title 5, United States Code, by the Secretary of Labor to reimburse an employer, who is not the employer at the time of injury, for portions of the salary of a reemployed, disabled beneficiary: Provided further, That balances of reimbursements unobligated on September 30, 2007, shall remain available until expended for the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses: Provided further, That in addition there shall be transferred to this appropriation from the Postal Service and from any other corporation or instrumentality required under section 8147(c) of title 5, United States Code, to pay an amount for its fair share of the cost of administration, such sums as the Secretary determines to be the cost of administration for employees of such fair share entities through September 30, 2008: Provided further, That of those funds transferred to this account from the fair share entities to pay the cost of administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, $52,280,000 shall be made available to the Secretary as follows:

(1) For enhancement and maintenance of automated data processing systems and telecommunications systems, $21,855,000.

(2) For automated workload processing operations, including document imaging, centralized mail intake and medical bill processing, $16,109,000.

(3) For periodic roll management and medical review, $14,316,000.

(4) The remaining funds shall be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts:

Provided further, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a notice of injury or a claim for benefits under chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, or the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, provide as part of such notice and claim, such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as such regulations may prescribe.

SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR DISABLED COAL MINERS

For carrying out title IV of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended by Public Law 107–275, $208,221,000, to remain available until expended.

For making after July 31 of the current fiscal year, benefit payments to individuals under title IV of such Act, for costs incurred in the current fiscal year, such amounts as may be necessary.

For making benefit payments under title IV for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $62,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to administer the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act, $104,745,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Secretary of Labor is authorized to transfer to any executive agency with authority under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act, including within the Department of Labor, such sums as may be necessary in fiscal year 2008 to carry out those authorities: Provided further, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a claim for benefits under the Act provide as part of such claim, such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as may be prescribed: Provided further, That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, in addition to other sums transferred by the Secretary to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (''NIOSH'') for the administration of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (''EEOICP''), the Secretary shall transfer $4,500,000 to NIOSH from the funds appropriated to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Fund, for use by or in support of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (''the Board'') to carry out its statutory responsibilities under the EEOICP, including obtaining audits, technical assistance and other support from the Board's audit contractor with regard to radiation dose estimation and reconstruction efforts, site profiles, procedures, and review of Special Exposure Cohort petitions and evaluation reports.

BLACK LUNG DISABILITY TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

In fiscal year 2008 and thereafter, such sums as may be necessary from the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund, to remain available until expended, for payment of all benefits authorized by section 9501(d)(1), (2), (4), and (7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954; and interest on advances, as authorized by section 9501(c)(2) of that Act. In addition, the following amounts shall be available from the Fund for fiscal year 2008 for expenses of operation and administration of the Black Lung Benefits program, as authorized by section 9501(d)(5): not to exceed $32,761,000 for transfer to the Employment Standards Administration ''Salaries and Expenses''; not to exceed $24,785,000 for transfer to Departmental Management, ''Salaries and Expenses''; not to exceed $335,000 for transfer to

Departmental Management, ''Office of Inspector General''; and not to exceed $356,000 for payments into miscellaneous receipts for the expenses of the Department of the Treasury.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, $500,568,000, including not to exceed $91,093,000 which shall be the maximum amount available for grants to States under section 23(g) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (the ''Act''), which grants shall be no less than 50 percent of the costs of State occupational safety and health programs required to be incurred under plans approved by the Secretary of Labor under section 18 of the Act; and, in addition, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration may retain up to $750,000 per fiscal year of training institute course tuition fees, otherwise authorized by law to be collected, and may utilize such sums for occupational safety and health training and education grants: Provided, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Secretary is authorized, during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, to collect and retain fees for services provided to Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories, and may utilize such sums, in accordance with the provisions of 29 U.S.C. 9a, to administer national and international laboratory recognition programs that ensure the safety of equipment and products used by workers in the workplace: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be obligated or expended to prescribe, issue, administer, or enforce any standard, rule, regulation, or order under the Act which is applicable to any person who is engaged in a farming operation which does not maintain a temporary labor camp and employs 10 or fewer employees: Provided further, That no funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be obligated or expended to administer or enforce any standard, rule, regulation, or order under the Act with respect to any employer of 10 or fewer employees who is included within a category having a Days Away, Restricted, or Transferred (DART) occupational injury and illness rate, at the most precise industrial classification code for which such data are published, less than the national average rate as such rates are most recently published by the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in accordance with section 24 of the Act, except—

(1) to provide, as authorized by the Act, consultation, technical assistance, educational and training services, and to conduct surveys and studies;

(2) to conduct an inspection or investigation in response to an employee complaint, to issue a citation for violations found during such inspection, and to assess a penalty for violations which are not corrected within a reasonable abatement period and for any willful violations found;

(3) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to imminent dangers;

(4) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to health hazards;

(5) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to a report of an employment accident which is fatal to one or more employees or which results in hospitalization of two or more employees, and to take any action pursuant to such investigation authorized by the Act; and

(6) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to complaints of discrimination against employees for exercising rights under the Act:

Provided further, That the foregoing proviso shall not apply to any person who is engaged in a farming operation which does not maintain a temporary labor camp and employs 10 or fewer employees: Provided further, That $10,116,000 shall be available for Susan Harwood training grants, of which $3,200,000 shall be used for the Institutional Competency Building training grants which commenced in September 2000, for program activities for the period of October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008, provided that a grantee has demonstrated satisfactory performance: Provided further, That such grants shall be awarded not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act: Provided further, That the Secretary shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate with timetables for the development and issuance of occupational safety and health standards on beryllium, silica, cranes and derricks, confined space entry in construction, and hazard communication global harmonization; such timetables shall include actual or estimated dates for: the publication of an advance notice of proposed rulemaking, the commencement and completion of a Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act review (if required), the completion of any peer review (if required), the submission of the draft proposed rule to the Office of Management and Budget for review under Executive Order No. 12866 (if required), the publication of a proposed rule, the conduct of public hearings, the submission of a draft final rule to the Office of Management and Budget for review under Executive Order No. 12866 (if required), and the issuance of a final rule; and such report shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 90 days of the enactment of this Act, with updates provided every 90 days thereafter that shall include an explanation of the reasons for any delays in meeting the projected timetables for action.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Mine Safety and Health Administration, $339,893,000, including purchase and bestowal of certificates and trophies in connection with mine rescue and first-aid work, and the hire of passenger motor vehicles, including up to $2,000,000 for mine rescue and recovery activities, $2,200,000 for an award to the United Mine Workers of America, for classroom and simulated rescue training for mine rescue teams, and $1,215,000 for an award to the Wheeling Jesuit University, for the National Technology Transfer Center for a coal slurry impoundment project; in addition, not to exceed $750,000 may be collected by the National Mine Health and Safety Academy for room, board, tuition, and the sale of training materials, otherwise authorized by law to be collected, to be available for mine safety and health education and training activities, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302; and, in addition, the Mine Safety and Health Administration may retain up to $1,000,000 from fees collected for the approval and certification of equipment, materials, and explosives for use in mines, and may utilize such sums for such activities; the Secretary of Labor is authorized to accept lands, buildings, equipment, and other contributions from public and private sources and to prosecute projects in cooperation with other agencies, Federal, State, or private; the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to promote health and safety education and training in the mining community through cooperative programs with States, industry, and safety associations; the Secretary is authorized to recognize the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association as a principal safety association and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, may provide funds and, with or without reimbursement, personnel, including service of Mine Safety and Health Administration officials as officers in local chapters or in the national organization; and any funds available to the Department may be used, with the approval of the Secretary, to provide for the costs of mine rescue and survival operations in the event of a major disaster.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Bureau of Labor Statistics, including advances or reimbursements to State, Federal, and local agencies and their employees for services rendered, $488,804,000, together with not to exceed $78,000,000, which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund, of which $5,000,000 may be used to fund the mass layoff statistics program under section 15 of the Wagner-Peyser Act: Provided, That the Current Employment Survey shall maintain the content of the survey issued prior to June 2005 with respect to the collection of data for the women worker series.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Disability Employment Policy to provide leadership, develop policy and initiatives, and award grants furthering the objective of eliminating barriers to the training and employment of people with disabilities, $27,712,000.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for Departmental Management, including the hire of three sedans, and including the management or operation, through contracts, grants or other arrangements of Departmental activities conducted by or through the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, including bilateral and multilateral technical assistance and other international labor activities, $304,856,000, of which $82,516,000 is for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (including $5,000,000 to implement model programs to address worker rights issues through technical assistance in countries with which the United States has trade preference programs), and of which $20,000,000 is for the acquisition of Departmental information technology, architecture, infrastructure, equipment, software and related needs, which will be allocated by the Department's Chief Information Officer in accordance with the Department's capital investment management process to assure a sound investment strategy; together with not to exceed $318,000, which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

OFFICE OF JOB CORPS

To carry out subtitle C of title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, including Federal administrative expenses, the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, the construction, alteration and repairs of buildings and other facilities, and the purchase of real property for training centers as authorized by the Workforce Investment Act; $1,650,516,000, plus reimbursements, as follows:

(1) $1,507,684,000 for Job Corps Operations, of which $916,684,000 is available for obligation for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 and of which $591,000,000 is available for obligation for the period October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;

(2) $113,960,000 for construction, rehabilitation and acquisition of Job Corps Centers, of which $13,960,000 is available for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011 and $100,000,000 is available for the period October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011; and

(3) $28,872,000 for necessary expenses of the Office of Job Corps is available for obligation for the period October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008:

Provided, That the Office of Job Corps shall have contracting authority: Provided further, That no funds from any other appropriation shall be used to provide meal services at or for Job Corps centers: Provided further, That none of the funds made available in this Act shall be used to reduce Job Corps total student training slots below 44,791 in program year 2008.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Not to exceed $197,143,000 may be derived from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund to carry out the provisions of sections 4100–4113, 4211–4215, and 4321–4327 of title 38, United States Code, and Public Law 103–353, and which shall be available for obligation by the States through December 31, 2008, of which $1,967,000 is for the National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute. To carry out the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Programs under section 5(a)(1) of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001 and the Veterans Workforce Investment Programs under section 168 of the Workforce Investment Act, $31,055,000, of which $7,435,000 shall be available for obligation for the period July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $72,929,000, together with not to exceed $5,729,000, which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. None of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Job Corps shall be used to pay the salary of an individual, either as direct costs or any proration as an indirect cost, at a rate in excess of Executive Level I.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 102. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for the Department of Labor in this Act may be transferred between a program, project, or activity, but no such program, project, or activity shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: Provided, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall be available only to meet emergency needs and shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: Provided further, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 103. In accordance with Executive Order No. 13126, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act shall be obligated or expended for the procurement of goods mined, produced, manufactured, or harvested or services rendered, whole or in part, by forced or indentured child labor in industries and host countries already identified by the United States Department of Labor prior to enactment of this Act.

SEC. 104. After September 30, 2007, the Secretary of Labor shall issue a monthly transit subsidy of not less than the full amount (of not less than $110) that each of its employees of the National Capital Region is eligible to receive.

SEC. 105. None of the funds appropriated in this title for grants under section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 may be obligated prior to the preparation and submission of a report by the Secretary of Labor to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the planned uses of such funds.

SEC. 106. There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to the Denali Commission through the Department of Labor to conduct job training of the local workforce where Denali Commission projects will be constructed.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available to the Department of Labor for grants under section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 may be used for any purpose other than training in the occupations and industries for which employers are using H–1B visas to hire foreign workers, and the related activities necessary to support such training: Provided, That the preceding limitation shall not apply to grants awarded under section 107 of this title and to multi-year grants awarded in response to competitive solicitations issued prior to April 15, 2007.

SEC. 108. None of the funds available in this Act or available to the Secretary of Labor from other sources for Community-Based Job Training grants and grants authorized under section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 shall be obligated for a grant awarded on a non-competitive basis.

SEC. 109. The Secretary of Labor shall take no action to amend, through regulatory or administration action, the definition established in 20 CFR 667.220 for functions and activities under title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, or to modify, through regulatory or administrative action, the procedure for redesignation of local areas as specified in subtitle B of title I of that Act (including applying the standards specified in section 116(a)(3)(B) of that Act, but notwithstanding the time limits specified in section 116(a)(3)(B) of that Act), until such time as legislation reauthorizing the Act is enacted. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall permit or require the Secretary of Labor to withdraw approval for such redesignation from a State that received the approval not later than October 12, 2005, or to revise action taken or modify the redesignation procedure being used by the Secretary in order to complete such redesignation for a State that initiated the process of such redesignation by submitting any request for such redesignation not later than October 26, 2005.

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act shall be available to finalize or implement any proposed regulation under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933, or the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002 until such time as legislation reauthorizing the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002 is enacted.

SEC. 111. (a) On or before November 30, 2007, the Secretary of Labor shall, pursuant to section 6 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, promulgate a final occupational safety and health standard concerning employer payment for personal protective equipment. The final standard shall provide no less protection to employees and shall have no further exceptions from the employer payment requirement than the proposed rule published in the Federal Register on March 31, 1999 (64 Fed. Reg. 15402).

(b) In the event that such standard is not promulgated by the date required, the proposed standard on employer payment for personal protective equipment published in the Federal Register on March 31, 1999 (64 Fed. Reg. 15402) shall become effective as if such standard had been promulgated as a final standard by the Secretary of Labor.

SEC. 112. None of the funds available in this Act may be used to carry out a public-private competition or direct conversion under Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 or any successor administrative regulation, directive or policy until 60 days after the Government Accountability Office provides a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the use of competitive sourcing at the Department of Labor.

SEC. 113. (a) Not later than June 20, 2008, the Secretary of Labor shall propose regulations pursuant to section 303(y) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, consistent with the recommendations of the Technical Study Panel established pursuant to section 11 of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act (Public Law 109–236), to require that in any coal mine, regardless of the date on which it was opened, belt haulage entries not be used to ventilate active working places without prior approval from the Assistant Secretary. Further, a mine ventilation plan incorporating the use of air coursed through belt haulage entries to ventilate active working places shall not be approved until the Assistant Secretary has reviewed the elements of the plan related to the use of belt air and determined that the plan at all times affords at least the same measure of protection where belt haulage entries are not used to ventilate working places. The Secretary shall finalize the regulations not later than December 31, 2008.

(b) Not later than June 15, 2008, the Secretary of Labor shall propose regulations pursuant to section 315 of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969, consistent with the recommendations of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health pursuant to section 13 of the MINER Act (Public Law 109–236), requiring rescue chambers, or facilities that afford at least the same measure of protection, in underground coal mines. The Secretary shall finalize the regulations not later than December 31, 2008.

SEC. 114. None of the funds appropriated in this Act under the heading ''Employment and Training Administration'' shall be used by a recipient or subrecipient of such funds to pay the salary and bonuses of an individual, either as direct costs or indirect costs, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. This limitation shall not apply to vendors providing goods and services as defined in OMB Circular A–133. Where States are recipients of such funds, States may establish a lower limit for salaries and bonuses of those receiving salaries and bonuses from subrecipients of such funds, taking into account factors including the relative cost-of-living in the State, the compensation levels for comparable State or local government employees, and the size of the organizations that administer Federal programs involved including Employment and Training Administration programs.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2008''.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES

For carrying out titles II, III, IV, VII, VIII, X, XII, XIX, and XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, section 427(a) of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act, title V and sections 1128E, and 711, and 1820 of the Social Security Act, the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986, the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act of 1988, the Cardiac Arrest Survival Act of 2000, and section 712 of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, $7,235,468,000, of which $317,684,000 shall be available for construction and renovation (including equipment) of health care and other facilities and other health-related activities as specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act, and of which $38,538,000 from general revenues, notwithstanding section 1820(j) of the Social Security Act, shall be available for carrying out the Medicare rural hospital flexibility grants program under such section: Provided, That of the funds made available under this heading, $160,000 shall be available until expended for facilities renovations at the Gillis W. Long Hansen's Disease Center: Provided further, That $40,000,000 of the funding provided for community health centers shall be for base grant adjustments for existing health centers: Provided further, That in addition to fees authorized by section 427(b) of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986, fees shall be collected for the full disclosure of information under the Act sufficient to recover the full costs of operating the National Practitioner Data Bank, and shall remain available until expended to carry out that Act: Provided further,

That fees collected for the full disclosure of information under the ''Health Care Fraud and Abuse Data Collection Program'', authorized by section 1128E(d)(2) of the Social Security Act, shall be sufficient to recover the full costs of operating the program, and shall remain available until expended to carry out that Act: Provided further, That no more than $40,000 is available until expended for carrying out the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 233(o) including associated administrative expenses and relevant evaluations: Provided further, That no more than $44,055,000 is available until expended for carrying out the provisions of Public Law 104–73 and for expenses incurred by the Department of Health and Human Services pertaining to administrative claims made under such law: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, $310,910,000 shall be for the program under title X of the Public Health Service Act to provide for voluntary family planning projects: Provided further, That amounts provided to said projects under such title shall not be expended for abortions, that all pregnancy counseling shall be nondirective, and that such amounts shall not be expended for any activity (including the publication or distribution of literature) that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal or candidate for public office: Provided further, That of the funds available under this heading, $1,868,809,000 shall remain available to the Secretary of Health and Human Services through September 30, 2010, for parts A and B of title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act: Provided further, That within the amounts provided for part A of title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, $9,377,000 is available to the Secretary of Health and Human Services through September 30, 2010, and shall be made available to qualifying jurisdictions within 45 days of enactment, for increasing supplemental grants for fiscal year 2008 to metropolitan areas that received grant funding in fiscal year 2007 under subpart I of part A of title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act to ensure that an area's total funding under subpart I of part A for fiscal year 2007, together with the amount of this additional funding, is not less than 91.6 percent of the amount of such area's total funding under part A for fiscal year 2006, and to transitional areas that received grant funding in fiscal year 2007 under subpart II of part A of title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act to ensure that an area's total funding under subpart II of part A for fiscal year 2007, together with the amount of this additional funding, is not less than 86.6 percent of the amount of such area's total funding under part A for fiscal year 2006: Provided further, That, notwithstanding section 2603(c)(1) of the Public Health Service Act, the additional funding to areas under the immediately preceding proviso, which may be used for costs incurred during fiscal year 2007, shall be available to the area for obligation from the date of the award through the end of the grant year for the award: Provided further, That $822,570,000 shall be for State AIDS Drug Assistance Programs authorized by section 2616 of the Public Health Service Act: Provided further, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $25,000,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out Parts A, B, C, and D of title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act to fund section 2691 Special Projects of National Significance: Provided further, That, notwithstanding section 502(a)(1) and 502(b)(1) of the Social Security Act, not to exceed $103,666,000 is available for carrying out special projects of regional and national significance pursuant to section 501(a)(2) of such Act and $10,586,000 is available for projects described in paragraphs (A) through (F) of section 501(a)(3) of such Act: Provided further, That of the funds provided, $39,283,000 shall be provided to the Denali Commission as a direct lump payment pursuant to Public Law 106–113: Provided further, That of the funds provided, $25,000,000 shall be provided for the Delta Health Initiative as authorized in section 219 of this Act and associated administrative expenses: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 747(e)(2) of the PHS Act, not less than $5,000,000 shall be for general dentistry programs, not less than $5,000,000 shall be for pediatric dentistry programs and not less than $24,614,000 shall be for family medicine programs: Provided further, That of the funds available under this heading, $12,000,000 shall be provided for the National Cord Blood Inventory pursuant to the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005.

HEALTH EDUCATION ASSISTANCE LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of the program, as authorized by title VII of the Public Health Service Act. For administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, including section 709 of the Public Health Service Act, $2,906,000.

VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM TRUST FUND

For payments from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Trust Fund, such sums as may be necessary for claims associated with vaccine-related injury or death with respect to vaccines administered after September 30, 1988, pursuant to subtitle 2 of title XXI of the Public Health Service Act, to remain available until expended: Provided, That for necessary administrative expenses, not to exceed $6,000,000 shall be available from the Trust Fund to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

DISEASE CONTROL, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING

To carry out titles II, III, VII, XI, XV, XVII, XIX, XXI, and XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, sections 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 203, 301, 501, and 514 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, section 13 of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act of 2006, sections 20, 21, and 22 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, and for expenses necessary to support activities related to countering potential biological, disease, nuclear, radiological, and chemical threats to civilian populations; including purchase and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries; and purchase, hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft, $6,288,289,000, of which $147,000,000 shall remain available until expended for equipment, construction and renovation of facilities; of which $568,803,000 shall remain available until expended for the Strategic National Stockpile; of which $52,500,000 shall be available until expended to provide screening and treatment for first response emergency services personnel, residents, students, and others related to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center; and of which $121,541,000 for international HIV/AIDS shall remain available until September 30, 2009. In addition, such sums as may be derived from authorized user fees, which shall be credited to this account: Provided, That in addition to amounts provided herein, the following amounts shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act: (1) $12,794,000 to carry out the National Immunization Surveys; (2) $116,550,000 to carry out the National Center for Health Statistics surveys; (3) $24,751,000 to carry out information systems standards development and architecture and applications-based research used at local public health levels; (4) $44,523,000 for Health Marketing; (5) $31,000,000 to carry out Public Health Research; and (6) $97,404,000 to carry out research activities within the National Occupational Research Agenda: Provided further, That none of the funds made available for injury prevention and control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may be used, in whole or in part, to advocate or promote gun control: Provided further, That up to $31,800,000 shall be made available until expended for Individual Learning Accounts for full-time equivalent employees of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Provided further, That the Director may redirect the total amount made available under authority of Public Law 101–502, section 3, dated November 3, 1990, to activities the Director may so designate: Provided further, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are to be notified promptly of any such transfer: Provided further, That not to exceed $19,414,000 may be available for making grants under section 1509 of the Public Health Service Act to not less than 15 States, tribes, or tribal organizations: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, a single contract or related contracts for development and construction of facilities may be employed which collectively include the full scope of the project: Provided further, That the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause ''availability of funds'' found at 48 CFR 52.232–18: Provided further, That of the funds appropriated, $10,000 is for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Provided further, That employees of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Public Health Service, both civilian and Commissioned Officers, detailed to States, municipalities, or other organizations under authority of section 214 of the Public Health Service Act, or in overseas assignments, shall be treated as non-Federal employees for reporting purposes only and shall not be included within any personnel ceiling applicable to the Agency, Service, or the Department of Health and Human Services during the period of detail or assignment: Provided further, That out of funds made available under this heading for domestic HIV/AIDS testing, up to $30,000,000 shall be for States eligible under section 2625 of the Public Health Service Act as of December 31, 2007 and shall be distributed by March 31, 2008 based on standard criteria relating to a State's epidemiological profile, and of which not more than $1,000,000 may be made available to any one State, and any amounts that have not been obligated by March 31, 2008 shall be used to make grants authorized by other provisions of the Public Health Service Act to States and local public health departments for HIV prevention activities.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to cancer, $4,925,740,000, of which up to $8,000,000 may be used for facilities repairs and improvements at the NCI-Frederick Federally Funded Research and Development Center in Frederick, Maryland.

NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to cardiovascular, lung, and blood diseases, and blood and blood products, $3,001,691,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL AND CRANIOFACIAL RESEARCH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to dental disease, $399,867,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to diabetes and digestive and kidney disease, $1,753,037,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND STROKE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to neurological disorders and stroke, $1,578,210,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to allergy and infectious diseases, $4,682,585,000: Provided, That $300,000,000 may be made available to International Assistance Programs ''Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis'', to remain available until expended: Provided further, That such sums obligated in fiscal years 2003 through 2007 for extramural facilities construction projects are to remain available until expended for disbursement, with prior notification of such projects to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GENERAL MEDICAL SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to general medical sciences, $1,984,879,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to child health and human development, $1,286,379,000.

NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to eye diseases and visual disorders, $684,126,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For carrying out sections 301 and 311 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to environmental health sciences, $658,258,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to aging, $1,076,389,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SKIN DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to arthritis and musculoskeletal and skin diseases, $521,459,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to deafness and other communication disorders, $403,958,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NURSING RESEARCH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to nursing research, $140,900,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to alcohol abuse and alcoholism, $447,245,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to drug abuse, $1,025,839,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to mental health, $1,440,557,000.

NATIONAL HUMAN GENOME RESEARCH INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to human genome research, $498,748,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL IMAGING AND BIOENGINEERING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to biomedical imaging and bioengineering research, $305,884,000.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to research resources and general research support grants, $1,182,015,000.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to complementary and alternative medicine, $124,647,000.

NATIONAL CENTER ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to minority health and health disparities research, $204,542,000.

JOHN E. FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CENTER

For carrying out the activities of the John E. Fogarty International Center (described in subpart 2 of part E of title IV of the Public Health Service Act), $68,216,000.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the Public Health Service Act with respect to health information communications, $329,039,000, of which $4,000,000 shall be available until expended for improvement of information systems: Provided, That in fiscal year 2008, the National Library of Medicine may enter into personal services contracts for the provision of services in facilities owned, operated, or constructed under the jurisdiction of the National Institutes of Health: Provided further, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $8,200,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out the purposes of the National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology established under section 478A of the Public Health Service Act and related health services.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

For carrying out the responsibilities of the Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, $1,145,790,000, of which up to $25,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 215 of this Act: Provided, That funding shall be available for the purchase of not to exceed 29 passenger motor vehicles for replacement only: Provided further, That the National Institutes of Health is authorized to collect third party payments for the cost of clinical services that are incurred in National Institutes of Health research facilities and that such payments shall be credited to the National Institutes of Health Management Fund: Provided further, That all funds credited to such Fund shall remain available for one fiscal year after the fiscal year in which they are deposited: Provided further, That no more than $500,000 shall be available to carry out section 499 of the Public Health Service Act: Provided further, That $110,900,000 shall be available for continuation of the National Children's Study: Provided further, That $531,300,000 shall be available for the Common Fund established under section 402A(c)(1) of the Public Health Service Act: Provided further, That of the funds provided $10,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Director of the National Institutes of Health: Provided further, That the Office of AIDS Research within the Office of the Director of the National Institutes of Health may spend up to $4,000,000 to make grants for construction or renovation of facilities as provided for in section 2354(a)(5)(B) of the Public Health Service Act.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the study of, construction of, renovation of, and acquisition of equipment for, facilities of or used by the National Institutes of Health, including the acquisition of real property, $130,000,000, to remain available until expended.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

For carrying out titles V and XIX of the Public Health Service Act (''PHS Act'') with respect to substance abuse and mental health services, the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act, and section 301 of the PHS Act with respect to program management, $3,290,848,000, of which $19,644,000 shall be available for the projects and in the amounts specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act: Provided, That notwithstanding section 520A(f)(2) of the PHS Act, no funds appropriated for carrying out section 520A are available for carrying out section 1971 of the PHS Act: Provided further, That in addition to amounts provided herein, the following amounts shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act: (1) $79,200,000 to carry out subpart II of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act to fund section 1935(b) technical assistance, national data, data collection and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for section 1935(b) activities shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart II of part B of title XIX; (2) $21,413,000 to carry out subpart I of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act to fund section 1920(b) technical assistance, national data, data collection and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for section 1920(b) activities shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart I of part B of title XIX; (3) $19,750,000 to carry out national surveys on drug abuse; and (4) $4,300,000 to evaluate substance abuse treatment programs: Provided further, That section 520E(b)(2) of the Public Health Service Act shall not apply to funds appropriated under this Act for fiscal year 2008.

AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

For carrying out titles III and IX of the Public Health Service Act, and part A of title XI of the Social Security Act, amounts received from Freedom of Information Act fees, reimbursable and interagency agreements, and the sale of data shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: Provided, That the amount made available pursuant to section 937(c) of the Public Health Service Act shall not exceed $334,564,000.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

GRANTS TO STATES FOR MEDICAID

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act, $141,628,056,000, to remain available until expended.

For making, after May 31, 2008, payments to States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the last quarter of fiscal year 2008 for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making payments to States or in the case of section 1928 on behalf of States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $67,292,669,000, to remain available until expended.

Payment under title XIX may be made for any quarter with respect to a State plan or plan amendment in effect during such quarter, if submitted in or prior to such quarter and approved in that or any subsequent quarter.

PAYMENTS TO HEALTH CARE TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, as provided under section 1844 and 1860D–16 of the Social Security Act, sections 103(c) and 111(d) of the Social Security Amendments of 1965, section 278(d) of Public Law 97–248, and for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g) of the Social Security Act, $188,828,000,000.

In addition, for making matching payments under section 1844, and benefit payments under section 1860D–16 of the Social Security Act, not anticipated in budget estimates, such sums as may be necessary.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI, XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act, titles XIII and XXVII of the

Public Health Service Act, and the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, not to exceed $3,276,502,000, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act; together with all funds collected in accordance with section 353 of the Public Health Service Act and section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act, funds retained by the Secretary pursuant to section 302 of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006; and such sums as may be collected from authorized user fees and the sale of data, which shall remain available until expended: Provided, That all funds derived in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 9701 from organizations established under title XIII of the Public Health Service Act shall be credited to and available for carrying out the purposes of this appropriation: Provided further, That $49,869,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, is for contract costs for the Healthcare Integrated General Ledger Accounting System: Provided further, That $193,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, is for CMS Medicare contracting reform activities: Provided further, That funds appropriated under this heading are available for the Healthy Start, Grow Smart program under which the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services may, directly or through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, produce and distribute informational materials including, but not limited to, pamphlets and brochures on infant and toddler health care to expectant parents enrolled in the Medicaid program and to parents and guardians enrolled in such program with infants and children: Provided further, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services is directed to collect fees in fiscal year 2008 from Medicare Advantage organizations pursuant to section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act and from eligible organizations with risk-sharing contracts under section 1876 of that Act pursuant to section 1876(k)(4)(D) of that Act: Provided further, That $5,140,000 shall be available for the projects and in the amounts specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD ABUSE AND CONTROL ACCOUNT

In addition to amounts otherwise available for program integrity and program management, $383,000,000, to be available until expended, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Insurance Trust Funds, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act, of which $249,620,000 is for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for carrying out program integrity activities with respect to title XVIII of such Act, including activities authorized under the Medicare Integrity Program under section 1893 of such Act; of which $35,000,000 is for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for carrying out Medicaid IPIA Compliance with respect to titles XIX and XXI of such Act; and of which, for carrying out fraud and abuse control activities authorized by section 1817(k)(3) of such Act, $36,690,000 is for the Department of Justice; $36,690,000 is for the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General, and $25,000,000 is for the Department of Health and Human Services: Provided, That the report required by section 1817(k)(5) of such Act for fiscal year 2008 shall include measures of the operational efficiency and impact on fraud, waste and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid programs of the funds provided by this appropriation.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

For making payments to States or other non-Federal entities under titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960 (24 U.S.C. chapter 9), $2,949,713,000, to remain available until expended; and for such purposes for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $1,000,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For making payments to each State for carrying out the program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children under title IV–A of the Social Security Act before the effective date of the program of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) with respect to such State, such sums as may be necessary: Provided, That the sum of the amounts available to a State with respect to expenditures under such title IV–A in fiscal year 1997 under this appropriation and under such title IV–A as amended by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 shall not exceed the limitations under section 116(b) of such Act.

For making, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, payments to States or other non-Federal entities under titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960 (24 U.S.C. chapter 9), for the last 3 months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

For making payments under section 2604(a)–(d) of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8623(a)–(d)), $1,980,000,000.

For making payments under section 2604(e) of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8623(e)), $431,585,000, notwithstanding the designation requirement of section 2602(e) of such Act.

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses for refugee and entrant assistance activities and for costs associated with the care and placement of unaccompanied alien children authorized by title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, for carrying out section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, and for carrying out the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998, $652,394,000, of which up to $9,814,000 shall be available to carry out the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000: Provided, That funds appropriated under this heading pursuant to section 414(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 for fiscal year 2008 shall be available for the costs of assistance provided and other activities to remain available through September 30, 2010.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

For carrying out the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, $2,094,581,000 shall be used to supplement, not supplant State general revenue funds for child care assistance for low-income families: Provided, That $18,777,370 shall be available for child care resource and referral and school-aged child care activities, of which $982,080 shall be for the Child Care Aware toll-free hotline: Provided further, That, in addition to the amounts required to be reserved by the States under section 658G, $267,785,718 shall be reserved by the States for activities authorized under section 658G, of which $98,208,000 shall be for activities that improve the quality of infant and toddler care: Provided further, That $9,821,000 shall be for use by the Secretary for child care research, demonstration, and evaluation activities.

In addition, $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, shall be for carrying out the small business child care grant program under section 8303 of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007.

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

For making grants to States pursuant to section 2002 of the Social Security Act, $1,700,000,000: Provided, That notwithstanding subparagraph (B) of section 404(d)(2) of such Act, the applicable percent specified under such subparagraph for a State to carry out State programs pursuant to title XX of such Act shall be 10 percent.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the Head Start Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, sections 310 and 316 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Native American Programs Act of 1974, title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (adoption opportunities), sections 330F and 330G of the Public Health Service Act, the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988, sections 261 and 291 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, part B(1) of title IV and sections 413, 1110, and 1115 of the Social Security Act; for making payments under the Community Services Block Grant Act, sections 439(i), 473B, and 477(i) of the Social Security Act, and the Assets for Independence Act, and for necessary administrative expenses to carry out such Acts and titles I, IV, V, X, XI, XIV, XVI, and XX of the Social Security Act, the Act of July 5, 1960 (24 U.S.C. chapter 9), the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, and section 505 of the Family Support Act of 1988, $9,220,695,000, of which $4,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, shall be for grants to States for adoption incentive payments, as authorized by section 473A of the Social Security Act and may be made for adoptions completed before September 30, 2008: Provided, That $7,042,196,000 shall be for making payments under the Head Start Act, of which $1,388,800,000 shall become available October 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009: Provided further, That $706,125,000 shall be for making payments under the Community Services Block Grant Act: Provided further, That not less than $8,000,000 shall be for section 680(3)(B) of the Community Services Block Grant Act: Provided further, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $6,000,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out the provisions of section 1110 of the Social Security Act: Provided further, That to the extent Community Services Block Grant funds are distributed as grant funds by a State to an eligible entity as provided under the Act, and have not been expended by such entity, they shall remain with such entity for carryover into the next fiscal year for expenditure by such entity consistent with program purposes: Provided further, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall establish procedures regarding the disposition of intangible property which permits grant funds, or intangible assets acquired with funds authorized under section 680 of the Community Services Block Grant Act to become the sole property of such grantees after a period of not more than 12 years after the end of the grant for purposes and uses consistent with the original grant: Provided further, That funds appropriated for section 680(a)(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act shall be available for financing construction and rehabilitation and loans or investments in private business enterprises owned by community development corporations: Provided further, That $53,625,000 is for a compassion capital fund to provide grants to charitable organizations to emulate model social service programs and to encourage research on the best practices of social service organizations: Provided further, That $18,820,000 shall be for activities authorized by the Help America Vote Act of 2002, of which $12,920,000 shall be for payments to States to promote access for voters with disabilities, and of which $5,900,000 shall be for payments to States for protection and advocacy systems for voters with disabilities: Provided

further, That $136,664,000 shall be for making competitive grants to provide abstinence education (as defined by section 510(b)(2) of the Social Security Act) to adolescents, and for Federal costs of administering the grant: Provided further, That grants under the immediately preceding proviso shall be made only to public and private entities which agree that, with respect to an adolescent to whom the entities provide abstinence education under such grant, the entities will not provide to that adolescent any other education regarding sexual conduct, except that, in the case of an entity expressly required by law to provide health information or services the adolescent shall not be precluded from seeking health information or services from the entity in a different setting than the setting in which abstinence education was provided: Provided further, That within amounts provided herein for abstinence education for adolescents, up to $10,000,000 may be available for a national abstinence education campaign: Provided further, That in addition to amounts provided herein for abstinence education for adolescents, $4,500,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out evaluations (including longitudinal evaluations) of adolescent pregnancy prevention approaches: Provided further, That up to $2,000,000 shall be for improving the Public Assistance Reporting Information System, including grants to States to support data collection for a study of the system's effectiveness.

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES

For carrying out section 436 of the Social Security Act, $345,000,000 and section 437, $89,100,000.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE

For making payments to States or other non-Federal entities under title IV–E of the Social Security Act, $5,067,000,000.

For making payments to States or other non-Federal entities under title IV–E of the Act, for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $1,776,000,000.

For making, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, payments to States or other non-Federal entities under section 474 of title IV–E, for the last 3 months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

AGING SERVICES PROGRAMS

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Older Americans Act of 1965 and section 398 of the Public Health Service Act, $1,446,651,000, of which $5,500,000 shall be available for activities regarding medication management, screening, and education to prevent incorrect medication and adverse drug reactions.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, for general departmental management, including hire of six sedans, and for carrying out titles III, XVII, XX, and XXI of the Public Health Service Act, the Lifespan Respite Care Act, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission Act, and research studies under section 1110 of the Social Security Act, $387,070,000, together with $5,851,000 to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Supplemental Medical Insurance Trust Fund, and $46,756,000 from the amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out national health or human services research and evaluation activities: Provided, That of the funds made available under this heading for carrying out title XX of the Public Health Service Act, $13,120,000 shall be for activities specified under section 2003(b)(2), all of which shall be for prevention service demonstration grants under section 510(b)(2) of title V of the Social Security Act, as amended, without application of the limitation of section 2010(c) of said title XX: Provided further, That of this amount, $51,891,000 shall be for minority AIDS prevention and treatment activities; and $5,941,000 shall be to assist Afghanistan in the development of maternal and child health clinics, consistent with section 103(a)(4)(H) of the Afghanistan Freedom Support Act of 2002; and $1,000,000 shall be transferred, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, to the National Institute of Mental Health to administer the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee; and $5,500,000 shall be for a Health Diplomacy Initiative and may be used to carry out health diplomacy activities such as health training, services, education, and program evaluation, provided directly, through grants, or through contracts: Provided further, That specific information requests from the chairmen and ranking members of the Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, on scientific research or any other matter, shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations in a prompt, professional manner and within the time frame specified in the request: Provided further, That scientific information, including such information provided in congressional testimony, requested by the Committees on Appropriations and prepared by government researchers and scientists shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations, uncensored and without delay: Provided further, That funds provided in this Act for embryo adoption activities may be used to provide, to individuals adopting embryos, through grants and other mechanisms, medical and administrative services deemed necessary for such adoptions: Provided further, That such services shall be provided consistent with 42 CFR 59.5(a)(4).

OFFICE OF MEDICARE HEARINGS AND APPEALS

For expenses necessary for administrative law judges responsible for hearing cases under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (and related provisions of title XI of such Act), $67,500,000, to be transferred in appropriate part from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

For expenses necessary for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, including grants, contracts and cooperative agreements for the development and advancement of an interoperable national health information technology infrastructure, $27,651,000: Provided, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $38,500,000 shall be available from amounts available under section 241 of the Public Health Service Act to carry out health information technology network development.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles for investigations, in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $45,187,000: Provided, That of such amount, necessary sums are available for providing protective services to the Secretary and investigating non-payment of child support cases for which non-payment is a Federal offense under 18 U.S.C. 228.

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, $33,748,000, together with not to exceed $3,314,000 to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Supplemental Medical Insurance Trust Fund.

RETIREMENT PAY AND MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

For retirement pay and medical benefits of Public Health Service Commissioned Officers as authorized by law, for payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan and Survivor Benefit Plan, for medical care of dependents and retired personnel under the Dependents' Medical Care Act (10 U.S.C. chapter 55), such amounts as may be required during the current fiscal year.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary to support activities related to countering potential biological, disease, nuclear, radiological and chemical threats to civilian populations, and for other public health emergencies, $741,586,000, of which not to exceed $22,363,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, is to pay the costs described in section 319F–2(c)(7)(B) of the Public Health Service Act, and of which $149,250,000 shall be used to support advanced research and development of medical countermeasures, consistent with section 319L of the Public Health Service Act.

For expenses necessary to prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic, $763,923,000, of which $685,832,000 shall be available until expended, for activities including the development and purchase of vaccine, antivirals, necessary medical supplies, diagnostics, and other surveillance tools: Provided, That products purchased with these funds may, at the discretion of the Secretary, be deposited in the Strategic National Stockpile: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 496(b) of the Public Health Service Act, funds may be used for the construction or renovation of privately owned facilities for the production of pandemic influenza vaccines and other biologicals, where the Secretary finds such a contract necessary to secure sufficient supplies of such vaccines or biologicals: Provided further, That funds appropriated herein may be transferred to other appropriation accounts of the Department of Health and Human Services, as determined by the Secretary to be appropriate, to be used for the purposes specified in this sentence.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. Funds appropriated in this title shall be available for not to exceed $50,000 for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

SEC. 202. The Secretary shall make available through assignment not more than 60 employees of the Public Health Service to assist in child survival activities and to work in AIDS programs through and with funds provided by the Agency for International Development, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund or the World Health Organization.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated in this Act for the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration shall be used to pay the salary of an individual, through a grant or other extramural mechanism, at a rate in excess of Executive Level I.

SEC. 204. None of the funds appropriated in this title for Head Start shall be used to pay the compensation of an individual, either as direct costs or any proration as an indirect cost, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II.

SEC. 205. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be expended pursuant to section 241 of the Public Health Service Act, except for funds specifically provided for in this Act, or for other taps and assessments made by any office located in the Department of Health and Human Services, prior to the preparation and submission of a report by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the planned uses of such funds.

SEC. 206. Notwithstanding section 241(a) of the Public Health Service Act, such portion as

the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall determine, but not more than 2.4 percent, of any amounts appropriated for programs authorized under such Act shall be made available for the evaluation (directly, or by grants or contracts) of the implementation and effectiveness of such programs.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 207. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for the Department of Health and Human Services in this Act may be transferred between a program, project, or activity, but no such program, project, or activity shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: Provided, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall be available only to meet emergency needs and shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: Provided further, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 208. The Director of the National Institutes of Health, jointly with the Director of the Office of AIDS Research, may transfer up to 3 percent among institutes and centers from the total amounts identified by these two Directors as funding for research pertaining to the human immunodeficiency virus: Provided, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 209. Of the amounts made available in this Act for the National Institutes of Health, the amount for research related to the human immunodeficiency virus, as jointly determined by the Director of the National Institutes of Health and the Director of the Office of AIDS Research, shall be made available to the ''Office of AIDS Research'' account. The Director of the Office of AIDS Research shall transfer from such account amounts necessary to carry out section 2353(d)(3) of the Public Health Service Act.

SEC. 210. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be made available to any entity under title X of the Public Health Service Act unless the applicant for the award certifies to the Secretary that it encourages family participation in the decision of minors to seek family planning services and that it provides counseling to minors on how to resist attempts to coerce minors into engaging in sexual activities.

SEC. 211. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no provider of services under title X of the Public Health Service Act shall be exempt from any State law requiring notification or the reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, or incest.

SEC. 212. None of the funds appropriated by this Act (including funds appropriated to any trust fund) may be used to carry out the Medicare Advantage program if the Secretary of Health and Human Services denies participation in such program to an otherwise eligible entity (including a Provider Sponsored Organization) because the entity informs the Secretary that it will not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or provide referrals for abortions: Provided, That the Secretary shall make appropriate prospective adjustments to the capitation payment to such an entity (based on an actuarially sound estimate of the expected costs of providing the service to such entity's enrollees): Provided further, That nothing in this section shall be construed to change the Medicare program's coverage for such services and a Medicare Advantage organization described in this section shall be responsible for informing enrollees where to obtain information about all Medicare covered services.

SEC. 213. (a) Except as provided by subsection (e) none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to withhold substance abuse funding from a State pursuant to section 1926 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–26) if such State certifies to the Secretary of Health and Human Services by May 1, 2008, that the State will commit additional State funds, in accordance with subsection (b), to ensure compliance with State laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to individuals under 18 years of age.

(b) The amount of funds to be committed by a State under subsection (a) shall be equal to 1 percent of such State's substance abuse block grant allocation for each percentage point by which the State misses the retailer compliance rate goal established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 1926 of such Act.

(c) The State is to maintain State expenditures in fiscal year 2008 for tobacco prevention programs and for compliance activities at a level that is not less than the level of such expenditures maintained by the State for fiscal year 2007, and adding to that level the additional funds for tobacco compliance activities required under subsection (a). The State is to submit a report to the Secretary on all fiscal year 2007 State expenditures and all fiscal year 2008 obligations for tobacco prevention and compliance activities by program activity by July 31, 2008.

(d) The Secretary shall exercise discretion in enforcing the timing of the State obligation of the additional funds required by the certification described in subsection (a) as late as July 31, 2008.

(e) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to withhold substance abuse funding pursuant to section 1926 of the Public Health Service Act from a territory that receives less than $1,000,000.

SEC. 214. In order for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to carry out international health activities, including HIV/AIDS and other infectious disease, chronic and environmental disease, and other health activities abroad during fiscal year 2008:

(1) The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this section referred to as the ''Secretary of HHS'') may exercise authority equivalent to that available to the Secretary of State in section 2(c) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2669(c)). The Secretary of HHS shall consult with the Secretary of State and relevant Chief of Mission to ensure that the authority provided in this section is exercised in a manner consistent with section 207 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3927) and other applicable statutes administered by the Department of State.

(2) The Secretary of HHS is authorized to provide such funds by advance or reimbursement to the Secretary of State as may be necessary to pay the costs of acquisition, lease, alteration, renovation, and management of facilities outside of the United States for the use of the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department of State shall cooperate fully with the Secretary of HHS to ensure that the Department of Health and Human Services has secure, safe, functional facilities that comply with applicable regulation governing location, setback, and other facilities requirements and serve the purposes established by this Act. The Secretary of HHS is authorized, in consultation with the Secretary of State, through grant or cooperative agreement, to make available to public or nonprofit private institutions or agencies in participating foreign countries, funds to acquire, lease, alter, or renovate facilities in those countries as necessary to conduct programs of assistance for international health activities, including activities relating to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, chronic and environmental diseases, and other health activities abroad.

SEC. 215. (a) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director of the National Institutes of Health (in this section referred to as the ''Director of NIH'') may use funds available under section 402(b)(7) or 402(b)(12) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282(b)(7), 282(b)(12)) to enter into transactions (other than contracts, cooperative agreements, or grants) to carry out research identified pursuant to such section 402(b)(7) (pertaining to the Common Fund) or research and activities described in such section 402(b)(12).

(b) PEER REVIEW.—In entering into transactions under subsection (a), the Director of the NIH may utilize such peer review procedures (including consultation with appropriate scientific experts) as the Director determines to be appropriate to obtain assessments of scientific and technical merit. Such procedures shall apply to such transactions in lieu of the peer review and advisory council review procedures that would otherwise be required under sections 301(a)(3), 405(b)(1)(B), 405(b)(2), 406(a)(3)(A), 492, and 494 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241(a)(3), 284(b)(1)(B), 284(b)(2), 284a(a)(3)(A), 289a, and 289c).

SEC. 216. Funds which are available for Individual Learning Accounts for employees of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (''CDC'') and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (''ATSDR)'' may be transferred to ''Disease Control, Research, and Training'', to be available only for Individual Learning Accounts: Provided, That such funds may be used for any individual full-time equivalent employee while such employee is employed either by CDC or ATSDR.

SEC. 217. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, funds made available in this Act may be used to continue operating the Council on Graduate Medical Education established by section 301 of Public Law 102–408.

SEC. 218. The Director of the National Institutes of Health shall require that all investigators funded by the NIH submit or have submitted for them to the National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts upon acceptance for publication, to be made publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication: Provided, That the NIH shall implement the public access policy in a manner consistent with copyright law.

SEC. 219. (a) The Secretary of Health and Human Services is authorized to award a grant to the Delta Health Alliance, a nonprofit alliance of academic institutions in the Mississippi Delta region that has as its primary purposes addressing longstanding, unmet health needs and catalyzing economic development in the Mississippi Delta.

(b) To be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a), the Delta Health Alliance shall solicit and fund proposals from local governments, hospitals, health care clinics, academic institutions, and rural public health-related entities and organizations for research development, educational programs, health care services, job training, and planning, construction, and equipment of public health-related facilities in the Mississippi Delta region.

(c) With respect to the use of grant funds under this section for construction or major alteration of property, the Federal interest in the property involved shall last for a period of 1 year following the completion of the project or until such time that the Federal Government is compensated for its proportionate interest in the property if the property use changes or the property is transferred or sold, whichever time period is less. At the conclusion of such period, the Notice of Federal Interest in such property shall be removed.

(d) There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section in fiscal year 2008 and in each of the five succeeding fiscal years.

SEC. 220. Not to exceed $35,000,000 of funds appropriated by this Act to the institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health may be

used for alteration, repair, or improvement of facilities, as necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the activities authorized herein, at not to exceed $2,500,000 per project.

SEC. 221. (a) PROHIBITION.—With respect to the 2010–2011 influenza season, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) shall not use or make available any funds for the administration of any influenza vaccine containing thimerosal as a preservative (thimerosal-free) to any child under 3 years of age, unless the Secretary:

(1) finds that there is inadequate supply of thimerosal-free influenza vaccine for the covered population and for the respective influenza season; or

(2) finds that an actual or potential public health situation justifies the use of other influenza vaccine for children under 3 years of age; and

(3) gives written notice of such findings (and an explanation of the basis for the findings) to the Congress and of actions the Secretary is taking to ensure adequate supply of pediatric thimerosal-free influenza vaccine for the following influenza season.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—To improve public confidence in the safety of vaccines, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a plan no later than April 1, 2008—

(1) to work proactively with manufacturers of influenza vaccine to facilitate the approval of thimerosal-free influenza vaccine for administration to children under 3 years of age;

(2) to increase the Federal Government's purchases of thimerosal-free influenza vaccine; and

(3) to take any other actions determined appropriate by the Secretary to increase the supply of thimerosal-free influenza vaccine.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 222. Of the amounts made available in this Act for the National Institutes of Health, 1 percent of the amount made available for National Research Service Awards (NRSA) shall be made available to the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration to make NRSA awards for research in primary medical care to individuals affiliated with entities who have received grants or contracts under section 747 of the Public Health Service Act, and 1 percent of the amount made available for NRSA shall be made available to the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to make NRSA awards for health service research.

SEC. 223. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used—

(1) for the Ombudsman Program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

(2) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide additional rotating pastel lights, zero-gravity chairs, or dry-heat saunas for its fitness center.

SEC. 224. There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the ''Nonrecurring expenses fund'' (the Fund): Provided, That unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated for this or any succeeding fiscal year from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Department of Health and Human Services by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated) into the Fund: Provided further, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available until expended, and in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for capital acquisition necessary for the operation of the Department, including facilities infrastructure and information technology infrastructure, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget: Provided further, That amounts in the Fund may be obligated only after the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations Act, 2008''.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

For carrying out title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA'') and section 418A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $15,930,691,000, of which $7,611,423,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $8,136,218,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for academic year 2008–2009: Provided, That $6,808,971,000 shall be for basic grants under section 1124: Provided further, That up to $4,000,000 of these funds shall be available to the Secretary of Education on October 1, 2007, to obtain annually updated local educational-agency-level census poverty data from the Bureau of the Census: Provided further, That $1,365,031,000 shall be for concentration grants under section 1124A: Provided further, That $3,068,680,000 shall be for targeted grants under section 1125: Provided further, That $3,068,680,000 shall be for education finance incentive grants under section 1125A: Provided further, That $9,330,000 shall be to carry out sections 1501 and 1503: Provided further, That $1,634,000 shall be available for a comprehensive school reform clearinghouse.

IMPACT AID

For carrying out programs of financial assistance to federally affected schools authorized by title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, $1,262,778,000, of which $1,126,192,000 shall be for basic support payments under section 8003(b), $49,466,000 shall be for payments for children with disabilities under section 8003(d), $17,820,000 shall be for construction under section 8007(b) and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, $64,350,000 shall be for Federal property payments under section 8002, and $4,950,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for facilities maintenance under section 8008: Provided, That for purposes of computing the amount of a payment for an eligible local educational agency under section 8003(a) for school year 2007–2008, children enrolled in a school of such agency that would otherwise be eligible for payment under section 8003(a)(1)(B) of such Act, but due to the deployment of both parents or legal guardians, or a parent or legal guardian having sole custody of such children, or due to the death of a military parent or legal guardian while on active duty (so long as such children reside on Federal property as described in section 8003(a)(1)(B)), are no longer eligible under such section, shall be considered as eligible students under such section, provided such students remain in average daily attendance at a school in the same local educational agency they attended prior to their change in eligibility status.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

For carrying out school improvement activities authorized by title II, part B of title IV, subparts 6 and 9 of part D of title V, parts A and B of title VI, and parts B and C of title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA''); the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002; the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003; and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, $5,411,758,000, of which $3,790,731,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $1,435,000,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for academic year 2008–2009: Provided, That funds made available to carry out part B of title VII of the ESEA may be used for construction, renovation and modernization of any elementary school, secondary school, or structure related to an elementary school or secondary school, run by the Department of Education of the State of Hawaii, that serves a predominantly Native Hawaiian student body: Provided further, That from the funds referred to in the preceding proviso, not less than $1,250,000 shall be for a grant to the Department of Education of the State of Hawaii for the activities described in such proviso, and $1,250,000 shall be for a grant to the University of Hawaii School of Law for a Center of Excellence in Native Hawaiian law: Provided further, That funds made available to carry out part C of title VII of the ESEA may be used for construction: Provided further, That up to 100 percent of the funds available to a State educational agency under part D of title II of the ESEA may be used for subgrants described in section 2412(a)(2)(B) of such Act: Provided further, That $58,129,000 shall be available to carry out section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002: Provided further, That $34,376,000 shall be available to carry out part D of title V of the ESEA: Provided further, That no funds appropriated under this heading may be used to carry out section 5494 under the ESEA: Provided further, That $18,001,000 shall be available to carry out the Supplemental Education Grants program for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands: Provided further, That up to 5 percent of these amounts may be reserved by the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands to administer the Supplemental Education Grants programs and to obtain technical assistance, oversight and consultancy services in the administration of these grants and to reimburse the United States Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education for such services: Provided further, That $3,000,000 of the funds available for the Foreign Language Assistance Program shall be available for 5-year grants to local educational agencies that would work in partnership with one or more institutions of higher education to establish or expand articulated programs of study in languages critical to United States national security that will enable successful students to advance from elementary school through college to achieve a superior level of proficiency in those languages.

INDIAN EDUCATION

For expenses necessary to carry out, to the extent not otherwise provided, title VII, part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, $124,000,000.

INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

For carrying out activities authorized by part G of title I, subpart 5 of part A and parts C and D of title II, parts B, C, and D of title V, and section 1504 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA''), $1,010,084,000: Provided, That $9,821,000 shall be provided to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to carry out section 2151(c) of the ESEA: Provided further, That from funds for subpart 4, part C of title II, up to 3 percent shall be available to the Secretary for technical assistance and dissemination of information: Provided further, That $361,917,000 shall be available to carry out part D of title V of the ESEA: Provided further, That $103,293,000 of the funds for subpart 1, part D of title V of the ESEA shall be available for the projects and in the amounts specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act: Provided further, That $99,000,000 of the funds for subpart 1 shall be for competitive grants to local educational agencies, including charter schools that are local educational agencies, or States, or partnerships of: (1) a local educational agency, a State, or both; and (2) at least one non-profit organization to develop and implement performance-based teacher and principal compensation systems in high-need

schools: Provided further, That such performance-based compensation systems must consider gains in student academic achievement as well as classroom evaluations conducted multiple times during each school year among other factors and provide educators with incentives to take on additional responsibilities and leadership roles: Provided further, That up to 5 percent of such funds for competitive grants shall be available for technical assistance, training, peer review of applications, program outreach and evaluation activities: Provided further, That of the funds available for part B of title V, the Secretary shall use up to $24,783,000 to carry out activities under section 5205(b) and under subpart 2, and shall use not less than $190,000,000 to carry out other activities authorized under subpart 1.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

For carrying out activities authorized by subpart 3 of part C of title II, part A of title IV, and subparts 2, 3, and 10 of part D of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA''), $708,835,000, of which $300,000,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009: Provided, That $300,000,000 shall be available for subpart 1 of part A of title IV and $222,519,000 shall be available for subpart 2 of part A of title IV, of which not less than $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the Project School Emergency Response to Violence (''Project SERV'') program to provide education-related services to local educational agencies and to institutions of higher education in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis: Provided further, That Project SERV funds appropriated in previous fiscal years may be used to provide services to local educational agencies and to institutions of higher education in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis: Provided further, That $152,998,000 shall be available to carry out part D of title V of the ESEA: Provided further, That of the funds available to carry out subpart 3 of part C of title II, up to $12,072,000 may be used to carry out section 2345 and $3,025,000 shall be used by the Center for Civic Education to implement a comprehensive program to improve public knowledge, understanding, and support of the Congress and the State legislatures.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

For carrying out part A of title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, $722,717,000, which shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, except that 6.5 percent of such amount shall be available on October 1, 2007, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, to carry out activities under section 3111(c)(1)(C).

SPECIAL EDUCATION

For carrying out the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (''IDEA'') and the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, $12,357,999,000, of which $5,461,394,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $6,654,982,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for academic year 2008–2009: Provided, That $13,000,000 shall be for Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, Inc., to support activities under section 674(c)(1)(D) of the IDEA: Provided further, That $1,500,000 shall be for the recipient of funds provided by Public Law 105–78 under section 687(b)(2)(G) of the IDEA (as in effect prior to the enactment of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004) to provide information on diagnosis, intervention, and teaching strategies for children with disabilities: Provided further, That the amount for section 611(b)(2) of the IDEA shall be equal to the lesser of the amount available for that activity during fiscal year 2007, increased by the amount of inflation as specified in section 619(d)(2)(B) of the IDEA, or the percentage increase in the funds appropriated under section 611(i) of the IDEA: Provided further, That nothing in section 674(e) of the IDEA shall be construed to establish a private right of action against the National Instructional Materials Access Center for failure to perform the duties of such center or otherwise authorize a private right of action related to the performance of such center: Provided further, That $8,000,000 shall be available to support the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (''the AT Act''), and the Helen Keller National Center Act, $3,285,985,000, of which $1,000,000 shall be awarded to the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists for activities that further the purposes of the grant received by the Academy for the period beginning October 1, 2003, including activities to meet the demand for orthotic and prosthetic provider services and improve patient care: Provided, That $3,242,000 of the funds for section 303 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 shall be available for the projects and in the amounts specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act.

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

For carrying out the Act of March 3, 1879, $22,000,000.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

For the National Technical Institute for the Deaf under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, $60,757,000, of which $1,705,000 shall be for construction and shall remain available until expended: Provided, That from the total amount available, the Institute may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act.

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

For the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School, the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, and the partial support of Gallaudet University under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, $115,400,000: Provided, That from the total amount available, the University may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207.

CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, subpart 4 of part D of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (''ESEA'') and title VIII–D of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, $2,013,329,000, of which $1,218,252,000 shall become available on July 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, and of which $791,000,000 shall become available on October 1, 2008, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009: Provided, That of the amount provided for Adult Education State Grants, $69,759,000 shall be made available for integrated English literacy and civics education services to immigrants and other limited English proficient populations: Provided further, That of the amount reserved for integrated English literacy and civics education, notwithstanding section 211 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, 65 percent shall be allocated to States based on a State's absolute need as determined by calculating each State's share of a 10-year average of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services data for immigrants admitted for legal permanent residence for the 10 most recent years, and 35 percent allocated to States that experienced growth as measured by the average of the 3 most recent years for which United States Citizenship and Immigration Services data for immigrants admitted for legal permanent residence are available, except that no State shall be allocated an amount less than $60,000: Provided further, That of the amounts made available for the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, $7,000,000 shall be for national leadership activities under section 243 and $6,638,000 shall be for the National Institute for Literacy under section 242: Provided further, That $81,532,000 shall be available to support the activities authorized under subpart 4 of part D of title V of the ESEA, of which up to 5 percent shall become available October 1, 2007, and shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for evaluation, technical assistance, school networks, peer review of applications, and program outreach activities, and of which not less than 95 percent shall become available on July 1, 2008, and remain available through September 30, 2009, for grants to local educational agencies: Provided further, That funds made available to local educational agencies under this subpart shall be used only for activities related to establishing smaller learning communities within large high schools or small high schools that provide alternatives for students enrolled in large high schools.

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

For carrying out subparts 1, 3, and 4 of part A, part C and part E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $16,379,883,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2009.

The maximum Pell Grant for which a student shall be eligible during award year 2008–2009 shall be $4,435.

Of the unobligated funds available under section 401A(e)(1)(C) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $525,000,000 are rescinded.

For an additional amount to carry out subpart 1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $525,000,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2009.

STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out part D of title I, and subparts 1, 3, and 4 of part A, and parts B, C, D, and E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $708,216,000, which shall remain available until expended.

HIGHER EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, titles II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (''HEA''), section 1543 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1992, the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, title VIII of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, part I of subtitle A of title VI of the America COMPETES Act, and section 117 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, $2,095,608,000: Provided, That $9,699,000, to remain available through September 30, 2009, shall be available to fund fellowships for academic year 2009–2010 under subpart 1 of part A of title VII of the HEA, under the terms and conditions of such subpart 1: Provided further, That $620,000 is for data collection and evaluation activities for programs under the HEA, including such activities needed to comply with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this Act to carry out title VI of the HEA and section 102(b)(6) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 may be used to support visits and study in foreign countries by individuals who are participating in advanced foreign language training and international studies in areas that are vital to United States national security and who plan to apply their language skills and

knowledge of these countries in the fields of government, the professions, or international development: Provided further, That of the funds referred to in the preceding proviso up to 1 percent may be used for program evaluation, national outreach, and information dissemination activities: Provided further, That the funds provided for title II of the HEA shall be allocated notwithstanding section 210 of such Act: Provided further, That $104,399,000 of the funds for part B of title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 shall be available for the projects and in the amounts specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

For partial support of Howard University, $237,392,000, of which not less than $3,526,000 shall be for a matching endowment grant pursuant to the Howard University Endowment Act (Public Law 98–480) and shall remain available until expended.

COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES LOANS PROGRAM

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out activities related to existing facility loans pursuant to section 121 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $481,000.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For administrative expenses to carry out the Historically Black College and University Capital Financing Program entered into pursuant to part D of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, $188,000.

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

For carrying out activities authorized by the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, and section 664 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, $561,315,000, of which $293,155,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Department of Education Organization Act, including rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and hire of three passenger motor vehicles, $420,698,000, of which $3,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for building alterations and related expenses for the move of Department staff to the Mary E. Switzer building in Washington, DC.

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, as authorized by section 203 of the Department of Education Organization Act, $93,771,000.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of the Inspector General, as authorized by section 212 of the Department of Education Organization Act, $53,239,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to overcome racial imbalance in any school or school system, or for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to carry out a plan of racial desegregation of any school or school system.

SEC. 302. None of the funds contained in this Act shall be used to require, directly or indirectly, the transportation of any student to a school other than the school which is nearest the student's home, except for a student requiring special education, to the school offering such special education, in order to comply with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For the purpose of this section an indirect requirement of transportation of students includes the transportation of students to carry out a plan involving the reorganization of the grade structure of schools, the pairing of schools, or the clustering of schools, or any combination of grade restructuring, pairing or clustering. The prohibition described in this section does not include the establishment of magnet schools.

SEC. 303. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used to prevent the implementation of programs of voluntary prayer and meditation in the public schools.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 304. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the Department of Education in this Act may be transferred between appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: Provided, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall be available only to meet emergency needs and shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: Provided further, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 305. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to promulgate, implement, or enforce any revision to the regulations in effect under section 496 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 on June 1, 2007, until legislation specifically requiring such revision is enacted.

SEC. 306. (a) MAINTENANCE OF INTEGRITY AND ETHICAL VALUES WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.—Within 30 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall implement procedures—

(1) to assess whether a covered individual or entity has a potential financial interest in, or bias towards, a product or service purchased with, or guaranteed or insured by, funds administered by the Department of Education or a contracted entity of the Department; and

(2) to disclose the existence of any such potential financial interest or bias.

(b) REVIEW BY INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

(1) Within 30 days after the implementation of the procedures described in subsection (a), the Inspector General of the Department of Education shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the adequacy of such procedures.

(2) Within 1 year, the Inspector General shall conduct at least 1 audit to ensure that such procedures are properly implemented and are adequate to uncover and disclose the existence of potential financial interests or bias described in subsection (a).

(3) The Inspector General shall report to such Committees any recommendations for modifications to such procedures that the Inspector General determines are necessary to uncover and disclose the existence of such potential financial interests or bias.

(c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ''covered individual or entity'' means—

(1) an officer or professional employee of the Department of Education;

(2) a contractor or subcontractor of the Department, or an individual hired by the contracted entity;

(3) a member of a peer review panel of the Department; or

(4) a consultant or advisor to the Department.

SEC. 307. (a) Notwithstanding section 8013(9)(B) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, North Chicago Community Unit School District 187, North Shore District 112, and Township High School District 113 in Lake County, Illinois, and Glenview Public School District 34 and Glenbrook High School District 225 in Cook County, Illinois, shall be considered local educational agencies as such term is used in and for purposes of title VIII of such Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, federally connected children (as determined under section 8003(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who are in attendance in the North Shore District 112, Township High School District 113, Glenview Public School District 34, and Glenbrook High School District 225 described in subsection (a), shall be considered to be in attendance in the North Chicago Community Unit School District 187 described in subsection (a) for purposes of computing the amount that the North Chicago Community Unit School District 187 is eligible to receive under subsection (b) or (d) of such section if—

(1) such school districts have entered into an agreement for such students to be so considered and for the equitable apportionment among all such school districts of any amount received by the North Chicago Community Unit School District 187 under such section; and

(2) any amount apportioned among all such school districts pursuant to paragraph (1) is used by such school districts only for the direct provision of educational services.

SEC. 308. Prior to January 1, 2008, the Secretary of Education may not terminate any voluntary flexible agreement under section 428A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 that existed on October 1, 2007. With respect to an entity with which the Secretary of Education had a voluntary flexible agreement under section 428A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 on October 1, 2007 that is not cost neutral, if the Secretary terminates such agreement on or after January 1, 2008, the Secretary of Education shall, not later than March 31, 2008, negotiate to enter, and enter, into a new voluntary flexible agreement with such entity so that the agreement is cost neutral, unless such entity does not want to enter into such agreement.

SEC. 309. Notwithstanding section 102(a)(4)(A) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, the Secretary of Education shall not take into account a bankruptcy petition filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of New York on February 21, 2001, in determining whether a nonprofit educational institution that is a subsidiary of an entity that filed such petition meets the definition of an ''institution of higher education'' under section 102 of that Act.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2008''.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled established by Public Law 92–28, $4,994,000.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the Corporation for National and Community Service to carry out the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (''1973 Act'') and the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (''1990 Act''), $798,065,000, of which $313,054,000 is to carry out the 1973 Act and $485,011,000 is to carry out the 1990 Act: Provided, That up to 1 percent of program grant funds may be used to defray the costs of conducting grant application reviews, including the use of outside peer reviewers and electronic management of the grants cycle: Provided further, That none of the funds made available under this heading for activities authorized by section 122 and part E of title II of the 1973 Act shall be used to provide stipends or other monetary incentives to program participants or volunteer leaders whose incomes exceed the income

guidelines in subsections 211(e) and 213(b) of the 1973 Act: Provided further, That notwithstanding subtitle H of title I of the 1990 Act, none of the funds provided for quality and innovation activities shall be used to support salaries and related expenses (including travel) attributable to Corporation for National and Community Service employees: Provided further, That of the amounts provided under this heading: (1) not less than $126,121,000, to remain available until expended, to be transferred to the National Service Trust for educational awards authorized under subtitle D of title I of the 1990 Act: Provided further, That in addition to these funds, the Corporation may transfer funds from the amount provided for AmeriCorps grants under the National Service Trust Program, to the National Service Trust authorized under subtitle D of title I of the 1990 Act, upon determination that such transfer is necessary to support the activities of national service participants and after notice is transmitted to the Congress; (2) not more than $55,000,000 of funding provided for grants under the National Service Trust program authorized under subtitle C of title I of the 1990 Act may be used to administer, reimburse, or support any national service program authorized under section 129(d)(2) of such Act; (3) $12,000,000 shall be to provide assistance to State commissions on national and community service, under section 126(a) of the 1990 Act and notwithstanding section 501(a)(4) of the 1990 Act; and (4) not less than $5,000,000 shall be for the acquisition, renovation, equipping and startup costs for a campus located in Vinton, Iowa and a campus in Vicksburg, Mississippi to carry out subtitle G of title I of the 1990 Act.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administration as provided under section 501(a)(4) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 and under section 504(a) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, the employment of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109, and not to exceed $2,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $68,964,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, $6,900,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the term ''qualified student loan'' with respect to national service education awards shall mean any loan determined by an institution of higher education to be necessary to cover a student's cost of attendance at such institution and made, insured, or guaranteed directly to a student by a State agency, in addition to other meanings under section 148(b)(7) of the National and Community Service Act.

SEC. 402. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available under section 129(d)(5)(B) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to assist entities in placing applicants who are individuals with disabilities may be provided to any entity that receives a grant under section 121 of the Act.

SEC. 403. The Inspector General of the Corporation for National and Community Service shall conduct random audits of the grantees that administer activities under the AmeriCorps programs and shall levy sanctions in accordance with standard Inspector General audit resolution procedures which include, but are not limited to, debarment of any grantee (or successor in interest or any entity with substantially the same person or persons in control) that has been determined to have committed any substantial violation of the requirements of the AmeriCorps programs, including any grantee that has been determined to have violated the prohibition of using Federal funds to lobby the Congress: Provided, That the Inspector General shall obtain reimbursements in the amount of any misused funds from any grantee that has been determined to have committed any substantial violation of the requirements of the AmeriCorps programs.

SEC. 404. The Corporation for National and Community Service shall make any significant changes to program requirements, service delivery or policy only through public notice and comment rulemaking. For fiscal year 2008, during any grant selection process, an officer or employee of the Corporation shall not knowingly disclose any covered grant selection information regarding such selection, directly or indirectly, to any person other than an officer or employee of the Corporation that is authorized by the Corporation to receive such information.

SEC. 405. Professional Corps programs described in section 122(a)(8) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 may apply to the Corporation for a waiver of application of section 140(c)(2).

SEC. 406. Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Corporation may solicit and accept the services of organizations and individuals (other than participants) to assist the Corporation in carrying out the duties of the Corporation under the national service laws: Provided, That an individual who provides services under this section shall be subject to the same protections and limitations as volunteers under section 196(a) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

SEC. 407. Organizations operating projects under the AmeriCorps Education Awards Program shall do so without regard to the requirements of sections 121(d) and (e), 131(e), 132, and 140(a), (d), and (e) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

SEC. 408. AmeriCorps programs receiving grants under the National Service Trust program shall meet an overall minimum share requirement of 24 percent for the first three years that they receive AmeriCorps funding, and thereafter shall meet the overall minimum share requirement as provided in section 2521.60 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, without regard to the operating costs match requirement in section 121(e) or the member support Federal share limitations in section 140 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, and subject to partial waiver consistent with section 2521.70 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.

CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

For payment to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, as authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, an amount which shall be available within limitations specified by that Act, for the fiscal year 2010, $420,000,000: Provided, That no funds made available to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by this Act shall be used to pay for receptions, parties, or similar forms of entertainment for Government officials or employees: Provided further, That none of the funds contained in this paragraph shall be available or used to aid or support any program or activity from which any person is excluded, or is denied benefits, or is discriminated against, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex: Provided further, That no funds made available to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by this Act shall be used to apply any political test or qualification in selecting, appointing, promoting, or taking any other personnel action with respect to officers, agents, and employees of the Corporation: Provided further, That for fiscal year 2008, in addition to the amounts provided above, $29,700,000 shall be for costs related to digital program production, development, and distribution, associated with the transition of public broadcasting to digital broadcasting, to be awarded as determined by the Corporation in consultation with public radio and television licensees or permittees, or their designated representatives: Provided further, That for fiscal year 2008, in addition to the amounts provided above, $26,750,000 is available pursuant to section 396(k)(10) of the Communications Act of 1934 for replacement and upgrade of the public radio interconnection system: Provided further, That none of the funds made available to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by this Act, the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007 (Public Law 110–5), or the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–149), shall be used to support the Television Future Fund or any similar purpose.

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; for expenses necessary for the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978; and for expenses necessary for the Service to carry out the functions vested in it by the Civil Service Reform Act, Public Law 95–454, $44,450,000, including $650,000 to remain available through September 30, 2009, for activities authorized by the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978: Provided, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, fees charged, up to full-cost recovery, for special training activities and other conflict resolution services and technical assistance, including those provided to foreign governments and international organizations, and for arbitration services shall be credited to and merged with this account, and shall remain available until expended: Provided further, That fees for arbitration services shall be available only for education, training, and professional development of the agency workforce: Provided further, That the Director of the Service is authorized to accept and use on behalf of the United States gifts of services and real, personal, or other property in the aid of any projects or functions within the Director's jurisdiction.

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, $8,096,000.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

OFFICE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES: GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996 and the National Museum of African American History and Culture Act, $277,131,000: Provided, That funds may be made available for support through inter-agency agreement or grant to commemorative Federal commissions that support museum and library activities, in partnership with libraries and museums that are eligible for funding under programs carried out by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out section 1805 of the Social Security Act, $10,748,000, to be transferred to this appropriation from the Federal Hospital Insurance and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For close out activities of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, established by the Act of July 20, 1970 (Public Law 91–345, as amended), $400,000.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Council on Disability as authorized by title IV of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, $3,113,000.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Labor Relations Board to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, and other laws, $256,988,000: Provided, That no part of this appropriation shall be available to organize or assist in organizing agricultural laborers or used in connection with investigations, hearings, directives, or orders concerning bargaining units composed of agricultural laborers as referred to in section 2(3) of the Act of July 5, 1935, and as amended by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, and as defined in section 3(f) of the Act of June 25, 1938, and including in said definition employees engaged in the maintenance and operation of ditches, canals, reservoirs, and waterways when maintained or operated on a mutual, nonprofit basis and at least 95 percent of the water stored or supplied thereby is used for farming purposes.

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, including emergency boards appointed by the President, $12,992,000, of which $750,000 shall be for arbitrator salaries and expenses pursuant to section 153(1).

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, $10,696,000.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For payment to the Dual Benefits Payments Account, authorized under section 15(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, $79,000,000, which shall include amounts becoming available in fiscal year 2008 pursuant to section 224(c)(1)(B) of Public Law 98–76; and in addition, an amount, not to exceed 2 percent of the amount provided herein, shall be available proportional to the amount by which the product of recipients and the average benefit received exceeds the amount available for payment of vested dual benefits: Provided, That the total amount provided herein shall be credited in 12 approximately equal amounts on the first day of each month in the fiscal year.

FEDERAL PAYMENTS TO THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

For payment to the accounts established in the Treasury for the payment of benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act for interest earned on unnegotiated checks, $150,000, to remain available through September 30, 2009, which shall be the maximum amount available for payment pursuant to section 417 of Public Law 98–76.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for the Railroad Retirement Board for administration of the Railroad Retirement Act and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, $103,694,000, to be derived in such amounts as determined by the Board from the railroad retirement accounts and from moneys credited to the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund.

LIMITATION ON THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General for audit, investigatory and review activities, as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, not more than $7,803,000, to be derived from the railroad retirement accounts and railroad unemployment insurance account: Provided, That none of the funds made available in any other paragraph of this Act may be transferred to the Office; used to carry out any such transfer; used to provide any office space, equipment, office supplies, communications facilities or services, maintenance services, or administrative services for the Office; used to pay any salary, benefit, or award for any personnel of the Office; used to pay any other operating expense of the Office; or used to reimburse the Office for any service provided, or expense incurred, by the Office: Provided further, That funds made available under the heading in this Act, or subsequent Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Acts, may be used for any audit, investigation, or review of the Medicare Program.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

PAYMENTS TO SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, as provided under sections 201(m), 217(g), 228(g), and 1131(b)(2) of the Social Security Act, $28,140,000.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM

For carrying out titles XI and XVI of the Social Security Act, section 401 of Public Law 92–603, section 212 of Public Law 93–66, as amended, and section 405 of Public Law 95–216, including payment to the Social Security trust funds for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act, $27,014,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That any portion of the funds provided to a State in the current fiscal year and not obligated by the State during that year shall be returned to the Treasury.

For making, after June 15 of the current fiscal year, benefit payments to individuals under title XVI of the Social Security Act, for unanticipated costs incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making benefit payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, $14,800,000,000, to remain available until expended.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including the hire of two passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed $15,000 for official reception and representation expenses, not more than $9,522,953,000 may be expended, as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act, from any one or all of the trust funds referred to therein: Provided, That not less than $2,000,000 shall be for the Social Security Advisory Board: Provided further, That unobligated balances of funds provided under this paragraph at the end of fiscal year 2008 not needed for fiscal year 2008 shall remain available until expended to invest in the Social Security Administration information technology and telecommunications hardware and software infrastructure, including related equipment and non-payroll administrative expenses associated solely with this information technology and telecommunications infrastructure: Provided further, That reimbursement to the trust funds under this heading for expenditures for official time for employees of the Social Security Administration pursuant to section 7131 of title 5, United States Code, and for facilities or support services for labor organizations pursuant to policies, regulations, or procedures referred to in section 7135(b) of such title shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury, with interest, from amounts in the general fund not otherwise appropriated, as soon as possible after such expenditures are made.

From funds provided under the first paragraph, not less than $263,970,000 shall be available for conducting continuing disability reviews under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act and for conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act.

In addition to amounts made available above, and subject to the same terms and conditions, $213,000,000, for additional continuing disability reviews and redeterminations of eligibility.

In addition, $135,000,000 to be derived from administration fees in excess of $5.00 per supplementary payment collected pursuant to section 1616(d) of the Social Security Act or section 212(b)(3) of Public Law 93–66, which shall remain available until expended. To the extent that the amounts collected pursuant to such sections in fiscal year 2008 exceed $135,000,000, the amounts shall be available in fiscal year 2009 only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

In addition, up to $1,000,000 to be derived from fees collected pursuant to section 303(c) of the Social Security Protection Act (Public Law 108–203), which shall remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $27,000,000, together with not to exceed $68,047,000, to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund.

In addition, an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the total provided in this appropriation may be transferred from the ''Limitation on Administrative Expenses'', Social Security Administration, to be merged with this account, to be available for the time and purposes for which this account is available: Provided, That notice of such transfers shall be transmitted promptly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 501. The Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education are authorized to transfer unexpended balances of prior appropriations to accounts corresponding to current appropriations provided in this Act. Such transferred balances shall be used for the same purpose, and for the same periods of time, for which they were originally appropriated.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. (a) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, for the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or video presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress or any State legislature, except in presentation to the Congress or any State legislature itself.

(b) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence legislation or appropriations pending before the Congress or any State legislature.

SEC. 504. The Secretaries of Labor and Education are authorized to make available not to exceed $28,000 and $20,000, respectively, from funds available for salaries and expenses under titles I and III, respectively, for official reception and representation expenses; the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $5,000 from the funds available for ''Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Salaries and expenses''; and the Chairman of the National Mediation Board is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $5,000 from funds available for ''National Mediation Board, Salaries and expenses''.

SEC. 505. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds appropriated in this Act

shall be used to carry out any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.

SEC. 506. When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, all grantees receiving Federal funds included in this Act, including but not limited to State and local governments and recipients of Federal research grants, shall clearly state—

(1) the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;

(2) the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and

(3) percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.

SEC. 507. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for any abortion.

(b) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for health benefits coverage that includes coverage of abortion.

(c) The term ''health benefits coverage'' means the package of services covered by a managed care provider or organization pursuant to a contract or other arrangement.

SEC. 508. (a) The limitations established in the preceding section shall not apply to an abortion—

(1) if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or

(2) in the case where a woman suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness, including a life-endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that would, as certified by a physician, place the woman in danger of death unless an abortion is performed.

(b) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as prohibiting the expenditure by a State, locality, entity, or private person of State, local, or private funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(c) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as restricting the ability of any managed care provider from offering abortion coverage or the ability of a State or locality to contract separately with such a provider for such coverage with State funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(d)(1) None of the funds made available in this Act may be made available to a Federal agency or program, or to a State or local government, if such agency, program, or government subjects any institutional or individual health care entity to discrimination on the basis that the health care entity does not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or refer for abortions.

(2) In this subsection, the term ''health care entity'' includes an individual physician or other health care professional, a hospital, a provider-sponsored organization, a health maintenance organization, a health insurance plan, or any other kind of health care facility, organization, or plan.

SEC. 509. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for—

(1) the creation of a human embryo or embryos for research purposes; or

(2) research in which a human embryo or embryos are destroyed, discarded, or knowingly subjected to risk of injury or death greater than that allowed for research on fetuses in utero under 45 CFR 46.204(b) and section 498(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289g(b)).

(b) For purposes of this section, the term ''human embryo or embryos'' includes any organism, not protected as a human subject under 45 CFR 46 as of the date of the enactment of this Act, that is derived by fertilization, parthenogenesis, cloning, or any other means from one or more human gametes or human diploid cells.

SEC. 510. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any activity that promotes the legalization of any drug or other substance included in schedule I of the schedules of controlled substances established under section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) except for normal and recognized executive-congressional communications.

(b) The limitation in subsection (a) shall not apply when there is significant medical evidence of a therapeutic advantage to the use of such drug or other substance or that federally sponsored clinical trials are being conducted to determine therapeutic advantage.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to promulgate or adopt any final standard under section 1173(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d–2(b)) providing for, or providing for the assignment of, a unique health identifier for an individual (except in an individual's capacity as an employer or a health care provider), until legislation is enacted specifically approving the standard.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended to enter into or renew a contract with an entity if—

(1) such entity is otherwise a contractor with the United States and is subject to the requirement in section 4212(d) of title 38, United States Code, regarding submission of an annual report to the Secretary of Labor concerning employment of certain veterans; and

(2) such entity has not submitted a report as required by that section for the most recent year for which such requirement was applicable to such entity.

SEC. 513. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

SEC. 514. None of the funds made available by this Act to carry out the Library Services and Technology Act may be made available to any library covered by paragraph (1) of section 224(f) of such Act, as amended by the Children's Internet Protection Act, unless such library has made the certifications required by paragraph (4) of such section.

SEC. 515. None of the funds made available by this Act to carry out part D of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 may be made available to any elementary or secondary school covered by paragraph (1) of section 2441(a) of such Act, as amended by the Children's Internet Protection Act and the No Child Left Behind Act, unless the local educational agency with responsibility for such covered school has made the certifications required by paragraph (2) of such section.

SEC. 516. (a) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2008, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(4) relocates an office or employees;

(5) reorganizes or renames offices;

(6) reorganizes programs or activities; or

(7) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier.

(b) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2008, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects (including construction projects), or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress;

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier.

SEC. 517. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to request that a candidate for appointment to a Federal scientific advisory committee disclose the political affiliation or voting history of the candidate or the position that the candidate holds with respect to political issues not directly related to and necessary for the work of the committee involved.

(b) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to disseminate scientific information that is deliberately false or misleading.

SEC. 518. Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, each department and related agency funded through this Act shall submit an operating plan that details at the program, project, and activity level any funding allocations for fiscal year 2008 that are different than those specified in this Act, the accompanying detailed table in the committee report, or the fiscal year 2008 budget request.

SEC. 519. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the evaluation of the Upward Bound program described in the absolute priority for Upward Bound Program participant selection and evaluation published by the Department of Education in the Federal Register on September 22, 2006 (71 Fed. Reg. 55447 et seq.).

SEC. 520. None of the funds in this Act may be used to employ workers described in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

SEC. 521. The Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education shall each prepare and submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the number and amount of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements exceeding $100,000 in value and awarded by the Department on a non-competitive basis during each quarter of fiscal year 2008, but not to include grants awarded on a formula basis. Such report shall include the name of the contractor or grantee, the amount of funding, and the governmental purpose. Such report shall be transmitted to the Committees within 30 days after the end of the quarter for which the report is submitted.

SEC. 522. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Departments, agencies, and commissions funded under this Act, shall establish and maintain on the homepages of their Internet websites—

(1) a direct link to the Internet websites of their Offices of Inspectors General; and

(2) a mechanism on the Offices of Inspectors General website by which individuals may anonymously report cases of waste, fraud, or

abuse with respect to those Departments, agencies, and commissions.

SEC. 523. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract in an amount greater than $5,000,000 or to award a grant in excess of such amount unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies in writing to the agency awarding the contract or grant that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the contractor or grantee has filed all Federal tax returns required during the three years preceding the certification, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has not, more than 90 days prior to certification, been notified of any unpaid Federal tax assessment for which the liability remains unsatisfied, unless the assessment is the subject of an installment agreement or offer in compromise that has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service and is not in default, or the assessment is the subject of a non-frivolous administrative or judicial proceeding.

SEC. 524. Section 1848(l)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act, as amended by section 6 of the TMA, Abstinence Education, and QI Programs Extension Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–90), is amended by striking ''$1,350,000,000'' and inserting ''$1,200,000,000, but in no case shall expenditures from the Fund in fiscal year 2008 exceed $650,000,000'' in the first sentence.

SEC. 525. Iraqi and Afghan aliens granted special immigrant status under section 101(a)(27) of the Immigration and Nationality Act shall be eligible for resettlement assistance, entitlement programs, and other benefits available to refugees admitted under section 207 of such Act for a period not to exceed 6 months.

SEC. 526. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Commissioner of Social Security or the Social Security Administration to pay the compensation of employees of the Social Security Administration to administer Social Security benefit payments, under any agreement between the United States and Mexico establishing totalization arrangements between the social security system established by title II of the Social Security Act and the social security system of Mexico, which would not otherwise be payable but for such agreement.

SEC. 527. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be expended or obligated by the Commissioner of Social Security, for purposes of administering Social Security benefit payments under title II of the Social Security Act, to process claims for credit for quarters of coverage based on work performed under a social security account number that was not the claimant's number which is an offense prohibited under section 208 of the Social Security Act.

This Division may be cited as the ''Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008''.

DIVISION B—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Army as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Army Corps of Engineers and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, and for construction and operation of facilities in support of the functions of the Commander in Chief, $3,950,383,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: Provided, That of this amount, not to exceed $321,983,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: Provided further, That of the funds appropriated for ''Military Construction, Army'' under Public Law 110–5, $8,690,000 are hereby rescinded.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, naval installations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, $2,220,784,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: Provided, That of this amount, not to exceed $113,017,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: Provided further, That of the funds appropriated for ''Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps'' under Public Law 108–132, $5,862,000; under Public Law 108–324, $2,069,000; and under Public Law 110–5, $2,626,000 are hereby rescinded.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force as currently authorized by law, $1,159,747,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: Provided, That of this amount, not to exceed $43,721,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: Provided further, That of the funds appropriated for ''Military Construction, Air Force'' under Public Law 108–324, $5,319,000; and under Public Law 110–5, $5,151,000 are hereby rescinded.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, installations, facilities, and real property for activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as currently authorized by law, $1,609,596,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: Provided, That such amounts of this appropriation as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to such appropriations of the Department of Defense available for military construction or family housing as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed $155,569,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: Provided further, That of the funds appropriated for ''Military Construction, Defense-Wide'' under Public Law 110–5, $10,192,000 are hereby rescinded.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, $536,656,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, $287,537,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, $148,133,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the reserve components of the Navy and Marine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, $64,430,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air Force Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, $28,359,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: Provided, That of the funds appropriated for ''Military Construction, Air Force Reserve'' under Public Law 109–114, $3,069,000 are hereby rescinded.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

For the United States share of the cost of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program for the acquisition and construction of military facilities and installations (including international military headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized by section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, $201,400,000, to remain available until expended.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For expenses of family housing for the Army for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, $424,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: Provided, That of the funds appropriated for ''Family Housing Construction, Army'' under Public Law 110–5, $4,559,000 are hereby rescinded.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, $731,920,000.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion,

extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, $293,129,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, $371,404,000.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, $327,747,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: Provided, That of the funds appropriated for ''Family Housing Construction, Air Force'' under Public Law 108–132, $15,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, $688,335,000.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of family housing for the activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments) for operation and maintenance, leasing, and minor construction, as authorized by law, $48,848,000.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

For the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund, $500,000, to remain available until expended, for family housing initiatives undertaken pursuant to section 2883 of title 10, United States Code, providing alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing and supporting facilities.

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of construction, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the destruction of the United States stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions in accordance with section 1412 of the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986 (50 U.S.C. 1521), and for the destruction of other chemical warfare materials that are not in the chemical weapon stockpile, as currently authorized by law, $104,176,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012, which shall be only for the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT 1990

For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Closure Account 1990, established by section 2906(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), $295,689,000, to remain available until expended.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT 2005

For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Closure Account 2005, established by section 2906A(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), $8,040,401,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 14 days prior to obligating an amount for a construction project that exceeds or reduces the amount identified for that project in the most recently submitted budget request for this account by 20 percent or $2,000,000, whichever is less: Provided further, That the previous proviso shall not apply to projects costing less than $5,000,000, except for those projects not previously identified in any budget submission for this account and exceeding the minor construction threshold under 10 U.S.C. 2805.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this title shall be expended for payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost estimates exceed $25,000, to be performed within the United States, except Alaska, without the specific approval in writing of the Secretary of Defense setting forth the reasons therefor.

SEC. 102. Funds made available in this title for construction shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehicles.

SEC. 103. Funds made available in this title for construction may be used for advances to the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, for the construction of access roads as authorized by section 210 of title 23, United States Code, when projects authorized therein are certified as important to the national defense by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to begin construction of new bases in the United States for which specific appropriations have not been made.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used for purchase of land or land easements in excess of 100 percent of the value as determined by the Army Corps of Engineers or the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, except: (1) where there is a determination of value by a Federal court; (2) purchases negotiated by the Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney General; (3) where the estimated value is less than $25,000; or (4) as otherwise determined by the Secretary of Defense to be in the public interest.

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used to: (1) acquire land; (2) provide for site preparation; or (3) install utilities for any family housing, except housing for which funds have been made available in annual Acts making appropriations for military construction.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this title for minor construction may be used to transfer or relocate any activity from one base or installation to another, without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this title may be used for the procurement of steel for any construction project or activity for which American steel producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been denied the opportunity to compete for such steel procurement.

SEC. 109. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense for military construction or family housing during the current fiscal year may be used to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this title may be obligated for architect and engineer contracts estimated by the Government to exceed $500,000 for projects to be accomplished in Japan, in any North Atlantic Treaty Organization member country, or in countries bordering the Arabian Sea, unless such contracts are awarded to United States firms or United States firms in joint venture with host nation firms.

SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this title for military construction in the United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Sea, may be used to award any contract estimated by the Government to exceed $1,000,000 to a foreign contractor: Provided, That this section shall not be applicable to contract awards for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a United States contractor exceeds the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a foreign contractor by greater than 20 percent: Provided further, That this section shall not apply to contract awards for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid is submitted by a Marshallese contractor.

SEC. 113. The Secretary of Defense is to inform the appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress, including the Committees on Appropriations, of the plans and scope of any proposed military exercise involving United States personnel 30 days prior to its occurring, if amounts expended for construction, either temporary or permanent, are anticipated to exceed $100,000.

SEC. 114. Not more than 20 percent of the funds made available in this title which are limited for obligation during the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last two months of the fiscal year.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 115. Funds appropriated to the Department of Defense for construction in prior years shall be available for construction authorized for each such military department by the authorizations enacted into law during the current session of Congress.

SEC. 116. For military construction or family housing projects that are being completed with funds otherwise expired or lapsed for obligation, expired or lapsed funds may be used to pay the cost of associated supervision, inspection, overhead, engineering and design on those projects and on subsequent claims, if any.

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds made available to a military department or defense agency for the construction of military projects may be obligated for a military construction project or contract, or for any portion of such a project or contract, at any time before the end of the fourth fiscal year after the fiscal year for which funds for such project were made available, if the funds obligated for such project: (1) are obligated from funds available for military construction projects; and (2) do not exceed the amount appropriated for such project, plus any amount by which the cost of such project is increased pursuant to law.

SEC. 118. (a) The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, by February 15 of each year, an annual report, in unclassified and, if necessary classified form, on actions taken by the Department of Defense and the Department of State during the previous fiscal year to encourage host countries to assume a greater share of the common defense burden of such countries and the United States.

(b) The report under subsection (a) shall include a description of—

(1) attempts to secure cash and in-kind contributions from host countries for military construction projects;

(2) attempts to achieve economic incentives offered by host countries to encourage private investment for the benefit of the United States Armed Forces;

(3) attempts to recover funds due to be paid to the United States by host countries for assets deeded or otherwise imparted to host countries upon the cessation of United States operations at military installations;

(4) the amount spent by host countries on defense, in dollars and in terms of the percent of gross domestic product (GDP) of the host country; and

(5) for host countries that are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the amount contributed to NATO by host countries, in dollars and in terms of the percent of the total NATO budget.

(c) In this section, the term ''host country'' means other member countries of NATO, Japan,

South Korea, and United States allies bordering the Arabian Sea.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 119. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense, proceeds deposited to the Department of Defense Base Closure Account established by section 207(a)(1) of the Defense Authorization Amendments and Base Closure and Realignment Act (10 U.S.C. 2687 note) pursuant to section 207(a)(2)(C) of such Act, may be transferred to the account established by section 2906(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), to be merged with, and to be available for the same purposes and the same time period as that account.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 120. Subject to 30 days prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, such additional amounts as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to: (1) the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction in ''Family Housing'' accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund; or (2) the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction of military unaccompanied housing in ''Military Construction'' accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund: Provided, That appropriations made available to the Funds shall be available to cover the costs, as defined in section 502(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans or loan guarantees issued by the Department of Defense pursuant to the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, pertaining to alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing, military unaccompanied housing, and supporting facilities.

SEC. 121. (a) Not later than 60 days before issuing any solicitation for a contract with the private sector for military family housing the Secretary of the military department concerned shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the notice described in subsection (b).

(b)(1) A notice referred to in subsection (a) is a notice of any guarantee (including the making of mortgage or rental payments) proposed to be made by the Secretary to the private party under the contract involved in the event of—

(A) the closure or realignment of the installation for which housing is provided under the contract;

(B) a reduction in force of units stationed at such installation; or

(C) the extended deployment overseas of units stationed at such installation.

(2) Each notice under this subsection shall specify the nature of the guarantee involved and assess the extent and likelihood, if any, of the liability of the Federal Government with respect to the guarantee.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 122. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense, amounts may be transferred from the accounts established by sections 2906(a)(1) and 2906A(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), to the fund established by section 1013(d) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374) to pay for expenses associated with the Homeowners Assistance Program. Any amounts transferred shall be merged with and be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the fund to which transferred.

SEC. 123. Notwithstanding this or any other provision of law, funds made available in this title for operation and maintenance of family housing shall be the exclusive source of funds for repair and maintenance of all family housing units, including general or flag officer quarters: Provided, That not more than $35,000 per unit may be spent annually for the maintenance and repair of any general or flag officer quarters without 30 days prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, except that an after-the-fact notification shall be submitted if the limitation is exceeded solely due to costs associated with environmental remediation that could not be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submission: Provided further, That the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is to report annually to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress all operation and maintenance expenditures for each individual general or flag officer quarters for the prior fiscal year.

SEC. 124. Whenever the Secretary of Defense or any other official of the Department of Defense is requested by the subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives or the subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate to respond to a question or inquiry submitted by the chairman or another member of that subcommittee pursuant to a subcommittee hearing or other activity, the Secretary (or other official) shall respond to the request, in writing, within 21 days of the date on which the request is transmitted to the Secretary (or other official).

SEC. 125. Amounts contained in the Ford Island Improvement Account established by subsection (h) of section 2814 of title 10, United States Code, are appropriated and shall be available until expended for the purposes specified in subsection (i)(1) of such section or until transferred pursuant to subsection (i)(3) of such section.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 126. None of the funds made available in this title, or in any Act making appropriations for military construction which remain available for obligation, may be obligated or expended to carry out a military construction, land acquisition, or family housing project at or for a military installation approved for closure, or at a military installation for the purposes of supporting a function that has been approved for realignment to another installation, in 2005 under the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (part A of title XXIX of Public Law 101–510; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note), unless such a project at a military installation approved for realignment will support a continuing mission or function at that installation or a new mission or function that is planned for that installation, or unless the Secretary of Defense certifies that the cost to the United States of carrying out such project would be less than the cost to the United States of cancelling such project, or if the project is at an active component base that shall be established as an enclave or in the case of projects having multi-agency use, that another Government agency has indicated it will assume ownership of the completed project. The Secretary of Defense may not transfer funds made available as a result of this limitation from any military construction project, land acquisition, or family housing project to another account or use such funds for another purpose or project without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. This section shall not apply to military construction projects, land acquisition, or family housing projects for which the project is vital to the national security or the protection of health, safety, or environmental quality: Provided, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees within seven days of a decision to carry out such a military construction project.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 127. During the 5-year period after appropriations available in this Act to the Department of Defense for military construction and family housing operation and maintenance and construction have expired for obligation, upon a determination that such appropriations will not be necessary for the liquidation of obligations or for making authorized adjustments to such appropriations for obligations incurred during the period of availability of such appropriations, unobligated balances of such appropriations may be transferred into the appropriation ''Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense'', to be merged with and to be available for the same time period and for the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred.

SEC. 128. None of the funds in this title shall be used for any activity related to the construction of an Outlying Landing Field in Washington County, North Carolina.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation benefits to or on behalf of veterans and a pilot program for disability examinations as authorized by section 107 and chapters 11, 13, 18, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; pension benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; and burial benefits, the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors, emergency and other officers' retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and certificates, payment of premiums due on commercial life insurance policies guaranteed under the provisions of title IV of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 541 et seq.) and for other benefits as authorized by sections 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, and chapters 23, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, $41,236,322,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That not to exceed $28,583,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be reimbursed to ''General operating expenses'' and ''Medical administration'' for necessary expenses in implementing the provisions of chapters 51, 53, and 55 of title 38, United States Code, the funding source for which is specifically provided as the ''Compensation and pensions'' appropriation: Provided further, That such sums as may be earned on an actual qualifying patient basis, shall be reimbursed to ''Medical care collections fund'' to augment the funding of individual medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized.

READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 21, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 39, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, $3,300,289,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That expenses for rehabilitation program services and assistance which the Secretary is authorized to provide under subsection (a) of section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, other than under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of that subsection, shall be charged to this account.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

For military and naval insurance, national service life insurance, servicemen's indemnities, service-disabled veterans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as authorized by title 38, United States Code, chapters 19 and 21, $41,250,000, to remain available until expended.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the program, as authorized by subchapters I through III of chapter 37 of title 38, United

States Code: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That during fiscal year 2008, within the resources available, not to exceed $500,000 in gross obligations for direct loans are authorized for specially adapted housing loans.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $154,562,000.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, $71,000, as authorized by chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That funds made available under this heading are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed $3,287,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program, $311,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''General operating expenses''.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, $628,000.

GUARANTEED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOANS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed transitional housing loan program authorized by subchapter VI of chapter 20 of title 38, United States Code, not to exceed $750,000 of the amounts appropriated by this Act for ''General operating expenses'' and ''Medical administration'' may be expended.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code, including care and treatment in facilities not under the jurisdiction of the Department, and including medical supplies and equipment, food services, and salaries and expenses of healthcare employees hired under title 38, United States Code, and aid to State homes as authorized by section 1741 of title 38, United States Code; $29,104,220,000, plus reimbursements, of which not less than $2,900,000,000 shall be expended for specialty mental health care and not less than $130,000,000 shall be expended for the homeless grants and per diem program: Provided, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed $1,350,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish a priority for the provision of medical treatment for veterans who have service-connected disabilities, lower income, or have special needs: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall give priority funding for the provision of basic medical benefits to veterans in enrollment priority groups 1 through 6: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may authorize the dispensing of prescription drugs from Veterans Health Administration facilities to enrolled veterans with privately written prescriptions based on requirements established by the Secretary: Provided further, That the implementation of the program described in the previous proviso shall incur no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs: Provided further, That for the Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, as authorized by section 8111(d) of title 38, United States Code, a minimum of $15,000,000, to remain available until expended, for any purpose authorized by section 8111 of title 38, United States Code.

MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses in the administration of the medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction, supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; administrative expenses in support of capital policy activities; and administrative and legal expenses of the Department for collecting and recovering amounts owed the Department as authorized under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, and the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.): $3,517,000,000, plus reimbursements, of which $250,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

For necessary expenses for the maintenance and operation of hospitals, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities and other necessary facilities of the Veterans Health Administration; for administrative expenses in support of planning, design, project management, real property acquisition and disposition, construction, and renovation of any facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department; for oversight, engineering, and architectural activities not charged to project costs; for repairing, altering, improving, or providing facilities in the several hospitals and homes under the jurisdiction of the Department, not otherwise provided for, either by contract or by the hire of temporary employees and purchase of materials; for leases of facilities; and for laundry services, $4,100,000,000, plus reimbursements, of which $350,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009: Provided, That $325,000,000 for non-recurring maintenance provided under this heading shall be allocated in a manner not subject to the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of medical and prosthetic research and development as authorized by chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code, $480,000,000, plus reimbursements, to remain available until September 30, 2009.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of the National Cemetery Administration for operations and maintenance, not otherwise provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor; cemeterial expenses as authorized by law; purchase of one passenger motor vehicle for use in cemeterial operations; and hire of passenger motor vehicles, $195,000,000, of which not to exceed $20,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary operating expenses of the Department of Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including administrative expenses in support of Department-Wide capital planning, management and policy activities, uniforms, or allowances therefor; not to exceed $25,000 for official reception and representation expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services, and the Department of Defense for the cost of overseas employee mail, $1,605,000,000: Provided, That expenses for services and assistance authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of section 3104(a) of title 38, United States Code, that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines are necessary to enable entitled veterans: (1) to the maximum extent feasible, to become employable and to obtain and maintain suitable employment; or (2) to achieve maximum independence in daily living, shall be charged to this account: Provided further, That the Veterans Benefits Administration shall be funded at not less than $1,327,001,000: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed $75,000,000 shall be available for obligation until September 30, 2009: Provided further, That from the funds made available under this heading, the Veterans Benefits Administration may purchase (on a one-for-one replacement basis only) up to two passenger motor vehicles for use in operations of that Administration in Manila, Philippines.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

For necessary expenses for information technology systems and telecommunications support, including developmental information systems and operational information systems; including pay and associated cost for operations and maintenance associated staff; for the capital asset acquisition of information technology systems, including management and related contractual costs of said acquisitions, including contractual costs associated with operations authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, $1,966,465,000, to be available until September 30, 2009: Provided, That none of these funds may be obligated until the Department of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, and such Committees approve, a plan for expenditure that: (1) meets the capital planning and investment control review requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget; (2) complies with the Department of Veterans Affairs enterprise architecture; (3) conforms with an established enterprise life cycle methodology; and (4) complies with the acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and systems acquisition management practices of the Federal Government: Provided further, That within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a reprogramming base letter which provides, by project, the costs included in this appropriation.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, to include information technology, in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), $80,500,000, of which $5,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406, 8102, 8103, 8106, 8108, 8109, 8110, and 8122 of title 38, United States Code, including planning, architectural and engineering services, construction management services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is more than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, or where funds for a project were made available in a previous major project appropriation, $1,069,100,000, to remain available until expended, of which $2,000,000 shall be to make reimbursements as provided in section 13 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 612) for claims paid for contract disputes: Provided, That except for advance planning activities, including needs assessments which may or may not lead to capital investments, and other capital asset management related activities, including portfolio development and management activities, and investment strategy studies funded through the advance planning fund and the planning and design activities funded through the design fund, including needs assessments which may or may not lead to capital investments, none of the funds appropriated under

this heading shall be used for any project which has not been approved by the Congress in the budgetary process: Provided further, That funds provided in this appropriation for fiscal year 2008, for each approved project shall be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction documents contract by September 30, 2008; and (2) by the awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2009: Provided further, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall promptly submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a written report on any approved major construction project for which obligations are not incurred within the time limitations established above: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to reduce the mission, services, or infrastructure, including land, of the 18 facilities on the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) list requiring further study, as specified by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including planning and assessments of needs which may lead to capital investments, architectural and engineering services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406, 8102, 8103, 8106, 8108, 8109, 8110, 8122, and 8162 of title 38, United States Code, where the estimated cost of a project is equal to or less than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, $630,535,000, to remain available until expended, along with unobligated balances of previous ''Construction, minor projects'' appropriations which are hereby made available for any project where the estimated cost is equal to or less than the amount set forth in such section: Provided, That funds in this account shall be available for: (1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department which are necessary because of loss or damage caused by any natural disaster or catastrophe; and (2) temporary measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss by such causes.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

For grants to assist States to acquire or construct State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to remodel, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home, and domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through 8137 of title 38, United States Code, $165,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES

For grants to assist States in establishing, expanding, or improving State veterans cemeteries as authorized by section 2408 of title 38, United States Code, $39,500,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2008 for ''Compensation and pensions'', ''Readjustment benefits'', and ''Veterans insurance and indemnities'' may be transferred as necessary to any other of the mentioned appropriations: Provided, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and such Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 202. Amounts made available for fiscal year 2008, in this Act or any other Act, under the ''Medical services'', ''Medical Administration'', and ''Medical facilities'' accounts may be transferred among the accounts to the extent necessary to implement the restructuring of the Veterans Health Administration accounts: Provided, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued.

SEC. 203. Appropriations available in this title for salaries and expenses shall be available for services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, hire of passenger motor vehicles; lease of a facility or land or both; and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by sections 5901 through 5902 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 204. No appropriations in this title (except the appropriations for ''Construction, major projects'', and ''Construction, minor projects'') shall be available for the purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any new hospital or home.

SEC. 205. No appropriations in this title shall be available for hospitalization or examination of any persons (except beneficiaries entitled to such hospitalization or examination under the laws providing such benefits to veterans, and persons receiving such treatment under sections 7901 through 7904 of title 5, United States Code, or the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)), unless reimbursement of the cost of such hospitalization or examination is made to the ''Medical services'' account at such rates as may be fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 206. Appropriations available in this title for ''Compensation and pensions'', ''Readjustment benefits'', and ''Veterans insurance and indemnities'' shall be available for payment of prior year accrued obligations required to be recorded by law against the corresponding prior year accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year 2007.

SEC. 207. Appropriations available in this title shall be available to pay prior year obligations of corresponding prior year appropriations accounts resulting from sections 3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code, except that if such obligations are from trust fund accounts they shall be payable only from ''Compensation and pensions''.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 208. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2008, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, from the National Service Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1920), the Veterans' Special Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1923), and the United States Government Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1955), reimburse the ''General operating expenses'' account for the cost of administration of the insurance programs financed through those accounts: Provided, That reimbursement shall be made only from the surplus earnings accumulated in such an insurance program during fiscal year 2008 that are available for dividends in that program after claims have been paid and actuarially determined reserves have been set aside: Provided further, That if the cost of administration of such an insurance program exceeds the amount of surplus earnings accumulated in that program, reimbursement shall be made only to the extent of such surplus earnings: Provided further, That the Secretary shall determine the cost of administration for fiscal year 2008 which is properly allocable to the provision of each such insurance program and to the provision of any total disability income insurance included in that insurance program.

SEC. 209. Amounts deducted from enhanced-use lease proceeds to reimburse an account for expenses incurred by that account during a prior fiscal year for providing enhanced-use lease services, may be obligated during the fiscal year in which the proceeds are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 210. Funds available in this title or funds for salaries and other administrative expenses shall also be available to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication under section 319 of title 38, United States Code, for all services provided at rates which will recover actual costs but not exceed $32,067,000 for the Office of Resolution Management and $3,148,000 for the Office of Employment and Discrimination Complaint Adjudication: Provided, That payments may be made in advance for services to be furnished based on estimated costs: Provided further, That amounts received shall be credited to ''General operating expenses'' for use by the office that provided the service.

SEC. 211. No appropriations in this title shall be available to enter into any new lease of real property if the estimated annual rental is more than $300,000 unless the Secretary submits a report which the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress approve within 30 days following the date on which the report is received.

SEC. 212. No funds of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be available for hospital care, nursing home care, or medical services provided to any person under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, for a non-service-connected disability described in section 1729(a)(2) of such title, unless that person has disclosed to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in such form as the Secretary may require, current, accurate third-party reimbursement information for purposes of section 1729 of such title: Provided, That the Secretary may recover, in the same manner as any other debt due the United States, the reasonable charges for such care or services from any person who does not make such disclosure as required: Provided further, That any amounts so recovered for care or services provided in a prior fiscal year may be obligated by the Secretary during the fiscal year in which amounts are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 213. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the discretion of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, proceeds or revenues derived from enhanced-use leasing activities (including disposal) may be deposited into the ''Construction, major projects'' and ''Construction, minor projects'' accounts and be used for construction (including site acquisition and disposition), alterations, and improvements of any medical facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such sums as realized are in addition to the amount provided for in ''Construction, major projects'' and ''Construction, minor projects''.

SEC. 214. Amounts made available under ''Medical services'' are available—

(1) for furnishing recreational facilities, supplies, and equipment; and

(2) for funeral expenses, burial expenses, and other expenses incidental to funerals and burials for beneficiaries receiving care in the Department.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 215. Such sums as may be deposited to the Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to ''Medical services'', to remain available until expended for the purposes of that account.

SEC. 216. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall allow veterans who are eligible under existing Department of Veterans Affairs medical care requirements and who reside in Alaska to obtain medical care services from medical facilities supported by the Indian Health Service or tribal organizations. The Secretary shall: (1) limit the

application of this provision to rural Alaskan veterans in areas where an existing Department of Veterans Affairs facility or Veterans Affairs-contracted service is unavailable; (2) require participating veterans and facilities to comply with all appropriate rules and regulations, as established by the Secretary; (3) require this provision to be consistent with Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services activities; and (4) result in no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs or the Indian Health Service.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 217. Such sums as may be deposited to the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund pursuant to section 8118 of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to the ''Construction, major projects'' and ''Construction, minor projects'' accounts, to remain available until expended for the purposes of these accounts.

SEC. 218. None of the funds available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, in this Act, or any other Act, may be used to replace the current system by which the Veterans Integrated Services Networks select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

SEC. 219. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement any policy prohibiting the Directors of the Veterans Integrated Service Networks from conducting outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans within their respective Networks.

SEC. 220. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a quarterly report on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 221. Amounts made available under the ''Medical services'', ''Medical Administration'', ''Medical facilities'', ''General operating expenses'', and ''National Cemetery Administration'' accounts for fiscal year 2008, may be transferred to or from the ''Information technology systems'' account: Provided, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued.

SEC. 222. Amounts made available for the ''Information technology systems'' account may be transferred between projects: Provided, That no project may be increased or decreased by more than $1,000,000 of cost prior to submitting a request to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress to make the transfer and an approval is issued, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 223. Any balances in prior year accounts established for the payment of benefits under the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors shall be transferred to and merged with amounts available under the ''Compensation and pensions'' account, and receipts that would otherwise be credited to the accounts established for the payment of benefits under the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors program shall be credited to amounts available under the ''Compensation and pensions'' account.

SEC. 224. PROHIBITION ON DISPOSAL OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS LANDS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT WEST LOS ANGELES MEDICAL CENTER, CALIFORNIA. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not declare as excess to the needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or otherwise take any action to exchange, trade, auction, transfer, or otherwise dispose of, or reduce the acreage of, Federal land and improvements at the Department of Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Medical Center, California, encompassing approximately 388 acres on the north and south sides of Wilshire Boulevard and west of the 405 Freeway.

(b) SPECIAL PROVISION REGARDING LEASE WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HOMELESS.—Notwithstanding any provision of this Act, section 7 of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Services Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–590) shall remain in effect.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8162(c)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''or section 225(a) of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008'' after ''section 421(b)(2) of the Veterans' Benefits and Services Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–322; 102 Stat. 553)''; and

(2) by striking ''that section'' and inserting ''such sections''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section, including the amendment made by this section, shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter.

SEC. 225. The Department shall continue research into Gulf War Illness at levels not less than those made available in fiscal year 2007, within available funds contained in this Act.

SEC. 226. (a) Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall establish and maintain on the homepage of the Internet website of the Office of Inspector General a mechanism by which individuals can anonymously report cases of waste, fraud, or abuse with respect to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish and maintain on the homepage of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a direct link to the Internet website of the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 227. (a) Upon a determination by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that such action is in the national interest, and will have a direct benefit for veterans through increased access to treatment, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may transfer not more than $5,000,000 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the Graduate Psychology Education Program, which includes treatment of veterans, to support increased training of psychologists skilled in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and related disorders.

(b) The Secretary of Health and Human Services may only use funds transferred under this section for the purposes described in subsection (a).

(c) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall notify Congress of any such transfer of funds under this section.

SEC. 228. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act for the Department of Veterans Affairs may be used in a manner that is inconsistent with—

(1) section 842 of the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–115; 119 Stat. 2506); or

(2) section 8110(a)(5) of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 229. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out a major medical facility lease in fiscal year 2008 in an amount not to exceed $12,000,000 to implement the recommendations outlined in the August, 2007 Study of South Texas Veterans' Inpatient and Specialty Outpatient Health Care Needs.

(INCLUDING RECISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 230. Of the amounts made available for ''Veterans Health Administration, Medical Services'' in Public Law 110–28, $66,000,000 are rescinded. For an additional amount for ''Departmental Administration, Construction, Major Projects'', $66,000,000, to be available until expended. Amounts in this section are designated as emergency requirements and necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of section 204 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, including the acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries; purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of national cemeteries and monuments outside of the United States and its territories and possessions; rent of office and garage space in foreign countries; purchase (one-for-one replacement basis only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed $7,500 for official reception and representation expenses; and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries, when required by law of such countries, $44,600,000, to remain available until expended.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, $11,000,000, to remain available until expended, for purposes authorized by section 2109 of title 36, United States Code.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the operation of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as authorized by sections 7251 through 7298 of title 38, United States Code, $22,717,000, of which $1,210,000 shall be available for the purpose of providing financial assistance as described, and in accordance with the process and reporting procedures set forth, under this heading in Public Law 102–229.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL

CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as authorized by law, for maintenance, operation, and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including the purchase of two passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, and not to exceed $1,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $31,230,000, to remain available until expended. In addition, such sums as may be necessary for parking maintenance, repairs and replacement, to be derived from the Lease of Department of Defense Real Property for Defense Agencies account.

Funds appropriated under this Act may be provided to Arlington County, Virginia, for the relocation of the federally-owned water main at Arlington National Cemetery making additional land available for ground burials.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

TRUST FUND

For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retirement Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi, to be paid from funds available in the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund, $55,724,000.

GENERAL FUND PAYMENT, ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

For payment to the ''Armed Forces Retirement Home'', $800,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 402. Such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008 pay raises for programs funded by this Act shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated in this Act.

SEC. 403. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any program, project, or activity, when it is made known to the Federal entity or official to which the funds are made available that the program, project, or activity is not in compliance with any Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

SEC. 404. No part of any funds appropriated in this Act shall be used by an agency of the executive branch, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for the preparation, distribution or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or film presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress, except in presentation to Congress itself.

SEC. 405. All departments and agencies funded under this Act are encouraged, within the limits of the existing statutory authorities and funding, to expand their use of ''E-Commerce'' technologies and procedures in the conduct of their business practices and public service activities.

SEC. 406. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 407. Unless stated otherwise, all reports and notifications required by this Act shall be submitted to the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 408. The Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall, not later than February 1, 2008, submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report projecting annual appropriations necessary for the Department of Veterans Affairs to continue providing necessary health care to veterans for fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

SEC. 409. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used for any action that is related to or promotes the expansion of the boundaries or size of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado.

SEC. 410. (a) In this section:

(1) The term ''City'' means the City of Aurora, Colorado.

(2) The term ''deed'' means the quitclaim deed—

(A) conveyed by the Secretary to the City; and

(B) dated May 24, 1999.

(3) The term ''non-Federal land'' means—

(A) parcel I of the Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Colorado; and

(B) the parcel of land described in the deed.

(4) The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b)(1) In accordance with paragraph (2), to allow the City to convey by donation to the United States the non-Federal land to be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the construction of a veterans medical facility.

(2) In carrying out paragraph (1), with respect to the non-Federal land, the Secretary shall forego exercising any rights provided by the—

(A) deed relating to a reversionary interest of the United States; and

(B) any other reversionary interest of the United States.

This Division may be cited as the ''Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008''.

And the Senate agreed to the same.

DAVID R. OBEY,
NITA M. LOWEY,
ROSA L. DELAURO,
JESSE L. JACKSON,
PATRICK J. KENNEDY,
LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD,
BARBARA LEE,
TOM UDALL,
MICHAEL M. HONDA,
BETTY MCCOLLUM,
TIM RYAN,
JOHN P. MURTHA,
CHET EDWARDS,
Managers on the Part of the House.

TOM HARKIN,
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
HERB KOHL,
PATTY MURRAY,
MARY LANDRIEU,
RICHARD J. DURBIN,
JACK REED,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
ARLEN SPECTER,
THAD COCHRAN,
LARRY CRAIG,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
(Only if the Milcon/VA conference report is separated from the LHHS conference report),
TED STEVENS,
(Only if the Milcon/VA conference report is separated from the LHHS conference report),
RICHARD SHELBY,
PETE DOMENICI,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report.

This conference agreement includes the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 as Division A; and the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 as Division B.

DIVISION A—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS, 2008

In implementing this conference agreement, the Departments and agencies should be guided by the language and instructions set forth in House Report 110–231 and Senate Report 110–107 accompanying the bill, H.R. 3043.

In the cases where the language and instructions in either report specifically address the allocation of funds, each has been reviewed by the conferees and those that are jointly concurred in have been endorsed in this joint statement.

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

The conferees note that section 516 sets forth the reprogramming requirements and limitations for the Departments and agencies funded through this Act, including the requirement to make a written request to the Committees 15 days prior to reprogramming, or to the announcement of intent to reprogram, funds in excess of 10 percent, or $500,000, whichever is less, between programs, projects and activities.

Finally, the conferees request that statements on the effect of this appropriation Act on the Departments and agencies funded in this Division be submitted to the Committees within 45 days of enactment of this Act, pursuant to section 518. The conferees expect that these statements will provide sufficient detail to show the allocation of funds among programs, projects and activities, particularly in accounts where the final appropriation is different than that of the budget request. Furthermore, the conferees request the statements to also include the effect of the appropriation on any new activities or major initiatives discussed in the budget justifications accompanying the fiscal year 2008 budget.

REDUCING THE NEED FOR ABORTIONS

The conference agreement includes nearly $615 million over the fiscal year 2007 funding level for the initiative in the House bill to reduce the need for abortions in America through both prevention and support programs. Key increases are provided for Healthy Start, Family Planning, Abstinence Education, Child Care, and Community Services Block Grant to increase services to prevent unintended pregnancies, encourage women to carry their pregnancies to term, and provide support for new parents who have economic difficulties. New approaches include a young parents training initiative in the Department of Labor, first time motherhood grants under the Health Resources and Services Administration, and a teen pregnancy prevention demonstration within the Centers for Disease Control.

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, put in place by this bill, incorporates the following agreements of the managers:

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

The conference agreement includes $3,618,940,000 for Training and Employment Services, instead of $3,530,530,000 as proposed by the House and $3,587,138,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the amount appropriated, $1,772,000,000 is an advance appropriation for fiscal year 2009 as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $1,471,903,000 for Dislocated Worker Assistance as proposed by the House and the Senate. The conferees override the formula that provides that 80 percent of the funds provided will be used for State formula grants and 20 percent in a National Reserve Account. For program year 2008 the conferees provide $1,189,811,000 for the State formula grants and $282,092,000 for the National Reserve Account.

The conference agreement provides that $6,300,000 in National Reserve Account funds shall be available upon enactment for the purposes of grants, to be awarded within 30 days of enactment, for the continuation of national or multi-state training and employment programs. These grants are to be awarded to the AFL–CIO Working for America Institute and AFL–CIO Appalachian Council, as proposed by the Senate, and the National Center on Education and the Economy, as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement provides that up to $125,000,000 within the National Reserve Account may be used to carry out the Community-Based Job Training Grant initiative as proposed by the House, instead of $150,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The

conference agreement continues bill language which provides that this amount is to be allocated from national emergency grant funds available under section 132(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, notwithstanding the limitation otherwise imposed under section 171(d), as provided by the Senate. The House contained no similar provision. The conference agreement includes a general provision requiring these grants to be awarded competitively.

The conferees are in agreement that no funds from the dislocated worker national reserve account or other pilot and demonstration resources be used for career advancement accounts or the predecessor proposal for personal reemployment accounts prior to a specific authorization of such activities, as proposed by the House. The Senate contained no similar provision.

For Native Americans, the conference agreement includes $55,039,000, instead of $56,381,000 as proposed by the House and $53,696,000 as proposed by the Senate.

For Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers, the conference agreement includes a total of $82,740,000 instead of $83,740,000 as proposed by the House and $79,752,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the total, $77,265,000 is for State service area grants. The amount provided also includes $4,975,000 for housing grants and $500,000 for other discretionary purposes, as described in the Senate report. The House bill included $5,000,000 for housing and the Senate bill provided $4,950,000 for housing and $500,000 for other discretionary purposes. The conference agreement includes bill language proposed by the House providing that no less than 70 percent of formula funds be used for employment and training services and bill language proposed by the Senate which prohibits the Department from restricting the provision of ''related assistance'' services by grantees. These provisions ensure that the program primarily addresses the employment and training needs of the target population while also allowing grantees to provide related services that are often critical to the stabilization and availability of the farm labor workforce.

For YouthBuild, the conference agreement includes $62,500,000, instead of $60,000,000 as proposed by the House and $65,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. This will provide sufficient funds for an additional competitive grant round in program year 2008.

For Pilots, Demonstrations and Research, the conference agreement includes $50,569,000 instead of $28,140,000 as proposed by the House and $30,650,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included in this amount is $5,000,000 for a new demonstration program of competitive grants to address the employment and training needs of young parents as proposed by the House and detailed in House Report 110–231. The House provided $10,000,000 for this purpose. The Senate had no similar provision.

For the remaining amount provided for Pilots, Demonstrations and Research, the conference agreement includes a modification of bill language as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Adelante Development Center, Albuquerque, NM for employment and training services	200,000
Agudath Israel of America Community Services, Inc., Brooklyn, NY for its Fresh Start job training and counseling program	450,000
Alu Like, Inc., Honolulu, HI, for training and education	100,000
Arc of Blackstone Valley, Pawtucket, RI for a workforce development initiative	325,000
Barnabus Uplift, Des Moines, IA, for job training and supportive services	425,000
Bellingham Technical College, Bellingham, WA for a Process Technology Workforce Development Project	215,000
Bismarck State College, Bismarck, ND for an instrumentation and control training program for the energy industry	1,000,000
Brockton Area Private Industry Council, Inc., Brockton, MA, for workforce development programs	170,000
Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ for workforce training programs through its Center for Excellence in Technology, Telecommunications and Economic Development	250,000
Capital IDEA, Austin, TX for workforce development services for disadvantaged adults	250,000
Capps Workforce Training Center, Moorhead, MS, for Workforce Training	350,000
Catholic Charities, Chicago, IL, for vocational training and support programs at the Saint Leo Residence for Veterans	500,000
Center for Employment Training, San Jose, CA for its building trades program for out-of-school youth	350,000
Center for Working Families, Long Beach, CA for job training and placement in demand industries	140,000
Central Carolina Tech College, Sumter, SC for training in healthcare professions	400,000
Central Maine Community College, Auburn, ME for a training program in precision metalworking and machine tool technology	200,000
Chinese-American Planning Council, New York, NY for counseling, vocational training, job placement, and ESL services	200,000
City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA for a health care workforce training initiative through the Welcome Back Center	350,000
City of Alexandria, VA for an automotive industry workforce development and training initiative	350,000
City of Baltimore, MD for the Park Heights Partnership for Jobs	500,000
City of Milwaukee, WI for a project to train youth in construction trades	250,000
City of Palmdale, Palmdale, CA for a business resource network to enhance worker skills development	150,000
City of Suffolk, VA for training programs at the Suffolk Workforce Development Center	250,000
City of West Palm Beach, FL for training programs for at-risk youth	375,000
Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis, IN for workforce development in the health care industry	245,000
College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD, for its Partnership for the Advancement of Construction and Transportation Training Project	300,000
Community Agricultural Vocational Institute, Yakima, WA, for training of agricultural workers	250,000
Community College of Allegheny College, Pittsburgh, PA, for job training programs	75,000
Community Learning Center, Fort Worth, TX for expansion of the Advanced Manufacturing Training Partnership Program	500,000
Community Solution for Clackamas County, Oregon City, Oregon, to expand the Working for Independence (WFI) program in Clackamas County	127,000
Community Transportation Association of America, Washington, DC, for the Joblinks program	400,000
Compton CareerLink, Compton, CA for job training and placement in demand industries	200,000
Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc., Anchorage, AK, for the Alaska's People program to provide job training and employment counseling	500,000
Crowder College, Neosho, MO, to expand technical education programs for workforce development	656,000
Des Moines Area Community College, Arkeny, IA for workforce recruitment and training to address area skill shortages	275,000
Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA, for Project Employment	250,000
East Los Angeles Community Union, Los Angeles, CA for a workforce training initiative	300,000
Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana, Inc., Fort Wayne, IN for the Production and Worker Training Services program	100,000
Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI, for re-training of displaced workers	340,000
Eastern Technology Council, Wayne, PA, for job training programs	75,000
Edgar Campbell Foundation, Philadelphia, PA for counseling, job placement and work readiness programs	400,000
Employment & Economic Development Department of San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA for a work experience program for at-risk youth	175,000
Essex County Community Organization, Lynn, MA for its E-Team Machinist Training Program	300,000
Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO, for the development of entrepreneurship programs to enhance regional development	127,000
Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow, Las Vegas, NV, for job training, vocational education, and related support	150,000
Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber, Media, PA for workforce development and job readiness services	192,000
Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin, Inc., Milwaukee, WI, to provide training, employment and supportive services, including for individuals with disabilities	210,000
Goodwill of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, NV for workforce development programs	350,000
Greater Akron Chamber, Akron, OH for a summer apprenticeship program for youth	300,000
Groden Center, Providence, RI for job readiness training for adults with Asperger's Syndrome	150,000
Guam Community College, Mangilao, Guam for skilled craft training	400,000
Hamilton County Government, Chattanooga, TN for training activities related to manufacturing processes	850,000
Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA, for job training programs	75,000
Home of Life Community Development Corp., Chicago, IL for a financial services training and placement program	240,000
Homecare Workers Training Center, Los Angeles, CA for nurse assistant training	125,000
Idaho Women Work! at Eastern Idaho Technical College, Idaho Falls, ID, to continue and expand the Recruiting for the Information Technology Age (RITA) initiative in Idaho	100,000
International Fellowship of Chaplains, Inc., Saginaw, MI for the Road to Hope training program in Seneca County, OH	200,000
Iowa Policy Project for a study on temporary and contingent workers	350,000
Iowa Valley Community College, Marshalltown, IA for job training activities	250,000
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana—Columbus Region, Indianapolis, IN for the Center for Cybersecurity for workforce development	150,000
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana Lafayette, Indianapolis, IN for job training programs at the Center for Health Information Technology	140,000
Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS for workforce training and placement for the retail and hospitality industries	320,000
Kent State University/Trumbull County, Warren, OH for regional training through the Northeast Ohio Advanced Manufacturing Institute	250,000
Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential, Cleveland, Ohio, for training and skill development services for individuals with disabilities in coordination with the local workforce investment system	180,000
Louisiana Delta Community College, Monroe, LA for a job training initiative	250,000
Louisiana National Guard, Carville, LA for the Job Challenge Program	150,000
MAGLEV Inc., McKeesport, PA, for a training program in advanced precision fabrication	90,000
Manufacturing Association of Central New York, Syracuse, NY for a workforce training project	250,000
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Manchester, NH for training of nurses, physician assistants, and pharmacists	319,500
Massachussets League of Community Health Centers, East Boston, MA, for a health-care workforce development program	170,000
Maui Community College Remote Rural Hawaii Job Training Project, HI, for the Remote Rural Hawaii Job Training project	2,400,000
Maui Community College Training and Educational Opportunities, HI, for training and education	1,000,000
Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for high tech training	475,000
Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for the rural computer utilization training program	300,000
McHenry County Community College, Woodstock, IL for employer-identified occupational training	400,000
Memphis, Tennessee, for a prisoner re-entry program	200,000
Minot State University, Minot, ND for the Job Corps Executive Management Program	750,000
Mission Language and Vocational School, San Francisco, CA for a training program in health-related occupations	250,000
Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for the Mississippi Integrated Workforce Performance System	400,000
Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for training development and delivery system at the Distributed Learning System for Workforce Training Program	200,000

Project	Total funding
Mississippi Technology Alliance, Ridgeland, MS, for the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurial Services	150,000
Mississippi Valley State University, Itta Bena, MS, for training and development programs at the Automated Identification Technology (AIT)/Automatic Data Collection (ADC)	200,000
Moreno Valley, CA, to provide vocational training for young adults, as well as the development of an internship with local businesses to put the trainees' job skills to use upon graduation	125,000
National Council of La Raza in Washington, DC, to provide technical assistance on Hispanic workforce issues including capacity building, language barriers, and health care job training	400,000
Neighborhood First Program, Inc., Bristol, PA for services for at-risk youth	125,000
Neumann College, Aston, PA, for the Partnership Advancing Training for Careers in Health program	75,000
NewLife Academy of Information Technology, East Liverpool, OH for training for information technology careers	240,000
North Side Industrial Development Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA, for job training programs	75,000
North West Pasadena Development Corp., Pasadena, CA for job training for low-income individuals	125,000
Northcott Neighborhood House, Milwaukee, WI for construction industry training for youth	70,000
Northwest Washington Electrical Industry Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, Mount Vernon, WA, for expanded training capability, including the acquisition of training equipment, to meet the need for skilled electrical workers	150,000
Northwest Wisconsin Concentrated Employment Program, Inc., Ashland, WI, for workforce development training in Northwest Wisconsin	255,000
Oakland Community College, Bloomfield Hills, MI to lead a consortium on workforce development for emerging business sectors	600,000
Opportunity, Inc., Highland Park, IL for workforce development activities	350,000
Our Piece of the Pie, Hartford, CT for education and employment services for out-of-school youth	500,000
Pacific Mountain Workforce Consortium, Tumwater, WA, for training of qualified foresters and restoration professionals in Lewis County	140,000
Parish of Rapides Career Solutions Center, Alexandria, LA for a job training initiative	200,000
Pennsylvania Women Work!, Pittsburgh, PA, for job training programs	90,000
Philadelphia Shipyard Development Corporation, Philadelphia, PA for on-the-job training in shipbuilding technology	435,000
Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Philadelphia, PA, for veterans job training	75,000
Piedmont Virginia Community College, Charlottesville, VA for the Residential Construction Academy	100,000
Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce Enterprise Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA, for workforce development	75,000
Poder Learning Center, Chicago, IL for immigrant neighborhood education and job development services	200,000
Port Jobs, in partnership with South Seattle Community College, Seattle, WA, for training of entry-level airport workers	100,000
Portland Community College, Portland, OR, to support the Center for Business and Industry	85,000
Precision Manufacturing Institute, Meadville, PA for high-technology training programs	338,000
Project ARRIBA, El Paso, TX, for workforce development in the West Texas region	100,000
Project One Inc., Louisville, KY for summer job activities for disadvantaged youth	150,000
Project QUEST, Inc., San Antonio, TX for workforce development services to low-income residents	75,000
PRONTO of Long Island, Inc., Bayshore, NY for a vocational training initiative	100,000
Rhodes State College, Lima, Ohio, for equipment, curriculum development, training and internships for high-tech engineering technology programs	150,000
Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc., Durant, OK, for entrepreneurship training programs	100,000
Saint Leonard's Ministries, Chicago, IL, for job training and placement for ex-offenders	260,000
San Jose, CA, for job training for the homeless	330,000
Santa Ana, CA, for the Work Experience and Literacy Program	760,000
Santa Maria El Mirador, Santa Fe, NM, to provide an employment training program	700,000
Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center, Charleston, WV, for its Enterprise Development Initiative	250,000
Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, MarLin, PA for a workforce training program	190,000
South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Hawthorne, CA for its Bridge-to-Work program	400,000
Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO for equipment and training	450,000
Southern University at Shreveport, Shreveport, LA for healthcare worker training activities	100,000
Southside Virginia Community College, Alberta, VA for the Heavy Equipment Training Program	300,000
Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, Vancouver, WA, to create and sustain a partnership between business, education and workforce leaders in Southwest Washington	150,000
Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, OK for workforce development in the manufacturing sector	250,000
St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment, St. Louis, MO for a summer jobs program for youth	550,000
STRIVE/East Harlem Employment Service, Inc., NY, for the Core job training program	500,000
Towson University, Towson, MD for education and training services for careers in homeland security	275,000
Twin Cities Rise!, Minneapolis, MN, for job training initiatives	255,000
United Auto Workers Region 9, Local 624, New York, for incumbent worker training	300,000
United Mine Workers of America, Washington, PA for the UMWA Career Center's mine worker training and reemployment programs	750,000
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for Workforce Training in Marine Composite	500,000
University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL to provide teacher training to veterans	284,500
Urban League of Lancaster County, Inc., Lancaster, PA, for job training programs	75,000
Vermont Department of Labor, Montpelier, VT, for job training of female inmates in Vermont as they prepare to reenter the workforce	600,000
Vermont Healthcare and Information Technology Education Center, Williston, VT, for advanced manufacturing training of displaced workers	200,000
Vermont Healthcare and Information Technology Education Center, Williston, VT, for health care training of displaced workers	615,000
Vermont Technical College and Vermont Workforce Development Council, Randolph Center, VT, to provide job training to displaced workers in Vermont	540,000
Veteran Community Initiatives, Inc., Johnstown, PA for employment services and support programs for veterans	500,000
Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN for heavy equipment operator training for the mining industry	375,000
Washington Workforce Association, Vancouver, WA, for job shadowing, internships, and scholarships to prepare students for high-demand occupations	400,000
Washington, Ozaukee, Waukesha Workforce Development Inc., Pewaukee, WI, for advanced manufacturing and technology training	380,000
Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Los Angeles, CA for job training and placement in demand industries	200,000
Wayne County, NY Planning Department, Lyons, NY for workforce development programs in Central New York	250,000
West Los Angeles College, Culver City, CA for a craft and technican training program	540,000
Wisconsin Community Action Program, Madison, WI, for job training assistance of low-income individuals	275,000
Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership, Milwaukee, WI, to assess, prepare, and place job-ready candidates in construction, manufacturing, and other skilled trades and industries	255,000
Women Work and Community, Augusta, ME for a women's workforce training and development program	500,000
Workforce Connections, Inc., La Crosse, WI, to develop and implement strategic workforce development activities in Western Wisconsin	125,000
Workforce Resource, Inc., Menomonee, WI, for employment assistance	210,000
Wrightco Technologies, Inc, Claysburg, PA, to provide job training, retraining and vocational educational programs	90,000

The conference agreement consolidates the Responsible Reintegration of Youthful Offenders and Prisoner Reentry programs into a program of Reintegration of Ex-Offenders, as proposed by the House. The conference agreement provides $78,694,000, instead of $68,746,000 as proposed by the House and a total of $68,642,000 as proposed by the Senate in two individual programs. Within this amount, the conference agreement provides that no less than $59,000,000 be used for programming for youth. The conference agreement also provides that a total of $50,000,000 be available from resources in both fiscal years 2007 and 2008 for a youth mentoring initiative. The $50,000,000 provided is for competitive grants to local educational agencies or community-based organizations to develop and implement mentoring strategies in schools identified as persistently dangerous. The conferees intend that $33,000,000 provided in this Act, along with $17,000,000 in funds made available under the fiscal year 2007 appropriation for youthful offenders, be available for this purpose and direct that the solicitation of grant agreements be issued on a timeline that provides for the incorporation of both the fiscal year 2007 and fiscal year 2008 contributions to the enhanced effort to assist persistently dangerous schools in mentoring efforts to prevent youth violence in high crime areas.

For the Denali Commission, the conference agreement provides $6,875,000 as proposed by the Senate for job training services. The House did not include funds for this activity.

The conference agreement does not include the $49,000,000 undistributed reduction in training and employment services as proposed by the House. The Senate bill had no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes a rescission of $245,000,000 in prior year Workforce Investment Act unexpended balances for the Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker formula programs. The House bill contained a $335,000,000 rescission of prior year training and employment service balances, while the Senate bill had no similar provision. The conferees direct the Secretary to target the rescission within each funding stream so that the first funds subject to recapture are those program year 2005 and 2006 funds carried in to program year 2007 that are in excess of 30 percent of funds available in program year 2006 as of June 30, 2007. To arrive at the total amount within each funding stream, the balance of the rescission should be based on each State's remaining unexpended fiscal year 2005 and 2006 balances as of June 30, 2007, after adjusting those balances by any excess carryout identified in the first calculation. In addition, within each funding stream, the conferees direct that the Secretary ensure that the amounts rescinded within each State shall be from funds reserved for Statewide activities, and funds related to each local area, in proportion to the extent to which these balances, respectively, contributed to the amount to be rescinded in the State. Consistent with these specifications, the conferees direct the Secretary to carry out the rescission in a manner that will minimize burdens on States and local areas. To achieve that goal, the conferees further direct that it is intended that the requirements of sections 128, 133 and 134(a)(3)(B) of WIA relating to cost limits and to the applicable percentages of funds that may be used for Statewide activities, rapid response, and allocations to local areas, be applied by the Secretary only with respect to the initial allotments received by the State from fiscal year 2005 and 2006 funds and that those requirements are not intended to be applied based on the amounts remaining available to the States after this rescission has been carried out.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

The conference agreement includes $530,900,000 for Community Service Employment for Older Americans as proposed by the House, instead of $483,611,000 as proposed by the Senate. This amount covers the second increment of the Federal minimum wage increase, from $5.85 to $6.55 an hour, for program participants.

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS

The conference agreement includes $3,377,506,000 for State Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service Operations, instead of $3,382,614,000 as proposed by the House and $3,386,632,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conference agreement includes language not included in the House or Senate bills that allows the Secretary of Labor to make payments on behalf of the States for matching Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims information against the information in the National Directory of New Hires to prevent, detect, and collect improper UI payments. States are required to reimburse the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for the reasonable costs incurred in providing the information. Allowing the Secretary to aggregate such amounts and provide a payment to HHS covering the costs of all States will not affect the share of UI administrative funds available to each State, but will provide a more cost-effective means through which the required reimbursements are to be paid.

For Employment Service grants to States, the conference agreement includes $715,883,000 as proposed by the Senate, instead of $725,883,000 as proposed by the House. This includes $22,883,000 in general funds and $693,000,000 from the Unemployment Trust Fund. For Employment Service National Activities, the conference agreement includes $32,766,000 as proposed by the House instead of $34,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. This includes $12,740,000 for foreign labor certification programs.

For workforce information, national electronic tools and one-stop system building, the conference agreement provides $52,985,000 as proposed by the House, instead of $55,985,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conferees direct that workforce information grants to the States be funded at no less than $32,430,000 as proposed by the House.

For Work Incentive Grants, the conference report provides $14,649,000 instead of $9,757,000 as proposed by the House and $19,541,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct the Department to ensure that all States that wish to participate in this program receive funding for new or continuation grants to support their disability navigator programs.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement includes $176,662,000 for Program Administration, instead of $170,500,000 as proposed by the House and $185,505,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees. Within the amount for employment security activities, the conference agreement includes not less than $43,500,000 to improve the timeliness and quality of processing applications under the foreign labor certification program.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $142,925,000 for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as proposed by the House instead of $143,262,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees. The conferees request a briefing on the schedule for the completion of the EFAST2 system prior to the announcement of the availability of funds for its development and regular progress reports on this project. The conferees are also in agreement that EBSA should devote resources to the issuance of regulations on meaningful and uniform reporting of 401(k) fees and that a national education program on 401(k) investment options, fees and conflict of interest be created as described in House Report 110–231.

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION FUND

The conference agreement includes $411,151,000 for the administrative expenses of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The conference agreement includes language in the House bill providing for workload driven increases in management fees based on increases in assets received by the Corporation as a result of new plan terminations, after approval by the Office of Management and Budget and notification of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $437,508,000 for the Employment Standards Administration, salaries and expenses, instead of $436,508,000 as proposed by the House and $438,508,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

For the enforcement of wage and hour standards, the conference agreement provides $183,365,000, instead of $182,365,000 as proposed by the House and $184,365,000 as proposed by the Senate. The additional $1,000,000 is provided for accelerating start-up of a system to resolve claims of injury caused by asbestos exposure. If the authority for an asbestos claims program is not enacted by June 30, 2008, these additional funds may be used to support wage and hour enforcement in low wage industries.

The conference agreement includes a rescission of $102,000,000 in unobligated funds collected pursuant to section 286(v) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The House and the Senate proposed a rescission of $70,000,000; however, information received from the Department of Labor indicates that receipts in this account allow a higher amount to be rescinded while still ensuring that the $5,500,000 the Department estimates it will use in fiscal year 2008 under current authority remains available.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, ENERGY EMPLOYEES

OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Within the total provided, the conference agreement includes a proviso transferring $4,500,000 to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health for use by the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health. While both the House and the Senate included this provision, the House report specified that the amount be in addition to $55,358,000 identified for transfer to the Department of Health and Human Services. The conferees clarify that the $4,500,000 for the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health is a part of the total transfer amount. The Board is a key component of the administration of the program at NIOSH and the conferees expect that it will be funded at the level provided for in the conference agreement.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $500,568,000 for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), instead of $503,516,000 as proposed by the House and $498,445,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

For Federal Enforcement, the conference agreement includes $190,128,000 as proposed by the House, instead of $188,005,000 as proposed by the Senate, and for Federal Compliance Assistance, the conference agreement includes $72,659,000 as proposed by the Senate, instead of $75,566,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees believe that it is important to rebuild the Federal enforcement capacity of OSHA and that the agency should collect data needed to evaluate the effectiveness of voluntary compliance programs before additional investments are made to support this approach.

The conference agreement includes language proposed by the House requiring the Secretary of Labor to provide detailed reports on the development and issuance of certain occupational safety and health standards that have remained on the OSHA regulatory agenda without completion. The Senate had a similar provision in its report, but not in the bill.

The conferees are concerned that the Department has failed to make sufficient progress on its comprehensive plan to address ergonomic injuries and requests that a report be provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 30 days of enactment of this Act detailing the specific steps it will take to complete the issuance of all 16 industry guidelines. In addition to a timetable for the completion of the industry guidelines, the report should contain OSHA's plans for increased enforcement on ergonomic and musculoskeletal injuries.

The conferees are also concerned by OSHA's lack of action to ensure that health care workers and emergency responders will be adequately protected in the event of an influenza pandemic. The conferees note that the Department believes that in order to issue an emergency standard to protect these workers, the United States needs to be in the midst of an influenza pandemic and urges reconsideration of the standard-setting actions that can be taken on an emergency or expedited basis. Within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the conferees request a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the timeline for developing and issuing a standard.

The conferees are also concerned by the inadequate response to the serious health hazards posed by industrial exposure to the chemical diacetyl, a butter flavoring agent used in microwave popcorn and other foods. Despite documented cases of a debilitating and potentially fatal lung disease, OSHA has not moved swiftly enough to protect workers from this hazard. The conferees urge OSHA to reconsider its decision concerning an emergency standard, and direct that at a minimum a permanent standard should be developed on an expedited basis. Within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the conferees expect OSHA to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing its anticipated timeline for issuing such a

standard, as well as providing the details of a national emphasis program that will extend enforcement activities to all food manufacturing and flavoring plants where diacetyl is used.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $339,893,000 for the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), instead of $340,028,000 as proposed by the Senate or $313,478,000 as proposed by the House. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conferees are disturbed that MSHA has fallen significantly short of its obligation to complete 100 percent of regular inspections of coal mines, as required by law. In 2006, almost 5 of every 100 regular inspections nationally were not completed. In some districts, the rates were close to 15 or 20 of every 100 inspections that were not completed. The conferees find these results unacceptable.

The conference agreement provides MSHA with an increase of $37,024,000 over fiscal year 2007 resources to ensure that MSHA can carry out its legal obligations to regularly inspect our nation's coal mines. Together with increased funding for standards development, educational policy and development, and technical support, the conferees believe that the additional funds provided are sufficient to ensure that MSHA completes all of its inspection responsibilities, as well as complies with other statutory requirements of this Act and the MINER Act.

The conferees direct that, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, MSHA provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed operating plan describing how these funds will be utilized and the specific outcomes that will be achieved. The conferees concur with Senate Report 110–107 regarding the priority use of these additional funds and expect MSHA to adhere to these when preparing the required operating plan.

Within the amount provided for MSHA Program Administration, the conference agreement includes $2,200,000 for a national project award to the United Mine Workers of America for classroom and simulated rescue training for mine rescue teams, and $1,215,000 for the Wheeling Jesuit University National Technology Transfer Center.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $566,804,000 for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), instead of $576,118,000 as proposed by the House and $560,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conference agreement includes $185,796,000 for Prices and Cost of Living, instead of $192,599,000 as proposed by the House and $178,992,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees expect that the increase above fiscal year 2007 will be used for continuous updating of the housing and geographic area samples of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The conference agreement does not include $450,000 as proposed by the House to begin the development of a methodology to determine cost of living by State. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Included in the amount for Compensation and Working Conditions is $1,000,000 to conduct focused research studies on work-related injuries and illnesses as proposed by the Senate, instead of $1,225,000 as proposed by the House for this purpose.

The conferees are interested in ascertaining the impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on employment in the United States. When NAFTA was debated in the U.S. Congress, there were estimates that implementation of the agreement would result in the net creation of 200,000 new U.S. jobs, and that job losses in the United States as a consequence of NAFTA would be concentrated in low-skill sectors. The conferees direct the Department of Labor, through BLS, to issue a report within 365 days of enactment of this Act, assessing the number of U.S. jobs, on an industry-by-industry basis, that were created as a consequence of NAFTA, and the number of U.S. jobs, on an industry-by-industry basis, that were lost as a consequence of NAFTA. The study should encompass the period from the date of implementation of NAFTA to December 31, 2007. Neither the House nor Senate report contained similar language.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $27,712,000 for the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), as proposed by the House and the Senate. The conferees intend that at least 80 percent of these funds shall be used to design and implement research and technical assistance grants and contracts to develop policy that reduces barriers to employment for youth and adults with disabilities.

The conferees are concerned by the lack of available information regarding the extent to which effective disability employment policy developed by the ODEP has been implemented within the Department of Labor and by other Federal agencies whose programs provide services to all job seekers and workers, including those with disabilities. Therefore, the conferees direct the Secretary of Labor, working through the Assistant Secretary for Disability Employment Policy, to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. This report shall be provided to the Committees and published on the Department's web site no later than June 30, 2008.

The conferees expect this report to identify and recommend policies the ODEP has developed during its history that have been or should be implemented within the Department of Labor or by other relevant Federal agencies. Further, the report should describe the cause-and-effect relationship that these policies have had on reducing barriers to employment for adults and youth with disabilities. The conferees also request that the report summarize how funds have been spent by ODEP since its inception. The conferees expect the report to show how ODEP has utilized its resources, including on staff expertise, grants, and contracts, to develop policy to reduce barriers to employment.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $305,174,000 for Departmental Management, salaries and expenses, instead of $272,595,000 as proposed by the House and $313,218,000 as proposed by the Senate. The undistributed reductions in both the House and Senate bills are not included. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conference agreement includes $82,516,000 as proposed by the Senate for the International Bureau of Labor Affairs (ILAB), instead of $72,516,000 as proposed by the House. Within this amount, the conference agreement contains $5,000,000 as proposed in the House bill to implement model programs to address worker rights through technical assistance in countries with which the United States has trade preference programs and directs that this activity be carried out through a cooperative agreement with an international organization that has experience in working to assure adherence to a set of core labor standards through work with governments, employers and labor. The Senate had no similar provision. The conferees' recommendation for ILAB also includes $41,000,000 for the U.S. contribution to the International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor and $24,000,000 for bilateral assistance to improve access to basic education in international areas with a high rate of abusive and exploitative child labor. The Senate provided $42,610,000 and $26,770,000 respectively for these activities. The House had no similar provisions.

The conferees are deeply concerned about the recent discovery of abusive and exploitative child labor by a subcontractor based in India embroidering women's garments for a major U.S. apparel company. These children, some as young as ten, were forced from their parents, denied wages, forced to work long hours, and forced to live in squalor. Official Indian government estimates indicate that there are around 12 million children working in hazardous conditions. However, non-governmental organizations working on eradicating child labor believe that there are close to 60 million child laborers, including approximately 10 million child bonded laborers. While this major U.S. apparel company has 90 inspectors that travel around the world trying to ensure that their codes of conduct are not violated, it is a difficult and daunting task given the high prevalence of exploitative child labor and the non-existence of an industry wide monitoring system for the garment industry in India. Therefore, the conferees direct the Department to work with the International Labor Organization in an effort to implement standards similar to those used in the Cambodian and Bangladeshi garment industries to ensure that U.S. consumer products are not made by abusive child labor in violation of local and international standards.

The conference agreement provides $20,000,000 for information technology systems, instead of $18,000,000 as proposed by the House and $22,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. These funds support information technology, architecture, infrastructure, equipment and software utilized by multiple agencies within the Department. he conferees support the use of a portion of such funds for the acquisition of a Financial Management System for the Department of Labor. he President's request to Congress included $12,000,000 as a direct appropriation to the Working Capital Fund for this initiative.

The conference agreement includes $95,050,000 for the Office of the Solicitor, instead of $94,937,000 as proposed by the House and $95,162,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees intend that the increased funding level support no less than an increase of 19 FTEs over the fiscal year 2007 staffing level for enforcement support for the Mine Safety and Health Administration, as specified by the Senate report. The House had no similar language.

For the Women's Bureau, the conference agreement includes $10,300,000 as proposed by the Senate, instead of $10,500,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees encourage continued funding for national networks for women's employment that advance women in the workplace through education and advocacy.

OFFICE OF JOB CORPS

The conference agreement funds this program within the Office of the Secretary as proposed by the House and the Senate. This reflects the current organizational status of

the program, and the funds for the administration of this program are included in this account instead of within program administration for the Employment and Training Administration, as indicated in the detailed table at the end of this joint statement.

The conference agreement includes $1,650,516,000 for the Office of Job Corps, instead of $1,649,476,000 as proposed by the House and $1,659,872,000 as provided by the Senate. Within the total, $1,507,684,000 is provided for continuing operations of the program, as proposed by the House, instead of $1,516,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. For renovation and construction of Job Corps centers, the conference agreement includes $113,960,000, instead of $112,920,000 as proposed by the House and $115,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement does not include the designation of funds for a competition to increase child care development centers on Job Corps campuses as proposed by the House, and instead designates the $13,960,000 above the request for renovation and construction for the continued development of new Job Corps centers that have been awarded and are not yet completed. The conferees request that the Department of Labor include an analysis of the future funding needs of all new centers in development and a progress report on the timeline for opening new centers in its fiscal year 2009 budget justification, as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language proposed by the Senate requiring that none of the funds in the Act be used to reduce student training slots below 44,791 in program year 2008. This slot level and the funds provided will support the maintenance of student training services at existing Job Corps centers, as well as provide for new centers scheduled to open in program year 2008. The House bill contained a similar provision.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

The conference agreement contains $228,198,000 for Veterans Employment and Training, as proposed by the House instead of $231,198,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees encourage the Department to direct additional funds to the Transition Assistance Program, which will ensure that the increasing demand for services is met. The conferees also expect the Department to increase enforcement activities to ensure that veterans' rights under the Uniformed Service Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act and Veterans Employment Opportunities Act are being protected.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The conference agreement includes $78,658,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the House instead of $79,658,000 as proposed by the Senate.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

JOB CORPS SALARIES

The conference agreement includes language that prohibits the use of funds for the Job Corps program to pay the salary of any individual, either as direct costs or any proration as an indirect cost, at a rate in excess of Executive Level I, as proposed by the Senate. The House included a similar provision in the Job Corps account.

ONE PERCENT TRANSFER AUTHORITY

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes a provision limiting the authority to transfer funds between a program, project or activity and requiring a 15 day advance notification of any such request. Both the House and Senate bills contained similar provisions.

TRANSIT SUBSIDIES

The conference agreement includes a provision requiring the Secretary of Labor to issue a monthly transit subsidy at the full amount of $110 for eligible employees in the National Capital Region, as proposed by the House. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

OPERATING PLAN

The conference agreement includes a provision prohibiting the obligation of funds for demonstration, pilot, multiservice, research and multistate projects under section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act prior to the submission of a report on the planned use of such funds, as proposed by the House. The Senate had a similar provision requiring an operating plan for the use of such funds. The conferees expect that the operating report on the use of such funds will be provided not later than July 1, 2008, and direct the Department to continue to submit quarterly reports to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on the status of awards made for pilot, demonstration, multiservice, research, and multistate projects under section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act. These quarterly reports shall be submitted no later than 45 days after the end of each quarter and shall include a list of all awards made during the quarter, and for each award, the grantee or contractor, the amount of the award, the funding source for the award, whether the award was made competitively or by sole source and, if sole source, the justification, the purpose of the award and expected outcomes.

DENALI COMMISSION

The conference agreement includes a provision, as proposed by the Senate that authorizes such sums as may be necessary to the Denali Commission to conduct job training where Denali Commission projects will be constructed. The House bill contained no similar provision.

GRANTS USING H–1B VISA REVENUE

The conference agreement includes a provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of the funds available to the Department under section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act for other than training in the occupations and industries for which employers are using the visas to hire foreign workers that generate these funds. The conferees expect that these activities will include industry career ladder programs and understand that there are some related activities that enhance or facilitate training programs that are part of a coordinated industry approach. The conference agreement provides that this limitation shall not apply to multiyear grants that have already been awarded under competitive solicitations issued prior to April 15, 2007. The conferees understand one additional round of Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) grants that would qualify under this limitation was awarded in June 2007. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

HEALTH COVERAGE TAX CREDIT GAP-FILLER GRANTS

The conference agreement does not include a provision included in the House bill authorizing up to $20,000,000 in revenue available to the Department under section 414 (c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act to be used for ''gap-filler'' grants to trade-impacted workers awaiting certification for the Health Coverage Tax Credit. The Senate bill contained no similar provision. The conferees expect the Department of Labor to make grants available to States from the Dislocated Worker National Reserve for this purpose and to increase outreach to trade-impacted workers to inform them of their eligibility for the Health Coverage Tax Credit.

COMPETITIVE GRANTS

The conference report includes a provision prohibiting Community-Based Job Training grants and grants authorized under section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act from being awarded on a non-competitive basis. Both the House and Senate bills included similar provisions.

ADMINISTRATIVE COST DEFINITION AND REDESIGNATION OF LOCAL AREAS

The conference agreement includes a provision requiring that the Secretary of Labor take no action to amend the definition established in 20 CFR 667.220 for functions and activities under title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 or to modify the procedure for designation of local areas as specified in that Act until such time as legislation reauthorizing the Act is enacted, as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained a similar provision.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The conference agreement includes a provision as proposed by the House requiring the Secretary of Labor to promulgate a final regulation on personal protective equipment no later than November 30, 2007. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) made a commitment in Federal court to issue a final rule by this date. The Senate addressed this issue in report language.

MINE SAFETY REGULATIONS

The conference agreement includes language requiring specific dates by which the Secretary of Labor propose, and subsequently finalize, mine safety regulations regarding belt haulage entries and rescue chambers in coal mines, and makes additional requirements for review of mine ventilation plans. The Senate bill included a similar provision, while the House bill did not include such a provision.

SALARIES AND BONUSES

The conference agreement includes a provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits grantees from using funds appropriated for the Employment and Training Administration to pay the salary and bonuses of an individual at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. The House bill contained no similar provision.

MINE SAFETY FUNDING

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate providing additional funding for necessary expenses for the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). Funding for MSHA activities are included under the heading for this agency. The House bill contained no similar provision.

NIOSH FIRE FIGHTER PROGRAM

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate providing that $5,000,000 be available in Title I for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to carry out the Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Preventions Program. Funding for this activity is included within the funds made available to NIOSH in Title II. The House bill contained no similar provision.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES

The conference agreement includes $7,260,468,000 for health resources and services, of which $7,235,468,000 is provided as budget authority and $25,000,000 is made available from the Public Health Service policy evaluation set-aside, instead of

$7,086,709,000 as proposed by the House and $6,888,810,000 as proposed by the Senate. Funds for the individual HRSA programs are displayed in the table at the end of the statement of managers. Funding levels that were in disagreement but not displayed on the table are discussed in this statement.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing $317,684,000 for construction and renovation (including equipment) of health care and other facilities and other health-related activities. The Senate included bill language providing $191,235,000 for this purpose; the House bill did not include funding for projects in bill language. These funds are to be used for the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital, Oneonta, NY for facilities and equipment	250,000
Access Community Health Network, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment for Chicago sites	225,000
Addison County Dental Care, Middlebury, VT, for equipment and facility upgrades	150,000
Adirondack Medical Center, Saranac Lake, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000
Adrian College, Adrian, MI for nurse training programs, including facilities and equipment	500,000
Adventist Glen Oaks Hospital, Glendale Heights, IL for facilities and equipment	200,000
Adventist Health, Roseville, CA for expansions to the clinical information system, including purchase of equipment	350,000
AIDS Resource Center Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, to provide health care and case management services	125,000
Alamo Community College System, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	440,000
Alaska Addictions Rehabilitation Services, Inc., Wasilla, AK for facilities and equipment	150,000
Alaska Family Practice Residency Program, Anchorage, AK, to support its family practice residency programs	1,000,000
Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage, AK, for equipment	750,000
Alaska Psychiatric Institute, Juneau, AK, for the Telebehavioral Health Project in Alaska	400,000
Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY, for the establishment of the Patient Safety Center	500,000
Albuquerque Indian Health Center, New Mexico, for renovations and equipment	85,000
Alderson-Broaddus College, Philippi, WV for facilities and equipment for the nursing program	125,000
Alegent Health Care System, Omaha, NE, for a community-based Electronic Medical Records System	100,000
Alice Hyde Medical Center, Malone, NY for facilities and equipment	350,000
Alleghany Memorial Hospital, Sparta, NC for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	150,000
Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	169,500
Allegheny Singer Research Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000
Alle-Kiski Medical Center, Natrona Heights, PA for facilities and equipment	375,000
Allen Memorial Hospital, Moab, Utah, for construction, renovation, and equipment	50,000
Alliance for NanoHealth, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	650,000
AltaMed Health Services Corp., Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment	275,000
American Oncologic Hospital, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA for facilities and equipment	500,000
American Samoa, Pago Pago, AQ for facilities and equipment for the LBJ Medical Center	640,000
Amite County Medical Services, Liberty, MS for facilities and equipment	135,000
Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center, Anchorage, AK, for construction, renovation, and equipment	339,000
AnMed Health, Anderson, SC, for renovation and equipment	84,750
Arc of Northern Virginia, Falls Church, VA, for equipment and software to create a Resource Navigator System for individuals with developmental disabilities in the Commonwealth of Virginia	150,000
Armstrong County Memorial Hospital, Kittanning, PA, for equipment	90,000
Arnold Palmer Hospital, Orlando, FL for facilities and equipment	200,000
Ashland County Oral Health Services, Ashland, OH for facilities and equipment	100,000
Asian Americans for Community Involvement, San Jose, CA for facilities and equipment for a community health clinic	378,000
Association for Utah Community Health, Salt Lake City, UT for health information technology for community health centers represented by the Association throughout the State	796,650
Atchison Hospital Association, Atchison, KS, for renovation and equipment	300,000
Atlantic Health Systems, Florham Park, NJ for an electronic disease tracking system	500,000
Avis Goodwin Community Health Center, Dover, NH for facilities and equipment in Somerworth, NH	400,000
Avista Adventist Hospital, Louisville, CO for health information systems	320,000
Bad River Tribe of Lake Superior Chippewa, Odanah, WI for facilities and equipment for a health clinic	500,000
Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie, IN, for facilities and equipment	100,000
Baltimore City Health Department, Baltimore, MD for facilities and equipment for mobile units	320,000
Baltimore Medical System, Baltimore, MD for facilities and equipment for a community health care facility	320,000
Baptist Health Medical Center—Heber Springs, Heber Springs, AR for facilities and equipment	75,000
Barnert Hospital, Paterson, NJ for facilities and equipment	320,000
Barnes-Kasson County Hospital, Susquehanna, PA for obstetrical care	150,000
Barnes-Kasson County Hospital, Susquehanna, PA, for renovation and equipment	90,000
Barre Family Health Center, Barre, MA for facilities and equipment	275,000
Bay Area Medical Clinic, Marinette, WI for facilities and equipment	200,000
BayCare Health System, Clearwater, FL for upgrades to medical information systems	350,000
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, for construction, renovation, and equipment at the Vannie E. Cook, Jr. Children's Cancer and Hematology Clinic	175,000
Baylor Research Institute, Dallas, TX for facilities and equipment	352,000
Bayonne Medical Center, Bayonne, NJ for health information technology	500,000
Baystate Health Systems, Springfield, MA for facilities and equipment	320,000
Bear River Health Department, Logan, Utah, for the Medical Reserve Corps Program	50,000
Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI for a Core Molecular Laboratory, including facilities and equipment	500,000
Beaver Valley Hospital, Beaver, Utah, for renovation and equipment	50,000
Beebe Medical Center, Lewes, DE, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000
Belmont University, Nashville, TN for facilities and equipment for the Health Science Center	140,000
Beloit Area Community Health Center, Beloit, WI, for construction, renovation and equipment	425,000
Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN for a nurse training program	250,000
Benedictine Hospital, Kingston, NY for health information systems	200,000
Benefis Healthcare Foundation, Great Falls, MT, for health information technology	320,000
Benefis Healthcare, Great Falls, MT for facilities and equipment	500,000
Berea Health Ministry Rural Health Clinic, Inc., Berea, KY for facilities and equipment for a rural diabetes clinic	50,000
Billings Clinic, Billings, MT, for a Rural Clinical Information System	280,000
Billings Clinic, Billings, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment of a cancer center	320,000
Billings Clinic, Billings, MT, for the Diabetes Center to prevent and treat diabetes	300,000
Bloomington Hospital Foundation, Bloomington, IN for health information systems	200,000
Bloomsburg Hospital, Bloomsburg, PA for facilities and equipment	343,000
Blount Memorial Hospital, Maryville, TN for purchase of equipment	150,000
Boone County Senior Citizen Service Corporation, Columbia, MO, for equipment and technology for the Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Center on the Bluff's campus	847,000
Boone Hospital Center, Columbia, MO for facilities and equipment	200,000
Boriken Neighborhood Health Center, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	150,000
Boscobel Area Health Care, Boscobel, WI for facilities and equipment	405,000
Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, Boston, MA, for the construction of a health care facility	145,000
Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA for facilities and equipment for the J. Joseph Moakley Medical Services Building	1,000,000
Boston University Medical School, Boston, MA for facilities and equipment for biomedical research related to amyloidosis	250,000
Boys Town National Research Hospital, Omaha, NE, for construction, renovation and equipment	720,000
Brackenridge Hospital, Austin, TX, for construction, renovation, and equipment	175,000
Bridge Community Health Clinic, Wausau, WI for facilities and equipment	500,000
Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, CT for facilities and equipment	350,000
Brockton Hospital, Brockton, MA, for equipment	170,000
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, Brockton, MA for facilities and equipment	320,000
Brookside Community Health Center, San Pablo, CA for facilities and equipment	350,000
Brunswick County, Bolivia, NC for facilities and equipment for a senior center	250,000
Bryan W. Whitfield Hospital, Demopolis, AL for facilities and equipment	140,000
Bureau County Health Clinic, Princeton, IL to expand rural health services, including purchase of equipment	150,000
Cactus Health Services, Inc., Sanderson, TX for primary health care services in rural communities in Terrell and Pecos Counties	175,000
California Hospital Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment	400,000
California State University, Bakersfield, CA for nurse training programs, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Camillus House, Inc., Miami, FL for facilities and equipment	200,000
Canonsburg General Hospital, Canonsburg, PA for purchase of equipment	350,000
Cape Cod Free Clinic and Community Health Center, Mashpee, MA for facilities and equipment	175,000
Capital Park Family Health Center, Columbus, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000
Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI for a nursing training program	100,000
Carilion Health System, Roanoke, VA, for renovation and equipment	125,000
Caring Health Center, Inc., Springfield, MA, for equipment needed to expand urgent care and oral health programs	210,000
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment and renovation	127,125
Carolinas HealthCare System, Charlotte, NC for facilities and equipment	400,000
Carroll County Regional Medical Center, Carrollton, KY for facilities and equipment	300,000
Carroll County Youth Service Bureau, Westminster, MD for facilities and equipment for the Outpatient Mental Health Clinic	350,000
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, for equipment	84,750
Center for Health Equity, Louisville, KY for facilities and equipment	250,000

Project	Total funding
Central Carolina Allied Health Center, Sumter, SC, for construction, renovation, and equipment	211,875
Central Wyoming College, Riverton, WY for facilities and equipment at the Virtual Medical Skills Center for Training Nurses in Rural Health Care	200,000
CentroMed, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	400,000
Champlain Valley Physician's Hospital, Plattsburgh, NY for facilities and equipment	1,500,000
Charles A. Dean Memorial Hospital, Greenville, ME for facilities and equipment	250,000
Charles Drew Health Center, Inc., Omaha, NE, for construction, renovation and equipment	1,000,000
Chatham County Safety Net Collaborative, Savannah, GA for purchase of equipment	300,000
Cherry Street Health Services, Grand Rapids, MI for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	200,000
Chester County Hospital, West Chester, PA, for construction	90,000
Children's Friend and Family Services, Salem, MA for facilities and equipment	250,000
Children's Hospital of KidsPeace, Orefield, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000
Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, to provide pediatric palliative care education and consultation services to clinicians and providers	252,125
Children's Home of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA for facilities and equipment	320,000
Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN for facilities and equipment	315,000
Children's Hospital and Health System, Milwaukee, WI for purchase of equipment	350,000
Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY for facilities and equipment	320,000
Children's Hospital Boston, Boston, MA, for the development of comprehensive pediatric electronic medical records system	185,000
Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron, Akron, OH for facilities and equipment	375,000
Children's Hospital of Orange County, Mission Viejo, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	127,125
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, for construction	127,125
Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters (CHKD) Health Systems, Norfolk, VA, to purchase and equip a Mobile Intensive Care Transport Vehicle for the critically ill neonatal and pediatric populations	125,000
Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, Norfolk, VA for pediatric facilities and equipment	550,000
Childrens Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000
Children's Hospital, Aurora, CO, for equipment	169,500
Children's Hospital, Denver, CO for facilities and equipment	320,000
Children's Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, for construction and program expansion	90,000
Children's Medical Center, Dallas, Dallas, TX, for construction, renovation, and equipment	175,000
Children's Medical Center, Dayton, OH for CARE House, including facilities and equipment	200,000
Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	525,000
Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC for facilities and equipment for emergency preparedness	500,000
Children's Specialized Hospital, Mountainside, NJ for facilities and equipment	500,000
Chippewa Valley Hospital, Durand, WI for facilities and equipment	295,000
Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc., Elfrida, AZ for facilities and equipment for the Bisbee/Naco Chiricahua community health center in Bisbee, AZ and the Douglas/El Frida Medical and Dental Border Healthcare Clinic in Douglas, AZ	400,000
CHOICE Regional Health Network, Olympia, WA, for construction, renovation and equipment	300,000
Christian Health Care Center of New Jersey, Wyckoff, NJ for facilities and equipment	200,000
Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center, Indianapolis, IN for facilities and equipment	200,000
Christiana Care Health System, Wilmington, DE, for construction, renovation and equipment	425,000
Christus Santa Rosa's Children's Hospital, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	375,000
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH for purchase of equipment	500,000
Citrus County Board of County Commissioners, Inverness, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000
City of Austin, TX for facilities and equipment for the Travis County Hospital District	290,000
City of Chesapeake, VA for an infant mortality and chronic disease prevention program, including equipment	100,000
City of Oakland, CA for facilities and equipment for a new youth center to house health services programs	500,000
City of Stockton, CA for facilities and equipment for a health care facility	450,000
City of Stonewall, OK for facilities and equipment	360,000
Clarion Health Center, Clarion, PA for purchase of equipment	290,000
Clearfield Hospital, Clearfield, PA, for equipment	90,000
Cleveland Clinic Huron Hospital, East Cleveland, OH for facilities and equipment	300,000
Cobb County Government, Marietta, GA for a senior health center, including facilities and equipment	325,000
Coffeyville Regional Medical Center, Coffeyville, KS for facilities and equipment	350,000
Coles County Council on Aging, Mattoon, IL for facilities and equipment	200,000
College Misericordia, Dallas, PA for facilities and equipment for the NEPA Assistive Technology Research Institute	310,000
College of Saint Scholastica, Duluth, MN, to implement a rural health and technology demonstration project	254,250
Collier County, Naples, FL to develop a health care access network for the under- and uninsured, including information technology upgrades	342,000
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO for purchase of equipment	300,000
Columbia Memorial Hospital, Hudson, NY for health information systems	150,000
Columbus Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH for a telehealth project	100,000
Columbus Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH for purchase of equipment	300,000
Communi Care, Inc., Columbia, SC for health information systems, facilities, and equipment	285,000
Community Action Agency of Southern New Mexico, Las Cruces, NM, for the Access to Healthcare Initiative	297,000
Community College of Aurora, Aurora, CO for facilities and equipment	350,000
Community College of Rhode Island, Lincoln, RI, for equipment and laboratory facilities for health care education	210,000
Community Dental Services, Albuquerque, NM for facilities and equipment	500,000
Community Health Care, Tacoma, WA for facilities and equipment	425,000
Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Pittsburg, KS, for renovation and equipment	350,000
Community Health Center of the Black Hills, Rapid City, SD, for facilities and equipment	339,750
Community Health Centers in Iowa	1,750,000
Community Health Centers of Arkansas, North Little Rock, AR, for an infrastructure development program	600,000
Community Health Centers of the Rutland Region, Bomoseen, VT, for equipment	100,000
Community Health Works, Forsyth, GA for rural health care outreach	50,000
Community Home, Health & Hospice, Longview, WA, to implement a home health telemonitoring system	250,000
Community Hospital of Bremen, Bremen, IN for facilities and equipment	125,000
Community Hospital TeleHealth Consortium, Lake Charles, LA for a telehealth initiative	300,000
Community Medical Center, Missoula, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment	280,000
Community Medical Centers, Stockton, CA for facilities and equipment for Gleason House	225,000
Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP), Cranston, RI for facilities and equipment for dental care	190,000
Connecticut Hospice, Inc., Branford, CT for health information systems	300,000
Cook Children's Medical Center, Fort Worth, TX for facilities and equipment	775,000
Cooperative Education Service Agency 11 Rural Health Dental Clinic, Turtle Lake, WI for dental services	225,000
Cooperative Telehealth Network, Portneuf Medical Center, Pocatello, ID, to provide and improve distance healthcare access in southeast Idaho	350,000
Counseling Services of Addison County, Middlebury, VT, to implement an electronic medical record	200,000
County of Modoc Medical Center, Alturas, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000
County of Peoria, Peoria, IL, for facilities and equipment	250,000
County of San Diego, CA Public Health Services for the purchase of equipment	286,000
Crousee Hospital, Syracuse, NY for purchase of equipment and improvement of electronic medical information	300,000
Crowder College-Nevada Campus, Nevada, MO for facilities and equipment for the Moss Higher Education Center	200,000
Crozer-Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA for facilities and equipment	325,000
Crumley House Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center, Limestone, TN, for brain injury programs	100,000
Culpeper Regional Hospital, Culpeper, VA, for facility design, engineering and construction to expand the Emergency Department	200,000
Cumberland Medical Center, Crossville, TN for facilities and equipment	240,000
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH for facilities and equipment	275,000
Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, for training autism caregivers	175,000
Delaware Technical and Community College, Dover, DE for purchase of equipment	250,000
Delta Dental of Iowa, Ankeny, IA, for a dental loan repayment program	150,000
Delta Dental of South Dakota, Pierre, SD, to provide mobile dental health services	200,000
Denver Health and Hospital Authority, Denver, CO for facilities and equipment	450,000
Des Moines University and Broadlawns Medical Center, Des Moines, IA for a mobile clinic	200,000
Desert Hot Springs, Downey, CA, to construct a primary and urgent care medical clinic	80,000
Detroit Primary Care Access, Detroit, MI for health care information technology	375,000
Dixie County, Cross City, FL for facilities and equipment for the primary care facility	75,000
Dodge County Hospital, Eastman, GA for facilities and equipment	100,000
Drew County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, AR for facilities and equipment	440,000
DuBois Regional Medical Center, DuBois, PA for purchase of equipment and electronic medical records upgrades	217,750
East Carolina University, Greenville, NC for the Metabolic Institute, including facilities and equipment	350,000
East Orange General Hospital, East Orange, NJ, for facilities and equipment	635,000
East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Knoxville, TN for facilities and equipment	300,000
East Tennessee State University College of Pharmacy, Johnson City, TN for facilities and equipment	250,000
Easter Seals Iowa, for construction and enhancement of a health care center	300,000
Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago, Chicago, IL, for their therapeutic School and Center for Autism Research	550,000
Easter Seals of Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana Counties, Youngstown, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000
Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton, OK, for health information systems and pharmacy technology programs	100,000
Eastern Shore Rural Health System Onley Community Health Center, Nassawadox, VA, for construction, renovation and equipment	120,000

Project	Total funding
Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley, CA, for construction, renovations and equipment	250,000
Eddy County, NM, for a regional substance abuse rehabilitation center, including facilities and equipment	150,000
Edgemoor Hospital, Santee, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000
Eisenhower Medical Center, Rancho Mirage, CA for facilities and equipment	150,000
El Proyecto del Barrio, Arleta, CA for facilities and equipment at the Azusa Health Center, Azusa, CA	490,000
El Proyecto del Barrio, Winnetka, CA for health information systems	240,000
Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, NC for facilities and equipment for a science education building	390,000
Elliot Health System, Manchester, NH, for a backup and support system for continuity of services	200,000
Emerson Hospital, Concord, MA for facilities and equipment	200,000
Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Englewood, NJ for facilities and equipment	175,000
Ephrata Community Hospital, Ephrata, PA, for equipment	90,000
Excela Health, Mt. Pleasant, PA for facilities and equipment	350,000
Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH for facilities and equipment	397,000
Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina, MN for purchase of equipment	150,000
Family and Children's Aid, Danbury, CT for facilities and equipment for the Harmony Center	275,000
Family Behavioral Resources, Greensburg, PA for community health outreach activities	150,000
Family Center of the Northern Neck, Inc., White Stone, VA for obstetric care services, including facilities and equipment	200,000
Family Health Center of Southern Oklahoma, Tishomingo, OK for facilities and equipment	190,000
Family Health Centers of San Diego, Inc., San Diego, CA, for construction, renovation and equipment	80,000
Family HealthCare Network, Visalia, CA for electronic medical records upgrades	200,000
Family Medicine Spokane, Spokane, WA for rural training assistance	150,000
Fenway Community Health Center, Boston, MA, for construction, renovation and equipment	210,000
Fish River Rural Health, Eagle Lake, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	100,000
Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT, for construction, renovation and equipment	400,000
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000
Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL for facilities and equipment for the Autism Research and Treatment Center	2,500,000
Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL for purchase of equipment to support nursing programs	400,000
Floyd Valley Hospital, Le Mars, IA for facilities and equipment	100,000
Fort Wayne, IN, for training of emergency medical personnel, including equipment purchase	165,000
Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	127,125
Franklin County Medical Center, Preston, ID, for construction, renovation, and equipment	250,000
Free Clinic of the Greater Menomonie Area, Inc, Menomonie, WI, for equipment	85,000
Free Clinics of Iowa in Des Moines, to support a network of free clinics	350,000
Freeman Health System, Joplin, MO for purchase of equipment	400,000
Fulton County Medical Center, McConnellsburg, PA for facilities and equipment	263,750
Gardner Family Health Network, Inc., San Jose, CA for facilities and equipment	300,000
Garfield Memorial Hospital, Panguitch, Utah, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the emergency room and adjacent clinic	84,750
Gaston College, Health Education Institute, Dallas, NC for nurse training programs, including facilities and equipment	150,000
Gateway to Care, Houston, TX for health information technology	225,000
Geisinger Health System, Danville, PA, for construction and equipment	169,500
Generations, Inc, Camden, NJ, for construction of a medical center	380,000
Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA, for rural health outreach and training	84,700
Gertrude A. Barber Center, Erie, PA for the Autism Early Identification Diagnostic and Treatment Center, including purchase of equipment	162,000
Glen Rose Medical Center, Glen Rose, TX for facilities and equipment	330,000
Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale, CA for facilities and equipment	375,000
Glens Falls Hospital, Glens Falls, NY for facilities and equipment	400,000
Glory House, Sioux Falls, SD, to construct a methamphetamine treatment center	150,000
Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, Pottsville, PA, for medical outreach	90,000
Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital, Allentown, PA, for equipment	90,000
Grady Health Systems, Atlanta, GA for electronic medical records upgrades	334,700
Grandview Hospital, Dayton, OH for facilities and equipment	250,000
Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center,Inc., Newburgh, NY for facilities and equipment	125,000
Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, New Bedford, MA for health information systems	350,000
Greene County, Waynesburg, PA, for a telemedicine initiative	90,000
Griffin Hospital, Derby, CT for facilities and equipment	400,000
Gritman Medical Center, Moscow, ID for facilities and equipment	500,000
Gundersen Lutheran Health System, West Union, IA for a mobile health unit	250,000
Gundersen Lutheran Hospital, La Crosse, WI, for a health information technology system	170,000
Gunderson Lutheran, Decorah, IA for a Remote Fetal Monitoring Program, including purchase of equipment	300,000
Halifax Regional Health System, South Boston, VA for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	400,000
Hamilton Community Health Network, Flint, MI for health care information technology	320,000
Hamot Medical Center, Erie, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000
Hampton University, Hampton, VA for health professions training	400,000
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	250,000
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	500,000
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment for an outpatient physical and occupational therapy center	200,000
Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment for the diabetes program	415,000
Harris Methodist Erath County Hospital, Stephenville, TX for facilities and equipment	140,000
Hatzoloh EMS, Inc., Monsey, NY for purchase of ambulances	200,000
Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo, IA for facilities and equipment for a health center	375,000
Hazleton General Hospital, Hazleton, PA, for equipment	90,000
Healing Tree Addiction Treatment Solutions, Inc., Sterling, CO for facilities and equipment	150,000
HEALS Dental Clinic, Huntsville, AL for facilities and equipment	75,000
HealthCare Connection, Cincinnati, OH for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	250,000
HealthEast Care System, St. Paul, MN for health information systems	500,000
HealthHUB, South Royalton, VT, for equipment and facilities	100,000
Heartland Community Health Clinic, Peoria, IL for facilities and equipment	300,000
Heartland Partnership, Peoria, IL, for construction of a cancer research laboratory	400,000
Hektoen Institute for Medical Research Beloved Community Wellness Program, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	400,000
Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI for facilities and equipment	100,000
Helene Fuld College of Nursing, NY, for construction, renovation and equipment	100,000
Henry Ford Health System, Flint, MI, for training in advanced techniques	295,000
Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, Valencia, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000
Heritage Valley Health System, Beaver, PA, for construction	90,000
Hidalgo Medical Services Inc., Lordsburg, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment for a Community Health Center in Silver City, New Mexico	750,000
Highland Community Hospital, Picayune, MS for health information systems	440,000
Highlands County, Sebring, FL for facilities and equipment for the veterans service office	425,000
Hilo Medical Center, HI, for a medical robotics training lab	100,000
Holy Cross Hospital, Chicago, IL, for equipment	1,000,000
Holy Cross Hospital, Silver Spring, MD, for equipment	375,000
Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, NJ for facilities and equipment	175,000
Holy Redeemer Health System, Huntingdon Valley, PA, for construction	90,000
Holy Rosary Healthcare, Miles City, MT, for a tele-radiology program	175,000
Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, PA, for equipment	90,000
Holyoke Hospital, Holyoke, MA, for equipment	185,000
Home Nursing Agency, Altoona, PA, for telehealth services, including purchase of equipment	100,000
Hood River County, Hood River, OR, for construction of an integrated health care facility	295,000
Hormel Foundation, Austin, MN for facilities and equipment for the cancer research center	425,000
Hospice Care Plus, Berea, KY, for construction, renovation, and equipment	127,125
Hospice of Northwest Ohio Toledo Center, Toledo, OH for health information systems	125,000
Hospice of the Western Reserve, Cleveland, OH for a pediatric care program	150,000
Hospital for Special Surgery, New York, NY, for expansion and modernization of its clinical facilities	500,000
Houston County Hospital District, Crockett, TX for facilities and equipment	200,000
Howard Community College, Columbia, MD for facilities and equipment for radiologic technology	300,000
Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology, Huntsville, AL for facilities and equipment	325,000
Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Inc., Glens Falls, NY for health information systems	100,000
Humility of Mary Health Partners, Youngstown, OH for health information technology	200,000
Humphreys County Memorial Hospital, Belzoni, MS for facilities and equipment	175,000
Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ for facilities and equipment	645,000
Hunter's Hope Foundation, Orchard Park, NY, including purchase of equipment	600,000
Huntridge Teen Center and Nevada Dental Association, Las Vegas, NV, to purchase equipment and coordinate care for the Huntridge Dental Clinic	275,000
Huntsville Hospital, Huntsville, AL for facilities and equipment	200,000
Hurley Medical Center, Flint, MI for health information systems	320,000
Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID for the Advanced Clinical Simulation Laboratory, including facilities and equipment	250,000

Project	Total funding
Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000
Illinois Primary Health Care Association, Springfield, IL for health information systems for clinic sites across the State	600,000
India Community Center, Milpitas, CA for facilities and equipment for the medical clinic	300,000
Indiana Regional Medical Center, Indiana, PA, for services expansion	90,000
Indiana University Bloomington, IN for facilities and equipment for the School of Nursing	75,000
Indiana University School of Medicine, Gary, IN for facilities and equipment for the Northwest Indiana Health Research Institute	525,000
Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN for facilities and equipment	150,000
Indiana University Southeast, New Albany, IN for facilities and equipment for the School of Nursing	75,000
Inland Behavioral Health Services, Inc., San Bernardino, CA for facilities and equipment	500,000
Inova Health System, Falls Church, VA, for construction, renovation, and equipment	100,000
Institute for Family Health, New Paltz, NY for health information systems across all eight academic health centers	100,000
Institute for Research and Rehabilitation, Houston, TX for purchase of equipment	200,000
INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma City, OK for a telemedicine demonstration	200,000
INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma City, OK, for statewide digital radiology equipment	100,000
Intermountain Healthcare, Salt Lake City, UT for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	170,000
Iowa Caregivers Association, for training and support of certified nurse assistants	300,000
Jackson Medical Mall Foundation, Jackson, MS, for construction, renovation, and equipment	150,000
Jackson State University, Jackson, MS, for Southern Institute for Mental Health Research and Training	250,000
Jameson Hospital, New Castle, PA for facilities and equipment	304,000
Jasper Memorial Hospital, Monticello, GA for facilities and equipment	40,000
Jefferson County, AL for the Senior Citizens' Centers, including facilities and equipment	300,000
Jefferson Regional Medical Center Nursing School, Pine Bluff, AR for facilities and equipment	1,000,000
Jefferson Regional Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000
Jenkins County GA Hospital, Millen, GA for facilities and equipment	275,000
Jewish Renaissance Medical Center, Perth Amboy, NJ, for construction, renovation and equipment	190,000
John Wesley Community Health Institute, Bell Gardens, CA for facilities and equipment for the Bell Gardens Health Center	150,000
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, to expand the Critical Event Preparedness and Response program	250,000
Johnson Memorial Hospital, Stafford Springs, CT for facilities and equipment	250,000
Johnston Memorial Hospital, Smithfield, NC for facilities and equipment	320,000
Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kalamazoo, MI for purchase of equipment	350,000
Kane Community Hospital, Kane, PA, for equipment	90,000
Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, for equipment for the Midwest Institute for Comparative Stem Cell Biology	500,000
Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD, for medical equipment	250,000
Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD for facilities and equipment for the International Center for Spinal Cord Injury facility	450,000
Kenosha Community Health Center, Kenosha, WI, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000
Kent State University Stark Campus, North Canton, OH for facilities and equipment	500,000
Kent State University, Ashtabula, OH for facilities and equipment	400,000
Kilmichael Hospital, Kilmichael, MS for facilities and equipment	175,000
Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, IA for facilities, equipment and curriculum for an advanced medical simulation instruction center	225,000
Knox Community Hospital, Mount Vernon, OH for facilities and equipment	275,000
Kootenai Medical Center, Sandpoint, ID, to continue providing and improving distance healthcare access in north Idaho	250,000
La Clinica de la Raza, Oakland, CA for facilities and equipment for the San Antonio Neighborhood Health Center	300,000
La Rabida Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	225,000
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Erie, PA for the Drug Information Center	500,000
Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH for a health information training program, including facilities and equipment	100,000
Lakeshore Foundation, Birmingham, AL, for construction, renovation, and equipment	508,500
Lamar University, Beaumont, TX for the Community and University Partnership Service, including facilities and equipment	150,000
Lamoille Community Health Services, Morrisville, VT, for rural outreach activities	75,000
Lanai Women's Center, Lanai City, HI for facilities and equipment	140,000
Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the Springfield Community Health Center	127,000
Laurens County Health Care System, Clinton, SC for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	100,000
Lawrence Hospital Center, Bronxville, NY for facilities and equipment	225,000
Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, Memphis, TN, for construction, renovation, and equipment	400,000
Le Mars Dialysis Center, LeMars, IA, for construction, renovation and equipment	200,000
League Against Cancer, Miami, FL for purchase of equipment	200,000
Legacy Health System, Portland, Oregon, for telemedicine equipment	84,700
Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network, Allentown, PA, for construction	90,000
Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey, IL, to purchase and equip a mobile health clinic to serve rural areas	295,000
Liberty County, FL, Bristol, FL for facilities and equipment for a medical facility	350,000
Liberty Regional Medical Center, Hinesville, GA for facilities and equipment	200,000
LifeBridge Health of Baltimore, MD, to implement the Computerized Physician Order Entry Initiative	425,000
Limestone Community Care, Inc. Medical Clinic, Elkmont, AL for facilities and equipment	75,000
Lincoln Community Health Center, Durham, NC for facilities and equipment	200,000
Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, Bronx, NY for facilities and equipment	225,000
Lodi Memorial Hospital, Lodi, CA for a telehealth project	175,000
Loretto, Syracuse, NY for facilities and equipment for elderly health care and skilled nursing programs	250,000
Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital, Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment in the Lowman Center	275,000
Lou Ruvo Alzheimer's Institute, Las Vegas, NV, for construction, renovation, and equipment	339,000
Louisville Metro Department of Public Works, Louisville, KY for facilities and equipment for a mobile health unit	250,000
Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County, Willingboro, NJ for purchase of equipment	150,000
Lowell Community Health Center, Lowell, MA for facilities and equipment	240,000
Loyola University Health System, Maywood, IL for facilities and equipment	400,000
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Palo Alto, CA for facilities and equipment	320,000
Madison Center, South Bend, IN for facilities and equipment for a clinic for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder	150,000
Madison Community Health Center, Madison, WI, for equipment	275,000
Madison County Memorial Hospital, Rexburg, ID for facilities and equipment	250,000
Madison County, Virginia City, MT for facilities and equipment	300,000
Madison St. Joseph Health Center, Madisonville, TX for facilities and equipment	120,000
Magee Rehabilitation Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000
Magee-Women's Research Institute and Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000
Maine Center for Marine Biotechnology, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland, ME for facilities and equipment	140,000
Maine Coast Memorial Hospital, Ellsworth, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	147,500
Maine Primary Care Association, Augusta, ME for health information systems in community health centers across the State	190,000
Maliheh Free Clinic, Salt Lake City, Utah, for renovation and equipment	50,000
Manchester Memorial Hospital, Manchester, CT for facilities and equipment	300,000
Marana Health Center, Marana, AZ for facilities and equipment	125,000
Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital, Hamilton, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment	240,000
Marcus Institute, Atlanta, GA, for equipment	184,700
Marian Community Hospital, Carbondale, PA, for equipment	90,000
Marias Medical Center, Shelby, MT for purchase of equipment	200,000
Marquette General Hospital, Marquette, MI for facilities and equipment	450,000
Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, for a dental health outreach program	210,000
Marshall University, WV, for the Bioengineering and Biomanufacturing Institute	1,575,000
Marshall University, WV, for the construction of a patient care and clinical training site in Southwestern West Virginia	2,925,000
Marshall University, WV, for the Virtual Colonoscopy Outreach Program	1,420,000
Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center, Marshalltown, IA for high resolution medical imaging, including purchase of equipment	400,000
Mary Scott Nursing Center, Dayton, OH for facilities and equipment	500,000
Maryland Hospital Association, Elkridge, MD, for the Nursing Career Lattice Program	450,000
Maryland State Dental Association, Columbia, MD for facilities and equipment for mobile dental care units	150,000
Maryville University, St. Louis, MO for facilities and equipment at the Center for Science and Health Professions	200,000
Mason County Board of Health, Maysville, KY for facilities and equipment	400,000
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Worcester, MA for health information technology systems	350,000
Maui Community Health Center, HI, for construction, renovation and equipment	800,000
Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for the Lanai Women's Initiative	100,000
Maury Regional Hospital, Columbia, TN for facilities and equipment	400,000
McKinley County, New Mexico, Gallup, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the dialysis center	960,000
Meadville Medical Center, Meadville, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000
Medical Education Development Consortium, Scranton, PA, for construction	847,500
Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN for facilities and equipment	500,000
Memorial Hermann Baptist Beaumont Hospital, Beaumont, TX for facilities and equipment	200,000
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	200,000
Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	140,000

Project	Total funding
Memorial Hospital of Laramie County, Cheyenne, WY, for design of the Comprehensive Community Cancer Center	360,000
Memorial Hospital, York, PA, for information technology equipment	90,000
Memphis Bioworks Foundation, Memphis, TN, for construction, renovation, and equipment at the research park	400,000
Mendocino Coast District Hospital, Fort Bragg, CA for facilities and equipment	500,000
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Keshena, WI for facilities and equipment for the Family Wellness Center	400,000
Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, Toledo, OH for facilities and equipment for the continuing professional education division	200,000
Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Darby, PA, for equipment	90,000
Mercy Health Foundation, Durango, CO for facilities and equipment for a community health clinic	300,000
Mercy Health Partners, Scranton, PA, for equipment	90,000
Mercy Hospital Grayling, Grayling, MI for facilities and equipment	125,000
Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000
Mercy Hospital, Baltimore, MD, for equipment	750,000
Mercy Hospital, Buffalo, NY for facilities and equipment	200,000
Mercy Medical Center, Redding, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000
Mercy Medical Center, Springfield, MA, for equipment	190,000
Mercy Medical Center-House of Mercy, Des Moines, IA for facilities and equipment related to substance abuse	500,000
Mercy Memorial Hospital, Monroe, MI for facilities and equipment	200,000
Mercy Ministries Health Center, Laredo, TX for a mobile health unit	200,000
Mercy Suburban Hospital, Norristown, PA for facilities and equipment	450,000
Methodist Hospital of Southern California, Arcadia, CA for facilities and equipment	700,000
Methodist Hospital, Houston, Texas, for renovation and equipment	424,000
Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX for purchase of equipment	375,000
Metro Health, Cleveland, OH, for The Northeast Ohio Senior Health and Wellness Center	84,750
Metropolitan Hospital, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	100,000
MetroWest Medical Center Framingham Union Hospital, Framingham, MA for facilities and equipment for interpreting services	100,000
Miami Beach Community Health Center, Miami Beach, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000
Mid Valley Hospital, Peckville, PA, for equipment, construction and renovation	90,000
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN for facilities and equipment for the school of nursing	250,000
Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA for facilities and equipment for the health education programs	200,000
Middletown Regional Hospital, Middletown, OH for facilities and equipment for the Greentree Science Academy in Franklin, OH	100,000
Mid-Ohio FoodBank, Columbus, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000
Miles Community College, Miles City, MT for the Pathways to Careers in Healthcare initiative	350,000
Minot State University, Minot, ND, to monitor and treat individuals with autism spectrum disorder in rural areas with limited access to health professionals	420,000
Mission Hospitals, Asheville, NC for facilities and equipment	200,000
Mississippi Primary Health Care Association, Jackson, MS,	400,000
Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for the Tissue Engineering Research Center	250,000
Missouri Delta Medical Center, Sikeston, MO for purchase of equipment	200,000
Monongahela Valley Hospital, Monongahela, PA, for equipment	90,000
Monroe Clinic, Monroe, WI for health care information technology	300,000
Monroe County Hospital, Forsyth, GA for facilities and equipment	45,000
Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY for health information systems	140,000
Montgomery Area Nontraditional Equestrians, Pike Road, AL for construction of facilities to serve the disabled	100,000
Monticello, Utah, to provide preventive screening for Monticello Mill Legacy	84,750
Morehead State University, Morehead, KY to improve rural health	300,000
Morris Heights Health Center, Inc., Bronx, NY for facilities and equipment	125,000
Morton Hospital and Medical Center, Taunton, MA for facilities and equipment	350,000
Moses Taylor Hospital, Scranton, PA, for equipment	90,000
Mount Nittany Medical Center, State College, PA for facilities and equipment	251,750
Mount Sinai Medical Center, Miami Beach, FL, for construction, renovation and equipment	340,000
Mount Vernon Hospital, Mount Vernon, NY for facilities and equipment	300,000
Mount Wachusett Community College, Gardner, MA for facilities and equipment	525,000
Mountain State University, Beckley, WV, for the construction of the Allied Health Technology Tower	3,240,000
Muhlenberg Community Hospital, Greenville, KY for facilities and equipment	150,000
Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, to develop three models of integrative programs of clinical excellence	90,000
National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver, CO, for facilities and equipment	500,000
Naugatuck Valley Community College, Waterbury, CT for facilities and equipment for the nursing program	100,000
Nebraska Hospital Association Research and Education Foundation, Lincoln, NE for a telehealth demonstration, including purchase of equipment	475,000
Nevada Rural Hospital Partners, Reno, NV, to expand and enhance a rural telemedicine project	450,000
New Hampshire Community Health Centers, Concord, NH, for construction, renovation, and equipment	400,000
New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, New Orleans, LA, for equipment and supplies for a mobile medical hospital	1,000,000
New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury, NY for disease management and patient advocacy programs, including purchase of equipment	430,000
New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000
New York-Presbyterian Hospital, NY, for cardiac care telemetry	600,000
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark, NJ for facilities and equipment	290,000
Newark-Wayne Community Hospital, Newark, NY for facilities improvements and digital health care equipment	750,000
Newport Hospital, Newport, RI for facilities and equipment	300,000
Newton Memorial Hospital, Newton, NJ for purchase of equipment	150,000
Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Niagara Falls, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000
Noble Hospital, Westfield, MA, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000
Norman Regional Health System, Norman, OK for telehealth and electronic medical records initiatives	640,000
North Country Children's Clinic, Inc., Watertown, NY, for construction and renovation	500,000
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, to expand a statewide telepharmacy project	850,000
North General Hospital, New York, NY, for construction, renovation and equipment	700,000
Northcentral Montana Healthcare Alliance, Great Falls, MT, for health information technology	175,000
NorthEast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, Inc., Cleveland, OH for facilities and equipment	300,000
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay, WI for a mobile health clinic	175,000
Northeastern Pennsylvania Technology Institute, Scranton, PA, to connect the eighteen regional hospitals with state and federal medical experts during incident response and recovery	90,000
Northern Dutchess Hospital, Rhinebeck, NY for health information technology systems	200,000
Northern Larimer County Health District, Fort Collins, CO, for the Acute Mental Health and Detoxification Facility	85,000
Northern Maine Community College, Presque Isle, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	107,500
Northern Virginia Urban League, Alexandria, VA, for services and equipment to promote healthy pregnancy outcomes in the Northern Virginia region	150,000
Northern Westchester Hospital, Mount Kisco, NY for facilities and equipment	100,000
Northland Medical Center, Princeton, MN for purchase of equipment	350,000
Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association, Inc., Steamboat Springs, CO, to construct and equip a community health clinic	125,000
Northwest Community Health Care, Pascoag, RI for facilities and equipment	450,000
Northwest Hospital and Medical Center, Seattle, WA, for a Community Health Education and Simulation Center	1,000,000
Northwest Hospital Intermediate Care Unit, Randallstown, MD for facilities and equipment	125,000
Northwest Hospital, Baltimore, MD, for equipment	375,000
Northwest Kidney Centers, Seattle, WA for facilities and equipment	290,000
Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, ID for facilities and equipment	450,000
Northwest Research and Education Institute, Billings, MT, to create a continuing medical education program	280,000
Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment for Prentice Women's Hospital	375,000
NYU School of Medicine, NY, NY, for the Basic Research and Imaging Program	900,000
Oakland University School of Nursing, Rochester, MI for facilities and equipment	350,000
Oaklawn Adult Group Home, Goshen, IN for facilities and equipment	150,000
Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation, Dearborn, MI for facilities and equipment for the Western Wayne Family Health Center	200,000
Ocean Beach Hospital, Ilwaco, WA for a telepharmacy program	550,000
Oconee Memorial Hospital, Seneca, SC, to design, develop, and implement a community-wide health information exchange system	84,750
Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, OH for James Cancer Survivorship Center for construction of facilities	234,750
Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, for the Appalachian Healthcare Screening Program	200,000
Ohio Valley General Hospital, McKees Rocks, PA, for equipment	90,000
Oklahoma Foundation for Kidney Disease, Oklahoma City, OK, for telehealth applications	85,750
Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF), Oklahoma City, OK, for construction, renovation, and equipment of a Biotech Research Tower	100,000
Oklahoma State University, Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa, OK, for mobile health clinics	100,000
Oklahoma University College of Medicine—Tulsa, Tulsa, OK for facilities and equipment	150,000
Olympic Community Action Program, Port Angeles, WA for facilities and equipment for the OlyCAP Oral Health Center	50,000
Orange County Government, Orlando, FL, for health information technology equipment	169,500
Oregon Coast Community College, Newport, OR for facilities and equipment for health professions education	134,700
Osceola County Health Department, Poinciana, FL for facilities and equipment	200,000
Osceola Medical Center, Osceola, WI for facilities and equipment	150,000
Ottumwa Regional Health Center, Ottumwa, IA, for construction, renovation and equipment	400,000
Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, Camden, NJ, for facilities and equipment	600,000
Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital, Binghamton, NY for facilities and equipment	350,000
Owensboro Medical Center, Owensboro, KY, for construction, renovation, and equipment	127,125

Project	Total funding
Palisades Medical Center, North Bergen, NJ for facilities and equipment	275,000
Palmetto Health Foundation, Columbia, SC for facilities and equipment	1,000,000
Parkland Health Center, Farmington, MO for facilities and equipment	200,000
Passavant Area Hospital, Jacksonville, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000
Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center, Richmond, KY for facilities and equipment	250,000
Pee Dee Healthy Start, Florence, SC for programs to improve maternal and child health	88,000
Peninsula Hospital Center, New York, NY for health information systems	320,000
Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center/College of Medicine, Hershey, PA, for construction	169,500
People, Inc., Williamsville, NY for electronic health records upgrades	400,000
Peralta Community College, Oakland, CA for facilities and equipment for the nursing program at Highland Hospital	300,000
Person Memorial Hospital, Roxboro, NC for facilities and equipment	340,000
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000
Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Albany, GA, to partner with Dougherty County School System to implement a pilot program to promote healthy lifestyles in school children	84,700
Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ for health information systems	300,000
Piedmont Access to Health Services, Inc. (PATHS), Danville, VA, for construction, renovation and equipment	145,000
Pinnacle Health System, Harrisburg, PA, for construction	90,000
Pioneer Valley Life Sciences Institute, Springfield, MA, for the construction of biomedical research facilities	380,000
Placer County, Auburn, CA for construction of the Children's Health Center/Emergency Shelter	400,000
Pocono Medical Center, East Stroudsburg, PA, for construction	90,000
Pointe Coupee Better Access Community Health, New Roads, LA for facilities and equipment	350,000
Ponce Center of Autism, Municipality of Ponce, PR for facilities and equipment at the Autism Center	225,000
Powell County Medical Center, Deer Lodge, MT for facilities and equipment	100,000
Powell Valley Health Care, Powell, WY for electronic information technology	400,000
Prairie Star Health Center, Hutchinson, KS for facilities and equipment	200,000
Preston Memorial Hospital, Kingwood, WV for information technology equipment	300,000
Primary Care Association of HI, for construction, renovation, equipment, disability services and outreach at the State's health centers	1,000,000
Project Access Spokane, Spokane, WA for healthcare delivery to low income residents	200,000
ProMedica Continuing Care Service Corporation, Adrian, MI for a telemedicine initiative	163,000
Provena Saint Joseph Hospital, Elgin, IL for facilities and equipment	300,000
Providence Community Health Centers, Providence, RI, for construction	255,000
Providence Health System, Anchorage, AK to improve services in underserved regions	200,000
Providence Medical Center, Kansas City, KS, for telehealth upgrades	350,000
Providence Telehealth Network Rural Outreach Program, Spokane, WA, for equipment	250,000
Putnam Hospital Center, Carmel, NY for facilities and equipment	200,000
Quebrada Health Center, Municipality of Camuy, PR for purchase of equipment	125,000
Quincy Valley Medical Center, Quincy, WA for facilities and equipment	150,000
Rancho Santiago Community College District, Santa Ana, CA for facilities and equipment for a medical education complex in Garden Grove, CA	240,000
Rapid City Area School District 51/4, Rapid City, SD, for construction, renovation, and equipment for a school-based health clinic	84,750
Reading Hospital and Medical Center, West Reading, PA, for equipment	90,000
Reading Hospital School of Nursing, West Reading, PA for nurse training programs including facilities and equipment	200,000
Redevelopment Authority of the County of Washington, Washington, PA, for construction and renovation at Washington Hospital	90,000
Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association, Pittsburgh, PA for facilities and equipment for a skilled nursing facility	320,000
Regional Children's Hospital, Johnson City, TN for facilities and equipment	100,000
Rhode Island Quality Institute, Providence, RI for health information technology in conjunction with Rhode Island mental health organizations	900,000
Rice University, Houston, TX, for equipment for the Collaborative Research Center	375,000
Rio Arriba County, Espanola, NM for facilities and equipment for the Health Commons	750,000
Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Moreno Valley, CA for facilities and equipment	600,000
Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Moreno Valley, CA for facilities and equipment	140,000
Riverside Health System, Newport News, VA for the Patient Navigator Program	150,000
Riverside Healthcare, Kankakee, IL, for a computerized physician order entry system	295,000
Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, NY, for heart failure equipment and training	250,000
Roosevelt Hospital, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	390,000
Roper/Saint Francis Healthcare, Charleston, SC, for the expansion initiative for construction, renovation, and equipment	169,500
Rosebud Inter-facility Transport, Rosebud, SD, for purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment	200,000
Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud, SD for facilities and equipment	800,000
Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY for facilities and equipment	440,000
Rural Health Technology Consortium for facilities and equipment	200,000
Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative, Sauk City, WI, for health information technology	190,000
Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment for the Center for Advanced Medical Response	225,000
Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa for a Tribal Health Care Clinic	625,000
Sacred Heart Hospital of Allentown, Allentown, PA, for equipment	90,000
Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, MI for purchase of equipment	350,000
Saint Agnes Hospital, Baltimore, MD, for equipment	750,000
Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, Boise, ID, for rural emergency medical services training and equipment	250,000
Saint Anthony Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK, for construction, renovation, and equipment of a Level II Newborn Nursery	100,000
Saint Croix Regional Family Health Center, Princeston, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	137,500
Saint Francis Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI, for construction, renovation and equipment	255,000
Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA, for equipment	90,000
Saint Joseph's Hospital, Nashua, NH, for the Patient Focused Technology Initiative	589,000
Saint Joseph's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ, to purchase and equip a mobile prenatal clinic for the MoMobile program	423,750
Saint Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis, MO, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Expansion	847,000
Saint Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, TX, for equipment for the Neuroscience Center	175,000
Saint Luke's Hospital, Allentown, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000
Saint Luke's Miners Memorial Hospital, Coaldale, PA, for equipment	90,000
Saint Mary Medical Center, Langhorne, PA, for health outreach programs	90,000
Saint Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital, Mount Vernon, IL, for equipment	450,000
Saint Mary's Health Care, Grand Rapids, MI for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	150,000
Saint Mary's Hospital Incorporated, Waterbury, CT, for construction, renovation and equipment	550,000
Saint Mary's Medical Center, Lewiston, ME, for equipment	162,500
Saint Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, Missoula, MT, to implement an electronic medical records system	320,000
Saint Peter's Hospital, Helena, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment	120,000
Saint Vincent Healthcare Foundation, Billings, MT, for a feasibility study on the establishment of the Montana Children's Hospital Network	600,000
Saint Vincent Regional Medical Center, Santa Fe, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment	750,000
Sam Rogers Health Clinic, Kansas City, MO for facilities and equipment	320,000
San Antonio Hospital Foundation, Upland, CA for facilities and equipment	550,000
San Diego County, Santee, CA, to purchase equipment for Edgemoor Hospital renovation	420,000
San Francisco Medical Center Outpatient Improvement Programs, Inc., San Francisco, CA for facilities and equipment	450,000
San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center, Alamosa, CO, for health information technology	170,000
San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA for facilities and equipment for the San Mateo Medical Center Emergency Department	450,000
San Ysidro Health Center, San Ysidro, CA for facilities and equipment	100,000
Sandoval County, Bernalillo, NM for a telemedicine initiative, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, Orange, CA for facilities and equipment	390,000
Schneck Medical Center, Seymour, IN for facilities and equipment	400,000
Scotland Memorial Hospital, Laurinburg, NC for facilities and equipment	300,000
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Seattle, WA for facilities and equipment	1,500,000
Sharon Regional Health System, Sharon, PA, for equipment	90,000
Sharp Rehabilitation Services, San Diego, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000
Shasta Community Health Center, Redding, CA for facilities and equipment	150,000
Shawano County Rural Health Initiative, Shawano, WI for rural health care	75,000
Shodair Children's Hospital, Helena, MT, for project Cancer Genetics	120,000
Sidney Health Center, Sidney, MT for purchase of equipment	300,000
Sierra Nevada Memorial Foundation, Grass Valley, CA for an electronic health records initiative	350,000
Sierra Vista Hospital, Truth or Consequences, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment	750,000
Sistersville General Hospital, Sisterville, WV for facilities and equipment	250,000
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, Milwaukee, WI, for renovations	275,000
Skagit Valley Hospital Cancer Care Center, Mount Vernon, WA for facilities and equipment	425,000
Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital, Wellsboro, PA, for emergency department expansion	90,000
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital, Wellsboro, PA for purchase of equipment	200,000
Somerset Hospital, Somerset, PA, for equipment	90,000
Somerset Medical Center, Somerville, NJ for electronic health records upgrades	500,000
South Broward Hospital District, Hollywood, FL for facilities and equipment	275,000
South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council, Columbia, SC for health outreach	185,000
South Carolina Office of Rural Health, Lexington, SC, for an electronic medical records system	169,500
South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, for construction of a pharmacy education space	300,000

Project	Total funding
South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, to construct the Center for Accelerated Design, Screen, and Development of Biomaterials	350,000
South Nassau Communities Hospital, Oceanside, NY for facilities and equipment	320,000
South Shore Hospital, South Weymouth, MA for facilities and equipment	400,000
South Sound Health Communication Network, Tacoma, WA, for a community Health Record Bank	200,000
Southampton Hospital, Southampton, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000
Southcentral Foundation, Anchorage, AK, to purchase equipment for the Primary Care Center in Anchorage, Alaska	1,000,000
Southeast Alabama Medical Center, Dothan, AL for facilities and equipment for the Southeast Regional Cancer Screening Program	350,000
Southeast Community College, Cumberland, KY for facilities and equipment for an allied health training center	100,000
Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX for purchase of equipment	325,000
Southern Vermont Recreation Center Foundation, Springfield, VT for facilities and equipment for a medical rehabilitation unit	125,000
Southwest Tennessee Community College, Memphis, TN for facilities and equipment	320,000
St James Hospital and Health Centers, Chicago Heights, IL for facilities and equipment for the Olympia Fields campus	225,000
St. Agnes Hospital, Fresno, CA for purchase of equipment	160,000
St. Ambrose University, Davenport, IA for facilities and equipment	550,000
St. Anthony Community Hospital, Warwick, NY for facilities and equipment	100,000
St. Anthony Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	440,000
St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers, Hammond, IN for facilities and equipment	275,000
St. Bernard Health Center, Inc., Chalmette, LA for facilities and equipment	1,350,000
St. Bernardine Medical Center, San Bernardino, CA for facilities and equipment	700,000
St. Camillus Health and Rehabilitation Center, Syracuse, NY for the brain injury program, including facilities and equipment	400,000
St. Catharine College, St. Catharine, KY for the allied health science program, including facilities and equipment	175,000
St. Charles Parish, LaPlace, LA for purchase of equipment	150,000
St. Clair Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA for facilities and equipment	500,000
St. Claire Regional Medical Center, Morehead, KY for facilities construction	200,000
St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Utica, NY for facilities and equipment	425,000
St. Francis Hospital, Escanaba, MI for facilities and equipment	125,000
St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton, NJ for facilities and equipment	250,000
St. James Parish Hospital, Lutcher, LA for facilities and equipment	440,000
St. John's North Shore Hospital, Harrison Township, MI for facilities and equipment	200,000
St. Joseph of the Pines, Southern Pines, NC for an electronic health records system	100,000
St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend, IN for health care information technology	300,000
St. Joseph's Hospital Mercy Care Services, Atlanta, GA for health information technology	400,000
St. Joseph's Hospital, Buckhannon, WV for facilities and equipment	100,000
St. Joseph's Hospital, Savannah GA for facilities and equipment	275,000
St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson, NJ for health information technology	320,000
St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, Savannah, GA for purchase of equipment	250,000
St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital, Quakertown, PA for facilities and equipment	425,000
St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Ltd. Boise, ID for purchase of equipment	500,000
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation, Langhorne, PA for facilities and equipment	100,000
St. Mary Medical Center, Apple Valley, CA for the electronic intensive care unit	500,000
St. Mary's Hospital Foundation, Grand Junction, CO for facilities and equipment for the Saccomanno Education Center	440,000
St. Mary's Hospital, Madison, WI for facilties and equipment	200,000
St. Mary's Medical Center, Huntington, WV for facilities and equipment for the Center for Education	450,000
St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, Reno, NV for facilities and equipment	400,000
St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, Missoula, MT for an electronic medical records system	300,000
St. Peter's Hospital Foundation, Albany, NY for facilities and equipment for the St. Peter's Breast Center	320,000
St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL for facilities and equipment	500,000
St. Vincent Hospital, Billings, MT for facilities and equipment	400,000
St. Vincent's Charity Hospital, Cleveland, OH for facilities and equipment	450,000
St. Vincent's Medical Center, Bridgeport, CT for facilities and equipment	425,000
St. Xavier University, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	200,000
Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT for facilities and equipment	375,000
Stark Prescription Assistance Network, Canton, OH for facilities and equipment	150,000
State Fair Community College, Sedalia, MO for facilities and equipment	350,000
Stewart-Marchman Center, Inc., Daytona Beach, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000
Stone Soup Group, Anchorage, AK, to continue and expand services to Alaskans with autism in Alaska	200,000
Stony Point Ambulance Corps, Stony Point, NY for facilities and equipment	400,000
Straub Hospital Burn Center, HI, for health professions training in burn treatment	100,000
Summers County Commission, Hinton, WV for facilities and equipment for the Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital	280,000
Susquehanna Health System, Williamsport, PA, for equipment	90,000
Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000
Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, WA, for construction, renovation and equipment	200,000
Sylvan Grove Hospital, Jackson, GA for facilities and equipment	50,000
Tangipahoa Parish, Loranger, LA for facilities and equipment	100,000
Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX for the Rural Nursing Education Program, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Tarrant County Infant Mortality Task Force, Ft. Worth, TX for education and outreach programs	100,000
Taylor Regional Hospital, Hawkinsville, GA for facilities and equipment	55,000
Temple Health and Bioscience Economic Development District, Temple, TX for facilities and equipment	350,000
Temple University Health System, Philadelphia, PA, for construction and renovation	169,500
Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN, for construction, renovation, and equipment of an animal research facility for biomedical research	200,000
Teton Valley Hospital and Surgicenter, Driggs, ID for purchase of equipment	250,000
Texas A&M University—Kingsville, Kingsville, TX for facilities and equipment for a research facility	240,000
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, for equipment in the Michael E. DeBakey Institute	225,000
Texas Health Institute, Austin, TX, for equipment for an emergency communications demonstration project	200,000
Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine, College Station, TX for facilities and equipment	125,000
Texas Medical Center, Houston, TX, for the National Center for Human Performance	175,000
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, El Paso and Lubbock, TX for facilities and equipment for the West Texas Center for Influenza Research, Education and Treatment	550,000
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, TX for health professionals training, including facilities and equipment	100,000
The Idaho Caring Foundation, Inc., Boise, ID for oral health services for low-income children	300,000
The Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000
The Village Network Boys' Village Campus, Wooster, OH for facilities and equipment	500,000
Thomas Jefferson University Breast Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA for facilities and equipment	469,500
Thomason General Hospital, El Paso, TX for facilities and equipment	400,000
Thundermist Health Center, Woonsocket, RI for health information technology	500,000
Tohono O'odham Nation, Sells, AZ for facilities and equipment for its diabetes and dialysis program	125,000
Toledo Children's Hospital, Toledo, OH for facilities and equipment for a palliative care program	100,000
Tomorrow's Child/Michigan SIDS, Lansing, MI for facilities and equipment	200,000
Toumey Health Care System, Sumter, SC, for equipment	84,750
Touro University, Henderson, NV, for construction and equipment for the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders	600,000
Town of Argo, AL for facilities and equipment for the Senior Citizens' Center for Health and Wellness	100,000
Translational Genomics Research Institute, Phoenix, AZ for facilities and equipment	923,750
Transylvania Community Hospital, Inc., Brevard, NC for facilities and equipment	275,000
Trinitas Health Foundation, Elizabeth, NJ, for construction, equipment and renovation	150,000
Trinity County, Weaverville, CA, for renovation and equipment to Mountain Community Medical Services	80,000
Tulare District Hospital, Tulare, CA for an electronic medical record system	150,000
Tuomey Healthcare System, Sumter, SC for health information systems	250,000
Twin City Hospital, Dennison, OH for facilities and equipment	325,000
Tyrone Hospital, Tyrone, PA, for equipment	90,000
Union Hospital, Terre Haute, IN for health information technology	200,000
Uniontown Hospital, Uniontown, PA for facilities and equipment for the chest pain center	300,000
Unity Health Care, Washington, DC for health information systems	320,000
University Community Hospital/Pepin Heart Hospital, Tampa, FL for purchase of equipment	200,000
University Health System, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	175,000
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL for a telehealth initiative	100,000
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, for construction, renovation, and equipment	9,322,500
University of Alaska Statewide Office, Fairbanks, AK, for the Health Distance Education Program in Alaska	500,000
University of Alaska Statewide Office, Fairbanks, AK, to develop and implement a statewide health agenda in Alaska	750,000
University of Alaska/Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the Geriatric and Disabled Care Training Program in Anchorage, Alaska	250,000
University of Arizona Medical Center, Tucson, AZ for facilities and equipment	425,000
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR for facilities and equipment	620,000
University of Arkansas Medical School Cancer Research Center, Little Rock, AR for facilities and equipment	400,000
University of California, Davis Health System, Sacramento, CA for facilities and equipment for the Center for Education	595,000
University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	225,000
University of Colorado, Denver, CO, for construction, renovation, and equipment	254,250

Project	Total funding
University of Delaware, Newark, DE, for the Delaware Biotechnology Institute	380,000
University of Georgia, Athens, GA, for construction, renovation, and equipment	84,700
University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA for facilities and equipment for a public health research and education building	2,250,000
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA for facilities and equipment for an advanced biomedical research institute	4,000,000
University of Kansas Research Center, Lawrence, KS for facilities and equipment	425,000
University of Kentucky Research Foundation, Lexington, KY, for equipment and renovation	1,500,000
University of Kentucky Research Foundation, Lexington, KY, for the Kentucky Oral Health Initiative	500,000
University of Louisville Research Foundation, Louisville, KY, to upgrade and expand cardiovascular facilities at the University of Louisville	8,424,375
University of Maryland School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD, for the Institute for Educators in Nursing and Health Professions	750,000
University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA for health information technology	900,000
University of Memphis, Memphis, TN for facilities and equipment for the community health building	320,000
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL, for the Center for Patient Safety	425,000
University of Miami, Miami, FL for equipment at the Center for Research in Medical Education	150,000
University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI for facilities and equipment for the C.S. Mott Children's and Women's Hospitals	450,000
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, for construction, renovation, and equipment	296,625
University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, for construction, renovation, and equipment at the Arthur C. Guyton Laboratory Building	3,000,000
University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, for equipment for the School of Dentistry	100,000
University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, University, MS, for construction, renovation, and equipment	2,300,000
University of Mississippi, University, MS, for Phase II of the National Center for Natural Products Research	5,000,000
University of Mississippi, University, MS, for the Center for Thermal Pharmaceutical Processing	300,000
University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, for construction of a cancer floor	725,000
University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, for construction, renovation and equipment at the College of Nursing in Lincoln, Nebraska	100,000
University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, for the NEED-IT program for statewide lung cancer screenings	100,000
University of Nevada Health Sciences System, Las Vegas, NV, for construction and equipment	1,000,000
University of Nevada School of Medicine, Center for Molecular Medicine, Reno, NV, for the purchase of equipment and for construction	1,500,000
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV, for construction at the School of Public Health	700,000
University of New Mexico, Albquerque, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment	3,750,000
University of North Alabama, Florence, AL for facilities and equipment for a science building	250,000
University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Services, Grand Forks, ND, for construction of a forensic facility	1,275,000
University of North Texas, Denton, TX for the center for Computational Epidemiology, including facilities and equipment	500,000
University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO to develop the National Center for Nursing Education, including facilities and equipment	450,000
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	169,500
University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	169,500
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000
University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL, for renovation and equipment	508,500
University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, Vermillion, SD, for medical equipment	2,000,000
University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD, for biomedical laboratory facilities and equipment	100,000
University of South Florida for the Tampa, FL Cancer Clinical Trials Project	550,000
University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN, for equipment at the regional biocontainment laboratory	250,000
University of Tennessee of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN for a low birth weight study	400,000
University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, for equipment	385,000
University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX, for equipment	200,000
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX for facilities and equipment for the sickle cell program	500,000
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX for purchase of equipment	200,000
University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA for a telehealth project for southwest VA	240,000
University of Wisconsin Superior, Superior, WI, for construction and equipment	170,000
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI for facilities and equipment	200,000
Utah Navajo Health System, Inc., Montezuma Creek, UT for telehealth systems	140,000
Valley Baptist Health System, Harlingen, TX, for the Hispanic Stroke Care Center of Excellence for equipment	175,000
Valley Cooperative Health Care, Hudson, WI for health information systems	100,000
Vanguard University Nursing Center, Costa Mesa, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000
Vermont Information Technology Leaders, Inc, Montpelier, VT, for health information technology	500,000
Village of Kiryas Joel, NY, for equipment for a women's health center	150,000
Virginia Dental Health Foundation, Richmond, VA, for the Mission of Mercy project	100,000
Virginia Primary Care Association, Richmond, VA, for health information technology	140,000
Virtua Memorial Hospital Burlington County, Mount Holly, NJ for purchase of equipment	200,000
Visiting Nurse Association Healthcare Partners of Ohio, Cleveland, OH for telehealth	400,000
Wadsworth Rittman Hospital Foundation, Wadsworth, OH for facilities and equipment	400,000
Wake County, Raleigh, NC for facilities and equipment for Holly Hill Hospital	300,000
WakeMed Health & Hospitals, Raleigh, North Carolina, for the Emergency Operations and Regional Call Center	175,000
Washington State University, Seattle, WA, for construction and equipment at the College of Nursing	1,345,000
Washington County, GA Regional Medical Center, Sandersville, GA for facilities and equipment	250,000
Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC for facilities and equipment	320,000
Washington Parish, Bogalusa, LA for health care centers, including facilities and equipment	100,000
Wayne Memorial Hospital, Honesdale, PA, for equipment	90,000
Wayne Memorial Hospital, Jesup, GA for facilities and equipment	550,000
Wayne Memorial Hospital, Jesup, GA, for construction, renovation, and equipment	84,700
Wentworth-Douglass Hospital, Dover, NH, for equipment	370,000
Wesley College, Dover, DE, for the expansion of the nursing program	170,000
West Jefferson Medical Center, Marrero, LA for facilities and equipment	440,000
West Shore Medical Center, Manistee, MI for facilities and equipment	150,000
West Side Community Health Services, St. Paul, MN for facilities and equipment	150,000
West Virginia University Hospital, Morgantown, WV for facilities and equipment	200,000
West Virginia University, for the construction and equipping of medical simulation research and training centers in Morgantown, Charleston and Martinsburg	2,835,000
West Virginia University, for the construction of a Multiple Sclerosis Center	3,645,000
Westerly Hospital, Westerly, RI, for construction, renovation and equipment	425,000
Western Kentucky University Research Foundation, Bowling Green, KY, for the Western Kentucky University Mobile Health Screening Unit	500,000
Western North Carolina Health System, Asheville, NC for health information technology	325,000
Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA, for construction	90,000
Wetzel County Hospital, WV, for the expansion and remolding of the Emergency Department	900,000
Whidden Memorial Hospital, Everett, MA for facilities and equipment	375,000
White County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, IN for facilities and equipment	210,000
White Memorial Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment	400,000
White Plains Hospital Center, White Plains, NY for facilities and equipment	225,000
Whiteside County Department of Health, Rock Falls, IL for facilities and equipment	320,000
Whitman Walker Clinic of Northern Virginia, Arlington, VA, for construction, renovation and equipment	140,000
Whittemore Peterson Institute for Neuro-Immune Disease, Sparks, NV for facilities and equipment	200,000
Wills Eye Health System, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000
Wind River Community Health Center, Riverton, WY for facilities and equipment	250,000
Wing Memorial Hospital, Palmer, MA for facilities and equipment	320,000
Winneshiek Medical Center, Decorah, IA for purchase of medical equipment	280,000
Wistar Institute, Philadelphia, PA, for construction	90,000
Wolfson Children's Hospital, Jacksonville, FL for purchase of equipment	500,000
Woodhull Medical and Mental Health Center, Brooklyn, NY for equipment for a hospital-based radiologic technology school	330,000
Woodruff County Nursing Home, McCrory, AR for facilities and equipment	225,000
Wyoming County Community Hospital, Warsaw, NY for facilities and equipment	150,000
Wyoming Health Resources Network, Inc., Cheyenne, WY, to expand recruitment and retention of medical professionals in Wyoming	412,000
Wyoming Valley Health Care System-Hospital, Wilkes-Barre, PA, for equipment	90,000
YMCA of Central Stark County, Canton, OH for facilities and equipment	750,000
York Memorial Hospital, York, PA for facilities and equipment	92,000
Youth Crisis Center, Jacksonville, FL for facilities and equipment	300,000
Zucker Hillside Hospital, Glen Oaks, NY for facilities and equipment	490,000

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the Senate earmarking $250,000 for the Center for Asbestos Related Disease (CARD) Clinic in Libby, Montana. The House bill did not contain similar language.

The conferees have included bill language proposed by the Senate identifying $40,000,000 for base grant adjustments for existing community health centers instead of $35,000,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes bill language contained in the Senate bill permitting funding appropriated for the free

clinics program to be used for relevant evaluations as well as for administrative expenses. The House bill included no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing $12,000,000 for the National Cord Blood Inventory as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained similar language appropriating $15,000,000 for the program.

The conference agreement includes bill language designating $44,055,000 for expenses associated with extending Federal Tort Claims Act protection to practitioners in community health centers as proposed by the Senate instead of $45,000,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing $1,868,809,000 for Parts A and B of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act, to be available through September 30, 2010, instead of $1,865,800,000 as proposed by the House and $1,829,511,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language similar to that proposed by the House limiting 2007 program year reductions in Ryan White Part A grants for metropolitan areas to 8.4 percent and for transitional areas to 13.4 percent. The Senate bill did not have a similar provision.

The conference agreement includes bill language designating $103,666,000 out of the funds provided for the maternal and child health block grant to be for special projects of regional and national significance (SPRANS). The Senate bill provided $95,936,920 for this purpose; the House provided $170,991,000.

The conference agreement designates in bill language $10,586,000 of funds provided for the block grant for Community Integrated Service Systems (CISS) activities as proposed by the Senate. The House did not designate funds for CISS grants in bill language.

The conference agreement includes bill language as proposed by the Senate providing $39,283,000 to the Denali Commission as a direct lump payment pursuant to P.L. 106–113. The House did not include funding for the Commission.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing $25,000,000 for the Delta Health Initiative and associated administrative expenses as proposed by the Senate. The House had no similar provision. The conference agreement includes bill language proposed by the Senate that identifies not less than $5,000,000 for general dentistry programs, not less than $5,000,000 for pediatric dentistry programs, and not less than $24,614,000 for family medicine programs.

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the Senate that would modify the current rules for managing facility and equipment projects. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

The conferees support continued efforts to expand the community health centers program into areas of the country without access to a health center, but urge HRSA not to allocate new funding according to certain geographic areas, such as counties.

The conference agreement provides $14,200,000 for Native Hawaiian health care activities within the consolidated health centers program as proposed by the Senate. The House did not identify specific funding for Native Hawaiian activities.

The conference agreement provides $50,000,000 for competitive State health access grants, instead of $75,000,000 as proposed by the House, for the same purposes as indicated in the House report. The Senate had no similar provision.

The conferees restate the intention in the Senate report that National Health Service Corps recruitment funds should be used only to support multi-year, rather than single year, commitments.

The conference agreement provides $8,960,000 for allied health training programs, of which $5,000,000 is for grants to States authorized under section 340G of the Public Health Service Act to improve access to dental care, $1,980,000 is allocated to the chiropractic-medical school demonstration grants, and $1,980,000 is designated for the psychology training program. The Senate provided $7,960,000 for allied health programs and the House provided $3,960,000.

The conferees have included $6,700,000 for resources to help women preparing for childbirth and first-time parents. Within this amount, the conferees intend that $5,200,000 shall be for grants to States to increase public awareness of resources available to women preparing for childbirth and new parents through advertising campaigns and toll-free hotlines. The House provided $15,000,000 for this activity, which was not funded by the Senate. In addition, $1,500,000 shall be for grants to organizations to support and expand community-based doula activities, including technical assistance, as proposed by the Senate. The House had not funded this activity.

In addition, $5,000,000 of the SPRANS amount will be used to continue oral health demonstration programs and activities in the States, instead of $4,801,500 as proposed by the Senate. The House proposed $12,000,000 for oral health activities including these oral health demonstrations as well as State grants under section 340G of the Public Health Service Act. In addition to this SPRANS funding, the conferees have provided $5,000,000 for section 340G State grants within allied health.

The conference agreement also includes within the SPRANS set-aside $4,000,000 to continue epilepsy demonstrations instead of $5,800,000 as proposed by the House and $2,880,900 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $4,000,000 within SPRANS to continue the sickle cell newborn screening program and its locally based outreach and counseling efforts, as proposed by the House. The Senate proposed $3,841,200 for this program.

The conference agreement provides $3,000,000 within the SPRANS set-aside to continue newborn and child screening for heritable disorders instead of $3,800,000 as proposed by the House and $1,920,600 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides $37,000,000 for a separate program for autism and other related developmental disorders, as proposed by the Senate. The House proposed $30,000,000 within the Maternal and Child Health block grant SPRANS set-aside for these activities. The conferees intend that no less than $6,000,000 be used to continue and expand the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities program. In addition, no less than $6,000,000 is provided for research on evidence-based practices for interventions for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities, for development of guidelines for those interventions, and for information dissemination.

The conferees provide $1,000,000 for a fetal alcohol syndrome demonstration program instead of $990,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include funding for this activity.

The conferees identify $3,200,000 within traumatic brain injury funding for protection and advocacy services, instead of $3,400,000 identified in the Senate report. The House report did not have similar language.

The conferees are pleased that HRSA intends to allocate the maximum authorized level for the minority AIDS initiative within the Ryan White HIV programs.

The conferees intend that at least fifty percent of the increase within the Ryan White children, youth, women, and families programs be used to increase average grant award size.

The conferees are aware that HRSA has issued proposed regulations revising the requirements for the 340B drug purchasing program. While there are important elements in the regulations that target abuses of the program, the conferees believe there are legitimate concerns regarding the implementation of the proposed rule's definition of patient eligibility. The questions of eligibility and the means by which eligibility is determined are important and should be carefully considered. Therefore, the conferees urge HRSA to move quickly to implement the portions of the regulation that enjoy wide support and consider re-opening the patient eligibility question for an additional public comment period. The House and Senate included similar report language.

The conference agreement includes $38,538,000 for rural flexibility grants as proposed by the Senate rather than $63,538,000 as proposed by the House, and provides $15,000,000 within the total for the small rural hospital improvement grant program as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees concur with guidance in the Senate report about the 2006 Delta health initiative satisfying the requirements of the authorization provided in section 219. The House report did not contain similar language.

The conference agreement includes $2,500,000 for rural and community access to emergency devices, of which $200,000 shall be used to establish an information clearinghouse that provides information to increase public access to defibrillation in schools, as proposed by the Senate. The House provided $2,000,000 for this program, while the Senate provided $3,000,000. The conferees intend that funding for emergency devices be divided equally between urban and rural communities, as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees note that many rural hospitals are working to implement systems to transmit medical information electronically to help deliver efficient and effective health care services to their patients. The conferees hope that HRSA will continue to examine ways to help such hospitals implement digital technologies, such as picture archiving communications systems and other digital technologies.

The conference agreement includes $143,596,000 for program management instead of $142,191,000 as provided by the House and $145,000,000 as provided by the Senate. The conferees expect HRSA to use no more than one percent of the funds allocated for projects for agency administrative expenses.

VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM TRUST FUND

The conference agreement provides $6,000,000 for administration for the Trust Fund instead of $3,528,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. These funds are necessary to support the adjudication of an expected high volume of claims.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

DISEASE CONTROL, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING

The conference agreement includes $6,288,289,000 for disease control, research, and training at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), instead of $6,138,253,000 as proposed by the House and $6,165,338,000 as proposed by the Senate. In addition, $327,022,000 is made available under section 241 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, instead of $319,579,000 as proposed by the House and $269,664,000 as proposed by

the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conference agreement includes bill language designating $147,000,000 for equipment, construction, and renovation of facilities, instead of $10,500,000 as proposed by the House and $220,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes bill language to allow CDC to enter into a single contract or related contracts for the full scope of development and construction of facilities and that the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause ''availability of funds'' as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language. The level provided includes sufficient funds for the completion of building 24 and for other nationwide repairs and improvements.

The conference agreement includes bill language designating $52,500,000 to provide screening and treatment for first response emergency services personnel, residents, students, and others related to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. The conferees intend that this program be administered by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The House had proposed $50,000,000 in CDC for first response emergency personnel only and the Senate had proposed $55,000,000 in the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) to be transferred to CDC for responders, residents, students and others.

The conference agreement includes bill language designating $116,550,000 for the National Center for Health Statistics surveys to be available through the evaluation set-aside authorized by section 241 of the PHS Act, instead of $120,000,000 as proposed by the House and $108,585,000 as proposed by the Senate. Also within the set-aside, the conference agreement includes $44,523,000 for Health Marketing instead of $39,173,000 as proposed by the House and $463,000 for health marketing evaluations as proposed by the Senate and $97,404,000 to carry out research activities within the National Occupational Research Agenda instead of $91,861,000 as proposed by the House and $92,071,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language that not to exceed $19,414,000 may be available for making grants for the WISEWOMAN program to not less than 15 States, tribes, or tribal organizations. The Senate proposed $19,035,000 in this same manner and the House proposed $12,500,000 to not more than 15 States, tribes, or tribal organizations.

The conference agreement includes bill language that out of the funds made available for domestic HIV/AIDS testing, up to $30,000,000 shall be for States eligible for the Early Diagnosis Grant Program, authorized by section 2625 of the Public Health Service Act, as of December 31, 2007. Funding for these grants shall be distributed by March 31, 2008 based on standard criteria relating to a State's epidemiological profile and shall not exceed $1,000,000 for any one State. Any amounts that have not been obligated by March 31, 2008 shall be used to make grants to States and local public health departments for other HIV prevention activities. The House proposed that no funds appropriated may be used to implement the Early Diagnosis Grant Program and the Senate proposed to allow up to $30,000,000 for the program if States are eligible.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing that employees of the CDC or the Public Health Service, detailed to States, municipalities, or other organizations under authority of section 214 of the PHS Act or in overseas assignments shall be treated as non-Federal employees for reporting purposes only and shall not be included within any personnel ceiling applicable to the Agency as proposed by the Senate. The House included similar language but did not include employees in overseas assignments.

The conference agreement includes ongoing pandemic influenza and related activities in the CDC appropriation as proposed by the House. The Senate proposed to fund these activities in PHSSEF to be transferred to CDC.

The conferees note that in September 2007, CDC realigned its budget through a reprogramming and transfer of funds at the program, project, and activity level. The Secretary communicated his intent that the realignment of funds be permanent. Funding levels proposed in the House- and Senate-passed bills did not reflect these changes because the request for reprogramming came after initial House and Senate Committee action on the fiscal year 2008 appropriations bills. Funding levels provided in the conference agreement make the funding realignment permanent. The conferees expect CDC to adhere to enacted funding levels in fiscal year 2008 and to not tap or assess program activities for unrelated purposes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The conference agreement includes $1,848,601,000 for Infectious Diseases, instead of $1,900,508,000 as proposed by the House and $1,762,083,000 as proposed by the Senate. In addition, $12,794,000 is available to carry out National Immunization Surveys to be derived from section 241 evaluation set-aside funds as proposed by both the House and Senate.

Immunization and respiratory diseases

Within the total for Infectious Diseases, the conference agreement includes a program level total of $612,654,000 for immunization and respiratory diseases instead of $636,159,000 as proposed by the House and $527,650,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for immunization and respiratory diseases, $493,682,000 is for the immunization program authorized by section 317 of the PHS Act, instead of $516,273,000 as proposed by the House and $457,523,000 as proposed by the Senate. In addition, $2,761,957,000 is included in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Grants to States for Medicaid account for the mandatory Vaccines for Children (VFC) program for vaccine purchases and distribution support for fiscal year 2008.

Within the total for immunization and respiratory diseases, $81,700,000 is for program operations, instead of $82,575,000 as proposed by the House and $62,816,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement includes $19,733,000 to provide funds to States to increase demand for influenza vaccine instead of $19,800,000 as proposed by the House and $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for immunization and respiratory diseases, $37,272,000 is for influenza activities, instead of $37,311,000 as proposed by the House and $7,311,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement includes $19,733,000 to develop a repository of pandemic virus reference strains instead of $19,800,000 as proposed by the House and $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and $14,849,000 to increase the stock of diagnostic reagents for influenza instead of $14,850,000 as proposed by the House and $15,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention

Within the total for Infectious Diseases, the conference agreement includes $1,024,070,000 for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB prevention, instead of $1,042,303,000 as proposed by the House and $1,020,191,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB prevention, the conference agreement includes $704,161,000 for domestic HIV/AIDS activities, instead of $715,463,000 as proposed by the House and $698,050,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this total, $53,321,000 is for domestic HIV/AIDS testing, instead of $63,000,000 as provided by the House and $45,000,000 as provided by the Senate. Funds are provided for the Early Diagnosis Grant Program within the testing initiative.

Within the total for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB prevention, the conference agreement includes $18,354,000 for programs addressing viral hepatitis, instead of $18,615,000 as proposed by the House and $17,615,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB prevention, the conference agreement includes $146,518,000 for the tuberculosis program, instead of $150,688,000 as proposed by the House and $146,989,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Zoonotic, Vector-borne, and Enteric Diseases

Within the total for Infectious Diseases, the conference agreement includes $69,188,000 for zoonotic, vector-borne, and enteric diseases, instead of $70,342,000 as proposed by the House and $70,070,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases

Within the total for Infectious Diseases, the conference agreement includes $155,483,000 for preparedness, detection, and control of infectious diseases, instead of $164,498,000 as proposed by the House and $156,966,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for preparedness, detection, and control of infectious diseases, the conference agreement includes $17,220,000 for programs to address antimicrobial resistance, instead of $19,228,000 as proposed by the House and $17,480,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for preparedness, detection, and control of infectious diseases, the conference agreement includes $135,490,000 for programs to address all other emerging infectious diseases, instead of $142,455,000 as proposed by the House and $136,671,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement provides sufficient resources to continue the Prevention Epicenter Program and to support the special pathogens lab as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language.

HEALTH PROMOTION

The conference agreement includes $992,214,000 for Health Promotion, instead of $1,002,212,000 as proposed by the House and $982,876,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Chronic Disease Prevention, Health Promotion, and Genomics

Within the total for Health Promotion, the conference agreement includes $861,123,000 for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics instead of $869,479,000 as proposed by the House and $854,180,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $50,993,000 for heart disease and stroke, instead of $48,744,000 as proposed by the House and $51,744,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conferees have provided $1,500,000 to continue and expand activities in the Mississippi Delta related to the burden of chronic diseases instead of $2,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose funding for this program. The additional funds will enable an expansion of

these activities throughout the Mississippi Delta region.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $65,975,000 for diabetes programs, instead of $69,157,000 as proposed by the House and $64,870,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $323,051,000 for cancer prevention and control, instead of $326,100,000 as proposed by the House and $325,949,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the amount provided for cancer prevention and control, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$207,551,000 to expand breast and cervical cancer activities, instead of $210,000,000 as proposed by the House and $211,604,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$21,197,000 for comprehensive cancer, instead of $16,867,000 as proposed by the House and $26,017,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$6,750,000 to carry out activities authorized by Johanna's Law, instead of $9,000,000 as proposed by the House—the Senate did not propose funding for this activity;

$5,500,000 for activities related to ovarian cancer, instead of $6,505,000 as proposed by the House and $4,500,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$843,000 for activities related to cancer survivorship, instead of $881,000 as proposed by the House and $981,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $24,543,000 for arthritis and other chronic diseases, instead of $22,797,000 as proposed by the House and $23,033,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, $8,107,000 is available for epilepsy activities instead of $8,402,000 as proposed by the House and $8,138,000 as proposed by the Senate. Also within this amount, $3,167,000 is available to continue and expand the National Lupus Patient Registry to operate seven sites, including a coordinating site. The House proposed $930,000 for lupus-related activities and the Senate proposed $1,430,000. The conferees are concerned by the lack of reliable epidemiological data on the incidence and prevalence of all forms of lupus among various ethnic and racial groups. These sites should have an expertise in lupus epidemiology and represent the geographic regions of the United States that have a sufficient number of individuals of racial and ethnic groups that are disproportionately affected by lupus, principally African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asian Americans, and Native Americans.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $104,016,000 to expand tobacco-related activities, instead of $104,347,000 as proposed by the House and $106,347,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees concur with Senate report language intending that the increase for the Office of Smoking and Health be used to support a stepped up effort by the Environmental Health Laboratory to analyze tobacco products and cigarette smoke. The House report did not include similar language.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $42,941,000 for nutrition, physical activity, and obesity programs, instead of $42,250,000 as proposed by the House and $44,351,000 as proposed by the Senate. Sufficient funds are included for CDC to conduct a study of the impact of school nutrition and physical activity programs on academic outcomes as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language.

Within the total for nutrition, physical activity, and obesity programs, $2,351,000 is for the fruit and vegetable program, formerly known as the 5-A-Day program, instead of $2,300,000 as proposed by the House and $2,400,000 as proposed by the Senate. Also within the total, $1,000,000 is for the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine to examine and make recommendations regarding various means that could be employed to reduce dietary sodium intake to levels recommended by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $28,120,000 for health promotion programs, instead of $27,544,000 as proposed by the House and $28,095,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the amount provided for health promotion, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$1,000,000, within community health promotion, is for activities related to sleep disorders including CDC's participation in the national sleep awareness roundtable as proposed by the House—the Senate did not propose similar language;

$1,750,000 for mind-body research, instead of $1,776,000 as proposed by the Senate—the House did not propose funding for this activity;

$3,403,000 for glaucoma programs, instead of $3,454,000 as proposed by the House and $3,579,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$2,681,000 for visual screening education, instead of $3,466,000 as proposed by the House and $2,591,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$1,604,000 for Alzheimer's disease activities, instead of $1,628,000 as proposed by the House and $1,778,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$679,000 for inflammatory bowel disease activities, instead of $690,000 as proposed by the House and $790,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$720,000 for interstitial cystitis, instead of $680,000 as proposed by the House and $780,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$1,750,000 for chronic kidney disease, instead of $1,776,000 as proposed by the House and $1,951,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $55,289,000 for school health programs, instead of $56,449,000 as proposed by the House and $55,949,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, $500,000 is to develop a policy to manage the risk of food allergies and anaphylaxis in schools and to provide parents with enhanced information on these conditions via the Internet as proposed by the House. The Senate did not propose similar language.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $45,331,000 for safe motherhood/infant health programs, instead of $48,530,000 as proposed by the House and $44,168,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, $236,000 is for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome prevention activities, instead of $211,000 as proposed by the House and $261,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $5,000,000 for demonstration grants for teen pregnancy prevention, instead of $10,000,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not include funding for this program.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $12,956,000 for oral health programs, instead of $13,140,000 as proposed by the House and $11,640,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $29,649,000 for prevention centers, instead of $29,556,000 as proposed by the House and $30,086,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $35,346,000 for the racial and ethnic approaches to community health (REACH) program, instead of $37,553,000 as proposed by the House and $34,139,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for chronic disease prevention, health promotion, and genomics, the conference agreement includes $12,308,000 for genomics, instead of $6,926,000 as proposed by the House and $7,423,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, $2,965,000 is for Primary Immune Deficiency Syndrome instead of $2,513,000 as proposed by the House and $3,010,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health

Within the amount available for Health Promotion, the conference agreement includes $131,091,000 for birth defects, developmental disabilities, disability and health instead of $132,733,000 as proposed by the House and $128,696,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for birth defects, developmental disabilities, disability and health, the conference agreement includes $38,305,000 for birth defects and developmental disabilities, instead of $38,750,000 as proposed by the House and $38,723,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the amount provided for birth defects and developmental disabilities, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$1,578,000 for craniofacial malformation, instead of $1,397,000 as proposed by the House and $1,600,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$2,318,000 for the folic acid program, instead of $2,496,000 as proposed by House and $2,269,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$250,000 for the development and distribution of awareness materials on alveolar capillary dysplasia (ACD) to neonatologists and intensive care pediatricians to assist in the proper diagnosis of ACD—neither the House nor the Senate proposed funding for these activities.

The conferees are aware of a congenital malformation of the lungs affecting infants, known as alveolar capillary dysplasia (ACD), in which the normal diffusion process of oxygen from the air sacs to the blood in the lungs fails to develop properly. Life expectancy for infants with ACD is extremely short, and anecdotal evidence indicates that ACD is often misdiagnosed. Proper recognition and diagnosis of the disease are essential first steps to obtaining accurate prevalence data for ACD.

Within the total for birth defects, developmental disabilities, disability and health, the conference agreement includes $72,545,000 for human development and disability, instead of $72,987,000 as proposed by the House and $69,793,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the amount provided for human development and disability, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$1,924,000 for Tourette syndrome activities, instead of $1,954,000 as proposed by the House and $1,951,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$10,305,000 for early hearing detection and intervention activities, instead of $10,500,000 as proposed by the House and $6,512,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$6,658,000 for muscular dystrophy programs, instead of $7,054,000 as proposed by

the House and $6,512,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$6,079,000 for a paralysis resource center, instead of $5,919,000 as proposed by the House and $6,419,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$1,823,000 for attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder programs, instead of $1,882,000 as proposed by the House and $1,811,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$1,860,000 for Fragile X activities, instead of $960,000 as proposed by the House and $1,873,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$5,434,000 for spina bifida programs, instead of $5,535,000 as proposed by the House and $5,532,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for birth defects, developmental disabilities, disability and health, the conference agreement includes $20,241,000 for blood disorders, instead of $20,996,000 as proposed by the House and $20,180,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, $17,466,000 is for the hemophilia program instead of $18,187,000 as proposed by the House and $17,321,000 as proposed by the Senate and $1,918,000 is for Cooley's anemia programs instead of $1,938,000 as proposed by the House and $1,988,000 as proposed by the Senate.

HEALTH INFORMATION AND SERVICE

The conference agreement includes $117,168,000 for Health Information and Service, instead of $70,104,000 as proposed by the House and $98,854,000 as proposed by the Senate. In addition, $185,824,000, to be derived from section 241 evaluation set-aside funds, is included for the National Center for Health Statistics, the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System, and for Health Marketing.

Within the program level total for health information and service, the conference agreement includes $116,550,000 for health statistics, instead of $120,000,000 as proposed by the House and $117,021,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included within this amount is an additional $200,000, as proposed by the House, to make necessary improvements to the National Survey of Family Growth. The Senate did not propose similar language.

Within the program level total for health information and service, the conference agreement includes $95,720,000 for public health informatics, instead of $94,855,000 as proposed by the House and $72,641,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included within this amount, $14,550,000 is to develop a vaccine registry to monitor vaccine use and distribution instead of $14,645,000 as proposed by the House and $15,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and $9,867,000 is for real-time assessment and evaluation of influenza interventions instead of $9,900,000 as proposed by the House and $10,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Also within the total for public health informatics is $325,000, as proposed by the House, to continue to fund the establishment of a nationwide database of contact information for practicing physicians that can be used by Federal agencies and State and local health departments in the event of a public health emergency. The Senate did not propose similar language.

Within the program level total for health information and service, the conference agreement includes $90,722,000 for health marketing, instead of $39,173,000 as proposed by the House and $42,991,000 as proposed by the Senate.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND INJURY PREVENTION

The conference agreement includes $306,856,000 for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention activities, instead of $305,151,000 as proposed by the House and $300,507,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Environmental Health

Within the total for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention, the conference agreement includes $163,345,000 for environmental health instead of $165,005,000 as proposed by the House and $152,804,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for environmental health, the conference agreement includes $39,888,000 for the environmental health laboratory instead of $40,473,000 as proposed by the House and $27,982,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included within the total, $7,000,000 is for the newborn screening quality assurance program as proposed by the House. The Senate did not propose similar language. Also within the total, $1,000,000 is included over the fiscal year 2007 level for newborn screening for severe combined immunodeficiency disease as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language.

Within the funds provided for the Environmental Health Laboratory, the conferees encourage CDC to provide funding for States with existing biomonitoring programs to expand laboratory capacity; conduct subpopulation studies; conduct representative analyses of routinely collected blood, cord blood and other biospecimens; develop protocols for conducting biomonitoring of sensitive subpopulations such as children; and support biomonitoring field operations such as participant enrollment, sample collection, data analysis, report generation and results communications. The conferees encourage the CDC to begin developing new methods for identifying chemical sources and routes of exposure using model exposure questionnaires and collection of relevant household and other environmental samples.

Within the total for environmental health, the conference agreement includes $56,913,000 for general environmental health activities instead of $56,731,000 as proposed by the House and $57,021,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the amount provided for general environmental health activities, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$297,000 for arctic health activities, instead of $302,000 as proposed by the Senate—the House did not propose funding for this program;

$99,000 for research into the health effects of volcanic emissions, instead of $100,000 as proposed by the Senate—the House did not propose funding for this program;

$24,877,000 for the environmental and health outcome tracking network, instead of $26,533,000 as proposed by the House and $24,121,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$2,871,000 to continue and to expand a national amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) registry to include other neurodegenerative disorders, instead of $887,000 as proposed by the House and $2,887,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$4,075,000 for landmine survivor programs, instead of $4,152,000 as proposed by the House and $4,452,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the funds provided for the environmental and health outcome tracking network, the conferees encourage CDC to make funding available to State environmental health tracking programs to develop replicable models for disease, hazard and exposure data sharing at the local, State and national levels that incorporate data confidentiality protections. The conferees further direct CDC to include non-governmental organizations representing health-affected constituencies, environmental health and environmental justice in their advisory groups.

Injury Prevention and Control

Within the funds provided for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention, the conference agreement includes $143,511,000 for injury prevention and control, instead of $140,146,000 as proposed by the House and $147,703,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, sufficient funds are provided to support an additional injury control research center that will conduct research on injury and injury prevention related to children and adolescents, as proposed by the House. The Senate did not propose similar language.

Within the total for injury prevention and control the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$28,841,000 for youth violence prevention, instead of $24,061,000 as proposed by the House and $26,043,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$43,731,000 for rape prevention, instead of $43,457,000 as proposed by the House and $45,392,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$5,960,000 is for the traumatic brain injury program, instead of $5,816,000 as proposed by the House and $6,287,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

The conference agreement includes $237,388,000 for occupational safety and health, instead of $219,076,000 as proposed by the House and $181,326,000 as proposed by the Senate. In addition, $97,404,000 is available to carry out occupational safety and health research activities within the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) to be derived from section 241 evaluation set-aside funds instead of $91,861,000 as proposed by the House and $92,071,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The total provided includes sufficient funding to maintain staffing levels at the Morgantown facility and to increase research funding at that facility as proposed by the Senate. Funding is also included to continue the farm health and safety initiative as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose either of these programs.

Within the program level total for occupational safety and health, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$13,190,000 for personal protective technology development instead of $12,732,000 as proposed by the House and $13,648,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$113,243,000 for the National Occupational Research Agenda instead of $112,834,000 as proposed by the House and $104,186,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$52,500,000 for screening and treatment for first response emergency services personnel, residents, students, and others related to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center instead of $50,000,000 as proposed by the House and $55,000,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$50,000,000 for mining research instead of $25,200,000 as proposed by the House and $49,200,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$502,000 for the Miner's Choice Health Screening program instead of $352,000 as proposed by the House and $652,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$1,057,000 for the National Mesothelioma Registry and Tissue Bank instead of $1,007,000 as proposed by the House and $1,107,000 as proposed by the Senate.

For the mining research program, the conferees expect that additional funding will ensure that the mine safety research agenda in areas such as dust monitoring, roof control, and disaster prevention are not abandoned. The conferees concur with language included in the Senate report directing that required progress reports on grant-making and research findings be expanded to research goals such as dust monitoring, roof control, and disaster prevention. The House did not propose such language.

The conference agreement has included sufficient funds for NIOSH to conduct, in collaboration with the University of Utah and West Virginia University, a study of the recovery of coal pillars through retreat room

and pillar mining practices in underground coal mines at depths greater than 1500 feet. The study should examine the safety implications of retreat room and pillar mining practices, with emphasis on the impact of full or partial pillar extraction mining. The study should include, but not be limited to, analyses of (1) the conditions under which retreat mining is used, including conditions relating to seam thickness; depth of cover; strength of the mine roof, pillars, and floor; and the susceptibility of the mine to seismic activity; and (2) the procedures used to ensure miner safety during retreat mining. The conferees direct that not later than two years after beginning the study, NIOSH submit a report containing the results of the study to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The report shall include recommendations to enhance the safety of miners working in underground coal mines where retreat mining in room and pillar operations is utilized. Among other things, the recommendations should identify means of adapting any practical technology to the mining environment to improve miner protections during mining at depths greater than 1500 feet, and research needed to develop improved technology to improve miner protections during mining at such depths.

GLOBAL HEALTH

The conference agreement provides $377,352,000 for Global Health activities, instead of $381,337,000 as proposed by the House and $334,038,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included within this total, $121,541,000 is for the global AIDS program instead of $122,769,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate.

Within the total for global health, the conference agreement includes the following amounts for pandemic influenza activities:

$17,740,000 for rapid outbreak response for high priority countries instead of $17,820,000 as proposed by the House and $18,000,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$3,960,000 for human-animal interface studies as proposed by the House instead of $4,000,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$47,339,000 for international surveillance, diagnosis, and epidemic investigations instead of $47,520,000 as proposed by the House and $48,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The conference agreement includes $1,549,143,000 for activities related to terrorism preparedness and response, instead of $1,598,751,000 as proposed by the House and $1,632,448,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the total for terrorism preparedness and response, the conference agreement includes $785,233,000 for Upgrading State and Local Capacity instead of $789,948,000 as proposed by the House and $823,238,000 as proposed by the Senate. This funding level includes the following amounts:

$738,848,000 for the bioterrorism cooperative agreement instead of $734,536,000 as proposed by the House and $760,470,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$29,063,000 for the Centers for Public Health Preparedness instead of $30,740,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate;

$5,355,000 for Advanced Practice Centers as proposed by both the House and Senate; and,

$11,967,000 for all other State and local capacity instead of $19,317,000 as proposed by the House and $26,673,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Funding is provided for the Centers for Public Health Preparedness at accredited schools of public health to ensure continuity of planned education and training commitments to State, local, and tribal health departments during the fifth and final year of the existing cooperative agreements. The conferees encourage CDC to manage this program and work with appropriate public health organizations to begin implementation of the provisions of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act during fiscal year 2008.

Within the total for terrorism preparedness and response, the conference agreement concurs with the House proposal and does not include funding for botulinum toxin research. The Senate proposed $3,000,000 for this activity.

Within the total for terrorism preparedness and response, the conference agreement includes $64,194,000 for Biosurveillance initiatives instead of $81,153,000 as proposed by the House and $78,560,000 as proposed by the Senate. This funding level includes the following amounts:

$35,000,000 for BioSense instead of $50,000,000 as proposed by the House and $57,340,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$20,012,000 for quarantine stations instead of $21,028,000 as proposed by the House and $11,095,000 as proposed by the Senate.

PREVENTIVE HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

The conference agreement includes $104,000,000 for the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant instead of $109,000,000 as proposed by the House and $99,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

The Conference agreement includes $230,239,000 for Public Health Improvement and Leadership instead of $199,237,000 as proposed by the House and $209,509,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for Public Health Improvement and Leadership, the conference agreement includes $161,402,000 for leadership and management instead of $162,214,000 as proposed by the House and $162,879,000 as proposed by the Senate and $34,872,000 for public health workforce development instead of $19,743,000 as proposed by the House and $21,743,000 as proposed by the Senate. The public health workforce development funding includes $1,000,000 for the Applied Epidemiology Fellowship Training program. The Senate proposed $2,000,000 for this program and the House did not propose funding for this program.

Also within the total for Public Health Improvement and Leadership, the conference agreement includes $6,000,000 for a Director's Discretionary Fund, as proposed by the House, to support activities deemed by the Director as having high scientific and programmatic priority and to respond to emergency public health requirements. The Senate proposed $7,851,000 for this fund. The conferees do not concur with language in the Senate report regarding the Director's authority to reallocate management savings to the Director's Discretionary Fund.

The Conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
A Voice for All, Wilmington, DE, for speech and language evaluations for persons with disabilities	325,000
Adler Aphasia Center, Maywood, NJ for a program to improve communication and other life skills for people with aphasia	125,000
Advocate Good Shepard Hospital, Barrington, IL for the expansion of an ongoing pilot project to address the growing problem of childhood obesity among elementary schools in Lake County, IL	30,000
Alameda County Public Health Department, Office of AIDS Administration, Oakland, CA for an HIV/AIDS prevention and testing initiative	300,000
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Juneau, AK, for an Obesity Prevention and Control project in Alaska	500,000
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Juneau, AK, for continuation and expansion of a program to detect and control tuberculosis in Alaska	500,000
Alaska Multiple Sclerosis Center, Anchorage, AK, for multiple sclerosis related activities	150,000
Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, Philadelphia, PA, for college student screening programs	169,500
American Optometric Association, Alexandria, VA, for the InfantSee program	450,000
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX for epidemiological research and educational outreach related to childhood cancer in cooperation with the Vannie E. Cook Jr. Cancer Foundation in McAllen, TX	320,000
Bayside Community Center, San Diego, CA for its STEPS health education and outreach program for senior citizens	175,000
Berean Community & Family Life Center, Brooklyn, NY for obesity prevention programs and community health and wellness education	275,000
Bienestar Human Services, Inc., Los Angeles, CA to expand a mobile HIV rapid testing program in East Los Angeles	125,000
Boys and Girls Club of Delaware County, Jay, OK for equipment and operating expenses for programs to improve diet, physical activity, and emotional health	450,000
Brown County Oral Health Partnership, Green Bay, WI, to expand an oral health program	255,000
California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, CA for programs aimed at preventing obesity and promoting health in children	400,000
Camden County, Camden, NJ, to purchase, equip and staff a mobile health van	340,000
Cascade AIDS, Portland, Oregon, to conduct HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programs	170,000
Center for Asbestos Related Disease Clinic, Libby, MT to create an epidemiological data repository on tremolite asbestos	260,000
Center for International Rehabilitation, Chicago, IL, for the Disability Rights Monitor	200,000
Charles R. Drew Wellness Center, Columbia, SC for an obesity focused wellness program	235,000
Charter County of Wayne, Michigan, Detroit, MI for Infant Mortality Prevention services	200,000
Chez Panisse Foundation, Berkeley, CA for the school lunch initiative to integrate lessons about wellness, sustainability and nutrition into the academic curriculum	250,000
Children's Hunger Alliance, Columbus, OH for programs to prevent childhood obesity	200,000
Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO, for the development and deployment of Mine safety and Rescue through Sensing Networks and Robotics Technology (Mine-SENTRY)	169,500
Columbus Children's Research Institute, Columbus, OH for the Center for Injury Research and Policy	200,000
Community Health Centers in Hawaii for Childhood Rural Asthma Project, for childhood rural asthma project	125,000
County of Marin, San Rafael, CA for research and analysis related to breast cancer incidence and mortality in the county and breast cancer screening	300,000
CREATE Foundation, Tupelo, MS for childhood obesity prevention programs	450,000
DuPage County, Wheaton, IL for a county-wide physical fitness assessment pilot project	150,000
East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine, Greenville, NC for a project to study the problem of racial disparities in cardiovascular diseases	250,000
El Puente, Brooklyn, NY for an obesity, diabetes, STD, and HIV/AIDS prevention program for adolescents and their families as well as control and management of asthma and other environmentally connected diseases	220,000
ExemplaSaint Joseph Hospital Foundation, Denver, CO, for the mobile mammography program	85,000
Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT, to develop chronic disease registries	170,000
Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network, Fairfax, VA, for the Iowa Food Allergy Education program	120,000
Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation, Lake Success, NY to provide glaucoma screenings and follow-up in the Phoenix, AZ area	75,000
Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation, Lake Success, NY to provide glaucoma screenings and follow-up in the Virgin Islands	325,000
Georgia Chapter of the American Lung Association, Smyrna, GA to study the relationship between residential floor coverings and distributive patterns of airborne particulates	350,000
Georgia Rural Water Association, Barnesville, GA, for the National Fluoridation Training Institute	84,700
Haitian American Association Against Cancer, Inc., Miami, FL for cancer education, outreach, screening and related programs	240,000
Health Care Network, Inc, Racine, WI, to coordinate dental services for low-income patients	85,000
Healthy Eating Lifestyle Principles, Monterey, CA for a program to improve nutrition by promoting the accessibility and consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables in schools	175,000
Healthy Futures, Columbia, SC, to educate the community to recognize the health concerns, specifically obesity, of youth in the minority community	211,100

Project	Total funding
Healthy Northeast Pennsylvania Initiative, Clarks Summit, PA, for health education	90,000
Henderson, NV, for a diabetes screening, education and counseling program for seniors	200,000
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters—Florida, Coral Gables, FL to create a preventative health care model	175,000
Ingalls Development Foundation, Harvey, IL for a comprehensive cancer prevention and early detection program, focusing on minority populations	225,000
Institute of Medical Humanism, Inc, Bennington, VT, for an end-of-life care initiative	150,000
International Rett Syndrome Association, Clinton, MD for education and awareness programs regarding Rett syndrome	150,000
Iowa Chronic Care Consortium, Des Moines, Iowa, for a preventative health demonstration program	150,000
Iowa Department of Public Health to continue the Harkin Wellness Grant program	1,500,000
Iowa Games, Ames, IA, to continue the Lighten Up Iowa program	100,000
Iowa Health Foundation, for wellness activities for dementia patients	100,000
Iowa State University, Ames, IA, for the Iowa Initiative for Healthier Schools and Student Wellness	400,000
Kennedy Health System, Voorhees, NJ, for the Women and Children's Health Pavilion's Advanced Cancer Prevention and Treatment Initiative	380,000
Kids Kicking Cancer, Inc., Lansing, MI, for cancer treatment support activities	595,000
Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Bronx, NY for a nutrition and anti-obesity demonstration program for 6- to 12-year-old children	325,000
Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY for asthma education, counseling, and prevention programs	365,000
Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness, Louisville, KY for improving and providing preventative healthcare to men to address disease and obesity prevention, oral health, and stress management	100,000
Lower Bucks Hospital, Bristol, PA, for autism therapy evaluation	90,000
Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, Baton Rouge, LA, for additional C.A.R.E Network screenings and program development	100,000
Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Kalamazoo, MI, to improve quality of care and patient safety in hospital surgery settings	425,000
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN for research and education regarding ways of increasing physical activity and fitness among children and adolescents	350,000
Myositis Association, Washington, DC to develop a national patient registry for individuals afflicted with myositis	175,000
Natividad Medical Center, Salinas, CA for a diabetes care management program	125,000
Nazareth Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, for health outreach	90,000
Nevada Cancer Institute, Las Vegas, NV for a comprehensive program to reduce cancer incidence and mortality rates and address cancer health disparities	300,000
North Shore Health Project, Gloucester, MA for outreach and education on hepatitis C	150,000
Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, Scranton, PA, for cancer screening evaluation	90,000
Nueva Esperanza, Philadelphia, PA, for HIV/AIDS programs	90,000
Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition, Ephrata, PA, for education, awareness and publication production	90,000
Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative, Pittsburgh, PA, for an infection control training program	90,000
Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH for the Partners Enabling Active Rural Living Institute to develop an evidence-based model for promoting and enabling appropriate daily physical activity in rural communities	150,000
Potter County Human Services, Roulette, PA, for health promotion programs	90,000
Providence Cancer Center, Portland, OR for the rural and underserved cancer outreach project	115,000
Providence Multiple Sclerosis Center, Portland, Oregon, to develop a registry for multiple sclerosis	84,700
Pulmonary Hypertension Association, Silver Spring, MD for public education and outreach	200,000
Saint Michael's Medical Center, Newark, NJ, for heart disease screening	150,000
San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, San Antonio, TX for further studies and public health outreach regarding environmental health concerns at and near the former Kelly Air Force Base	440,000
SHAREing and CAREing, Astoria, NY to provide culturally sensitive breast health education, referrals for screenings/diagnostic and support services for medically underserved and uninsured minority women	125,000
Silent Spring Institute, Newton, MA for studies of the impact of environmental pollutants on breast cancer and women's health	125,000
Sister to Sister—Everyone Has a Heart Foundation to increase women's awareness of heart disease, Washington, D.C.	250,000
South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, for interdisciplinary research on obesity prevention and treatment	125,000
Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats, Emory University, Atlanta, GA for programs related to bioterrorism and emerging biological threats	400,000
Spinal Muscular Atrophy Foundation, New York, NY, for outreach, patient education and registries	500,000
St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, Wabasha, MN to support a disease prevention pilot program to reduce the incidence of heart disease	100,000
St. Francis Medical Center Foundation, Lynwood, CA for health education and outreach	140,000
St. John's Regional Medical Center, Oxnard, CA for diabetes prevention and management programs	400,000
St. John's Well Child and Family Center, Los Angeles, CA for a patient education program to address obesity, diabetes, and hypertension	125,000
Supporting Autism Families Everywhere, Wilkes-Barre, PA, for Autism programs and education	90,000
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso, El Paso, TX, for the Center for Research and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases	375,000
United Mine Workers of America, Fairfax, VA, for a fuel-cell coalmine vehicle demonstration project	90,000
University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, AZ for diabetes educational outreach programs	270,000
University of Findlay Center for Public Health Preparedness, Findlay, OH for training programs on school safety and workplace violence avoidance	275,000
University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, for the biodiversity research center	1,171,000
University of Montana Rehabilitation, Research, and Training Center, Missoula, MT, to develop program Living Well and Working Well with a Disability: Improving Health, Promoting Employment, and Reducing Medical Costs	120,000
University of Montana, Missoula, MT, for Methamphetamine Detection and Health Effects Research	180,000
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with East Carolina University, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, for the Program in Racial Disparities in Cardiovascular Disease	585,000
University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX for the Center for Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach	400,000
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, for health outreach	169,500
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL to create, implement, and evaluate programs to assist school-aged children in becoming physically active and healthy	550,000
University of Texas Pan American, Edinburg, TX for the South Texas Border Health Disparities Center's program on preventing obesity in minority populations	320,000
University of Texas, Brownsville, TX for studies regarding the health of the Hispanic population in the Rio Grande Valley	400,000
University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, for evidence based adolescent pregnancy prevention programs	200,000
Virgin Islands Perinatal Inc., Christiansted, VI for implementation of chronic disease management and prevention modalities to minimize adverse outcomes related to diabetes and hypertension	315,000
Voorhees College, Denmark, SC for a demonstration program on reversing diabetes in minority communities	135,000
Wayne County Department of Public Health, Detroit, MI for a lead poisoning assessment, prevention, and intervention program	300,000
WellSpan Health, York, PA, for health outreach	90,000
WestCare Foundation, Las Vegas, NV, for the Batterers Intervention Program in Needles, CA and surrounding communities	500,000
Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT to develop a comprehensive ovarian cancer prevention and early detection program	300,000
YBH Project, Inc., Albany, GA for nutrition, fitness, and education programs for middle school students and their families	100,000
Youth and Family Services, Rapid City, SD, for the Health Connections Program	150,000

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

The conference agreement includes $4,925,740,000 for the National Cancer Institute instead of $4,880,382,000 as proposed by the House and $4,910,160,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees urge NCI to fund a study of the Trinity nuclear test that estimates the number of fatal and non-fatal radiogenic illnesses compared to a baseline of what would be expected to occur naturally in the surrounding community.

NATIONAL HEART, LUNG AND BLOOD INSTITUTE

The conference agreement includes $3,001,691,000 for the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute instead of $2,965,775,000 as proposed by the House and $2,992,197,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL AND CRANIOFACIAL RESEARCH

The conference agreement includes $399,867,000 for the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research instead of $395,753,000 as proposed by the House and $398,602,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES

The conference agreement includes $1,753,037,000 for the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIDDK, instead of $1,731,893,000 as proposed by the House and $1,747,784,000 as proposed by the Senate. An amount of $150,000,000 is also available to the Institute through a permanent appropriation for juvenile diabetes.

The conferees encourage NIDDK to conduct hemodialysis clinical trials on a regular basis that produce the optimum benefit for patients.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND STROKE

The conference agreement includes $1,578,210,000 for the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke instead of $1,569,106,000 as proposed by the House and $1,573,268,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The conference agreement includes $4,682,585,000 for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases instead of $4,631,844,000 as proposed by the House and $4,668,472,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language permitting the transfer of $300,000,000 to International Assistance Programs, Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis as proposed by the Senate. The House bill proposed a transfer of $299,825,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GENERAL MEDICAL SCIENCES

The conference agreement includes $1,984,879,000 for the National Institute of General Medical Sciences instead of $1,966,019,000 as proposed by the House and $1,978,601,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement includes $1,286,379,000 for the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development instead of $1,273,863,000 as proposed by the House and $1,282,231,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE

The conference agreement includes $684,126,000 for the National Eye Institute instead of $677,039,000 as proposed by the House and $681,962,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

The conference agreement includes $658,258,000 for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences instead of $652,303,000 as proposed by the House and $656,176,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

The conference agreement includes $1,076,389,000 for the National Institute on

Aging instead of $1,062,833,000 as proposed by the House and $1,073,048,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SKIN DISEASES

The conference agreement includes $521,459,000 for the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases instead of $516,044,000 as proposed by the House and $519,810,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

The conference agreement includes $403,958,000 for the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders instead of $400,305,000 as proposed by the House and $402,680,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NURSING RESEARCH

The conference agreement includes $140,900,000 for the National Institute of Nursing Research instead of $139,527,000 as proposed by the House and $140,456,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

The conference agreement includes $447,245,000 for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism instead of $442,870,000 as proposed by the House and $445,702,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE

The conference agreement includes $1,025,839,000 for the National Institute on Drug Abuse instead of $1,015,559,000 as proposed by the House and $1,022,594,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

The conference agreement includes $1,440,557,000 for the National Institute of Mental Health instead of $1,425,531,000 as proposed by the House and $1,436,001,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL HUMAN GENOME RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The conference agreement includes $498,748,000 for the National Human Genome Research Institute instead of $493,996,000 as proposed by the House and $497,031,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL IMAGING AND BIOENGINEERING

The conference agreement includes $305,884,000 for the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering instead of $303,318,000 as proposed by the House and $304,319,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES

The conference agreement includes $1,182,015,000 for the National Center for Research Resources instead of $1,171,095,000 as proposed by the House and $1,177,997,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate regarding the prohibition of funds to pay indirect expenses for general research support grants. This provision is no longer necessary. The House bill did not contain a similar provision.

The agreement provides the Administration request for clinical and translational science awards, with funding split between the Common Fund and NCRR in the same proportions as the Senate-passed bill. The conferees remain supportive of this program as it matures, but are concerned about the abrupt changes in program funding policies implemented in 2007.

The conference agreement provides $224,607,000 for the Institutional Development Award (IDeA) program, rather than $223,607,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House had not identified specific funding for this program.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

The conference agreement includes $124,647,000 for the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine instead of $123,380,000 as proposed by the House and $124,213,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL CENTER ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES

The conference agreement includes $204,542,000 for the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities instead of $202,691,000 as proposed by the House and $203,895,000 as proposed by the Senate.

JOHN E. FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CENTER

The conference agreement includes $68,216,000 for the John E. Fogarty International Center instead of $67,599,000 as proposed by the House and $68,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

The conference agreement provides $329,039,000 for the National Library of Medicine instead of $325,484,000 as proposed by the House and $327,817,000 as proposed by the Senate. In addition, $8,200,000 is provided from section 241 authority as proposed by both the House and Senate.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

The conference agreement includes $1,145,790,000 for the Office of the Director as proposed by the Senate instead of $1,114,422,000 as proposed by the House. The bill identifies $531,300,000 for the Common Fund as proposed by the Senate instead of $495,153,000 as proposed by the House. This Common Fund amount represents 1.77 percent of total funding for NIH, meeting the statutory requirement that the Common Fund percentage of the total NIH appropriation at least equal the share of total NIH funding the Common Fund represented during the prior year. In fiscal year 2007, the Common Fund represented 1.67 percent of total NIH funding.

The conference agreement also provides $25,000,000 in bill language for the flexible research authority authorized in section 215 of this Act as proposed by the Senate instead of $14,000,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the House regarding the amount identified for the Common Fund being in addition to funds allocated by the institutes for activities that are related to Fund activities. The Senate bill did not have similar language.

The conference agreement provides funding for a 2.5 percent increase in the average cost of new grants and for committed levels for existing grants. The Senate report indicated that sufficient funds were included to pay full committed levels on existing grants and to provide a 3 percent increase in the average cost of new grants. The House report provided sufficient funding for a 2 percent increase in the average cost of new grants, but did not include an assumption about commitment levels for existing grants.

The conference agreement includes sufficient funds to provide an average 2.2 percent increase in research training stipends. The House bill assumed a two percent average increase for stipends; the Senate did not identify a specific level.

The conference agreement provides the same funding as the fiscal year 2007 level for the following programs: Director's Pioneer awards, Pathways to Independence awards, New Innovator awards, and Bridge awards. The House provided similar amounts for these programs. The Senate provided similar amounts for all the programs except Pathways to Independence, for which the Senate did not identify a funding level.

The conference agreement includes $96,130,000 for research on chemical, radiological and nuclear countermeasures as proposed by the Senate instead of $95,310,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement provides up to $10,000,000 for the Director's Discretionary Fund as proposed by the House. The Senate did not specifically identify funding for the Discretionary Fund.

As required in the House report, the conferees require NIH to notify the House and Senate Appropriations Committees each time the Director uses the one percent transfer authority provided in the NIH reauthorization.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The conference agreement includes $130,000,000 for Buildings and Facilities instead of $121,081,000 as proposed by the House and the Senate.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The conference agreement includes $3,415,511,000 for substance abuse and mental health services, of which $3,290,848,000 is provided through budget authority and $124,663,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside. The House proposed $3,393,841,000 for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), of which $120,913,000 was from the evaluation set-aside and the Senate proposed $3,404,798,000, of which $126,663,000 was from the evaluation set-aside. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conference agreement includes bill language, as proposed by the Senate, that permits a State to receive more than one grant or cooperative agreement for youth suicide early intervention and prevention strategies.

Within the total provided, the conference agreement includes $123,023,000 for activities throughout SAMHSA that are targeted to address the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic and its disparate impact on communities of color, including African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. The House proposed $128,514,000 for these activities. The Senate did not include similar language.

Within the total provided, the conference agreement includes $56,735,000 for activities throughout SAMHSA to address the needs of the homeless. The House proposed $57,123,000 for these activities. The Senate did not include similar language.

Within the total provided, the conference agreement includes $3,520,000 for treatment programs for mental illness and substance abuse for tribes and tribal organizations instead of $4,070,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not propose similar language.

Center for Mental Health Services

The conference agreement includes a program level total of $428,256,000 for the mental health block grant, as proposed by the Senate, instead of $441,256,000 as proposed by the House. Within this total, $21,413,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside as proposed by both the House and Senate.

The conference agreement includes $304,668,000 for programs of regional and national significance instead of $277,030,000 as proposed by the House and $298,217,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total provided for mental health programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes

$94,656,000 to continue and expand violence prevention programs in schools, including the Safe Schools/Healthy Students interdepartmental program, instead of $96,156,000 as proposed by the House and $93,156,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included within this amount, the conference agreement provides $1,500,000 for a jointly funded initiative administered by the Department of Education and SAMHSA to support competitive grants to institutions of higher education to develop and implement emergency management plans for preventing campus violence. The House proposed $3,000,000 for this initiative. The Senate did not propose similar language.

Within the total for mental health programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes $33,680,000 for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative instead of $32,360,000 as proposed by the House and $35,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. In funding new grants, the conferees direct SAMHSA to give high priority to centers providing services in areas impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and who have previous experience in providing such services.

Within the total for mental health programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes $7,500,000 for a wellness initiative, instead of $15,000,000 as proposed by the Senate, to assist local communities in the coordination and improvement of the integration of behavioral/mental and physical health services. In carrying out this wellness initiative, the conferees expect SAMHSA to collaborate with HRSA and CDC. The conferees intend that funding provided will allow local communities to undertake a range of prevention and health promotion activities and expect that grantees must be able to evaluate the success of the program based on their ability to provide evidence-based services. The House did not propose funding for this initiative.

For programs addressing youth suicide prevention and early intervention programs within the mental health programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes:

$30,000,000 for grants to States and tribes as proposed by the Senate—the House did not include similar language;

$5,000,000 for campus-based programs as proposed by the Senate—the House did not include similar language; and,

$5,000,000 for the Suicide Prevention Resource Center as proposed by the Senate—the House did not include similar language.

The conferees expect the Center for Mental Health Services to support multi-year grants to five consumer and consumer-supported national technical assistance centers as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language. The conference agreement also provides funding at last year's level for the consumer-run statewide networking grants.

The conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total Funding
Access Community Health Center, Bloomingdale, IL for mental health services	250,000
Access Community Health Network, Chicago, IL, for behavioral health integration programs	400,000
Advocate Health Care, Oak Brook, IL for specialized and comprehensive psychotherapy and support to abused and neglected children and their families	325,000
Alfred University, Alfred, NY for graduate school psychologist training program	100,000
American Red Cross, Lower Bucks County Chapter, Levittown, PA to provide mental health counseling and case management services, along with related services	100,000
Children's Health Fund, New York, NY, to provide mental health services to children and families in Louisiana	400,000
City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA for mental health and substance abuse services for homeless persons in supportive housing	1,500,000
City of Los Angeles, CA for supportive housing services	300,000
Community Counseling Center, Portland, ME, for the expansion of the Greater Portland Trauma Assistance Network	100,000
Community Rehabilitation Center, Inc., Jacksonville, FL for substance abuse and mental health programs	320,000
Corporate Alliance for Drug Education, Philadelphia, PA, for mental health programs	90,000
Essex County, Newark, NJ, for a mental health initiative	635,000
Family Services of Greater Waterbury, Waterbury, CT for the outpatient counseling/psychiatric program	125,000
Family Support Systems Unlimited, Inc., Bronx, NY for mental health services	175,000
Fulton County Department of Mental Health, Atlanta, GA for a jail diversion program	125,000
Heartland Health Outreach, Inc., Chicago, IL for mental health services to refugee children	150,000
Helen Wheeler Center for Community Mental Health, Kankakee, IL for mental health services	200,000
Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, PA for the Teenline suicide prevention program	100,000
Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN for the Institute of Training in Addiction Studies	150,000
Jewish Association for Residential Care, Farmington Hills, MI for the Lifelines project	300,000
Kids Hope United, Waukegan, IL for the multi-systemic therapy program for youth	270,000
New Image Homeless Shelter, Los Angeles, CA for mental health case management	75,000
New Mexico Human Services Department, Behavioral Health Collaborative, Santa Fe, NM, to transform the behavioral health services system	210,000
Oregon Partnership, Portland, Oregon, for mental health services and programs	84,000
Pacific Clinics, Arcadia, CA for mental health and suicide prevention programs for Latina youth	400,000
Prime Time House, Inc., Torrington, CT for mental health services	125,000
Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud, SD, for youth residential and outpatient therapy at Piya Mani Otipi	150,000
Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service, Boca Raton, FL to provide preventive youth mental health services and clinical outreach to at risk students	190,000
Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, Sacramento, CA, for services to the chronically homeless	100,000
Samaritans of Rhode Island, Providence, RI, to enhance the Suicide Crisis Hotline	210,000
Spurwink Services, New Gloucester, ME, to improve early detection, training, timely access and evaluating best practice models for child mental health services	100,000
United Way of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the 211 project to provide a statewide health and human services management system for Alaska	600,000
Ventura County Probation Office, Ventura, CA for treatment and related services for juvenile offenders with mental health and chemical dependency problems	240,000
Ventura County Sheriff's Department, Thousand Oaks, CA for training programs related to the mentally ill	200,000
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Transportation and Consumer Protection, Madison, WI, to provide mental health services for farmers and their families throughout Wisconsin	85,000
Youthville, Wichita, KS for an adoption and trauma resource center	450,000

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

The conference agreement includes a program level total of $1,776,091,000 for the substance abuse prevention and treatment block grant instead of $1,793,591,000 as proposed by the House and $1,758,591,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this total, $79,200,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside as proposed by both the House and Senate.

The conference agreement includes $417,263,000 for substance abuse treatment programs of regional and national significance, which includes $4,300,000 from the evaluation set-aside, instead of $402,402,000 as proposed by the House and $426,568,000 as proposed by the Senate. Both the House and Senate bills included the evaluation set-aside at $4,300,000.

Within funds provided for substance abuse treatment programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes $98,000,000 for the access to recovery program as proposed by the House instead of last year's level of $98,208,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the funds provided for substance abuse treatment programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes $40,819,000 for criminal justice activities instead of $37,823,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement provides $30,817,000 for treatment drug court grants instead of $23,826,000 as proposed by the House and $31,817,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within funds provided for substance abuse treatment programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes $9,992,000 for the Addiction Technology Transfer Centers instead of $10,742,000 as proposed by the House and $9,242,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within funds provided for substance abuse treatment programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement provides $12,000,000 for residential treatment programs for pregnant and postpartum women and their children instead of $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include similar language.

Within funds provided for substance abuse treatment programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes $29,624,000 for the screening, brief intervention, referral and treatment program. This includes $2,000,000 provided through the evaluation set-aside and is the same funding level as fiscal year 2007, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include similar language.

The conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Akeela, Inc., Anchorage, AK, for the Re-Entry Program in Anchorage, Alaska	200,000
Anchorage Dept. of Health and Social Services, Anchorage, AK, for the Pathways to Sobriety Project in Anchorage, Alaska	400,000
Asian American Recovery Services, Inc., San Francisco, CA, for substance abuse treatment programs	170,000
City of Las Vegas, NV for the EVOLVE program	400,000
City of Oxford, Oxford, MS for a substance abuse treatment program	350,000
Fulton County, Atlanta, GA for Project Excell, an intensive outpatient treatment program serving homeless males with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders	100,000
Gavin Foundation, South Boston, MA for substance abuse treatment services at its Cushing House facility for adolescents	350,000
Glide Foundation, San Francisco, CA for substance abuse services	250,000
Heartland Family Services, Inc., Omaha, NE, for the Sarpy County Methamphetamine Treatment Program for women and children	100,000
Maine Lighthouse Corp., Bar Harbor, ME, for the Therapeutic Community for the Substance Abuse Treatment project	100,000

Project	Total funding
Maniilaq, Inc., Kotzebue, AK, for the Mavsigviq Family Recovery Program in Northwest Arctic Borough Alaska	500,000
Marin Services for Women, Inc., Greenbrae, CA, for substance abuse treatment for low-income women and their children	170,000
Martin Addiction Recovery Center, Martin, SD, to enhance and expand substance abuse intervention and treatment services	200,000
Metro Homeless Youth Services of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA to expand services for homeless youth with substance abuse problems	300,000
Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minneapolis, MN for a dual diagnosis outpatient treatment program	100,000
Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY for substance abuse treatment services	300,000
Nicasa in Round Lake, IL, Round Lake, IL, for evening outpatient substance abuse treatment program for women	325,000
Sandhills Teen Challenge, Carthage, NC for substance abuse treatment services	100,000
Sheriffs Youth Program of Minnesota, Inver Grove Heights, MN for chemical dependency treatment services	125,000
Talbert House, Cincinnati, OH for a substance abuse treatment program	300,000
Trumbull County Lifelines, Warren, OH for behavioral health services	200,000
Union Station Foundation, Pasadena, CA for services to homeless families	150,000
United Way of Treasure Valley, Boise, ID for a substance abuse treatment program	400,000
Wayne County Academy, Alpha, KY for a substance abuse counseling program	200,000
WestCare Kentucky, Ashcamp, KY for a substance abuse treatment and voucher program	700,000

Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

The conference agreement includes $197,675,000 for substance abuse prevention programs of regional and national significance instead of $194,502,000 as proposed by the House and $197,108,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the funds provided for substance abuse prevention programs of regional and national significance, the conference agreement includes $5,500,000 to carry out programs authorized by the Sober Truth on Preventing (STOP) Underage Drinking Act, of which:

$1,000,000 is for the Advertising Council's underage drinking campaign as proposed by both the House and Senate;

$4,000,000 is for community-based coalition enhancement grants instead of $5,000,000 as proposed by the House and $3,000,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$500,000 is for the Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking instead of $1,000,000 as proposed by the House—the Senate did not propose similar language.

The conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Eagle Butte, SD, for a methamphetamine prevention program	400,000
Clinton County Office of District Attorney, Lock Haven, PA, for substance abuse prevention programs	90,000
Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, New Haven, CT to support innovative multi-disciplinary intervention programs serving children and families exposed to violence and trauma	500,000
Community Health Center on the Big Island of Hawaii	100,000
Fighting Back Partnership, Vallejo, CA for an intervention program targeting elementary and high school students who are at risk for substance abuse and misuse	250,000
Institute for Research, Education and Training in Addictions (IRETA), Pittsburgh, PA, for substance abuse prevention programs	90,000
Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Families, Oakland, CA for integrated HIV/AIDS and substance abuse prevention with African American women and teenagers	150,000
Iowa Office of Drug Control Policy, Des Moines, IA, to educate parents about drug use by teenagers	100,000
Municipality of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for methamphetamine education project in Alaska	400,000
Operation SafeHouse, Riverside, CA for a substance abuse prevention program	100,000
Seton Hill University, Greensburg, PA, for substance abuse prevention programs	90,000
Shiloh Economic Development Center, Bryan, TX for a substance abuse prevention program	150,000
South Boston Community Health Center, South Boston, MA for substance abuse prevention services	150,000
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Fort Yates, ND, for a methamphetamine prevention program	400,000
Tanana Chiefs Conference, Fairbanks, AK, for the Ch'eghutsen Children's Mental Health Program in Interior Alaska	500,000
The Partnership for a Drug-Free America, New York, NY for educational awareness programs on prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse	250,000
YMCA of the East Bay, Richmond, CA for substance abuse prevention activities	100,000

Program Management

The conference agreement includes a program level total of $96,719,000 for program management, of which $19,750,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside. The House proposed $92,721,000 for program management, of which $16,000,000 was proposed through the evaluation set-aside and the Senate proposed $98,719,000, of which $21,750,000 was proposed through the evaluation set-aside.

Within the evaluation set-aside for program management, the conference agreement includes an additional $2,000,000 for the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, rather than an additional $4,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language.

Also within the evaluation set-aside for program management, the conference agreement includes $1,500,000, as proposed by the Senate, to include mental health questions in CDC's National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and to carry out studies necessary to ensure the validity and reliability of the NHIS data.

AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

The conference agreement includes a program level of $334,564,000 for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) instead of $329,564,000 as proposed by the House and Senate. The agreement makes these funds fully available through the policy evaluation set-aside. The House proposed providing $282,500,000 of the total for AHRQ through budget authority and $47,064,000 through the evaluation set-aside. The Senate proposed providing $329,564,000 entirely through budget authority. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

Within the funds provided, the conference agreement includes $30,000,000 for the comparative effectiveness health care research program as proposed by both the House and Senate. Also within the funds provided, $5,000,000 is for activities to reduce infections for methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus and related infections as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include similar language.

The conferees encourage AHRQ to look favorably on proposals that would proactively detect medical errors and preemptively control injury via compact medical devices that acquire, analyze and filter data from multiple, disparate, wireless and wired sources.

The conferees encourage AHRQ to investigate the feasibility of an open-source, no-cost license computer model capable of predicting the effects of health care policy alternatives for the purpose of improving health care quality and cost-effectiveness. The model should be developed with a consortium of university partners and be capable of predicting costs and health impacts.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

GRANTS TO STATES FOR MEDICAID

The conference agreement provides $141,628,056,000 for grants to States for Medicaid as proposed by the Senate instead of $141,630,056,000 as proposed by the House. Within this total, $2,761,957,000 is provided for the Vaccine for Children program as proposed by the Senate instead of $2,763,957,000 as proposed by the House.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The conference agreement includes $3,276,502,000 for program management instead of $3,230,163,000 as proposed by the House and $3,248,088,000 as proposed by the Senate. An additional appropriation of $720,000,000 has been provided for the Medicare Integrity Program through the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. Funds for individual CMS activities are displayed in the table at the end of the statement of managers. Funding levels that were in disagreement but not displayed on the table are discussed in this statement.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing $193,000,000, available through fiscal year 2009, for Medicare contracting reform activities. The House bill provided $163,800,000 for this activity; the Senate bill provided $253,775,000.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate providing the Secretary of HHS the authority to charge fees associated with the cost of conducting survey and certification revisits of health care facilities that receive Medicare reimbursement. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes bill language similar to that proposed by the Senate including $5,140,000 for the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Access Health, Inc., Muskegon, MI for a small business health coverage program	200,000
Bedford Ride, Bedford, VA for a program to assist seniors	70,000
Bi-State Primary Care Association, Concord, NH to treat uninsured patients	325,000
City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA for enhancements to the HIV/AIDS service delivery system in San Francisco	1,300,000
City of Detroit, MI for the Detroit Primary Care Access Project	350,000
City of Waterbury, CT for a health access program	200,000

Project	Total funding
Gadsden County, FL, Quincy, FL for a prescription assistance medical services program	100,000
Jefferson Area Board for Aging, Charlottesville, VA to address nursing assistant shortages in long-term care settings	100,000
Medicare Chronic Care Practice Research Network, Sioux Falls, SD, to evolve and continue the Medicare Coordinated Care Demonstration project	675,000
Mosaic, Des Moines, IA, for the Iowa Community Integration Project	300,000
Orange County's Primary Care Access Network, Orlando, FL for a health care access network	320,000
Piedmont Hospital, Atlanta, GA for a project regarding the transition of older patients from hospital to home	200,000
Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA for Project Access for the uninsured	200,000
University of Mississippi, University, MS, for the Medication Use and Outcomes Research Group	300,000
University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy, Chapel Hill, NC, to study the impact of a primary care practice model utilizing clinical pharmacist practitioners to improve the care of Medicare-eligible populations in NC	100,000
Valley Hospice, Inc., Steubenville, OH to develop best practices for hospices across the State	400,000

The conference agreement includes $36,990,000 for research, demonstration, and evaluation instead of $23,070,000 as proposed by the House and $35,325,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this total, the conference agreement includes $10,000,000 for Real Choice Systems Change Grants to States, as proposed by the Senate. The House bill did not include funding for this purpose.

The conference agreement provides $45,000,000 for the State Health Insurance Program as proposed by the House instead of $35,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement provides funds to support the National Center on Senior Benefits Outreach and Enrollment within the Administration on Aging rather than in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as proposed by the Senate. The House did not provide funding for this activity within CMS.

The conferees request the Government Accountability Office to submit a report to Congress by November 30, 2008 (1) assessing State efforts to reexamine health care delivery and expand access and (2) providing recommendations regarding the potential role of Congress in supporting State-based efforts. The Senate proposed a similar report in section 228 of H.R. 3043, as passed by the Senate. The House had no similar provision.

The conferees direct the Secretary of HHS to submit a report to the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act on workers' compensation set-asides under the Medicare secondary payer set-aside provisions under title XVIII of the Social Security Act. The Senate proposed a similar report in section 240 of H.R. 3043, as passed by the Senate. The House had no similar provision.

The conferees believe that the Secretary of HHS should maintain ''deemed status'' coverage under the Medicare program for clinical trials that are Federally funded or reviewed, as provided for by the Executive Memorandum of June 2000. The Senate expressed a similar view in section 241 of H.R. 3043, as passed by the Senate. The House had no similar provision.

The conferees direct CMS to include in the next publication of ''Medicare & You'' information regarding: (1) the importance of writing and updating advance directives and living wills; and (2) access to laboratory findings and medical records and encouraging patients to be more proactive in asking for copies of these important pieces of health information.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides $383,000,000, to be available until expended, from the Medicare trust funds for health care fraud and abuse control, as proposed by the Senate. The House proposed the same level of funding but with one-year availability. Within this total, the conference agreement provides a different allocation of funding between activities than that provided by the House or the Senate. The agreement provides $284,620,000 for CMS program integrity activities, including activities authorized under the Medicare Integrity Program and $35,000,000 for Medicaid anti-fraud activities. The House and Senate had provided $288,480,000 for the Medicare Integrity Program. The HHS Office of the Secretary is provided $25,000,000 in the conference agreement rather than $21,140,000 as proposed by the House and Senate. Funding for Medicaid program integrity activities was not included in either the House or Senate bill.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The conference agreement includes $2,411,585,000 for low-income home energy assistance instead of $2,662,000,000 as proposed by the House and $2,161,170,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the amount provided, $1,980,000,000 is provided for formula grants to States as proposed by both the House and Senate, and $431,585,000 is provided for the contingency fund instead of $682,000,000 as proposed by the House and $181,170,000 as proposed by the Senate.

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

The conference agreement includes $652,394,000 for the refugee and entrant assistance programs instead of $650,630,000 as proposed by the House and $654,166,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

Within the total for refugee and entrant assistance, the conference agreement includes $9,814,000, as proposed by the House, for victims of trafficking instead of $9,823,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees concur with both the House and Senate and do not include bill language that would expand the program to include domestic victims of trafficking.

Within the total for refugee and entrant assistance, the conference agreement includes $154,005,000 for social services as proposed by both the House and Senate. Included within this amount, $19,000,000 is for support to communities with large concentrations of Cuban and Haitian entrants as proposed by the House. The Senate did not include similar language.

Within the total for refugee and entrant assistance, the conference agreement includes $131,399,000 for the unaccompanied minors program instead of $129,635,000 as proposed by the House and $133,162,000 as proposed by the Senate. As proposed by both the House and Senate, the conference agreement does not include funds for expanded background checks. After addressing increased shelter and medical costs, the conferees direct ORR to use the increase provided for the unaccompanied minors program to expand the pro bono legal services initiative, as proposed by both the House and Senate.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The conference agreement includes $2,094,581,000 for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, instead of $2,137,081,000 as proposed by the House bill and $2,062,081,000 as proposed by the Senate bill. The bill designates $982,080 for the Child Care Aware toll-free hotline; this provision was included in the House bill. The Senate bill included funds for this purpose but did not name the entity.

The conference agreement also includes bill language specifying $5,000,000 for the Small Business Child Care program. The Senate bill provided these funds in a general provision. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

The conference agreement includes bill language allowing States to transfer up to 10 percent of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to the Social Services Block Grant. his provision was not included in either the House or the Senate bill.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes $9,231,195,000 for Children and Families Services Programs, of which $10,500,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside. The House bill proposed $9,157,440,000 for these programs and the Senate proposed $9,223,832,000. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

Head Start

The conference agreement includes $7,042,196,000 for Head Start, instead of $6,963,571,000 as proposed by the House and $7,088,571,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement includes $1,388,800,000 in advance funding.

Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Program

The conference agreement includes $100,337,000 for the Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, instead of $97,837,000 as proposed by the House and $102,837,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Prevention Grants to Reduce Abuse of Runaway Youth

The conference agreement includes $17,527,000 for prevention grants to reduce abuse of runaway youth, instead of $15,027,000 as proposed by the House and $20,027,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Child Abuse State Grants and Discretionary Activities

The conference agreement includes $65,033,000 for Child Abuse State Grants and child abuse discretionary programs, instead of $63,840,000 as proposed by the House and $64,745,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Included in this amount is $27,007,000 for State grants, as proposed by both the House and the Senate. Within the amount provided for State grants, the conferees include $10,000,000 for a home visitation initiative to support competitive grants to States to encourage investment of existing funding streams into evidence-based home visitation models. The conferees expect that the Administration for Children and Families will ensure that States use the funds to support models that have been shown, in well-designed randomized controlled trials, to produce sizeable, sustained effects on important child outcomes such as abuse and neglect. The conferees also recommend that the funds support activities to assist a range of home visitation programs to replicate the techniques that have met these high evidentiary standards. In carrying out this new initiative, the conferees instruct the Department to adhere closely to evidence-based

models of home visitation and not to incorporate any additional initiatives that have not met these high evidentiary standards or might otherwise dilute the emphasis on home visitation.

For child abuse discretionary activities, the conference agreement provides $38,026,000, instead of $36,833,000 as proposed by the House and $37,738,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the funds provided for child abuse discretionary activities, the conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Boys and Girls Town of Missouri, St. James, MO, to expand services to abused and neglected children	423,000
Catholic Community Services of Juneau, Juneau, AK, to continue operations at its Family Resource Center for child abuse prevention and treatment in Juneau, Alaska	400,000
Children Uniting Nations, Los Angeles, CA for a foster child mentoring program in Los Angeles	300,000
Darkness to Light, Charleston, SC, to expand and disseminate the Stewards of Children program in consultation with the CARE House of Dayton, OH	300,000
Jefferson County, Golden, CO for child abuse prevention and treatment programs	100,000
New York Center for Children, New York, NY for comprehensive support and services to abused children and their families	175,000
Shelter for Abused Women, Winchester, VA to enhance community efforts to address domestic violence	100,000
Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Williamsport, PA, for abused and neglected children's CASA programs	90,000

Adoption Incentives

The conference report includes $4,400,000 for the Adoption Incentive Program, rather than $9,500,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The decrease reflects available carry-over from the previous fiscal year, due to the fact that bonus amounts earned by the States have fallen significantly, causing the Department to revise its estimate of funds needed to pay incentives earned by the States in fiscal year 2007.

Adoption Awareness

The conference agreement includes $13,674,000 for the Adoption Awareness Program, instead of $14,674,000 as proposed by the House and $12,674,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conferees expect that the increase of $1,000,000 will be used for infant adoption awareness, bringing the total available for this activity to $10,728,000. The remaining $2,946,000 is recommended for the special needs adoption campaign.

Compassion Capital Fund

The conference agreement includes $53,625,000 for the Compassion Capital Fund as proposed by the Senate, instead of $64,350,000 as proposed by the House.

Social Services and Income Maintenance Research

The conference agreement includes $21,898,000 for social services and income maintenance research, of which $6,000,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside. The House proposed $14,635,000 for this program, of which $6,000,000 was funded through the evaluation set-aside and the Senate proposed $11,825,000, of which $6,000,000 was from the evaluation set-aside.

Within the funds provided for social services research, the conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
A+ For Abstinence, Waynesboro, PA, for abstinence education and related services	25,425
Abyssinian Development Corporation, New York, NY, to support and expand youth and family displacement prevention programs	150,000
Alaska Children's Services, Anchorage, AK, for its program to serve low income youth in Anchorage, Alaska	250,000
Alaska Statewide Independent Living Council, Inc., Anchorage, AK, to continue and expand the Personal Care Attendant Program and to expand outreach efforts to the disabled living in rural Alaska	200,000
Anna Maria College, Paxton, MA, for program development at the Molly Bish Center for the Protection of Children and the Elderly	85,000
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia, MN for the Family-to-Family community based mentoring program to assist low-income families	300,000
Augusta Levy Learning Center, Wheeling, WV for services to children with Autism	100,000
Beth El House, Alexandria, VA for social services and transitional housing for formerly homeless women and their children	75,000
Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA	175,000
Catholic Family Center, Rochester, NY, for the Kinship Caregiver Resource Network	250,000
Catholic Social Services, Wilkes-Barre, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Tacoma, WA, for a child care quality initiative	900,000
Children's Home Society of Idaho, Boise, ID, for the Bridge Project to place Idaho children-in-care in foster care	225,000
Children's Home Society of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD for services related to domestic violence, child abuse, and neglect	300,000
Christian Outreach of Lutherans, Waukegan, IL for Latino leadership development in underserved areas	125,000
City of Chester, Bureau of Health, Chester, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000
City of Detroit, MI for an Individual Development Account initiative	400,000
City of Fort Worth, TX for programming at neighborhood-based early childhood resource centers	200,000
City of San Jose, CA for its Services for New Americans program, including assistance with job seeking skills, citizenship, family safety and resettlement	200,000
Cliff Hagan Boys and Girls Club—Mike Horn Unit, Owensboro, KY for purchase of equipment	175,000
Communities In Schools, Bell-Coryell Counties, Inc., Killeen, TX for youth counseling services	260,000
Community Partnership for Children, Inc., Silver City, NM, for a child care quality initiative	170,000
Community Services for Children, Inc., Allentown, PA, for early childhood development services	90,000
Connecticut Council of Family Service Agencies, Wethersfield, CT, for the Empowering People for Success initiative	340,000
Covenant House Florida, Ft. Lauderdale, FL for a program for pregnant and parenting teens and young adults	200,000
Crisis Nursery of the Ozarks, Springfield, MO for a child abuse prevention program	245,350
Crozer Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000
Eisner Pediatric and Family Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA for the Parent-Child Home Program	125,000
Every Citizen Has Opportunities, Inc., Leesburg, VA for services to disabled individuals	250,000
Family Center of Washington County, Montpelier, VT for childcare and related services	500,000
Family Service & Childrens Aid Society, Oil City, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000
Fathers and Families Center, Indianapolis, IN	80,000
First 5 Alameda County, San Leandro, CA for development and support of postsecondary early childhood education and training programs, which may include student scholarships	275,000
Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children, West Chester, PA, for programs to provide safe, secure housing for children through an emergency shelter for families, transitional housing, specialized foster care and adoption programs	90,000
Friendship Circle of the South Bay, Redondo Beach, CA for services for children with developmental disabilities	465,000
Greater New Britain Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Inc., New Britain, CT for the Pathways/Senderos Center for education and outreach	125,000
Guidance Center, Ridgeway, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000
Hamilton-Madison House, New York, NY for services and equipment for a social services program	100,000
Healthy Learners Dillon, Columbia, SC for social services for economically disadvantaged children	200,000
Heart Beat, Millerstown, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
Helping Children Worldwide, Herndon, VA to assist students and families	250,000
Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, Minneapolis, MN for the Family Healing and Restoration Network Project	425,000
Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY for the Hillside Children's Center for adoption services	100,000
Hope Village for Children, Meridian, MS for a program to assist foster children	215,000
Horizons for Homeless Children, Boston, MA for Playspace Programs for homeless children in the 7th Congressional District	75,000
Horizons for Homeless Children, Boston, MA to continue and expand the Playspace program	160,000
Keystone Central School District, Mill Hall, PA, for abstinence education and related services	33,900
Keystone Economic Development Corporation, Johnstown, PA, for abstinence education and related services	33,900
Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY for the New American's Center	190,000
L.I.F.T. Women's Resource Center, Detroit, MI for services to improve self-sufficiency and life skills of women transitioning from substance abuse, domestic violence, or homelessness	100,000
LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	47,000
Lawrence County Social Services, New Castle, PA for early childhood, parental training, and life skills programs	125,000
Lutheran Social Services, Duluth, MN for services to runaway, homeless, and other at-risk youth and their families	400,000
Marcus Institute, Atlanta, GA for services for children and adolescents with developmental disabilities and severe and challenging behaviors	400,000
Mary's Family, Orlean, VA to develop a respite program for Winchester-area special needs families	100,000
Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, NC, for a program to combat domestic violence	200,000
Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, for abstinence education and related services	47,000
Missouri Bootheel Regional Consortium, Portageville, MO for the Fatherhood First program	350,000
Monterey County Probation Department, Salinas, CA for the Silver Star gang prevention and intervention program	450,000
My Choice, Inc., Athens, PA, for abstinence education and related services	22,000
Nashua Adult Learning Center, Nashua, NH for a Family Resource Center	100,000
National Energy Assistance Directors' Association, Washington, DC for research and information dissemination related to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program	200,000
Neighborhood United Against Drugs, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
Network for Instructional TV, Inc., Reston, VA for a training program for child care providers	50,000
New Brighton School District, New Brighton, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000
Northeast Guidance Center, Detroit, MI, Detroit, MI, for the Family Life Center project	210,000
Northwest Family Services, Alva, OK, to establish behavioral health services and family counseling programs	85,625
Nueva Esperanza, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000
Nurses for Newborns Foundation, St. Louis, MO for nurse home visiting program	475,000
Organization of the NorthEast, Chicago, IL for development of a local homeless services continuum	80,000
Our Piece of the Pie, Hartford, CT, for social outreach services to grandparents raising teenagers	210,000

Project	Total funding
Partners for Healthier Tomorrows, Ephrata, PA, for abstinence education and related services	22,000
Pediatric Interim Care Center, Kent, WA for the Drug-Exposed Infants Outreach and Education program	150,000
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Harrisburg, PA, for domestic violence programs	90,000
Positively Kids, Las Vegas, NV, to create a program to provide home, respite, and medical day care for severely-disabled children	100,000
Progressive Believers Ministry, Wynmoor, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000
Public Health Department, Solano County, Fairfield, CA for a program to support pregnant women and new mothers	100,000
Real Commitment, Gettysburg, PA, for abstinence education and related services	47,000
School District of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
Sephardic Bikur Holim of Monmouth County, Deal, NJ for social services programs	140,000
Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network, San Jose, CA for assistance to immigrants seeking citizenship	100,000
Shepherd's Maternity House, Inc., East Stroudsburg, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL for the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders	240,000
Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX for coordination of family and child services	300,000
Susan Wesley Family Learning Center, East Prairie, MO for programs to assist at-risk youth and their families	100,000
TLC for Children and Families, Inc., Olathe, KS for a transitional living program for at-risk and homeless youth	320,000
Tuscarora Intermediate Unit, McVeytown, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
United Way Southeastern Michigan, Detroit, MI for the Communities of Early Learning initiative	300,000
University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO for the treatment of autism spectrum disorders	300,000
Urban Family Council, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	67,800
Visitation Home, Inc., Yardville, NJ for programs to assist developmentally disabled residents	100,000
Washington Hospital Teen Outreach, Washington, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
Women's Care Center of Erie County, Inc., Erie, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
York County Human Life Services, York, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000
YWCA of Greater Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA for a project providing coordinated assistance to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence	100,000

Developmental Disabilities

Within developmental disabilities programs, the conference agreement includes $77,271,000 for State Councils on Developmental Disabilities, as proposed by the Senate instead of $76,771,000 as proposed by the House. For protection and advocacy services, the conferees include $41,718,000, instead of $38,718,000 as proposed by the House and $42,718,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $18,820,000 for voting access for individuals with disabilities, instead of $36,720,000 as proposed by the House and $16,720,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the funds provided, $12,920,000 is for payments to States to promote access for voters with disabilities and $5,900,000 is for State protection and advocacy systems. The House proposed $25,890,000 and $10,830,000 respectively for these two activities, while the Senate proposed $11,390,000 and $5,330,000.

For developmental disabilities projects of national significance, the conference agreement includes $14,414,000, instead of $11,414,000 as proposed by the House and $15,414,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, $2,000,000 is provided for a National Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Center, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include similar language.

For University Centers for Excellence, the conference agreement includes $37,613,000, instead of $33,213,000 as proposed by the House and $38,713,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Native Americans

The conference agreement includes $48,332,000 for Native American programs, instead of $47,332,000 as proposed by the House and $49,332,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this total, $4,000,000 is included for Native language immersion and other revitalization programs, instead of $3,000,000 as proposed by the House and $5,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Community Services

The conference agreement includes $665,425,000 for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), instead of $660,425,000 as proposed by the House and $670,425,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement makes a technical correction in bill language, as proposed by the House, to reflect a total for the programs authorized under the CSBG Act. Additional programs in this account are funded under other authorities.

For community economic development, the conference agreement includes $32,700,000 as proposed by the House, instead of $27,022,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Domestic Violence Hotline

The conference agreement includes $3,085,000 for the National Domestic Violence Hotline, instead of $2,970,000 as proposed by the House and $3,200,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Battered Women's Shelters

The conference agreement includes $130,866,000 for battered women's shelters and family violence prevention services, instead of $134,731,000 as proposed by the House and $127,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Abstinence Education

The conference agreement includes $141,164,000 for community-based abstinence education as proposed by the House, instead of $84,916,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, $4,500,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside.

The Conference report includes a provision, proposed by the House regarding the definition of abstinence education contained in section 510(b)(2) of the Social Security Act. Also included is language, proposed by the House, precluding grantees who receive funding under this section from discussing with adolescents any other education regarding sexual conduct in the same setting as abstinence education. The Senate contained no similar provisions.

The conferees direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to require that each applicant for financial assistance under the abstinence education program certify that all materials proposed in the application and funded during the project period of the grant are medically accurate, and direct that a panel of medical experts shall review such grant applications and assess whether the materials proposed are medically accurate, as proposed by the House. Bill language concerning scientific accuracy, as proposed by the Senate, is not included.

The conference agreement also provides that up to $10,000,000 may be used to carry out a national abstinence education campaign as proposed by the House. The Senate contained no similar provision.

Program Direction

The conference agreement includes $191,025,000 for program direction, instead of $187,776,000 as proposed by the House and $197,225,000 as proposed by the Senate. This amount does not include the additional request for $6,200,000 for improper payments activities as proposed by the Senate.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE

The conference agreement includes $5,067,000,000 for Payments to States for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, the same level as the Senate bill instead of $5,082,000,000 as proposed by the House bill.

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

AGING SERVICES PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes $1,446,651,000 for aging services programs instead of $1,417,189,000 as proposed by the House and $1,451,585,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes bill language designating $5,500,000 for medication management, screening, and education to prevent incorrect medication and adverse drug reactions as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose similar language. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $357,595,000 for supportive services and centers, as proposed by the House, instead of $355,595,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $21,000,000 for activities for the protection of vulnerable older Americans instead of $20,156,000 as proposed by the House and $21,156,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included within this total, $15,854,000 is for the ombudsman services program instead of $16,010,000 as proposed by the Senate and $5,146,000 is for the prevention of elder abuse program as proposed by the Senate. The House did not propose specific funding amounts for these programs.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $158,167,000 for the family caregivers program instead of $156,167,000 as proposed by the House and $159,167,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $771,481,000 for nutrition programs instead of $758,599,000 as proposed by the House and $775,570,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the funding level for nutrition services, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$418,019,000 for congregate meals instead of $411,692,000 as proposed by the House and $419,519,000 as proposed by the Senate;

$197,305,000 for home delivered meals instead of $194,337,000 as proposed by the House and $198,805,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$156,157,000 for the nutrition services incentives program instead of $152,570,000 as proposed by the House and $157,246,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $27,376,000 for grants for Native Americans instead of $26,918,000 as proposed by the House and $27,834,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $15,094,000 for program innovations instead of $10,240,000 as proposed by the House and $11,420,000 as proposed by the Senate. Funding is provided at no less than the fiscal year 2007 levels for national programs scheduled to be refunded in fiscal year 2008. Also within the funding for program innovations, the conference agreement includes $1,000,000 to continue the Alzheimer's disease

24-hour call center as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include similar language.

The conferees encourage the Administration on Aging to allocate funding for a national program of statewide Senior Legal Hotlines (also called Senior Legal Helplines) at a minimum at their current levels and ideally to provide an increase in the number of States in which these services are available for seniors. Statewide Senior Legal Hotlines/Helplines provide free, legal advice, information, referrals and a variety of additional services to older Americans over 60, enabling more seniors to maintain healthy, independent lives, free from the threats of poverty, exploitation or abuse.

The Conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, Denver, CO for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	300,000
Amalgamated Warbasse Houses, Inc., Brooklyn, NY for a demonstration project focusing on supportive service programs in naturally occurring retirement communities	250,000
California Senior Legal Hotline, Sacramento, CA for a demonstration project to increase services to non-English-speaking seniors	80,000
Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, Madison, WI, to conduct outreach and education for law enforcement and financial industry on financial elder abuse	170,000
Disability Rights Wisconsin, Madison, WI, for nursing home support services	155,000
Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation, Durham, NC for a demonstration program to improve assistance to family caregivers	130,000
Good Samaritan Village of Hastings, Sioux Falls, SD, for the continuation of the Sensor Technology Project for Senior Independent Living and Home Health	100,000
Howard Brown Health Center, Chicago, IL for the Chicago Elder Project	400,000
Jewish Community Services of South Florida, North Miami, FL for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	125,000
Jewish Family & Child Services, Portland, Oregon, for seniors programs and services at a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	84,700
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities demonstration project	90,000
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis, Minnetonka, MN for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	200,000
Jewish Family Service of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	300,000
Jewish Family Service, Los Angeles, CA for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project in Park La Brea and the San Fernando Valley	350,000
Jewish Family Services of Delaware, Inc., Wilmington, DE for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	300,000
Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey, Scotch Plains, NJ for the naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	300,000
Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, Atlanta, GA, for a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	84,300
Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN for a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	630,000
Jewish Federation of Greater Monmouth County, NJ for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	300,000
Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, Woodbridge, CT to develop, test, evaluate, and disseminate an innovative community-based approach to caregiver support services	150,000
Jewish Federation of Las Vegas, NV for the Las Vegas Senior Lifeline Program	600,000
Jewish Federation of Middlesex County, South River, NJ for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	250,000
Jewish Social Service Agency, Fairfax, VA for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	150,000
Nevada Rural Counties RSVP, Carson City, NV, to provide home services to seniors in rural areas	100,000
Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging, Front Royal, VA for a model group respite center for persons with Alzheimer's disease and dementia	150,000
UJA Federation of Northern NJ, River Edge, NJ, for a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	170,000
United Jewish Communities of MetroWest, NJ, Parsippany, NJ for the Lifelong Involvement for Vital Elders Aging in Place initiative	500,000
United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities demonstration project	90,000
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL for a technology demonstration project to assist seniors	100,000

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $37,901,000 for aging network support activities instead of $29,633,000 as proposed by the House and $42,651,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the funding level for aging network support activities, the conference agreement includes the following amounts:

$1,676,000, as proposed by the Senate, for the pension counseling and information program in order to expand the number of regional counseling projects from five to six—the House did not specify a funding level for this program;

$22,250,000 for the choices for independence initiative instead of $16,500,000 as proposed by the House and $28,000,000 as proposed by the Senate; and,

$2,000,000 for the establishment of a National Center on Senior Benefits Outreach and Enrollment instead of $1,000,000 as proposed by the Senate—the House did not include funding for this program.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes $18,541,000 for program administration instead of $18,385,000 as proposed by the House and $18,696,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes $392,921,000 for General Departmental Management instead of $348,075,000 as proposed by the House and $404,237,000 as proposed by the Senate, including $5,851,000 from Medicare trust funds, which was provided by both the House and Senate. In addition, $46,756,000 in program evaluation funding is provided, which was proposed by both the House and Senate.

The conference agreement does not provide funds, as proposed by the House, to establish a new discretionary fund for the Secretary. The Senate provided $4,000,000 for this purpose.

The conference agreement includes $5,500,000 for a Health Diplomacy Initiative including bill language specifying that these funds may be used to carry out health diplomacy activities such as health training, services, education, and program evaluation, provided directly, through grants, or through contracts. The Senate bill designated $9,500,000 for thisinitiative, while the House bill did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement includes $500,000 for a feasibility study for a National Registry of Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse or Neglect, as described in section 633(g) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection Act. The agreement does not include bill language designating this amount for this purpose as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include bill language designating $2,000,000 for dental workforce programs within this account as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include a similar provision. The conferees have instead provided funding for these activities within the Allied Health and Other Disciplines program within the Health Resources and Services Administration.

The conference agreement provides $1,000,000 for the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) as proposed by the Senate. The House recommended funds for the IACC but did not specify an amount. The agreement includes bill language not included in either House or Senate bills specifying that these funds shall be transferred to the National Institute of Mental Health.

The Conference agreement includes $22,627,000 for the transformation of the Commissioned Corps instead of $19,157,000 proposed by the House and $30,000,000 proposed by the Senate.

The conferees concur that not more than the fiscal year 2007 funding level shall be available for the Office of Legislative Affairs.

The conferees concur that the conference agreement includes sufficient funds to continue support of the national and multiple area poverty centers at no less than the fiscal year 2007 level.

Within the funds provided for General Departmental Management, the conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Alma Family Services, Monterey Park, CA to increase access to culturally competent health information to minority populations, which may include the purchase of a fully equipped mobile computer lab/resource unit	75,000
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital, New York, NY for demonstration project to increase access to health care for low-income minority men in South and Central Bronx	400,000
Community Health Partnership, Santa Clara, CA for its Healthy Women, Healthy Choices project to provide comprehensive health education to underserved women	200,000
Community Transportation Association of America, Washington, DC, for technical assistance to human services transportation providers on ADA requirements	850,000
Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ for its Latino Healthcare Initiative	90,000
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, LA for a health literacy program	250,000
Marymount University, Arlington, VA for a project to provide health screenings, referrals and health education at a nurse managed health center for minority populations	70,000
Nassau University Medical Centers, East Meadow, NY for a minority health institute	320,000
National Hispanic Medical Association, Washington, DC for a Hispanic health portal to provide online health education materials	500,000
Palmer College on Chiropractic, Consortial Center for Chiropractic Research in Davenport, Iowa, and the Policy Institute for Integrative Medicine in Philadelphia, PA for a best practices initiative on lower back pain	325,000
Prince George's County, Upper Marlboro, MD for a media campaign for pregnant women about health insurance for prenatal care	140,000
St. Luke's Community Free Clinic, Front Royal, VA for activities focused on adult hypertension and dental care	350,000
Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA for a demonstration project to increase care for non-English-speaking patients	90,000

The conference agreement includes $2,000,000 for the Lifespan Respite Care Act instead of $10,000,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not provide funds for this purpose.

The conference agreement includes $49,620,000 for the Office of Minority Health instead of $49,284,000 as proposed by the House and $49,475,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees include additional resources over the request to expand the number of participating institutions in the New Minority Males Consortium, Inc., as well as to enhance the resources received by each of the institutions to increase their activities

and to conduct the national comparative study of the incidence of certain health conditions and diseases among minority males.

The conferees are encouraged by the progress that the Office of Minority Health made in fiscal year 2007 on the multi-year effort to address health disparities issues in the gulf coast region, and looks forward to further progress in this area in fiscal year 2008.

Within the funds provided for the Office of Minority Health, the conference agreement includes the following project in the following amount:

Project	Total Funding
Saint Francis Hospital, Wilmington, DE, to expand prenatal, maternity, pediatric, and other primary care services to indigent populations	590,000

The conference agreement includes $31,585,000 for the Office of Women's Health (OWH) instead of $28,800,000 proposed by the House and $30,369,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have provided sufficient funds for OWH to work with the advocacy community to develop and implement a sustained lupus awareness and education campaign aimed at reaching health care professionals and the general public with an emphasis on reaching women at greatest risk for developing lupus. The agreement also includes $1,000,000 for the Institute of Medicine to conduct a comprehensive review of the status of women's health research, summarize what has been learned about how diseases specifically affect women, and report to the Congress on suggestions for the direction of future research.

With regard to Minority HIV/AIDS, the conferees expect that activities that are targeted to address the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic and its disproportionate impact upon communities of color, including African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, will be supported at no less than last year's funding level.

The conference agreement includes $4,000,000 for the Embryo Adoption Awareness Campaign as proposed by the Senate instead of $1,980,000 as proposed by the House. The agreement includes bill language as proposed by the Senate permitting these funds to be used to provide, to individuals adopting embryos, through grants or other mechanisms, medical and administrative services deemed necessary for such adoptions consistent with 42 CFR 59.5(a)(4).

The conference agreement includes bill language proposed by the Senate to direct that specific information requests from the chairmen and ranking members of the Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, on scientific research or any other matter, be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations in a prompt, professional manner and within the time frame specified in the request. In addition, the agreement includes a modification to the language proposed by the Senate to include scientific information provided in congressional testimony requested by the Committees on Appropriations and prepared by government researchers and scientists be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations, uncensored and without delay. The House did not include a similar provision.

OFFICE OF MEDICARE HEARINGS AND APPEALS

The conference agreement includes $67,500,000 for this activity instead of $65,000,000 as proposed by the House and $70,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The conference agreement includes $66,151,000 for this activity, of which $27,651,000 is provided in budget authority and $38,500,000 is made available through the Public Health Service program evaluation tap. The House provided a combined total of $61,302,000 for this activity; the Senate provided a combined total of $71,000,000. The conferees encourage the Department to develop an interoperability standard, tool set, and validation protocol that facilitates seamless medical device information sharing and device connectivity.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The conference agreement includes $45,187,000 for the Office of Inspector General instead of $44,687,000 as proposed by the House and $45,687,000 as proposed by the Senate.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes $1,505,509,000 for the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) instead of $1,705,382,000 as proposed by the House and $1,729,556,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language designating $741,586,000 to support activities related to countering potential biological, disease, nuclear, radiological and chemical threats to civilian populations and for other public health emergencies instead of $757,291,000 as proposed by the House and $786,556,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees concur with the House and provide funding for World Trade Center treatment and monitoring within the CDC appropriation and not the PHSSEF account as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide a comprehensive Federal plan, as proposed by the House, for monitoring, screening, analysis, and medical treatment for all individuals who were exposed to the toxins at the World Trade Center site. The conference agreement expands the World Trade Center monitoring and treatment program administered by NIOSH to residents, students, and others, therefore the plan also should address how HHS intends to implement this expansion.

The conferees concur with the House and do not include funding for Security Coordination and Improvement or Healthcare Provider Credentialing within the programs funded through PHSSEF administered by the Office of the Secretary. The Senate proposed $3,300,000 for Healthcare Provider Credentialing.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response

The conference agreement includes $720,806,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) instead of $738,909,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not propose a funding level for ASPR in total, but did propose funding for specific activities within the office. The conference agreement includes bill language designating $22,363,000 for BioShield management as proposed by the House instead of $22,338,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for ASPR, the conference agreement includes $50,000,000 for the National Disaster Medical System instead of $53,000,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate.

Within the total for ASPR, the conference agreement includes $444,241,000 for the hospital preparedness cooperative agreement grants program instead of $450,991,000 as proposed by the House and $438,843,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees concur with the House and do not include funds for a surge capacity demonstration program. The Senate proposed $25,000,000 for this demonstration program. Additionally, the conference agreement does not include funding for a partnership grant program.

Within the total for ASPR, the conference agreement includes $149,250,000 for advanced research and development instead of $139,500,000 as proposed by the House and $189,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Cyber-Security

Within the PHSSEF total, the conference agreement includes $9,064,000 for an information technology cyber-security program administered by the Office of the Chief Information Officer as proposed by the House instead of $9,482,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Medical Reserve Corps

Within the PHSSEF total, the conference agreement includes $11,716,000 for the medical reserve corps administered by the Office of Public Health and Science instead of $9,318,000 as proposed by the House and $14,113,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Office of the Secretary—Pandemic Influenza Preparedness

The conference agreement includes bill language designating $763,923,000 to prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic instead of $948,091,000 as proposed by the House and $888,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of this amount, the conference agreement provides $685,832,000 to be available until expended instead of $870,000,000 as proposed by the House and $652,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes bill language as proposed by the House, that funds appropriated for pandemic influenza may be transferred to other appropriations accounts of the Department of Health and Human Services. The Senate proposed similar language.

Within the total for pandemic influenza preparedness, the conference agreement includes $78,091,000, as proposed by the House, for ongoing activities instead of $78,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees continue to support the Department's pandemic influenza preparedness activities and note that approximately $1,800,000,000 remains available to be obligated from funds provided in prior appropriations for pandemic influenza preparedness. The conferees understand that HHS plans to use a portion of the prior appropriations to purchase additional doses of antivirals for the Federal stockpile rather than waiting for the fiscal year 2008 appropriation, which included as part of that request, $248,000,000 for antiviral purchases. Due to the large unobligated balance for vaccine development and other activities and the plans to use prior year funds instead of fiscal year 2008 funds for antiviral purchase, the conferees are providing less funding than was requested by the Administration.

The conferees concur with the House and provide the ongoing pandemic preparedness activities of the CDC within the CDC appropriation. The Senate proposed to fund CDC pandemic flu activities in PHSSEF to be transferred to CDC within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

COVERED COUNTERMEASURE PROCESS FUND

The conferees concur with the Senate and do not provide an appropriation for the Covered Countermeasure Process Fund. The House proposed $5,000,000 for this program.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ONE PERCENT TRANSFER AUTHORITY

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes a general provision similar to that proposed by the Senate providing the Secretary of HHS with the authority to transfer up to 1 percent of discretionary funds between a program, project, or activity, but no such program, project or activity shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer. This transfer is available only to meet emergency needs. The Committees are to be notified 15 days in advance of any transfer. The House bill included a similar provision, but allowed the authority to transfer between appropriations for unanticipated needs.

COUNCIL ON GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate allowing for the continued operation of the Council on Graduate Medical Education. The House bill contained no similar provision.

DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE AUTHORIZATION

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate creating the authority for HHS to award a grant to the Delta Health Alliance for research, educational programs, services, job training, and construction of health facilities. The House bill contained no similar provision.

THIMEROSAL IN INFLUENZA VACCINES

The conference agreement includes a requirement that, for the 2010-2011 influenza season, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) shall not make available any funds for the administration of any influenza vaccine containing thimerosal as a preservative for children under three years of age. The conferees are concerned that, in several surveys, parents have noted fear of vaccines containing thimerosal as a reason for not vaccinating their children against influenza. Although there is no peer-reviewed scientific evidence linking thimerosal in vaccines to neurodevelopmental disorders, the conferees are nonetheless troubled by low influenza vaccination coverage rates in this population. To improve public confidence in the safety of vaccines, the conference agreement also includes language requiring the Secretary to submit to Congress a plan to work proactively with influenza vaccine manufacturers to facilitate approval of additional vaccines for children under three years of age, to increase Federal purchases of thimerosal-free influenza vaccine, and to take any additional actions to increase the supply of thimerosal-free influenza vaccine.

By enacting this language the conferees do not intend to supersede the judgments of expert scientists and physicians. Additionally, the conferees concur with CDC and its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices that any person for whom the influenza vaccine is recommended receive any influenza immunization that is FDA-approved for use in that individual. By undertaking the current legislative action, the conferees do not intend to imply that vaccines containing thimerosal present more risk and thereby discourage citizens from availing themselves of such vaccines. Moreover, the conferees have granted the Secretary of HHS the authority to put aside the prohibition if the Secretary finds that thimerosal-free influenza vaccine supply is not sufficient to meet demand or a public health emergency occurs.

The House bill proposed prohibiting the use of funds provided in this Act to administer to children under three years of age an influenza vaccine containing thimerosal during the 2008-2009 influenza season. The Senate did not have a similar provision.

NIH RESEARCH TRAINING TRANSFER

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate restoring the authority to transfer one percent of the amounts made available for National Research Service Awards to the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The House bill contained no similar provision.

CDC OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate prohibiting funding for the CDC Ombudsman Program and certain equipment for the CDC fitness center. The House proposed a similar provision in title V of the bill.

NONRECURRING EXPENSES FUND

The conference agreement includes a general provision not in either the House or Senate bill establishing an HHS Nonrecurring Expenses Fund. The Fund is to be created from unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated for this or any succeeding fiscal year. The Fund may be used for capital acquisition purposes, including facilities and information technology infrastructure. Amounts may only be obligated 15 days after notification of the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

FEDERAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate allowing the Division of Federal Occupational Health to use personal services contracting. The House bill contained no similar provision. This authority has previously been provided on a permanent basis.

USE OF CDC AIRCRAFT

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate allowing the Secretary of HHS and HHS employees accompanying the Secretary to use the CDC aircraft. The House bill contained no similar provision.

CURRENT FEDERAL LAW ON ABORTION FUNDING

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate stating that nothing in the Act shall be construed to affect or otherwise modify provisions of current Federal law with respect to the funding of abortion. The House bill did not contain this restatement of current law.

EMERGENCY DEFIBRILLATORS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate setting aside $200,000 for a clearinghouse for schools regarding emergency defibrillators. Instead, this issue is addressed in HRSA report language. The House bill contained no similar provision.

TELEHEALTH PROGRAMS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate providing funding for telehealth programs, financed by an administrative reduction. The agreement provides funding for telehealth activities in the HRSA account. The House bill contained no similar provision.

GAO REPORT ON STATE HEALTH CARE ACCESS EFFORTS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate requiring the Comptroller General to provide a report to Congress on State health care reform efforts. Instead, the CMS report language contains a similar directive. The House bill contained no similar provision.

CDC STROKE AND HEART DISEASE

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would provide funding for CDC stroke and heart disease programs, financed by an administrative reduction. Funding for these programs is addressed in the CDC portion of the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

ADMINISTRATIVE REDUCTION

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would reduce administrative funding throughout the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

PATIENT NAVIGATOR OUTREACH

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would provide funding for patient navigator outreach activities, financed by an administrative reduction. Funding for this program is addressed in the HRSA portion of the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

TRAUMA CARE

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would provide funding for trauma care programs, financed by an administrative reduction. Funding for trauma care is addressed in the HRSA portion of the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

ALLIED HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAMS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would provide funding for allied health training programs, financed by an administrative cut. Funding for allied health is addressed in the HRSA portion of the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

HEMODIALYSIS CLINICAL TRIALS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would express the sense of the Senate regarding hemodialysis clinical trials supported by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. This issue is addressed in NIDDK report language. The House contained no similar provision.

SMALL BUSINESS CHILD CARE GRANT PROGRAM

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would fund a small business child care grant program, financed by an administrative reduction. Funding for this program is addressed in the ACF portion of the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

RYAN WHITE FUNDING FORMULAS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would prohibit Ryan White HIV/AIDS funds provided in the Act from being used to modify the formulas under title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act. The House contained no similar provision.

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING PROGRAMS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would provide funding for aging programs, financed by an administrative reduction. Funding for this program is addressed in the AoA portion of the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would provide funding for the National Violent Death Reporting System, financed by an administrative reduction. Funding for this program is addressed in the CDC portion of the bill. The House contained no similar provision.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION SET-ASIDES

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would require HHS to report on workers' compensation set-asides under the Medicare Secondary Payer program. This issue is

addressed in CMS report language. The House contained no similar provision.

DEEMED STATUS ON CLINICAL TRIALS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would express the sense of the Senate that HHS should maintain ''deemed status'' coverage under the Medicare program for Federally funded clinical trials. This issue is addressed in CMS report language. The House contained no similar provision.

NIOSH COAL PILLARS STUDY

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that would increase CDC funding, financed by an administrative reduction, and require NIOSH to conduct a study of the recovery of coal pillars and pillar mining practices. This issue is addressed in CDC report language. The House contained no similar provision.

DRUG REIMPORTATION

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds appropriated in this Act from being used to prevent an individual not in the business of importing prescription drugs from importing a prescription drug from Canada that complies with certain requirements of Federal law and is not a controlled substance or a biological product. The House contained no similar provision.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

The conference agreement includes $15,930,691,000 for the Education for the Disadvantaged account instead of $15,969,818,000 as proposed by the House and $15,867,778,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement provides $7,794,473,000 in fiscal year 2008 and $8,136,218,000 in fiscal year 2009 funding for this account.

For the Title 1 program, the conference agreement provides $6,808,971,000 for Basic Grants as proposed by the House instead of $6,808,407,000 as proposed by the Senate; $3,068,680,000 for Targeted Grants instead of $3,094,562,000 as proposed by the House and $2,868,231,000 as proposed by the Senate; and $3,068,680,000 for Education Finance Incentive Grants instead of $3,094,260,000 as proposed by the House and $2,868,231,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $62,636,000 for the Even Start program instead of $99,000,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate bill did not include funding for this program.

The conference agreement includes $400,000,000 for the Reading First program instead of $353,500,000 as proposed by the House and $800,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $114,550,000 for the Early Reading First program as proposed by the House instead of $117,666,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees expect that the Department will strengthen professional development partnerships for early childhood educators through grants awarded under Early Reading First.

The conference agreement includes $36,000,000 for the Striving Readers program as proposed by the Senate instead of $31,870,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement also includes $21,243,000 for the Literacy Through School Libraries program instead of $19,486,000 as proposed by the House and $23,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $390,212,000 for the State Agency Migrant program instead of $393,900,000 as proposed by the House and $386,524,000 as proposed by the Senate.

IMPACT AID

The conference agreement includes $1,262,778,000 for the Impact Aid account instead of $1,278,453,000 as proposed by the House and $1,248,453,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement includes $1,126,192,000 for Basic Support Payments instead of $1,140,517,000 as proposed by the House and $1,111,867,000 as proposed by the Senate, and $64,350,000 for Payments for Federal Property as proposed by the Senate instead of $65,700,000 as proposed by the House. In addition, the agreement includes bill language to provide two-year funding for Impact Aid construction grants on a competitive basis as proposed by the Senate. The House had proposed one-year funding for these grants on a formula basis.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes $5,411,758,000 for the School Improvement Programs account instead of $5,693,668,000 as proposed by the House and $5,198,525,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement provides $3,976,758,000 in fiscal year 2008 and $1,435,000,000 in fiscal year 2009 funding for this account.

The conference agreement includes $3,037,439,000 for the Teacher Quality State Grants program instead of $3,187,439,000 as proposed by the House and $2,887,439,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement does not provide funding for the Early Childhood Educator Professional Development program as proposed by the House instead of $14,550,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $183,080,000 for the Mathematics and Science Partnerships (MSP) program instead of $197,826,000 as proposed by the House and $184,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The agreement also includes $1,081,166,000 for 21st Century Community Learning Center grants instead of $1,106,166,000 as proposed by the House and $1,000,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees intend that the Department of Education encourage States to use 40 percent of their additional allocations over fiscal year 2007, as practicable, to provide supervised and supportive after-school activities to middle and high school students.

The conference agreement does not provide funding for State Grants for Innovative Education as proposed by the Senate instead of $99,000,000 as proposed by the House.

For the Foreign Language Assistance program, the agreement provides $26,780,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate. The agreement also includes a set-aside of $3,000,000 in bill language for 5-year grants to local educational agencies to work in partnership with one or more institutions of higher education to establish or expand articulated programs of study in languages critical to United States national security as proposed by the House. The Senate did not propose this set aside. The conferees intend that funding available under this program promote the goal of well-articulated, long-sequence language programs that lead to demonstrable results for all students, and encourage school districts applying for these funds to reach out to institutions and centers funded under the Department's International Education programs under Title VI of the Higher Education Act. The conferees direct the Department not to make grants to school districts that are replacing current traditional language programs with critical needs language instruction.

The conference agreement includes $416,000,000 for State Assessments as proposed by the Senate instead of $411,630,000 as proposed by the House. Within the amount provided, the conferees recommend $16,000,000 for enhanced assessment instruments to improve the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act. The conferees urge the Department to continue to place a high priority on grant applications that aim to improve the quality of State assessments for students with disabilities and students with limited English proficiency, and to ensure the most accurate means of measuring their performance on those assessments.

The conference agreement includes $34,204,000 for the Education of Native Hawaiians program instead of $34,500,000 as proposed by the Senate and $33,907,000 as proposed by the House. The agreement includes bill language that allows funds under this program to be used for construction, renovation and modernization of any elementary school, secondary school, or structure related to an elementary school or secondary school run by the Department of Education of the State of Hawaii that serves a predominantly Native Hawaiian student body as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement also includes bill language, as proposed by the Senate, which designates, within the amount provided for the Education of Native Hawaiians program, not less than $1,250,000 to the Hawaii Department of Education for school construction/renovation activities, and $1,250,000 for the University of Hawaii's Center of Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement includes $34,204,000 for the Alaska Native Educational Equity program instead of $34,500,000 as proposed by the Senate and $33,907,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement includes bill language which allows funds available through this program to be used for construction, as proposed by the Senate. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

The conferees expect that rural education funding will be equally divided between the Small, Rural Schools Achievement Program, which provides funds to school districts that serve a small number of students, and the Rural and Low-Income Schools Program, which provides funds to school districts that serve concentrations of poor students, regardless of the number of students served.

INDIAN EDUCATION

The conference agreement includes $124,000,000 for Indian Education as proposed by the House instead of $118,690,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the agreement provides $100,057,000 for grants to local educational agencies, $19,884,000 for special programs for Indian children, and $4,059,000 for national activities as proposed by the House. The Senate bill included $95,331,000, $19,399,000 and $3,960,000, respectively, for these activities.

INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

The conference agreement includes $1,010,084,000 for programs in the Innovation and Improvement account, instead of $992,354,000 as proposed by the House and $962,889,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $24,000,000 for the National Writing Project, a national writing instructional program authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as proposed by the Senate instead of $23,533,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes $120,000,000 for the Teaching of Traditional American History program as proposed by the Senate instead of $119,790,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees recommend that the Department provide initial three-year grants, with two additional years if a grantee is performing effectively.

The conference agreement includes $9,821,000 for the Advanced Credentialing program as proposed by the Senate instead of $10,695,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement provides these funds for a

continuing award authorized under section 2151(c)(3)(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The conference agreement includes $214,783,000 for the Charter Schools program as proposed by the Senate instead of $251,394,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement modifies bill language proposed by the House and the Senate to permit the Secretary to use funds in excess of $190,000,000 to carry out the State Facilities Incentive and Credit Enhancement for Charter Facilities programs.

Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE)

The conference agreement includes $262,917,000 for the Fund for the Improvement of Education instead of $205,402,000 as proposed by the House and $218,699,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes funding for the following activities authorized under section 5411 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act:

Evaluation and data quality initiative	$2,000,000
National Institute of Building Sciences for the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities	700,000
Peer review	6,000
Reach Out and Read	4,000,000
Teach for America	12,000,000
Full Service Community Schools Demonstration	5,000,000

The conferees direct that funds for the Full Service Community Schools Demonstration be used as specified in House Report 110–231.

Within the total amount provided for FIE, the conference agreement also includes funding for separately authorized programs under title V, part D of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in the following amounts:

Reading is Fundamental	$25,543,000
Ready to Teach	10,890,000
Education through Cultural and Historical Organizations	9,000,000
Arts in Education	38,041,000
Parental Information and Resource Centers	39,600,000
Excellence in Economic Education	1,473,000
Mental Health Integration Grants	5,000,000
Women's Educational Equity	2,900,000
Presidential and Congressional American History and Civics Academies	1,980,000
Foundations for Learning Grants	1,491,000

For Arts in Education, the conferees modify the distribution of funds proposed by the Senate as follows: $8,365,000 is for Very Special Arts, $6,293,000 for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, $14,134,000 for model arts programs, $8,755,000 for model professional development programs for music, drama, dance and visual arts educators, and $494,000 for evaluation activities. The House did not specify a detailed allocation of funds within this program. Within the Institute of Education Sciences, the conference agreement provides $2,200,000 for a survey of arts in education, to be administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, but with Institute of Education Sciences and the Office of Innovation and Improvement jointly determining the scope of work of the project.

The conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
ABC Unified School District, Cerritos, CA for an after-school program at Melbourne Elementary School	200,000
Academy for Urban School Leadership, Chicago, IL for Chicago Academy and Chicago Academy High School, which may include support for resident teachers	200,000
Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc., Bridgeport, CT for teacher training programs	500,000
African-American Male Achievers Network, Inc., Inglewood, CA for its Project STEP program for at-risk youth	40,000
Akron Public Schools, OH for a Math, Science, and Technology Community Learning Center, which may include equipment	250,000
Alamance-Burlington School District, Burlington, NC for the Professional Development Academy	150,000
Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Juneau, AK, for Big Brothers/Big Sisters statewide, in partnership with Alaska Dept. of Education, Boys and Girls Club, and Cook Inlet Tribal Council for a comprehensive mentoring program in Alaska	300,000
Alaska Sealife Center, Seward, AK, for a marine ecosystems education program	250,000
All Kinds of Minds, Chapel Hill, NC for teacher training programs	150,000
Allied Services Foundation, Clarks Summit, PA, for dyslexia education programs at the Allied Services dePaul School	75,000
American Ballet Theatre, New York, NY for educational activities	150,000
American Foundation for Negro Affairs National Education and Research Fund, Philadelphia, PA, to raise the achievement level of minority students and increase minority access to higher education	90,000
Amistad America, New Haven, CT for the Atlantic Freedom Tour of the Armistad educational programs	250,000
An Achievable Dream, Inc., Newport News, VA for education and support services for at-risk children, which may include teacher stipend scholarships	240,000
Anchorage's Promise, Anchorage, AK, to implement America's Promise child mentoring and support program in Anchorage	100,000
Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX for a teacher training initiative	200,000
Apache County Schools, St. Johns, AZ for a teacher training initiative	150,000
Arab City Schools, Arab, AL for technology upgrades	200,000
ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey, Newark, NJ, to provide academic assistance and leadership development	85,000
AVANCE, Inc, El Paso, TX for parenting education programs	125,000
AVANCE, Inc., Del Rio, TX for a family literacy program	100,000
AVANCE, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for training and curriculum development for a parent-child educational program	212,000
AVANCE, Inc., Waco, TX for parenting education programs	125,000
Barat Education Foundation, Lake Forest, IL for the American Citizen Initiative pilot program	400,000
Barnstable, MA, for the development of programs and procurement of educational equipment at a youth and community center	210,000
Bay Haven Charter Academy Middle School, Lynn Haven, FL for its physical education program, which may include equipment	150,000
Baylor University, Waco, TX for its Language and Literacy Center	100,000
Beaver County, Beaver County, PA, to implement educational programming for K-12 students, including safe and appropriate use of the Internet	75,000
Berkeley Unified School District, Berkeley, CA, for a nutrition education program	90,000
Berks County Intermediate Unit, Reading, PA, for music education programs	90,000
Best Buddies International, Miami, FL for mentoring programs for persons with intellectual disabilities	661,000
Best Buddies Maryland, Baltimore, MD for mentoring programs for persons with intellectual disabilities	300,000
Best Buddies Rhode Island, Providence, RI for mentoring programs for persons with intellectual disabilities	150,000
Best Buddies, Miami, FL, to develop a Nevada site for Best Buddies	170,000
Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Southeastern Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, for recruitment, placement, and oversight of school-based mentoring programs	508,500
Big Top Chautauqua, WI for educational activities	250,000
Boise State University, Boise, ID for the Idaho SySTEMic Solution program	200,000
Bowie State University, Bowie, MD for establishment of a Principal's Institute	200,000
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, to expand an early literacy program for children in Milwaukee	255,000
Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI for a multi-media center, which may include equipment	425,000
Boys & Girls Town of Missouri, Columbia, MO for technology upgrades	150,000
Boys and Girls Club of San Bernardino, CA for an after-school program in the Delman Heights community, which may include equipment	140,000
Bradford Area School District, Bradford, PA for the purchase of equipment	150,000
Brigham City, Brigham City, Utah, for acquisition of equipment for a distance learning program	50,000
Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ for a Student Success Center in Asbury Park, NJ which may include equipment	250,000
Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, NY, for the Learning Centers	500,000
Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts, Hartford, CT for arts education programs	100,000
California State University Northridge, CA for development of an assessment and accountability system for teacher education	400,000
California State University, San Bernardino, CA for a leadership training program for urban youth	500,000
Canton Symphony Orchestra Association, Canton, OH for the Northeast Ohio Arts Education Collaborative, including teacher training and curriculum development	100,000
Carnegie Hall, New York, NY for its National Music Education Program	400,000
Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Cedar Rapids, IA, to support the Residency program	400,000
Center for Advancing Partnerships in Education, Allentown, PA, to develop a foreign language distance learning program and for teacher training	75,000
Central County Occupational Center, San Jose, CA for a first responder career and technical training program for high school students	100,000
Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology, State College, PA for curriculum and equipment at its vocational training program	600,000
Centro de Salud Familiar Le Fe, El Paso, TX for an elementary charter school, which may include equipment	225,000
Charlotte County School District, Port Charlotte, FL for an instructional system for English language learners, which may include equipment and software	250,000
Charter School Development Foundation, Las Vegas, NV for the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy	500,000
Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Annapolis, MD, to provide teacher training, student education and field experiences in the Chesapeake Bay	425,000
Chester County Intermediate Unit, Dowingtown, PA, for a vocational technical education program	75,000
Child and Family Network Centers, Virginia, Alexandria, VA, for education services for at-risk youth	150,000
ChildSight New Mexico, Gallup, NM, for a vision screening and eye glass program for children	50,000
City of Fairfield, CA for after-school programs	425,000
City of Gadsden, AL for technology upgrades in city schools	300,000
City of Hayward, Hayward, CA for after-school programs	275,000
City of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN for the Indianapolis Center for Education Entrepreneurship to recruit leaders to implement educational reform	400,000
City of Newark, Newark, CA for after-school programs	25,000
City of Pawtucket School Department, Pawtucket, RI for the Jacqueline Walsh School of the Performing and Visual Arts, which may include equipment	300,000
City of Pembroke Pines, FL for the autism program at the Pembroke Pines--Florida State University Charter School	225,000
City of San Jose, CA for development of a Smart Start early childhood development training and certification program at National Hispanic University	290,000
City of San Jose, CA for early childhood education programs, including parental involvement	200,000
City of Springfield, MO for the Ready to Learn Program	600,000

Project	Total funding
City of Whittier, Whittier, CA for after-school programs, which may include equipment	250,000
City School District of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY for after-school learning centers	225,000
City Year New Hampshire, Stratham, NH, for expansion of an afterschool program for the Young Heroes Program	150,000
Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV for the Education Executive Leadership Program	400,000
Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV for the Newcomer Academy	250,000
Clay County School system, WV, for the continuation and expansion of Skills West Virginia programs in counties around West Virginia	180,000
Clovis Unified School District, Clovis, CA for curriculum development	190,000
College Summit, Inc., Washington, DC for an initiative to increase college enrollment of low-income youth in South Carolina	135,000
Communities In Schools—Northeast Texas, Mount Pleasant, TX for dropout prevention programs	200,000
Communities in Schools of Cochran and Bleckley County, Cochran, GA for after-school programs	40,000
Communities in Schools of Coweta, Inc., Newnan, GA for education technology upgrades	100,000
Communities in Schools of Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County, Fitzgerald, GA for after-school programs	50,000
Communities in Schools of Georgia, Atlanta, GA, for mentoring programs	84,700
Communities In Schools of Tacoma, Tacoma, WA for after-school programs	50,000
Communities in Schools, Austin, TX for mentoring, dropout prevention and college preparatory programs	200,000
Communities in Schools, San Fernando Valley, Inc., North Hills, CA to implement full service community schools	340,000
Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles, Monterey Park, CA for the South Whitter community education and computer center	150,000
Community Empowerment Association, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, for a truancy reduction initiative	75,000
Community Service Society, New York, NY for a program that utilizes seniors as literacy mentors and in-class assistants to elementary students	340,000
Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Inc., Philadelphia, PA, for a career education and preparation initiative for at-risk youth	90,000
Connecticut Technical High School System, Middletown, CT for equipment for the Manufacturing Technologies Department of Platt Technical High School in Milford, CT	250,000
Contra Costa College, San Pablo, CA for its Bridges to the Future Program	100,000
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 11 for after-school programs	450,000
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 12, Ashland, WI for after-school programs	650,000
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 5, Portage, WI for after-school programs	400,000
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 9, Tomahawk, WI for after-school programs	400,000
Council Bluffs Early Learning Resource Center, Council Bluffs, IA, for the FAMILY program	450,000
County of San Diego, San Pasqual Academy, Escondido, CA for purchase of equipment	200,000
Creative Visions in Des Moines, IA, for outreach to at-risk youth	100,000
Cristo Rey High School, Chicago, IL, to improve technologies for the school's library and technology center	400,000
Cumberland, RI, for afterschool programs and activities	425,000
Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners, Cleveland, OH for an early childhood initiative	450,000
Delaware Department of Education, Dover, DE for the Starting Stronger Early Learning Initiative	400,000
Delaware Department of Education, Dover, DE, for the Vision Network of Schools and Districts	210,000
Delta Arts Alliance, Cleveland, MS, for in-school and after school arts education programs	100,000
Des Moines Community School District and Urban Dreams, Des Moines, IA, to continue a demonstration on full service community schools	300,000
Des Moines Community School District to expand pre-kindergarten programs	600,000
Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program, Detroit, MI, for student tracking and curriculum development	170,000
Detroit Youth Foundation, Detroit, MI for comprehensive educational and enrichment activities for middle and high school youth	75,000
DNA EpiCenter, Inc., New London, CT for a learning center for students and teachers	75,000
Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville, FL for purchase of equipment	250,000
Early Childhood and Family Learning Center Foundation, New Orleans, LA, to establish a comprehensive early childhood center	500,000
East Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, CA, to provide afterschool learning and enrichment activities for the students of East Palo Alto	80,000
East Saint Louis High School, East Saint Louis, IL, to upgrade the school's technology and sciences programs	550,000
ECHO Center, Burlington, VT, to enhance educational opportunities for students regarding the Lake Champlain Quadracentennial	100,000
Edgar School District, Edgar, WI for equipment and techonology for a new computer technology center	100,000
Edison and Ford Winter Estates Education Foundation for educational programming	150,000
Educating Young Minds, Los Angeles, CA, for educational programs	85,000
Education Partnership, Providence, RI for school leadership professional development	200,000
Education Service Center, Region 12, Hillsboro, TX for a GEAR UP college preparedness program	100,000
Eisenhower Foundation to replicate the Delaney Street project in Iowa	575,000
Ennis Independent School District, Ennis, TX for English as a second language instruction, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Envision Schools, San Francisco, CA for the Metropolitan Arts and Technology High School, which may include equipment	250,000
Erskine College, Due West, SC for an elementary and secondary school arts initiative	250,000
Esmeralda County School District, Goldfield, NV, to continue accelerated reading and math programs for K-8 students in Esmeralda County	200,000
Everybody Wins, Washington, DC, for childhood literacy programs	500,000
Exploratorium, San Francisco, CA for its Bay Area Science Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Improvement Initiative	300,000
Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, Fairbanks, AK, to expand the PLATO learning program to Fairbanks North Star Borough	250,000
Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA for language programs in Franklin Sherman Elementary School and Chesterbrook Elementary School in McLean, Virginia	300,000
Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA for emergency medical services curriculum development	200,000
Fairhope Center for the Arts, Bay Minette, AL for arts education programs, including purchase of equipment	205,000
Families In Schools, Los Angeles, CA for its Read with Me/Lea Conmigo family literacy program	175,000
Fayetteville Technical Community College, Fayettevile, NC for teacher training and professional development programs	250,000
First Book, Washington, DC, for the expansion of programs in West Virginia	225,000
FirstBook, Washington, DC, for the Maine literacy initiative for Low Income Children	100,000
Florence Prever Rosten Foundation, Darby, MT, to develop MAPS: Media Arts in the Public Schools program	80,000
Forward in the Fifth, Somerset, KY for a civic literacy program	250,000
Friends of the Children National, Portland, OR for mentoring programs	320,000
Galena City School District, Galena, AK, for a boarding school for low performing Native students from remote villages across Western Alaska	500,000
George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc., Bethesda, MD for tutoring services for at-risk students	250,000
George S. Eccles Ice Center, North Logan, Utah, to expand the science, physical education, and creative movement program	50,000
Girl Scouts of the USA, New York, NY for the Fair Play initiative to engage girls in science, technology, engineering and math	250,000
Graham County Schools, Safford, AZ for a teacher training initiative	150,000
Guam Public School System, Hagatna, GU for development and implementation of Chamorro language instructional programs	240,000
Hackett-Bower Clinic at Magnolia Speech School, Jackson, MS, for acquisition of equipment and programs	300,000
Hamilton Wings, Elgin, IL for arts education programs	150,000
Harford County Board of Education, Bel Air, MD, to support a science and math program at Aberdeen High School	300,000
Harris County Department of Education, Houston, TX for an after-school safety program, which may include the purchase of software	250,000
Harrisburg (PA) Area School District, Harrisburg, PA, to support the district's pre-kindergarten program	425,000
Harvey Public School District 152, Harvey, IL for an early literacy program, which may include equipment	200,000
Hawaii Department of Education, Honolulu, HI for educational activities	500,000
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Kempton, PA for curriculum development	150,000
Hays Community Economic Development Corporation, Hays, MT, to develop a Native American culturally competent curriculum	160,000
Helen Keller International, New York, NY for the ChildSight Vision Screening Program and to provide eyeglasses to children whose educational performance may be hindered because of poor vision	1,250,000
High Plains Regional Education Cooperative, Raton, NM for its Cooperative Broadband Education project, which may include equipment	500,000
Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY for the Work-Scholarship Connection Youth Employment Training Academy	250,000
Hoke County Schools, Raeford, NC for instructional technology	100,000
Homer-Center School District, Homer City, PA, for science curriculum development and acquisition of technology	90,000
Houston Independent School District, Houston, TX for a teacher incentive program	673,000
Houston Zoo, Houston, TX, for educational programming	100,000
I KNOW I CAN, Columbus, OH for college preparatory programs	100,000
In Tune Foundation Group, Washington, DC for educational activities	450,000
Independent School District 181, Brainerd, MN for its Teacher Support System	150,000
Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY for school reform activities at Wyandanch High School	250,000
Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY to implement small learning communities at one or more high schools in the Bronx	50,000
Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY, for the ISA High School Improvement Program	250,000
Internet Keep Safe Coalition, Salt Lake City, Utah, to provide educational materials to K–12 students regarding Internet safety	381,300
Iowa Association of School Boards, Des Moines, IA, for the Lighthouse for School Reform project	400,000
Iowa City Community School District, Iowa City, IA for an early literacy program	600,000
Iowa Department of Education to continue the Harkin grant program	5,000,000
Iowa School Boards Foundation, Des Moines, IA, for continuation and expansion of the Skills Iowa program	2,500,000
Iowa State Education Association, Des Moines, IA, for an initiative to educate students on the role of international trade in the U.S. economy	63,500
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana—Southeast, Madison, IN for an early college and middle college program	100,000
Jacob Burns Film Center, Pleasantville, NY for education programs	225,000
Jazz at Lincoln Center, New York, NY for music education programs	400,000
Jefferson County Public Schools, Golden, CO for technological instruction, testing, and support, which may include equipment	325,000
Jeremiah Cromwell Disabilities Center, Portland, ME, for awareness training for students	100,000
Jersey Shore Area School District, Jersey Shore, PA for equipment to create a digital classroom	150,000
JFYNetWorks, Boston, MA for academic support for Adequate Yearly Progress initiative, including educational software, professional development instruction, and technical assistance	250,000
JFYNetWorks, Boston, MA for implementation of its computer-based JFYNet: Academic Support for Adequate Yearly Progress initiative in Malden, Revere, and Framingham, MA, which may include the purchase of software	250,000
Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth, Baltimore, MD, to conduct a longitudinal study on outcomes of Center for Talented Youth summer programs	135,000
Joplin School District, Joplin, MO for the Smart Board initiative, including purchase of equipment	100,000
Jumpstart for Young Children, Boston, MA, to recruit and train college students to serve as mentors for at-risk preschool children in Rhode Island	125,000

Project	Total funding
Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc., Boston, MA for an early literacy program for at-risk children in Boston, MA	350,000
Jumpstart for Young Children, San Francisco, CA for an early childhood enhancement project to provide student mentors to preschool children	250,000
Jumpstart for Young Children, Seattle, WA, to expand Jumpstart's One Child at a Time mentoring project in Washington	240,000
Kanawha County School System, WV, for the continuation of Following the Leaders programs	730,000
Kansas Learning Center for Health, Halstead, KS, to support health education, including curriculum development	100,000
Kauai Economic Development Board, HI, for math and science education	300,000
Kelberman Center, Utica, NY to expand programs for pre-school and school age children with autism spectrum disorder	75,000
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA, for student programs and extended learning time at KIPP Gaston College Preparatory and KIPP Pride High School in Gaston, NC	100,000
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA for a subgrant to the KIPP Delta College Preparatory School in Helena, AR	150,000
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA for curriculum development and the recruitment and professional development of school leaders, teachers, and administrators	100,000
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA for KIPP Reach College Preparatory School in Oklahoma City, OK	250,000
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA, to support student programs and extended learning time through a subgrant to KIPP Ujima Village Academy in Baltimore, MD	255,000
KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA, for student programs and extended learning time in Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee	100,000
Klingberg Family Centers, Inc., New Britain, CT, for equipment associated with the Special Education Enhancement Initiative	340,000
La Causa Charter School, Milwaukee, WI, to implement a science and robotics lab	85,000
La Crosse School District, La Crosse, WI for a 21st Century Community Learning Center at Logan Middle School, including parental involvement	70,000
Lafayette Parish School Board, Lafayette, LA, for acquisition of equipment technology upgrades	66,000
Lander County School District, Battle Mountain, NV, to continue a math and science remediation program for high school students	350,000
Learning Point Associates/North Central Regional Education Laboratory, Naperville, IL to help schools implement No Child Left Behind	300,000
Lee Pesky Learning Center, Boise, ID to provide educational materials for the Literacy Matters! Program	300,000
Lemay Child & Family Center, St. Louis, MO for early childhood education and family literacy programs	100,000
Loess Hills Area Education Agency in Iowa for a demonstration in early childhood education	700,000
Loras College, Dubuque, IA, for a literacy program with the Dubuque elementary schools	450,000
Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Los Angeles, CA for a hands-on, science-based program for public school students	75,000
Los Angeles, CA, for the LA's BEST afterschool enrichment program	205,000
Louisiana Arts and Sciences Museum, Baton Rouge, LA for curriculum development and purchase of equipment	200,000
Louisiana State University in Shreveport, LA, to provide professional development for teachers and faculty in Title I schools with low performance scores	220,000
Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA for IDEA Place and the SciTech Classroom, including purchase of equipment and curriculum development	350,000
Lower East Side Conservancy, New York, NY for education programs and outreach	225,000
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative, West Springfield, MA, for educational equipment and program development	170,000
Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, Austin, Texas for the Presidential timeline project	750,000
Lynwood, CA, to expand the afterschool Homework Assistance Program at the Lynwood Public Library	80,000
Madison County Schools, Richmond, KY for a computer lab, which may include equipment	75,000
Maine Alliance for Arts Education, Augusta, ME, for the Complete Education for Rural Students project	100,000
Marketplace of Ideas/Marketplace for Kids, Inc., Mandan, ND, for a statewide program focused on entrepreneurship education	425,000
Massachusetts 2020 Foundation, Boston, MA, for continued development of an expanded instruction demonstration program	185,000
Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for the girls into science program	250,000
McKelvey Foundation, New Wilmington, PA, for entrepreneurial college scholarships for rural, low-income Pennsylvania and West Virginia high school graduates	175,000
Mentoring Partnership of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, PA, for recruitment, placement, and oversight of school-based mentoring programs	423,750
Mercy Vocational High School, Philadelphia, PA, for vocational education programs	90,000
Mesa Unified School District, Mesa, AZ for after-school educational and enrichment activities for at-risk youth	150,000
Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League, Wilmington, DE, to continue a program aimed at closing the achievement gap among low-income and minority students	425,000
Military Heritage Center Foundation, Carlisle, PA for the Voices of the Past Speak to the Future program, including purchase of equipment	132,000
Miller County Development Authority, Colquit, GA for a video/television production training program for high school drop-outs and at-risk youth in Miller County	100,000
Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, Washington, DC for a full service school demonstration project in the Canton City, OH public school district	150,000
Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee, WI for after-school or summer community learning centers	1,100,000
Minnesota Humanities Commission, St. Paul, MN to implement curricula and classroom resources on Native Americans	500,000
Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS for strengthening partnerships between K–12 parents and their children's teachers, principals, superintendents and other school officials	300,000
Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS, for environmental education programs for the Science on the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway program	200,000
Missouri State University, Springfield, MO for a college preparatory pilot program	100,000
Monroe County School District, Key West, FL for technology upgrades	200,000
Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD to recruit and certify postdoctoral scientists, mathematicians, or engineers from the National Institutes of Health to become teachers	300,000
Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL for marine science curriculum development	200,000
Mount Hood Community College, Gresham, OR for early childhood education and training activities, which may include equipment	320,000
National American Indian, Alaskan and Hawaiian Educational Development Center, Sheridan, WY, to train teachers serving Native American students in an early literacy learning and math framework	838,250
National Center for Electronically Mediated Learning, Inc., Milford, CT for the P.E.B.B.L.E.S. Project, which may include equipment and technology	150,000
National Council on Crime and Delinquency, Oakland, CA for a school-based model on violence prevention	200,000
National Cued Speech Association, Bethesda, MD for parent, teacher, and transliterator training and certification in cued speech for preschool and school-aged children	175,000
National Flight Academy, Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL for technology upgrades	150,000
National Teacher's Hall of Fame, Emporia, KS for teacher professional development and retention programs	150,000
Neighborhood Youth Association, Venice, CA for academic support to ensure college readiness	100,000
New Mexico Military Institute, Roswell, NM, for a character development leadership camp at the New Mexico Military Institute	50,000
New Mexico Public Education Department, Santa Fe, NM for summer reading and math institutes throughout the State	500,000
New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, for the Southern New Mexico Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy	200,000
New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, to continue a program to transition high school students into technical careers	340,000
New School University, New York, NY, for the Institute for Urban Education	950,000
New York Hall of Science, Queens, NY, for science exhibits and educational programming	600,000
Newton Public Schools, Newton, KS for an educational technology initiative, including purchase of equipment	100,000
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University, Greensboro, NC for a project to reduce suspension rates of students in the Guilford County School System	400,000
North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC for academic enrichment activities, including parental involvement	170,000
North Carolina Symphony, Raleigh, NC for musical and artistic residency activities for elementary and secondary students	175,000
North Carolina Technology Association Education Foundation, Raleigh, NC for school technology demonstration projects, including subgrants	100,000
North Country Education Services Agency, Gorham, NH, for the North Country Gear Up College Prep Initiative, including online curriculum development	140,000
North Philadelphia Youth Association, Philadelphia, PA for education and enrichment services for youth	50,000
North Slope Borough, Anchorage, AK, for an early education program	300,000
Northeast Louisiana Family Literacy Interagency Consortium to provide children's literacy services	200,000
Northern Tier Industry & Education Consortium, Dimock, PA for the activities of its Advisory and Assessment Committees	50,000
Northwest Center, Seattle, WA, to provide and expand academic and vocational resources to developmentally delayed or disabled persons in King County	200,000
Norwich Public School System, Norwich, CT for English language instruction	275,000
Oakland School of the Arts, Oakland, CA, for educational equipment	420,000
Oakland Unified School District, Oakland, CA for a technology integration project to implement a new data system, which may include equipment	200,000
Oelwein Community School District, Oelwein, IA, for technology and program needs for a math and science academy	106,000
Ogden City Schools, Ogden, Utah, to enhance the aerospace, math, and science curriculum	50,000
Omaha, Nebraska, for expansion of the Omaha's after school initative	100,000
O'Neill Sea Odyssey, Santa Cruz, CA for science education programs for elementary school children	100,000
OneWorld Now!, Seattle, WA for after-school programs and student scholarships	250,000
Ossining Union Free School District, Ossining, NY for after-school, literacy, or school reform initiatives	225,000
Ouachita Parish School Board, Monroe, LA, for acquisition of equipment technology upgrades	106,000
Pacific Islands Center for Educational Development in American Samoa, for a mentoring program aimed at college prep	500,000
Parent Institute for Quality Education, San Diego, CA for a parent training program	450,000
Parents as Teachers National Center, St. Louis, MO, for expanded outreach to support school readiness in the Gateway Parents as Teachers program in the City of St. Louis	190,000
PE4life Foundation, Kansas City, MO, for expansion and assessment of PE4life programs across Iowa	400,000
PE4life, Kansas City, MO for physical education programs in the Titusville, Pennsylvania School District, including purchase of equipment	200,000
PE4life, Kansas City, MO to establish a P.E. program in Mississippi, including purchase of equipment	350,000
People for People, Philadelphia, PA for after-school programs	75,000
Peru State College, Peru, NE for the Adopt a High School initiative	200,000
Philadelphia Academies, Inc., Philadelphia, PA for a longitudinal study on the impact of the organization's career-based education model	100,000
Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr. Association for Nonviolence Inc., Philadelphia, PA, for its College for Teens program	90,000
Pinal County Education Service Agency, Florence, AZ for a teacher training initiative	100,000
Polk County Public Schools, Bartow, FL for purchase of assistive technologies	100,000
Polynesian Voyaging Society, Honolulu, HI, for cultural education programs	150,000
Port Chester--Rye Union Free School District, Port Chester, NY for academic enrichment, professional development, family engagement, or other activities to implement full service community schools	225,000
Project GRAD USA, Philadelphia, PA for college readiness programs	100,000
Project HOME, Philadelphia, PA, for an after school program	90,000
Provo City, Provo, Utah, to expand education programs at the Arts Center	50,000
Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN for equipment and start-up expenses for a magnet school	250,000
Queens Theatre in the Park, Flushing, NY for a project to provide youth with career planning and development in the performing arts industry	150,000
Rapides Parish School Board, Alexandria, LA, for acquisition of equipment technology upgrades	67,000
Renwick Public Schools, Andale, KS for an educational technology initiative, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Rio Rancho Public Schools, Rio Rancho, NM for distance learning, which may include equipment	500,000
Riverside Community College, Riverside, CA for the Fast-Track to the Associate Degree Nursing Program	350,000
Riverside County Office of Education, Riverside, CA for the High School Science Initiative	350,000
Robert H. Clampitt Foundation, Inc., New York, NY, to train elementary and secondary students in journalism	150,000
Rockdale County Public Schools, Conyers, GA for a credit recovery program, which may include the purchase of software	440,000

Project	Total funding
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN for a K–12 STEM Immersion Initiative	200,000
Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA, to develop a Public Education Partnership to provide professional development to area principals and teachers	90,000
Saint Louis SCORES, St. Louis, MO, to expand after school programs	84,000
Salesian Boys and Girls Club of Los Angeles, CA for education and support services for middle and high school students	100,000
San Bernardino Boys and Girls Club, San Bernardino, CA, to expand programs that are available in education, health and the arts	235,000
San Bernardino City Unified School District, San Bernardino, CA for the English Learners program	250,000
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, San Bernardino, CA to expand the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics initiative	300,000
San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA for its San Joaquin A Plus tutoring program	375,000
San Juan School District, Blanding, Utah, to provide intervention advocacy and case management for at-risk students	50,000
San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA for its Preschool for All program	320,000
Save the Children, Westport, CT, to implement supplemental literacy programs for children in grades K–8 in rural Nevada schools	240,000
School at Jacob's Pillow, Beckett, MA, for the development of youth cultural and educational programs	150,000
School Board of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, FL for teacher support and development	450,000
Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership, Jacksonville, FL for purchase of equipment	300,000
Selden/Centereach Youth Association, Selden, NY for after-school programs	140,000
Sevier School District, Richfield, Utah, for teacher training and professional development to increase student achievement in mathematics	50,000
Shiloh Economic and Entrepreneurial Lifelong Development Corporation, Plainfield, NJ, for academic enrichment programs	190,000
Silver Crescent Foundation, Charleston, SC for a middle and high school academic engineering and technology program	200,000
Skills Alaska, Anchorage, AK, for statewide teacher training and mentoring program, Anchorage	1,000,000
Sociedad Latina, Roxbury, MA for its Mission Community Enrichment Program	100,000
South Dakota Symphony, Sioux Falls, SD, for educational outreach to Native Americans	100,000
SouthCoastConnected, New Bedford, MA, for implementation of the Drop the Drop-Out Rate Initiative	150,000
Southeast Island School District, Thorne Bay, AK, to develop interactive video conferencing to provide special education services to 9 isolated school sites in Southeast Alaska	100,000
SouthEastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education, Glenside, PA, for the Institute of Mathematics and Science to provide professional development to K–12 teachers	126,675
Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX for a college preparatory initiative	275,000
Springboard for Improving Schools, San Francisco, CA for a professional development center to serve Central Valley, CA teachers and administrators	250,000
Springfield Public School District No. 19, Springfield, OR for an Academy of Arts and Academics	100,000
St. Mary's County Public Schools, Leonardtown, MD for a mathematics, science, and technology academy	500,000
State of Nevada Department of Education for technology upgrades in the Elko, Nye, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill school districts, including subgrants	400,000
Summit Educational Resources, Getzville, NY for service coordination and support for children with developmental disabilities	200,000
Susannah Wesley Community Center, Honolulu, HI for computers and technology to serve at-risk high school students, and other students in an after-school program	120,000
Tampa Metropolitan YMCA, Tampa, FL for after-school programs	125,000
Technical Research and Development Authority, Titusville, FL, to provide professional workshops for teachers in STEM-related fields	210,000
Texas Southern University, Houston, TX for the TSU Lab School, which may include equipment and technology	440,000
Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, Los Angeles, CA for a longitudinal study on high school graduation rates	100,000
Town of Cumberland, Cumberland, RI for the Mayor's Office of Children and Learning for evidence-based innovative K–12 education programs	150,000
Towson University, Towson, MD for an education partnership with the City of Baltimore, Baltimore City Public School System and the Cherry Hill community	325,000
Tracy Joint Unified School District, Tracy, CA for English language learner initiatives	125,000
Tri-County Educational Service, Wooster, OH for the Olweus Bullying Prevention program	150,000
Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Niles, OH for school robotics programs, which may include subgrants	185,000
Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, to provide teacher education and leadership preparation to support the rebuilding of New Orleans schools	1,200,000
Tulsa Public Schools, Tulsa, OK for innovative programming for students at risk of dropping out, including curriculum development	200,000
Union County Public Schools, Monroe, NC for equipment and technology needs for the information technology academy	100,000
Union County, Elizabeth, NJ, for training programs at the Union County Academy for Allied Health Sciences	255,000
Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, Sleepy Hollow, NY for family literacy activities and professional development to support literacy instruction	225,000
United Inner City Services, Kansas City, MO, to enhance and expand early learning programs	635,000
United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, for recruitment, placement, and oversight of school-based mentoring programs	339,000
University of Akron, Akron, OH to link regional school districts with industry to promote STEM academic and career pathways	150,000
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL to implement a manufacturing engineering curriculum for high schools students	500,000
University of Alaska/Southeast, Juneau, AK, for the Alaska Distance Education Technology Consortium for distance learning	255,000
University of Maine, Orono, ME, to maintain healthy interscholastic youth sports programs	147,500
University of North Alabama, Florence, AL, for research to develop a model center for teacher preparation	127,125
University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, for a teletherapy program to address the shortage of speech language pathologists	70,000
University of Northern Iowa to continue the 2+2 teacher education demonstration program	450,000
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for gifted education programs at the Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies program	400,000
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for literacy enhancement	400,000
University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, to establish the Educational Excellence program	3,000,000
UrbanFUTURE, St. Louis, MO, to expand literacy, mentoring, and after-school services	254,000
USD 259, Wichita Public Schools, Wichita, KS for technology upgrades	300,000
Utah State Office of Education, Salt Lake City, Utah, for a mentoring program	423,700
Valle Lindo School District, South El Monte, CA for technology upgrades	75,000
Venango Technology Center, Oil City, PA for the purchase of equipment	200,000
Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center (VAMSC), Virginia Beach, VA, to expand education outreach programs	50,000
Vision Therapy Project, Casper, WY for a teacher training initiative	350,000
Visually Impaired Preschool Services, Louisville, KY for programs to address school readiness needs of visually impaired children	100,000
Waldo County Preschool & Family Services, Belfast, ME, for the Maine early language and literacy initiative	100,000
Washington College, Chestertown, MD for K–12 science, technology, engineering and mathematics outreach programs	350,000
Washington State University, Tacoma, WA for education and enrichment services for youth at its Center for Community Education, Enrichment and Urban Studies	250,000
Washoe County School District, Reno, NV, for equipment for a parental notification system	350,000
Washoe County School District, Reno, NV, to expand the Classroom on Wheels Program for low-income students	400,000
WE CARE San Jacinto Valley, Inc., San Jacinto, CA for the after school tutoring program	100,000
West Contra Costa Unified School District, Richmond, CA for high school architecture, construction, and engineering curricula	100,000
West River Foundation, Rapid City, SD, for K–12 administrator development	100,000
West Valley City, West Valley City, Utah, to expand the after school learning program	50,000
White-Williams Scholars, Philadelphia, PA for a college preparation initiative, which may include student scholarships	75,000
Widener University, Chester, PA for school-readiness programs	210,000
Wildlife Information Center, Inc., Slatington, PA for an environmental education initiative	350,000
Williamsburg County First Steps, Kingstree, SC for a school-readiness program	87,000
YMCA of Greater Saint Louis, St. Louis, MO, to expand after school programming at the Monsanto Family YMCA	211,000
Yonkers Public Schools, Yonkers, NY for after-school and summer academic enrichment, literacy, and professional development services, and for parental involvement activities	250,000
Youngstown City School District, OH for a Pathways to Building Trades Program in the Youngstown and Warren, OH school districts	225,000
Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH for a pilot K–12 attention enhancement for learning project	100,000
Youth Advocate Programs, Inc., Harrisburg, PA, for alternative school services	90,000
YWCA of Gary, Gary, IN for after-school and summer programs, which may include equipment	200,000

Other programs

The conference agreement includes $24,755,000 for the Ready to Learn program instead of $24,255,000 as proposed by the House and $25,255,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees expect the increase over fiscal year 2007 to be used for Ready to Learn outreach programs at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The conference agreement includes $1,977,000 for Close Up/Congressional Fellowships instead of $1,454,000 as proposed by the House and $2,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $46,000,000 for Advanced Placement programs instead of $50,000,000 as proposed by the House and $42,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees intend that funds be used first for the Advanced Placement Test Fee Program, estimated to require $10,000,000 in fiscal year 2008. The remaining funds shall be used for continuing and new awards under the Advanced Placement Incentive Program Grants. The conferees encourage the Department to incorporate a priority for projects focused on the sciences, mathematics, and foreign languages in the fiscal year 2008 competition for new awards under the Advanced Placement Incentive Program.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

The conference agreement includes $708,835,000 for programs in the Safe Schools and Citizenship Education account instead of $760,575,000 as proposed by the House and $697,112,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $300,000,000 for Safe and Drug-Free Schools State Grants as proposed by the Senate, instead of $346,500,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes $140,112,000 for National Programs instead of $141,112,000 as proposed by the House and $139,112,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes funding for the following activities:

School Emergency Preparedness Initiative	$32,374,000
Safe Schools/Healthy Students	79,200,000
Drug Testing Initiative	10,828,000
Postsecondary Ed Drug and Violence Prevention (including $850,000 for the recognition program)	6,083,000
Violence prevention impact evaluation	1,146,000

National Institute of Building Sciences for the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities	300,000
Project SERV	1,500,000
Other activities	8,681,000

The conferees continue to be concerned about the increasing problems of alcohol and drug abuse on college campuses. he conferees direct the Department to use $850,000 within the amount provided for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities National Programs to identify, and provide recognition of, promising and model alcohol and drug abuse education programs in higher education.

The conferees intend that funding recommended for school emergency preparedness activities be used for new grant awards to higher education institutions, in addition to school districts currently eligible, to develop and implement emergency management plans for preventing campus violence (including assessing and addressing the mental health needs of students) and for responding to threats and incidents of violence or natural disaster in a manner that ensures the safety of the campus community. The conferees intend that these funds be used to help institutions of higher education plan and prepare for the entire constellation of threats (terrorist attacks, natural disasters, shootings, and gang-related activity).

The conference agreement also modifies bill language proposed by the House to permit Project SERV funds appropriated in fiscal year 2008 and in previous fiscal years to be used to provide services to school districts and institutions of higher education in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis. The Senate bill did not include bill language allowing Project SERV funds to be awarded to institutions of higher education.

In addition, the recommended funding for the Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools will permit the Department to expand its examination of a variety of other school safety initiatives. The conferees request the Department to update the 2002 Department of Education and U.S. Secret Service guidance titled ''Threat Assessment in Schools: A Guide to Managing Threatening Situations and to Creating Safe School Climates'' to reflect the recommendations contained in the report titled ''Report to the President on Issues Raised by the Virginia Tech Tragedy.'' The conferees also request that, within a year of the enactment of this Act, the Department shall disseminate the updated guidance to institutions of higher education and to State departments of education for distribution to all local education agencies.

The conference agreement includes $33,000,000 for Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse as proposed by the Senate instead of $32,409,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes $49,407,000 for Mentoring Programs instead of $48,814,000 as proposed by the House and $50,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $24,248,000 for Character Education as proposed by the House instead of $25,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $50,750,000 for the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling program instead of $61,500,000 as proposed by the House and $40,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $78,000,000 for the Carol M. White Physical Education program instead of $72,674,000 as proposed by the House and $80,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees affirm the original intent of the Physical Education program with respect to the use of funds for the purchase of equipment.

The conference agreement includes $33,318,000 for the Civic Education program authorized under the Education for Democracy Act as proposed by the House instead of $30,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes $21,246,000 for the We the People programs, including $3,025,000 to continue the comprehensive program to improve public knowledge, understanding, and support of American democratic institutions, which is a cooperative project among the Center for Civic Education, the Center on Congress at Indiana University, and the Trust for Representative Democracy at the National Conference of State Legislatures. The conference agreement also includes $12,072,000 for the Cooperative Education Exchange program.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

The conference agreement includes $722,717,000 for the English Language Acquisition account instead of $774,614,000 as proposed by the House and $670,819,000 as proposed by the Senate.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The conference agreement includes $12,357,999,000 for the Special Education account instead of $12,362,831,000 as proposed by the House and $12,330,374,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement provides $5,703,017,000 in fiscal year 2008 and $6,654,982,000 in fiscal year 2009 funding for this account. Funds for the individual Special Education line items are displayed in the table at the end of the statement of managers. Funding levels that were in disagreement but not displayed on the table are discussed in this statement.

The conference agreement provides $23,000,000 for State personnel development, with funds available on a current funded basis. The House did not provide funding for the program. The Senate provided $46,000,000 for the program with funds available on a forward funded basis.

The agreement includes $40,000,000 for technology and media services as proposed by the Senate instead of $36,928,000 as proposed by the House. Within this amount, $1,500,000 is available for Public Telecommunications Information and Training Dissemination as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include funding for this activity. Also within this amount, the conference agreement includes $13,000,000 for the production and circulation of recorded textbooks and acceleration of digital technology as proposed by the Senate. The House provided $11,880,000 for activities authorized by section 674(c)(1)(D) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The conference agreement includes language proposed by the Senate intended to improve the operation and performance of the National Instructional Materials Access Center. The House bill did not contain similar language.

The conference agreement provides $13,000,000 for education activities authorized by the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act, of which $8,000,000 is designated in bill language for the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH

The conference agreement includes $3,285,985,000 for Rehabilitation Services and Disability Research instead of $3,279,743,000 as proposed by the House and $3,286,942,000 as proposed by the Senate. Funds for the individual Rehabilitation Services line items are displayed in the table at the end of the statement of managers. Funding levels that were in disagreement but not displayed on the table are discussed in this statement.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing $1,000,000 to improve the quality of applied orthotic and prosthetic research and to help meet the demand for provider services as proposed by the Senate. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement includes bill language providing $3,242,000 within demonstration and training programs for the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Advocating Change Together, Inc., St. Paul, MN for a disability rights training initiative	100,000
Alaska Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Anchorage, AK, for a partnership with the Lions Club to expand low vision services to Alaskans	250,000
City of North Miami Beach, FL, North Miami Beach, FL for fitness and other programs for the disabled	340,000
Darden Rehabilitation Foundation, Gadsden, AL, for programs serving individuals with disabilities who seek to enter the work force	127,125
Deaf Blind Service Center, Seattle, WA, to support the National Support Service Provider Pilot Project	350,000
Enable America, Inc., Tampa, Florida, for civic/citizenship demonstration project for disabled adults	500,000
Jewish Vocational and Career Counseling Service, San Francisco, CA for a Transition Services Project to provide vocational training and job placement for youth and adults with disabilities	250,000
Kenai Peninsula Independent Living Center, Homer, AK, for the Total Recreation and Independent Living Services (TRAILS) project	200,000
National Ability Center, Park City, Utah, to provide transportation for individuals with cognitive and physical disabilities to participate independently in therapeutic recreational programs	211,375
Rainbow Center for Communicative Disorders, Blue Springs, MO, to expand programs available to individuals with severe disabilities	254,000
Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc, Juneau, AK, to continue a joint recreation and employment project with the Tlingit-Haida Tribe	200,000
Special Olympics of Iowa, Des Moines, IA, for technology upgrades	100,000
University of Northern Colorado National Center for Low-Incidence Disabilities, Greeley, CO, for support to local schools, educational professionals, families of infants, children, and youth with low-incidence disabilities	169,500
Vocational Guidance Services, Cleveland, OH for equipment and technology in order to increase employment for persons with disabilities	190,000

The conference agreement includes $31,226,000 for assistive technology instead of $30,452,000 as proposed by the House and $32,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conferees intend that $25,717,000 shall be for the State grant program, $4,456,000 shall be for protection and advocacy, and $1,053,000 for national activities.

The conference agreement specifies $8,400,000 within the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research to carry out the traumatic brain injury model systems of care program and to fund two additional centers that submitted applications for the last grant competition.

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

The conference agreement includes $22,000,000 for the American Printing House for the Blind as proposed by the Senate instead of $17,573,000 as proposed by the House.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

The conference agreement includes $60,757,000 for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf as proposed by the House instead of $59,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

The conference agreement includes $115,400,000 for Gallaudet University instead of $109,952,000 as proposed by the House and $111,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. No funds are provided for evaluation purposes. The Senate had provided $600,000 for this purpose, while the House provided no evaluation funding.

CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

The conference agreement includes $2,013,329,000 for Career, Technical, and Adult Education instead of $2,046,220,000 as proposed by the House and $1,894,788,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement provides $1,222,329,000 in fiscal year 2008 and $791,000,000 in fiscal year 2009 funding for this account. Funds for the individual Career, Technical, and Adult Education line items are displayed in the table at the end of the statement of managers. Funding levels that were in disagreement but not displayed on the table are discussed in this statement.

The conference agreement does not include a bill language proviso specifying $8,000,000 for tribally controlled postsecondary vocational and technical institutions as proposed by the House. The agreement provides these funds in the Higher Education account as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement specifies in bill language that $69,759,000 is provided for integrated English literacy and civics education services to immigrants rather than $71,622,000 as specified by the House and $67,896,000 as specified by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language identifying $81,532,000 for the Smaller Learning Communities program instead of $93,531,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not provide funding for the program. The conferees agree that these funds shall be used only for activities related to establishing smaller learning communities within large high schools or small high schools that provide alternatives for students enrolled in large high schools. The conferees direct that the Education Department consult with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations prior to the release of program guidance for the fiscal year 2008 Smaller Learning Communities grant competitions. The conferees direct that the Department submit an operating plan outlining its planned use of the 5 percent set-aside for national activities.

The conference agreement includes report language identifying $22,770,000 for State Grants for Incarcerated Youth Offenders as proposed by the House in report language and the Senate in bill language. An authorization citation for the program is included in the bill language for the account as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include a bill language citation.

The conferees encourage the Department to support initiatives that foster applied research, program improvement and evaluation, technology transfer and research-based institutional practices to improve adult and adolescent basic education and literacy instruction.

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The conference agreement includes $16,379,883,000 for Student Financial Assistance instead of $17,464,883,000 as proposed by the House and $16,368,883,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides a total of $15,023,000,000 for Pell Grants instead of $15,583,000,000 as proposed by the House and $14,487,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. This amount includes $525,000,000 that is offset by a corresponding rescission from unobligated balances under the mandatory Academic Competitiveness and SMART grants program. These balances are not needed to pay Academic Competitiveness and SMART grant awards in the 2008–2009 award year.

The conference agreement supports a $4,435 maximum Pell Grant for the 2008–2009 award year instead of $4,700 as proposed by the House and $4,310 as proposed by the Senate. Under the College Cost Reduction Act, Public Law 110–84, an additional $2,000,000,000 in mandatory funds is available for the Pell Grant program in fiscal year 2008. These mandatory funds, together with the discretionary funds provided in this conference report, will support a total maximum Pell grant of $4,925 in the 2008–2009 award year, a $615 increase over the 2007–2008 award year.

HIGHER EDUCATION

The conference agreement includes $2,095,608,000 for Higher Education instead of $2,176,533,000 as proposed by the House and $2,040,302,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Aid for Institutional Development

The conference agreement includes $97,207,000 for Hispanic Serving Institutions instead of $99,500,000 as proposed by the House and $94,914,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $243,798,000 for Historically Black Colleges and Universities instead of $349,500,000 as proposed by the House and $238,095,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $57,915,000 for Historically Black Colleges and Universities Graduate Institutions as proposed by the Senate instead of $82,915,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement also includes $12,143,000 for Alaska and Native Hawaiian Institutions instead of $11,785,000 as proposed by the House and $12,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $110,700,000 for Title VI International Education and Foreign Languages Studies programs instead of $115,651,000 as proposed by the House and $105,751,000 as proposed by the Senate. For Title VI domestic programs, the conference agreement provides $95,390,000 instead of $100,341,000 as proposed by the House and $91,541,000 as proposed by the Senate. For overseas programs authorized under the Fulbright-Hays Act, the conference agreement provides $13,610,000 as proposed by the House instead of $12,610,000 as proposed by the Senate. For the Institute for International Public Policy, the conference agreement provides $1,700,000 as proposed by the House instead of $1,600,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees concur in the direction in House Report 110–231 regarding the Title VI program.

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education

The conference agreement includes $126,256,000 for the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education instead of $63,264,000 as proposed by the House and $81,844,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
AIB College of Business, Des Moines, IA, to recruit and train captioners and court reporters and to provide scholarships	400,000
Aims Community College, Greeley, CO, for equipment for career training in the health professions	45,000
Alabama Institute of the Deaf and Blind, Talladega, AL for the interpreter training program	200,000
Albany State University, Albany, GA, in partnership with Darton College, for an initiative to increase the success of minority males and nontraditional students in postsecondary education	250,000
Albertson College of Idaho, Caldwell, ID, for acquisition of equipment, technology and library upgrade	300,000
Albright College, Reading, PA, for laboratory equipment acquisition	90,000
Alpena Community College, Alpena, MI, for curriculum development for the Rural Communications Initiative	255,000
Alvernia College, Reading, PA, for scholarships and nursing education programs	90,000
American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation, Rockville, MD for its New Century Scholars Program	275,000
Anne Arundel Community College, Arnold, MD for a health care training initiative, which may include equipment and technology	125,000
Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA for development of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Cyber Security and Investigation Technology	284,700
Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield, CT for manufacturing technology training programs, which may include equipment and technology	250,000
Assumption College, Worcester, MA for program development including equipment	125,000
Azusa Pacific University, San Bernardino, CA for nursing programs	400,000
Bellevue Community College, Bellevue, WA for development of computer security curriculum	330,000
Beloit College, Beloit, WI for equipment and technology	200,000
Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN for equipment for an engineering technology center	350,000
Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, Boston, MA, for educational equipment and curriculum development to support medical technology professional training programs	210,000
Bennett College for Women, Greensboro, NC for equipment, technology, and professional development	540,000
Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Winchester, KY for equipment and technology	350,000
Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, IA for equipment	192,000
Bristol Community College, Fall River, MA, to expand adult literacy and career development academic programs	170,000
Broward Community College, Broward County, FL for an education and training program in emergency preparedness and response	300,000
Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA for environmental studies programs and community outreach, which may include equipment	200,000
Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, for laboratory equipment acquisition	90,000
Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA for curriculum development	250,000
Butler Community College, Andover, KS for a closed captioning training program, including curriculum development	350,000
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Hudson, NC for curriculum development	100,000
California Baptist University, Riverside, CA for purchase of equipment	350,000
California Community Colleges, Sacramento, CA, for Math and Science Teacher Initiative	170,000
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000
California State University—Channel Islands, Camarillo, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000
California State University—Fullerton, Fullerton, CA for technology upgrades at the Ruby Gerontology Center	350,000
California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA, for curriculum development and teacher training to enhance math and science instruction	90,000
Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC for its Advancement for Underrepresented Minority Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Scientists Program	320,000
Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI, to establish a bachelors of science nurse degree program	275,000
Carroll College, Helena, MT, for curriculum development in Civil Engineering	200,000

Project	Total funding
Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA, for nursing education programs	90,000
Central Arizona College, Coolidge, AZ for nursing programs, including curriculum development	300,000
Central Florida Community College, Ocala, FL for curriculum development	100,000
Central Maine Community College, Auburn, ME, for nursing education expansion and outreach	107,500
Central Methodist University, Fayette, MO for a science, technology, engineering and math teacher training program	350,000
Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, NC, for curriculum development at the Center for Integrated Emergency Response Training	200,000
Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA for curriculum development	200,000
Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR for equipment and technology for health sciences education and training programs	565,000
City College of New York, NY for the Charles B. Rangel Center for Public Service to prepare individuals for careers in public service, which may include establishing an endowment, library and archives for such center	2,000,000
Clark State Community College, Springfield, OH for curriculum development and purchase of equipment	300,000
Clayton College and State University, Morrow, GA for development of a Master of Arts in Archive degree program, which may include student scholarships and community outreach	325,000
Clinton School of Public Service at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR, for curriculum development	1,000,000
Clover Park Technical College, Lakewood, WA for an institute for environmental sustainability in the workforce	150,000
College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL for curriculum development	350,000
College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, ID for the Pro-Tech program	250,000
College of Southern Maryland, LaPlata, MD for nursing education programs	100,000
College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA for creation of the medical lab technician degree program, including curriculum development and purchase of equipment	100,000
College Success Foundation, Issaquah, WA for the Leadership 1000 Scholarship Program	500,000
Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA for a technical education initiative	400,000
Community College of Beaver County, Monaca, PA for equipment and technology	100,000
Community College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, NV, to purchase equipment and other support for Internet-based course offerings	750,000
Connecticut State University, Hartford, CT, for nursing education programs	340,000
Consensus Organizing Center, San Diego, CA, for its Step Up college preparation initiative	100,000
Coppin State University, Baltimore, MD for its nursing education program, which may include equipment and technology	225,000
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, for a new interdisciplinary initiative on engineering and medicine	300,000
Darton College, Albany, GA for a biotechnology education and training collaboration with Albany State University and Albany Technical College	300,000
Deaf West Theatre, North Hollywood, CA, for cultural experiences for the deaf	250,000
Dean College, Franklin, MA, to develop programs and procure equipment for the Learning Center	200,000
Delaware County Community College, Media, PA for equipment and instrumentation for science, engineering, and technology laboratories	175,000
Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA for the Jasper County Career Academy, which may include equipment	100,000
DeSales University, Center Valley, PA for the Digital Campus Initiative, including purchase of equipment	500,000
Dillard University, New Orleans, LA for recruitment and training of nursing assistants	750,000
Duquesne University of the Holy Spirit, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment and technology acquisition for a supercomputing facility	90,000
East Stroudsburg University, East Stroudsburg, PA, for forensic science education programs	90,000
Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL for nursing programs	150,000
Eastern Iowa Community College, Davenport, IA, for the creation of a center on sustainable energy, including equipment	300,000
Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, NM, for technological equipment upgrades	1,000,000
Eastern Shore Community College Industrial Maintenance Program, Melfa, VA for curriculum development	250,000
Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL for purchase of equipment	200,000
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA, to support a computer forensics training program at its Western Pennsylvania High Tech Crime Training Center	90,000
Edison College, Charlotte County Campus, Punta Gorda, FL for a nursing education program	75,000
El Camino College, Torrance, CA for nursing, engineering and nontraditional education and training programs	200,000
Elmira College, Elmira, NY for technology upgrades	200,000
Emerson College, Boston, MA, for educational equipment and program development	340,000
Emmanuel College, Boston, MA, for the procurement of educational equipment and program development	255,000
Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell, MT, for program development at the Center for Community Entrepreneurship Education	280,000
Florida Campus Compact, Tallahassee, FL for a project to enhance service learning on college campuses throughout Florida	250,000
Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, FL for the Coastal Watershed Institute	200,000
Focus: HOPE, Detroit, MI for an experiential learning laboratory and related equipment and technology to support undergraduate education and training	600,000
Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, NH, for a nursing education program, which may include equipment	150,000
Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, NH, for technology-based educational programs and services	350,000
Frontier Community College, Fairfield, IL for purchase of equipment	150,000
Ft. Valley State University, Ft. Valley, GA for a teacher preparation program, which may include equipment and technology	175,000
Gadsden State Community College, Gadsden, AL for technology upgrades	350,000
Gateway Community and Technical College, Ft. Mitchell, KY for the Center for Advanced Manufacturing Competitiveness, including purchase of equipment	300,000
Gateway Community College, New Haven, CT, for radiography and radiation therapy training programs, which may include equipment	100,000
George Meany Center for Labor Studies—the National Labor College for curriculum development	750,000
George Washington University, Washington, DC, for health professions training for students from the District of Columbia	316,700
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, for science education partnership programs between colleges, universities, schools and life science community educational organizations	84,700
Gila County Community College, Globe, AZ, for the registered nursing program, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Golden Apple Foundation, Chicago, IL, for a math and science teacher training initiative	350,000
Grace College, Winona Lake, IN for technology upgrades	200,000
Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA for education and training programs in the arts, which may include equipment and student scholarships	175,000
Harcum College, Bryn Mawr, PA for purchase of equipment	300,000
Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA for curriculum development	150,000
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Harrisburg, PA for instructional programs, which may include equipment and technology	300,000
Henry Kuualoha Giugni Archives at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, to establish an archival facility of historical Native Hawaiian records and stories	200,000
Herkimer County Community College, Herkimer, NY for equipment and technology for science laboratories	100,000
Hermiston, Hermiston, OR, to support programs and systems for Latino education	254,900
Hiwassee College, Madisonville, TN for a dental hygiene program, including curriculum development	400,000
Holy Family University, Philadelphia, PA for nurse education programs	200,000
Holyoke Community College, Holyoke, MA, for educational equipment and information technology	170,000
Houston Community College, Houston, TX, for the Accelerated Nursing Proficiency Center	150,000
Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY, to expand the nursing program	500,000
Huntington Junior College, WV for an initiative to recruit and train students in closed captioning	1,080,000
Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, TX for a math and science education initiative, which may include equipment	250,000
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA, for equipment acquisition and curriculum development for a mine safety course	90,000
Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Danville, VA for professional development for teachers in the field of nanotechnology	200,000
Iowa Lakes Community College, Estherville, IA, for equipment to support the Sustainable Energy Education program	250,000
Ivy Tech Community College, Evansville, IN for equipment and technology	75,000
Jackson State University, Jackson, MS for establishment of an osteopathic medical school	500,000
James Rumsey Technical Institute, Martinsburg, WV for the Automotive Technology Program, including purchase of equipment	100,000
Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS, to provide workforce development training to improve economic conditions and to reduce prisoner recidivism	500,000
Kent State University, New Philadelphia, OH for equipment and technology for its Tuscarawas County campus	150,000
Keystone College, LaPlume, PA, for classroom and laboratory equipment upgrades and acquisition	90,000
King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA to provide educational opportunities for students through civic engagement and service learning	343,000
La Sierra University, Riverside, CA	210,000
Lackawanna College, Scranton, PA for equipment, furnishings and operating expenses for an extension center in Susquehanna County	175,000
Lackawanna College, Scranton, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000
Lake City Community College, Lake City, FL for a math skills initiative	100,000
Latino Institute, Inc., Newark, NJ for its Latino Scholars Program	140,000
Lesley University, Cambridge, MA, for educational and research equipment to support new science instruction laboratories	210,000
Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey, IL, for its National Great Rivers Research and Education Center	400,000
Lewis-Clark State College, Lewiston, ID, to continue and expand the American Indian Students in Leadership of Education (AISLE) program	192,500
Lincoln College, Lincoln, IL for training, material acquisition and purchase of equipment	100,000
Lincoln Memorial University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Harrogate, TN for curriculum development	500,000
Lincoln University, Lincoln University, PA, for campus-wide technology upgrades and wiring	90,000
Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, OR for science and health equipment and technology	540,000
Lock Haven University, Lock Haven, PA, to provide professional development partnerships and related services	90,000
Lorain County Community College, Elyria, OH for its library and community resource center, which may include equipment and technology	350,000
Los Angeles Valley College, Valley Glen, CA for its Solving the Math Achievement Gap program	200,000
Lyon College, Batesville, AR, to purchase and install equipment	75,000
MacMurray College, Jacksonville, IL for technology upgrades	350,000
Madonna University, Livonia, MI for curriculum development for a disaster relief and recovery program	270,000
Maricopa County Community College, Tempe, AZ for the Bilingual Nursing Program at Gateway Community College in Phoenix, AZ	350,000
Maryland Association of Community Colleges, Annapolis, MD, to expand and improve nursing programs at Maryland's community colleges	2,340,000
Marymount Manhattan College, New York, NY for a minority teacher preparation initiative	350,000
McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA for the Louisiana Academy for Innovative Teaching and Learning	150,000
Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ for an online registered nurse recertification program	125,000
Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ for the Enfermeras En Escalera program to address a shortage of nurses	175,000
Messiah College, Grantham, PA, for wireless technology acquisition and technology infrastructure improvements	90,000
Metro State College, Denver, CO, for training and equipment acquisition	127,125
Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN for nursing education programs	500,000
MidAmerica Nazarene University, Olathe, KS, for equipment acquisition to expand distance education for teachers in western Kansas	300,000

Project	Total funding
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN, for the comprehensive math and science teacher training program	500,000
Midland College, Midland, TX for purchase of equipment at the Advanced Technology Center	150,000
Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove, IL for the Advanced Career Explorers Program	100,000
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Office of the Chancellor, St. Paul, MN for a statewide veterans re-entry education program	1,148,500
Mira Costa Community College District, Oceanside, CA for a nursing education program, including purchase of equipment	350,000
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Gautier, MS for equipment and furnishings for a marine technology center and estuarine education center	200,000
Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for a leadership training program at the Appalachian Leadership Honors Program	100,000
Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for acquisition of equiment and curriculum development at the Wise Center-Broadcast Facility Conversion to Digital	1,000,000
Missouri State University, Springfield, MO, for program development and expansion, equipment and technology for the Distance Learning Project on the West Plains Campus	847,000
Missouri State University—West Plains, West Plains, MO for technology upgrades and programming at the Academic Support Center	200,000
Monroe Community College, Rochester, NY for a special needs preparedness training program	450,000
Montana Committee for the Humanities, Missoula, MT, to continue civic educational programs	80,000
Montana State University—Billings, Billings, MT, for the Montana Energy Workforce Training Center	130,000
Montana State University—Billings, Billings, MT, to develop job-training programs	160,000
Montana State University—Billings, Billings, MT, to expand professional development education programs for the health care industry	160,000
Montgomery County Community College, Blue Bell, PA for curricula, equipment and technology, faculty, and outreach for its advanced technologies initiative	440,000
Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA, for equipment and technology acquisition and curriculum development for a science initiative	90,000
Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA, to establish a research initiative to improve college graduation of minority students	84,700
Mott Community College—Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CAM), Flint, MI, for a clearinghouse and pilot program for new technology	425,000
Mount Ida College, Newton, MA, for a veterinary technology program, which may include equipment	150,000
Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA, for education and outreach services to support undergraduate students with disabilities	90,000
Murray State University, Hopkinsville, KY for purchase of equipment at the Veterinary Center	200,000
Nevada State College, Henderson, NV for the accelerated nursing program	450,000
Nevada State College, Henderson, NV, for math and science teacher initiatives	325,000
New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL for equipment at the Jane Bancroft Cook Library	250,000
New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL for the Public Archaeology Laboratory, including purchase of equipment	225,000
New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL for the Strategic Languages Resource Center, including purchase of equipment	300,000
New Hampshire Community Technical College System, Concord, NH, to expand and modernize engineering technology programs	254,100
New Hampshire Community Technical College System, Concord, NH, to standardize technology and learning across seven community colleges	150,000
New Hampshire Community Technical College—Manchester, Manchester, NH for equipment for nursing and allied health education and training programs	150,000
Niagara County Community College, Sanborn, NY for equipment	350,000
North Arkansas College, Harrison, AR for technology upgrades	215,000
North Carolina Center for Engineering Technologies, Hickory, NC for purchase of equipment at the Center for Engineering Technologies	150,000
North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, ND for a Center for Nanoscience Technology Training	1,000,000
Northeast Community College, Norfolk, NE, for nurse training, including the purchase of equipment	170,000
Northern Essex Community College, Lawrence, MA, for equpment for allied health program	205,000
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL for its College of Engineering and Engineering Technology	250,000
Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation, Highland Heights, KY for the METS Center, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY, for the Infrastructure Management Institute	500,000
Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY, for the nursing education program	127,125
Northern Rockies Educational Services, Twin Bridges, MT, to develop Taking Technology to the Classroom program	80,000
Northwest Shoals Community College, Phil Campbell, AL for technology upgrades	350,000
Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, LA, for a nursing education program	200,000
Norwich University, Northfield, VT for equipment and technology for a nursing program	350,000
Oakland Community College, Bloomfield Hills, MI for international education programs	340,000
Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Goodwell, OK for purchase of equipment	100,000
Onondaga Community College, Syracuse, NY for purchase of equipment	250,000
Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, OR for academic programs in the OGI School of Science and Engineering	400,000
Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls, OR for development of associate's and bachelor's degree programs in the health professions	350,000
Owens Community College, Toledo, OH for a first responder training initiative, including curriculum development	150,000
Palm Beach Community College, Lake Worth, FL for equipment and technology	325,000
Paula and Anthony Rich Center for the Study and Treatment of Autism, Youngstown, OH for distance learning technology and programs	440,000
Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, Johnstown, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000
Philadelphia School District, Philadelphia, PA for the CORE Philly Scholarship Program	575,000
Philadelphia University, Philadelphia, PA, for the Scientific Reasoning/Inquiry Based Education (SCRIBE) initiative	90,000
Pierce College, Tacoma, WA for the Center of Excellence for Homeland Security, including curriculum development and training	186,000
Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS for equipment for its Kansas Technology Center	275,000
Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, for a collaborative research institute for sustainable rural economics	200,000
Polk Community College, Winter Haven, FL for advanced manufacturing training programs	300,000
Portland State University, Portland, OR for equipment and technology for its science research and teaching center	400,000
Prince George's Community College, Largo, MD for equipment and technology to upgrade a management information system	350,000
Purchase College, State of University of New York, Purchase, NY, for science and math education programs, including teacher preparation programs	200,000
Radford University, Radford, VA for a study of the feasibility of establishing a graduate school in the medical sciences	400,000
Redlands Community College, El Reno, OK, for nursing programs	100,000
Rhode Island College, Providence, RI for development of a Portuguese and Lusophone Studies Program	100,000
Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Pomona, NJ for curriculum development	350,000
Richland Community College, Decatur, IL for development of an alternative fuels education and training program	320,000
Richmond Community College, Hamlet, NC for equipment and programs at the Industrial Training Center	200,000
Robert Morris University, Moon Township, PA, for health care professional education programs in the use of electronic health records	90,000
Rochester Area Colleges, Rochester, NY, for Excellence in Math and Science	1,000,000
Rockford College, Rockford, IL for technology upgrades and other equipment	200,000
Round Rock Higher Education Center, Round Rock, TX for nursing programs, including purchase of equipment	450,000
Rust College, Holly Springs, MS, for acquisition of equipment for the Science and Mathematics Annex	500,000
Rutgers University School of Law—Camden, NJ for student scholarships and loan repayment, internships and public interest programming	640,000
Ryan Foundation, Wayne, PA, for civic education programs	90,000
Saint Anselm College, Manchester, NH, for a civic education program	200,000
Salt Lake Community College, Salt Lake City, Utah, to train health care professionals	423,700
Salve Regina University, Newport, RI, for historic preservation education programs including equipment	850,000
San Jacinto College, Pasadena, TX for a health care education and training initiative, which may include equipment and technology	250,000
Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA for equipment, technology, and training for its library and information commons initiative	500,000
Security on Campus, Inc., King of Prussia, PA, for campus safety peer education programs	30,150
Seminole State College, Seminole, OK, for the Medical Laboratory Technology Program, including technology acquisition	100,000
Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ for equipment and technology for its science and technology center	525,000
Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA, for technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000
Siena Heights University, Adrian, MI for nursing programs	200,000
Silver Lake College, Manitowoc, WI for nursing programs, including curriculum development	185,000
Simpson College, Indianola, IA for purchase of equipment	300,000
South Carolina Technical College System, Columbia, SC, to fund apprenticeship pilot programs in economically distresses areas	169,500
South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, for the Thomas Daschle Center for Public Service & Representative Democracy	1,000,000
Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education, Glenside, PA, for equipment	425,000
Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah, to enchance academic skills and training of science teachers in southern Utah through mobile classrooms	50,000
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, Albuquerque, NM, to expand a renewable energy training program	340,000
Sparks College, Shelbyville, IL for a closed captioner training program	200,000
Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, for programs to recruit and increase graduation rates for African-American females pursuing sciences, mathematics, or dual-engineering degrees	84,700
Springfield Public Schools Academy of Arts and Academics, Springfield, OR, for classroom equipment and technology	84,700
St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY for equipment at the science facility	350,000
St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY for technology upgrades	300,000
St. Clair County Community College, Port Huron, MI for purchase of equipment	150,000
St. Francis College, Brooklyn, NY for equipment and technology to support its science, technology, engineering and math initiative	770,000
St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL for a distance learning program, including technology upgrades and purchase of equipment	300,000
State University of New York at New Paltz, NY, for curriculum development in economic development and governance	300,000
State University of New York at Potsdam, Potsdam, NY for teacher training initiatives	100,000
Stonehill College, Easton, MA, to procure equipment and develop programs for the Center for Non-Profit Management	170,000
Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology acquisition	90,000
Sweetwater Education Foundation, Chula Vista, CA, for its Compact for Success program, which may include student scholarships	300,000
Texas Chiropractic College, Pasadena, TX for health professions training	100,000
Texas State Technical College, Waco, TX, for equipment for education and training programs	150,000
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX for the Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery	150,000
Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX, for the Institute of Health Sciences Dallas Center, for acquisition of technology	175,000
Thiel College, Greenville, PA, for technology infrastructure upgrades and acquisition	90,000
Tohono O'odham Community College, Sells, AZ for computer, science and mathematics equipment, technology and instructional materials	125,000
Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, MS, for an international study abroad program	200,000
Tri-County Community College, Murphy, NC for equipment and technology	50,000
Trident Technical College, Charleston, SC for nursing curriculum development	200,000

Project	Total funding
Trinity University, San Antonio, TX for purchase of equipment	150,000
Turtle Mountain Community College, Belcourt, ND, to develop a vocational and technical training curriculum	640,000
Univ. of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City, UT for the Health Sciences LEAP Program to expand the pipeline of underrepresented students in health professions	84,750
University of Alaska, Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the 49th State Scholars program	350,000
University of Alaska, Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the Alaska Native Students Science and Engineering program	1,000,000
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ for development of a pilot project to provide instructional and support services to ensure the academic success of disabled veterans	350,000
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, for the Integrative Medicine in Residency program	200,000
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR, for equipment and curriculum development for genetic counseling and other health care programs	400,000
University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA for the Matsui Center for Politics and Public Service, which may include establishing an endowment, and for cataloguing the papers of Congressman Robert Matsui	1,000,000
University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR, for a technology training and instruction initiative, which may include equipment	625,000
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL for the Lou Frey Institute of Politics	250,000
University of Dubuque in Dubuque, Iowa for the establishment of a nursing education program	450,000
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL for purchase of equipment at the College of Education	200,000
University of Hawaii at Hilo for an Applied Rural Science program and a Clinical Pharmacy Training Program, for clinical pharmacy training program	800,000
University of Hawaii School of Law, for a health policy center and cultural education programs	200,000
University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, for the Gateway to Math Program, for continued outreach to pre-college math students	125,000
University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA for technology upgrades at the College of Pharmacy	400,000
University of Michigan Depression Center, Ann Arbor, MI for the Postsecondary Education Campus Support project	400,000
University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS, for program development, start-up costs and curriculum	2,542,500
University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL for the Teacher Leadership Initiative for School Improvement	200,000
University of New Hampshire, Manchester Campus, Manchester, NH, to expand business and high technology academic programs	339,000
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM for the American Indian Language Policy Research and Teacher Training Center	300,000
University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, NC for development of an assistive technology center, which may include equipment	390,000
University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, North Carolina, for nursing programs including military veterans, clinical research and distance learning	211,250
University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL for the Virtual School Readiness Incubator	250,000
University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA, for the development of math and science programs	169,500
University of Scranton, Scranton, PA, for equipment acquisition to support nursing and allied health education programs	90,000
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for curriculum development and acquisition of equipment	847,500
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, for the Baker Center for Public Policy	5,000,000
University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, TX for a science, technology, engineering and mathematics program, including teacher training	150,000
University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX for nursing programs	150,000
University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX for the Centralized Clinical Placement system, including purchase of equipment	100,000
University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK, for acquisition of equipment at the Center for Information Security	100,000
University of Vermont of Burlington, Burlington, VT, to establish advanced practice graduate nursing program in psychiatric-mental health nursing	200,000
University of Vermont of Burlington, VT, Burlington, VT, to establish a child psychiatry fellowship program	200,000
University of Virginia Center for Politics, Charlottesville, VA for the Youth Leadership Initiative	430,000
University of Washington at Bothell, WA for an initiative to train nursing faculty in partnership with a consortium of colleges	300,000
University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI, to provide educational programs in nanotechnology	160,000
University of Wisconsin Platteville, Platteville, WI, to establish an English as a Second Language teacher certification program	125,000
University of Wisconsin Whitewater, Whitewater, WI, to establish a certification program for science teachers	125,000
University of Wisconsin-Marshfield, Marshfield, WI for equipment and technology for science laboratories	200,000
Urban College of Boston, Boston, MA, to support higher education programs serving low-income and minority students	635,000
Utah Valley State College, Orem, UT for a civic education program, including purchase of equipment	200,000
Utah Valley State College, Orem, Utah, to expand nursing education, including technology acquisition and curriculum development	50,000
Vanguard University Nursing Center, Costa Mesa, CA for teacher and nurse training programs	150,000
Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT, for equipment for Fire Science Program	425,000
Villa Julie College, Stevenson, MD, to expand the Nursing Distance Learning Program	500,000
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, for equipment	400,000
Waldorf College, Forest City, IA for purchase of equipment	120,000
Washburn University, Topeka, KS, for equipment acquisition to train students in science and health-related fields	242,500
Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, PA, for foreign language programs	90,000
Washington State University, Pullman, WA, for mentoring programs women in science programs	350,000
Weber State University, Ogden, UT for the TAPT program to recruit additional teachers	150,000
Weber State University, Ogden, Utah, for stipends and tuition asssistance for faculty to pursue advanced nursing degree	423,700
Weber State University, Ogden, Utah, to provide mentoring for minority disadvantaged students	50,000
West Central Technical College, Waco, GA for purchase of equipment	150,000
West Chester University, West Chester, PA for nursing program development	250,000
West Chester University, West Chester, PA, for technology infrastructure upgrades and acquisition	90,000
Western Iowa Tech Community College, Sioux City, IA, for equipment	100,000
Western Kentucky University Research Foundation, Bowling Green, KY, for equipment acquisition for the science, technology and engineering facility	1,500,000
Western Oregon University, Monmouth, OR, for equipping a nursing simulation laboratory	210,000
Wheaton College, Norton, MA, to procure educational equipment and information technology to support science center expansion	170,000
Wheelock College, Boston, MA, for educational equipment and curriculum development for the K-9 science teachers program	210,000
William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ, for curriculum development and other activities to establish the Center for the Study of Critical Languages	210,000
Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Madison, WI for continued implementation of the WAICU Collaboration Project	345,000
Wittenberg University, Springfield OH for a teacher training initiative	400,000
York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000
York College, City University of New York, Jamaica, NY for activities to prepare students for careers in aviation management	320,000
York College, York, NE, for training of clinical social workers in central and western Nebraska, including curriculum development	100,000

Other programs

The conferees provide $8,000,000 for the Tribally Controlled Vocational Institutions as proposed by the Senate. The House also had proposed $8,000,000 for this program, but under the ''Career, Technical, and Adult Education'' account.

The conference agreement includes $858,178,000 for TRIO as proposed by the Senate instead of $868,178,000 as proposed by the House. Within this amount, the conferees intend that $10,000,000 be used for a TRIO college completion initiative, providing supplemental awards under the Student Support Services program to provide grant aid to students participating in the program who are at-risk of dropping out of college due to financial need. The conferees intend that Student Support Services projects receiving supplemental awards shall provide matching funds equal to 33 percent of the total award; thus, leveraging an additional $3,300,000 in need-based student aid. The conferees are concerned about the reduced level of participation of Hispanic students in the TRIO Talent Search program, and encourage the Secretary of Education to enhance program outreach efforts to Hispanics with the goal of increasing the participation rates of Hispanic students in Talent Search.

The conference agreement includes $318,423,000 for the GEAR UP program instead of $323,423,000 as proposed by the House and $313,423,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees intend that $4,950,000 of the increase over fiscal year 2007 be used for State grants, of which 50 percent must be used to provide student scholarships, and $10,050,000 of the increase be used for partnership grants.

The conference agreement includes $41,000,000 for Byrd Honors Scholarships as proposed by the Senate instead of $40,590,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes $34,261,000 for the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants program instead of $40,000,000 as proposed by the House and $28,521,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees intend that the increase over the amount needed for continuing awards in fiscal year 2008 be used solely for partnership grants to institutions of higher education, schools of arts and sciences, and high-need school districts that are focused on teacher pre-service preparation.

The conference agreement includes $3,000,000 for programs for baccalaureate degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or critical foreign languages with concurrent teacher certification, and $2,000,000 for programs for master's degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or critical foreign language education authorized in Public Law 110–69, the America COMPETES Act. The Senate bill proposed $6,000,000 and $4,000,000 for these programs, respectively, and the House bill did not include these provisions.

The conference agreement includes $16,810,000 for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School program instead of $17,810,000 as proposed by the House and $15,810,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement does not include funding for the Advancing America through Foreign Language Partnerships program as proposed by the House. The Senate proposed $12,000,000 for this initiative. Funding for similar activities is included in the conference agreement for the Foreign Language Assistance program and the Title VI International Education and Foreign Languages Studies program.

For Government Performance and Results Act and higher education program evaluation, the conferees recommend $620,000 as proposed by the House instead of $970,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $2,000,000 for the Underground Railroad program as proposed by the Senate. The House did not provide funds for this program. The conference agreement also provides $970,000

for the B.J. Stupak Olympic Scholarship program and $2,946,000 for the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship program as proposed by the House. The Senate did not propose funding for these programs.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

The conference agreement includes $237,392,000 for Howard University as proposed by the House and Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement includes $29,461,000 for Howard University hospital as proposed by the Senate. The House did not designate a specific amount for the hospital.

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

The conference agreement includes $561,315,000 for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) instead of $535,103,000 as proposed by the House and $589,826,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement provides $293,155,000 of total funding to be available through fiscal year 2009. Funds for the individual IES line items are displayed in the table at the end of the statement of managers. Funding levels that were in disagreement but not displayed on the table are discussed in this statement.

The Conference agreement provides $2,200,000 for the Fast Response Survey System to collect data for the report of Arts Education in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools during the 2008-2009 school year, as described in Senate Report 110–107. The survey is to be administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, but with IES and the Office of Innovation and Improvement jointly determining the scope of work of the project.The House proposed this funding level within IES. The Senate proposed $500,000 within the Fund for the Improvement of Education for the survey and additional funding within IES.

The conference agreement does not include funding for a pilot study to develop a student unit record data system as requested by the Administration as proposed by the House. The Senate did not include similar language.

The conference agreement includes funding above the fiscal year 2007 level to support 12th grade State reading and math assessments, as well as scheduled assessments in other subjects approved by the National Assessment Governing Board. The Senate included similar language. The House did not include funds for this purpose.

The conference agreement includes $2,000,000 to support the expansion of the number of urban districts that can participate in the trial urban district assessment. The House provided $3,000,000 for this purpose. The Senate did not include funds for this purpose. The conferees expect the National Assessment Governing Board to use its existing criteria in determining the districts to be added to the assessment.

The conferees request that the National Assessment Governing Board make particular certifications regarding the National Assessment of Educational Progress 2009 science test, as described in section 310 of H.R. 3043, as passed by the Senate. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

The conferees request the Government Accountability Office to conduct a study on strategies used to prepare students to meet State academic standards, as described in section 313 of H.R. 3043, as passed by the Senate. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROGRAM ADMINSTRATION

The conference agreement includes $420,698,000 for Departmental program administration instead of $219,487,000 as proposed by the House and $420,631,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees require the Secretary of Education to assess the impact on education felt by students in States with a high proportion of Federal lands compared to students in non-public land States and to submit a report no later than one year after enactment of this Act. The Senate had a similar requirement in bill language. The House did not have similar language.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes $53,239,000 for the Office of the Inspector General as proposed by the House instead of $54,239,000 as proposed by the Senate.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ONE PERCENT TRANSFER AUTHORITY

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes a general provision similar to that proposed by the Senate providing the Secretary of the Education Department with the authority to transfer up to 1 percent of discretionary funds between appropriations but no appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer. This transfer is available only to meet emergency needs. The Committees are to be notified 15 days in advance of any transfer. The House bill included a similar provision, but allowed transfers for unanticipated needs and allowed an appropriation to be increased up to an additional 2 percent subject to approval of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

INTEGRITY VALUES IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the House requiring the Secretary of Education to establish procedures to assess whether covered individuals or entities have potential financial interest in or bias toward a product or service purchased with or guaranteed or insured by the Department of Education or one of its contracted entities. The conferees direct the Secretary to disclose any such potential financial interest. The conferees also direct the Department of Education Inspector General to report on the adequacy of the procedures established by the Department and to conduct an audit to ensure that the procedures are being correctly implemented. The Senate did not have a similar provision.

IMPACT AID

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate expanding eligibility for impact aid to several school districts in Illinois. The House did not have a similar provision.

VOLUNTARY FLEXIBLE AGREEMENT

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate that requires the Secretary of Education to renegotiate the existing ''voluntary flexible agreements'' under the Higher Education Act, which allow student loan guaranty agencies to be compensated by the Federal government for preventing student loan defaults, rather than collecting on defaulted loans. The provision requires the Secretary to negotiate new, cost-neutral agreements by March 31, 2008 with any guaranty agency that had a voluntary flexible agreement that was determined not to be cost-neutral in October 2007, unless such guaranty agency does not wish to enter into such agreement. The House did not include a similar provision.

DEFENITION OF A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION

The conference agreement includes a general provision not in either the House or Senate bill permitting continued student financial aid eligibility to an institution of higher education affiliated with an entity that filed a bankruptcy petition in 2001.

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate providing funding for the Underground Railroad Educational and Cultural Program, to be funded through an administrative reduction. The House did not have a similar provision. Funding for this activity is included in the Higher Education account.

UPWARD BOUND EVALUATION

The conference agreement does not include a provision in Title III regarding a prohibition of funds to implement an evaluation of the Upward Bound program until after the authorizing committees have reviewed the regulation as proposed by the Senate. A similar provision was included in the House bill, and is included in Title V of this conference agreement.

ANNUAL REPORT CARD

The conference agreement does not include a provision included in the Senate bill requiring the Secretary of Education to submit to the appropriate committees of Congress and post on the internet an annual report card pertaining to Department personnel and programs. The House bill did not contain a similar provision.

SCIENCE ASSESSMENT

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate expressing the sense of the Senate regarding science teaching and the National Assessment of Educational Progress 2009 science test. The House did not have a similar provision. Language relating to this provision is included in the IES account.

STEM PROGRAMS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that provides funding for programs that assist teachers acquiring degrees in science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) or critical foreign languages. The Senate proposed an administrative reduction to support these program increases. The House did not include a similar provision. Funding for these programs is included in the Higher Education account.

THREAT ASSESSMENTS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that requires the Secretary of Education to update the 2002 guidance on threat assessment in schools to reflect the recommendations of the report to the President regarding the legal sharing of personal information under various statutes. The House did not include a similar provision. This requirement is included in the Safe Schools and Citizenship Education section of the statement of managers.

GAO REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate requiring the Government Accountability Office to submit a report to Congress on student preparation techniques to meet State academic achievement standards. The House did not include a similar provision. This requirement is included in the IES section of the statement of managers.

TITLE IV—RELATED AGENCIES

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes $798,065,000 for the operating expenses of the programs administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) instead of $768,905,000 as proposed by the House and $804,489,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes bill language specifying funding amounts for domestic volunteer service programs and national and community service programs as

proposed by the House. The Senate did not specify funding levels in the bill. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

As proposed by the House, the conference agreement includes bill language allowing one percent of grant funds also to be used for electronic management of the grants cycle. The Senate did not propose similar bill language.

DOMESTIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes $313,054,000 for the Domestic Volunteer Service Programs as proposed by both the House and Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language that none of the funds provided for program operating expenses may be used to provide stipends or monetary incentives to program participants or volunteer leaders who exceed the income guidelines in the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. Both the House and Senate bills proposed similar language.

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the Senate that all prior year unobligated balances from the ''Domestic Volunteer Service Programs, Operating Expenses'' account shall be transferred to and merged with this appropriation. The House bill did not propose similar language.

NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes $485,011,000 for the National Community Service Programs, instead of $455,851,000 as proposed by the House and $491,435,000 as proposed by the Senate.

National Service Trust

Within the total for National and Community Service programs, the conference agreement includes bill language designating that not less than $126,121,000, to remain available until expended, shall be transferred to the National Service Trust for educational awards instead of $122,521,000 as proposed by the House and not less than $117,720,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within the total for National and Community Service programs, the conference agreement includes bill language, as proposed by the House, designating that not more than $55,000,000 of grants under the National Service Trust may be used to administer, reimburse, or support national service programs instead of $65,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

AmeriCorps Grants

Within the total for National and Community Service programs, the conference agreement includes $261,371,000 for AmeriCorps Grants instead of $255,625,000 as proposed by the House and $275,775,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes bill language, similar to Senate report language, allowing the transfer of any deobligated funds from closed out AmeriCorps grants to the National Service Trust. The House did not propose similar language.

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the Senate setting aside funding for grants under the National Service Trust program for activities under the AmeriCorps Education Awards Program. The House bill did not propose similar language.

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the Senate that up to $4,000,000 shall be to support national service scholarships for high school students performing community service. The House did not propose similar language.

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the Senate that of the amount provided for educational awards, $7,000,000 shall be held in reserve as defined by the Strengthen AmeriCorps Program Act. The House did not propose similar language.

Innovation, Assistance, and Other Activities

Within the total for National and Community Service programs, the conference agreement includes $19,229,000 for Innovation, Assistance, and Other Activities instead of $13,000,000 as proposed by the House and $10,550,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement includes the following: $500,000 for Martin Luther King grants; $5,000,000 for Disability grants; $850,000 for the Service-Learning Clearinghouse and Exchange; and $4,879,000 for National Service Outreach and Innovation activities.

Also within the total for Innovation, Assistance, and Other Activities, the conference agreement includes $8,000,000 for merit-based competitive grants for supporting and expanding volunteerism and expects that previous partnership grantees, such as the Points of Light Foundation and America's Promise, will be eligible to compete for these grants. The conferees recommend that consideration be given to national programs that build alignment among youth-serving organizations and other sectors to promote coordination of services for disadvantaged youth to achieve better outcomes.

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the Senate setting aside not more than $10,466,000 for quality and innovation activities. The House did not propose similar language.

National Civilian Community Corps

Within the total for National and Community Service programs, the conference agreement includes $24,205,000 for the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) instead of $11,620,000 as proposed by the House and $31,789,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate designating funding for the Civilian Community Corps in the bill. The House did not propose similar language.

The conference agreement includes bill language, as proposed by the Senate, that of the amount provided for the Civilian Community Corps, no less than $5,000,000 shall be for the acquisition, renovation, equipping, and startup costs for campuses—one located in Vinton, Iowa and the other in Vicksburg, Mississippi. As proposed by the Senate, these center sites should be restored based on CNCS'' 2005 geographic assessment and its more specific site evaluation in October 2006. The conferees expect, as proposed by the Senate, that an NCCC class will be operating out of each facility by the end of fiscal year 2008. The House did not propose similar language.

Learn and Serve America

Within the total for National and Community Service programs, the conference agreement includes $38,125,000 for Learn and Serve America instead of $37,125,000 as proposed by the House and $39,125,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement does not include bill language proposed by the House designating funding for service-learning programs to remain available until September 30, 2009. The Senate bill did not include similar language.

State Commission Administrative Grants

Within the total for National and Community Service programs, the conference agreement includes $12,000,000, as proposed by the House, for State Commission Administrative Grants instead of $12,516,000 as proposed by the Senate.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $68,964,000 for the Corporation for National and Community Service salaries and expenses, as proposed by the House, instead of $69,520,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The conference agreement includes $6,900,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG) as proposed by the Senate instead of $5,512,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees concur with language proposed by the Senate directing the OIG to continue reviewing the management of the National Service Trust and to continue reviewing the annual Trust reports and to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the accuracy of the reports.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

CHANGES THROUGH RULEMAKING

The conference agreement includes language that CNCS shall make any changes to program requirements, service delivery, or policy only through public notice and comment rulemaking to include service delivery changes in the administration and/or governance of national service programs. Both the House and Senate proposed similar language.

PROFESSIONAL CORPS

The conference agreement includes language proposed by the House allowing professional corps programs to apply for a certain waiver to allow applicants to apply through State formula. The Senate did not propose similar language.

DONATED SERVICES

The conference agreement includes language proposed by the House to allow CNCS to solicit and accept compensated and commercial services of organizations and individuals (other than participants) to assist in carrying out the duties of CNCS under the national service laws and that such an individual shall be subject to the same protections and limitations as volunteers. The Senate did not propose similar language.

COMBINED MATCHING OF GRANTS

The conference agreement includes language proposed by the House specifying that AmeriCorps programs receiving grants under the National Service Trust program shall meet an overall minimum share requirement of 24 percent for the first three years that they receive funding and thereafter shall meet certain requirements as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, without regard to the operating costs match requirement. The Senate did not propose similar language.

TRANSFER AUTHORITY

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate to permit CNCS to transfer not to exceed one percent of any discretionary funds between activities identified under this heading in the statement accompanying this Act. The House did not propose similar language.

CORPORATE FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

The conference agreement includes bill language as proposed by the House that prohibits funds made available to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by this Act to be used to apply any political test or qualification in selecting, appointing, promoting, or taking any other personnel action with respect to officers, agents, and employees of the Corporation. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement also prohibits the use of fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010 funds available to CPB for the Television Future Fund as proposed by the House. The Senate bill included a similar provision.

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Within the total provided for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, the conference agreement includes $650,000 for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service's Labor-Management Grants Program as proposed by the House, instead of $400,000 as proposed by the Senate.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

OFFICE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES: GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement provides $277,131,000 for the Institute of Museum and Library Services instead of $264,812,000 as proposed by the House and $265,680,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees concur with language included in the House report that gives the Institute of Museum and Library Services the authority and resources to carry out the mission of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. The Senate report did not include similar language. The conference agreement also includes language allowing funds to be made available for grants to commemorative Federal commissions that support museum and library activities.

Within the total for the Institute, the conference agreement includes the following activities in the following amounts:

Program	FY 2008
Museums for America	$17,547,000
Museum Assessment	442,000
Museum Conservation Projects	2,772,000
Museum Conservation Assessment	807,000
Museum Natl. Leadership Proj.	7,920,000
Native American Museum Services	1,000,000
21st Century Museum Professionals	982,000
Museum Grants, African American History and Culture	842,000
Library Serv. State Grants	171,500,000
Native American Library Services	3,817,000
Library Natl. Leadership Grants	12,375,000
Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program	23,760,000
Policy, Research, and Statistics	2,000,000
Administration	12,236,000

Within the amounts provided for the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the conference agreement includes the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Total funding
Aerospace Museum of California Foundation, McClellan, CA for exhibits	350,000
Alabama School of Math and Science, Mobile, AL for purchase of library materials	145,000
Alaska Native Heritage Center, Anchorage, AK, for a partnership with Koahnic Broadcasting for a Native Values project	250,000
America's Black Holocaust Museum, Milwaukee, WI for exhibits and education programs, which may include acquisition of interactive media center kiosks	75,000
American Airpower Museum, Farmingdale, NY for exhibits and education programs	300,000
American Jazz Museum, Kansas City, MO for exhibits and education programs, and an archival project	320,000
American West Heritage Center, Wellsville UT for the Lifelong Learning Initiative	200,000
Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc., Annapolis, MD for exhibits and preservation	50,000
Archives Partnership Trust, New York, NY, to digitize fragile artifacts	85,000
Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA for educational programming	75,000
Bandera County, Bandera, TX for library enhancements	200,000
Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA	500,000
Bibliographical Society of America, New York, NY, for the First Ladies Museum in Canton, OH for the First White House Library Catalogue	130,000
Bishop Museum in Honolulu, HI, to enhance library services	100,000
Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI, to provide Filipino cultural education	250,000
Boston Children's Museum, Boston, MA, for the development of exhibitions	170,000
Boyle County Public Library, Danville, KY for educational materials and equipment	200,000
Burpee Museum for educational programming and exhibits	150,000
Charlotte County, FL, Port Charlotte, FL for archiving and equipment	300,000
Children's Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN for exhibits and equipment	245,000
Children's Museum of Los Angeles, Van Nuys, CA for exhibits and education programs	300,000
Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati, OH for a digital records initiative	250,000
City of Chino Hills, Chino Hills, CA for library facility improvements	200,000
College Park Aviation Museum, College Park, MD for exhibits and educational programs	150,000
Connecticut Historical Society Museum, Hartford, CT for educational programs and interactive school programs at the Old State House	100,000
Contra Costa County, Martinez, CA for library services and its Technology for Teens in Transition volunteer mentor program at the Juvenile Hall Library	125,000
Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Forest, VA for expansion of exhibits and outreach	200,000
County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino, CA for exhibits and programming	250,000
Dallas, Texas, Dallas, TX, for the Women's Museum to expand outreach and programming efforts	200,000
Des Moines Art Center, IA, for exhibits	300,000
Discovery Center of Idaho, Boise, ID for a science center	250,000
Everson Museum of Art of Syracuse, Syracuse, NY for expansion of the Visual Thinking Strategies and Arts Education program	250,000
Fairfield County Public Library, Winnsboro, SC, for acquisition of equipment to upgrade the library facilities	84,750
Figge Foundation, Davenport, Iowa, for exhibits, education programs, community outreach, and/or operations	300,000
Florida Holocaust Museum, St. Petersburg, FL for exhibits and programming	300,000
Florida Memorial University, Miami Gardens, FL, for upgrades to the Nathan W Collier Library	170,000
Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL to digitize holdings and create an online exhibit	250,000
Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation, Philadelphia, PA, for technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000
George and Eleanor McGovern Library, Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, SD for cataloging, preparing, and archiving documents and artifacts relating to the public service of Senator Francis Case and Senator George McGovern	350,000
George C. Marshall Foundation, Lexington, VA for research activities	150,000
George Washington University, Washington, DC for the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project	380,000
Great Basin College, Elko, NV, to develop exhibits and conduct outreach to education programs	350,000
Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ for web-based exhibits and educational programming	100,000
Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY for digitalization of collections and related activities	100,000
Historic Hudson Valley, Tarrytown, NY for education programs	50,000
Historic Hudson Valley, Tarrytown, NY, for education programs at Philipsburg Manor	225,000
History Museum of East Ottertail County, Perham, MN for exhibits and equipment	150,000
Holbrook Public Library, Holbrook, MA, for the development of exhibits	125,000
Impression 5 Science Center, Lansing, MI for exhibits	150,000
Iola Public Library, Iola, Kansas for educational programs, outreach, and materials	50,000
Iowa Radio Reading Information Service (IRRIS), to expand services	200,000
Italian-American Cultural Center of Iowa in Des Moines, IA for exhibits, multi-media collections, display	150,000
James A. Michener Art Museum, Doylestown, PA for equipment, salaries and supplies	100,000
James K. Polk Association, Columbia, TN, for exhibit preparation at Polk Presidential Hall	250,000
Jefferson Barracks Heritage Foundation Museum, St. Louis, MO for exhibits	150,000
Kansas Regional Prisons Museum, Lansing, KS for educational and outreach programs	100,000
Kellogg Hubbard Library, Montpelier, VT, for education and outreach	400,000
Los Angeles Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA, for education and outreach	85,000
Massie Heritage Center, Savannah, GA for exhibit upgrades and purchase of equipment	250,000
Metropolitan Library System, Chicago, IL for educational programming and materials	240,000
Mid-America Arts Alliance, Kansas City, MO, for the HELP program	100,000
Monterey Bay Aquarium, Monterey, CA for educational programming and outreach	75,000
Morris Museum, Morristown, NJ for development of the Interactive Educational Workshop Center Exhibit	250,000
Museum of Afro-American History, Boston, MA, for the development of youth educational programs	210,000
Museum of Aviation Foundation, Warner Robins, GA for education programs	350,000
Museum of Science and Technology, Syracuse, NY for museum exhibits and operations	250,000
Museum of Utah Art & History, Salt Lake City, Utah, to improve technology and exhibit preparation	211,900
Newport News, Virginia, Newport News, VA, to enhance library services	150,000
Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation, Oklahoma City, OK, for educational programs and services	100,000
Onondaga County Public Library, Syracuse, NY for technology upgrades	250,000
Orem, Utah, for technological upgrades, equipment and resource sharing for the Orem public library	254,350
Overton County Library, Livingston, TN for collections, technology, and education programs	250,000
Pennsylvania State Police Historical, Educational and Memorial Museum, Hershey, PA for exhibits and educational materials	150,000
Pico Rivera Library, Pico Rivera, CA for books and materials, equipment, and furnishings	240,000
Portfolio Gallery and Education Center, St. Louis, MO for educational programming	90,000
Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science, Davenport, IA, for exhibits and community outreach	300,000
Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum, Savannah, GA for exhibits, education programs, and equipment	50,000
Rust College, Holly Springs, MS to purchase equipment and digitize holdings	300,000
Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, State University of New York at New Paltz, NY for exhibits and programs	150,000
San Gabriel Library, San Gabriel, CA for equipment, furnishings, and materials	200,000
Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, IL for exhibits and community outreach	150,000
South Carolina Aquarium, Charleston, SC for exhibits and curriculum	150,000
South Florida Science Museum, West Palm Beach, FL for educational and outreach programs	325,000
Southwest Museum of the American Indian, Los Angeles, CA, for the Native American Learning Lab	420,000
Texas Historical Commission, Austin, TX, for educational programming, outreach, and exhibit development	200,000
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX to digitize library holdings	450,000
Tubman African American Museum, Macon, GA for exhibits and education programs	70,000
Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, MN for the Minnesota Digital Public Media Archive	500,000
University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA for the James R. Slater Museum of Natural History for collections, education programs, and outreach	250,000

Project	Total funding
University of Vermont of Burlington, VT, Burlington, VT, for a digitization project	400,000
Yolo County Library, Woodland, CA for an after-school assistance and literacy program	140,000
Young At Art Children's Museum, Davie, FL for the Global Village Project	175,000

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $400,000 for the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include funds for this activity. The conferees instruct that these funds be used for the close out activities of the Commission.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $256,988,000 for the National Labor Relations Board as proposed by the Senate instead of $257,488,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees concur with language in the House report designating $525,000 for training activities and $225,000 for field-headquarters details for National Labor Relations Board employees. The Senate report did not contain similar language.

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Within the total for the National Mediation Board, the conference agreement includes language designating $750,000 for arbitrator salaries. The conferees intend these resources to be an increase over the President's request. The House and Senate reports included similar language.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENT ACCOUNT

The conference agreement includes language in the House bill providing that 2 percent of the amount available for payment of vested dual benefits will be available for the dual benefits contingency reserve. The Senate bill contained a similar provision that specifically designated the amount available.

LIMITATION ON THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The conference agreement includes $7,803,000 for the Office of Inspector General instead of $7,606,000 included in the House bill and $8,000,000 included in the Senate bill. The conferees concur with language in the Senate bill that prohibits the transfer of funds to the Office of the Inspector General. The House bill did not include similar language. The agreement also includes a provision that allows the Office of Inspector General to conduct audits, investigations, and reviews of the Medicare programs. The House bill did not include similar language.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM

The conference agreement includes $27,014,000,000 for the Supplemental Security Income Program instead of $26,948,525,000 as proposed by the House and $27,005,500,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement also includes an advance appropriation of $14,800,000,000, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, for the first quarter of fiscal year 2009, to ensure uninterrupted benefit payments. Within the total, $3,086,000,000 is included for the administrative costs of the program instead of $3,020,525,000 as proposed by the House and $3,076,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Also within the total, the conference agreement includes $27,000,000, as proposed by the House, for research and demonstration activities instead of $28,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement provides funds to support the National Center on Senior Benefits Outreach and Enrollment within the Administration on Aging rather than in the Social Security Administration (SSA) as proposed by the Senate. The House did not provide funding for this activity within SSA.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $9,871,953,000 for the limitation on administrative expenses, as proposed by the Senate, instead of $9,696,953,000 as proposed by the House. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conferees request that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) evaluate the Social Security Administration's plan to reduce the hearing backlog for disability claims at the Social Security Administration, as described in the report submitted by the Commissioner on September 13, 2007, pursuant to Senate Report 110–107. The conferees request that GAO also recommend any legislative changes based on its evaluation of the plan. The House did not propose similar language.

The conferees also request that GAO assess existing authorities to hire, manage, and ensure accountability of administrative law judges in the proper administration of their duties and make recommendations for legislative changes that will support those findings. The Senate bill proposed similar language. The House did not propose similar language in either the bill or report.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Conference agreement includes $95,047,000 for the Office of Inspector General, as proposed by the House, instead of $96,047,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this total, the conference agreement includes $27,000,000, as proposed by the House, from Federal funds instead of $28,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

NORMAL AND RECOGNIZED EXECUTIVE-CONGRESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

The conference agreement includes a general provision as proposed by the House prohibiting the use of funds in the Act to promote the legalization of a drug or substance on the controlled substance list except for normal and recognized executive-congressional communications. The Senate bill included a similar prohibition, but deleted the exception for normal and recognized executive-congressional communications.

AGENCY OPERATING PLANS

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the House that requires each department and related agency funded through this Act to submit a fiscal year 2008 operating plan within 45 days of enactment of this Act. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

UPWARD BOUND EVALUATION

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds to carry out the evaluation of the Upward Bound program described in the absolute priority for Upward Bound Program participant selection and evaluation published by the Department of Education in the Federal Register on September 22, 2006. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

EMPLOYMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED WORKERS

The Conference agreement includes a provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds in this Act to employ workers described in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The Senate bill did not contain a similar provision.

NONCOMPETITIVE CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

The conference agreement includes a provision proposed by the Senate that requires the Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education to submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate containing certain information on noncompetitive contracts, grants and cooperative agreements exceeding $100,000 in value. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

INSPECTOR GENERAL WEBSITES

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate that requires departments, agencies, and commissions funded in the Act to maintain a direct link on their websites to the websites of their Inspector General. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

CONTRACTOR AND GRANTEE FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY CERTIFICATIONS

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits the use of funds in this Act for a contract or grant exceeding $5,000,000 unless the prospective contractor or grantee makes certain certifications regarding Federal tax liability.

PHYSICIAN QUALITY INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

The conference agreement modifies a general provision proposed by the Senate to amend the Social Security Act by reducing the amount available for the physician quality incentive payments by $150,000,000. The Senate provision also increased funding for the Social Security Administration by $150,000,000. The conference agreement allocates these funds under the Social Security Administration account. The House bill did not include this provision.

IRAQI AND AFGHAN SPECIAL IMMIGRANTS

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate that authorizes resettlement assistance, entitlement programs, and other benefits for a period of up to six months to Iraqi and Afghan aliens granted special immigration status. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

FRAUDULENT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

The conference agreement includes a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds in this Act to process claims for credit for quarters of coverage based on work performed under a Social Security number that was not the claimant's number. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

PROHIBITION OF PRIVATE ENTITY TO DISBURSE RAILROAD RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits the Railroad Retirement Board from using funds in this Act to utilize a nongovernmental financial institution to disburse railroad retirement benefits. The enactment of Public Law 109-305 makes this provision unnecessary. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

AGENCY BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that requires the Departments of Labor and

Health and Human Services to provide Congressional budget justifications in the format used by the Department of Education. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION PILOT PROGRAM

The conference agreement does not include a general provision that prohibits the use of funds to enter into a contract with an entity that does not participate in the basic pilot program described in section 403(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. The Senate bill did not contain a similar provision.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds in this Act to pay the basic pay of the Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration if such individual has not been confirmed by a vote of the Senate. The Senate bill did not contain a similar provision.

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS VACCINE

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds in this Act to implement any requirement that individuals receive vaccination for human papillomavirus (HPV) as a condition of school admittance or matriculation. The Senate bill did not contain a similar provision.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that reduces funds for the Department of Labor management expenses and increases funds for Department of Education school improvement programs. The Senate bill did not contain a similar provision.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT REGULATION

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to implement certain portions of the final rule published on March 30, 2007 pertaining to organ transplant centers. The Senate bill did not contain a similar provision.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that increases and decreases funds for the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights. The conference agreement reflects funding for this office under the appropriate account. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that increases and decreases funds for the Department of Education, Education for the Disadvantaged account. The conference agreement provides funding for these programs under the appropriate account. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds in this Act for the Entertainment Education Program, the Ombudsman Program of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and for certain equipment for its fitness center. A similar prohibition of funds proposed by the Senate for the CDC Ombudsman Program and for certain equipment for CDC's fitness center is included under the Title II General Provisions.

USE OF ENERGY STAR LIGHT BULBS

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the House to prohibit the use of funds in this Act to purchase light bulbs without an ''ENERGY STAR'' designation. The Senate bill did not contain a similar provision.

ATTENDANCE AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds in this Act for the attendance of more than 50 employees from a Federal agency at any international conference. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES AND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that reduces amounts otherwise provided in this Act for the Department of Labor for training and employment services and increases amounts for certain institutes of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The conference agreement provides funds for the NIH under the appropriate accounts. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds by the Public Broadcasting Service to sponsor events at the Filmmaker Lodge at the Sundance Film Festival. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

HOSPITAL INPATIENT PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT REGULATION

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds in the Act to implement certain provisions in a proposed regulation published on May 3, 2007 pertaining to a hospital inpatient prospective payment system based on the use of a Medicare severity diagnosis related group, or to implement a prospective behavioral offset in response to implementation of such a payment system. The Senate bill did not include a similar provision.

CONGRESSIONAL PROJECTS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits the use of funds in the Act for Congressionally directed projects, unless the specific project has been disclosed in accordance with the rules of the Senate or House of Representatives. The conferees concur that such projects are already subjected to the rules of each body. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

BETHEL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits the use of funds by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the Bethel Performing Arts Center and make certain other funding adjustments within the IMLS and Health Resources and Services Administration accounts. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

GAO REPORT ON SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION DISABILITY CLAIMS BACKLOG

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate that requires the Government Accountability Office to submit a report to Congress evaluating the Social Security Administration's plan to reduce its hearing backlog for disability claims and to improve the disability process. This reporting requirement is included under the Social Security Administration account. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

GAO REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate that requires the Government Accountability Office to submit a report to Congress making recommendations on ways to improve the hiring and managing of administrative law judges. This reporting requirement is included under the Social Security Administration account. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE CLOSURE IN BRISTOL, CT

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds in this or any other Act to close the Bristol, CT Social Security Administration field office before the date on which the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration submits a detailed report outlining and justifying the process for selecting field offices to be closed. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

ILLEGAL DRUG INJECTION FACILITIES

The conference agreement deletes without prejudice a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds in the Act from being allocated, directed, or otherwise made available to cities that provide safe haven to illegal drug users through the use of illegal drug injection facilities. The House bill did not include a similar provision.

SUPPLEMENTAL H–1B VISA FEES

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require a supplemental H–1B visa fee, authorize a scholarship program at the National Science Foundation (NSF), and dedicate funds collected from such fees to the new NSF scholarship program and the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act of 2001. The House bill did not contain a similar provision.

RECAPTURE OF UNUSED IMMIGRANT VISAS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate to amend the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act of 2000 to recapture prior year unused employment-based immigrant visas for nurses and require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a process for reviewing and acting on petitions for these visas. The House bill did not contain a similar provision.

NURSES AND OTHER HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate to amend the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act of 2000 to establish a fee for recaptured nurse visas, amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a program of capitation grants to schools of nursing using such fees, and amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the temporary absence of aliens providing health care in developing countries. The House bill did not contain a similar provision.

PREMIUM AIRLINE TRAVEL

The conference agreement does not include a general provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds in this Act for the purchase of first class or premium airline travel that would not be consistent with sections 301-10.123 and 301-10.124 of title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The House did not contain a similar provision.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XXI, CL. 9 (HOUSE) AND WITH RULE XLIV (SENATE)

The following list is submitted in compliance with clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, which require publication of a list of congressionally directed spending items (Senate), congressional earmarks (House), limited tax

benefits, and limited tariff benefits included in the conference report, or in the joint statement of managers accompanying the conference report, including the name of each Senator, House Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who submitted a request to the Committee of jurisdiction for each item so identified. Congressionally directed spending items (as defined in the Senate rule) and congressional earmarks (as defined in the House rule) in this division of the conference report or joint statement of managers are listed below. Neither the conference report nor the statement of managers contains any limited tax benefits or limited tariff benefits as defined in the applicable House and Senate rules.

The following list is also submitted in compliance with House Resolution 491, which requires a listing of congressional earmarks in the conference report or joint statement of managers that were not committed to the committee of conference by either House, not in a report on a bill committed to conference, and not in a Senate committee report on a companion measure. Such earmarks are marked with an ''X'' in the list below.

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
AOA	Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, Denver, CO for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	300,000	DeGette, Diana; Salazar
AOA	Amalgamated Warbasse Houses, Inc., Brooklyn, NY for a demonstration project focusing on supportive service programs in naturally occurring retirement communities	250,000	Nadler, Jerrold
AOA	California Senior Legal Hotline, Sacramento, CA for a demonstration project to increase services to non-English-speaking seniors	80,000	Matsui, Doris
AOA	Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, Madison, WI, to conduct outreach and education for law enforcement and financial industry on financial elder abuse	170,000	Kohl
AOA	Disability Rights Wisconsin, Madison, WI, for nursing home support services	155,000	Kohl
AOA	Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation, Durham, NC for a demonstration program to improve assistance to family caregivers	130,000	Price (NC), David
AOA	Good Samaritan Village of Hastings, Sioux Falls, SD, for the continuation of the Sensor Technology Project for Senior Independent Living and Home Health	100,000	Hagel
AOA	Howard Brown Health Center, Chicago, IL for the Chicago Elder Project	400,000	Schakowsky, Janice
AOA	Jewish Community Services of South Florida, North Miami, FL for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	125,000	Wasserman Schultz, Debbie; Nelson, Bill
AOA	Jewish Family & Child Services, Portland, Oregon, for seniors programs and services at a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	84,700	Smith; Wu, David
AOA	Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities demonstration project	90,000	Specter; Schwartz, Allyson
AOA	Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis, Minnetonka, MN for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	200,000	Ramstad, Jim; Ellison, Keith; Klobuchar
AOA	Jewish Family Service of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	300,000	Domenici, Bingaman; Wilson (NM), Heather
AOA	Jewish Family Service, Los Angeles, CA for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project in Park La Brea and the San Fernando Valley	350,000	Waxman, Henry; Boxer
AOA	Jewish Family Services of Delaware, Inc., Wilmington, DE for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	300,000	Castle, Michael; Biden, Carper
AOA	Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey, Scotch Plains, NJ for the naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	300,000	Ferguson, Mike; Sires, Albio; Lautenberg, Menendez
AOA	Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, Atlanta, GA, for a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	84,300	Chambliss; Lewis (GA), John
AOA	Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN for a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	630,000	Bayh, Lugar; Carson, Julia
AOA	Jewish Federation of Greater Monmouth County, NJ for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	300,000	Holt, Rush; Lautenberg, Menendez
AOA	Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, Woodbridge, CT to develop, test, evaluate, and disseminate an innovative community-based approach to caregiver support services	150,000	DeLauro, Rosa; Lieberman
AOA	Jewish Federation of Las Vegas, NV for the Las Vegas Senior Lifeline Program	600,000	Reid
AOA	Jewish Federation of Middlesex County, South River, NJ for a naturally occurring retirement communities demonstration project	250,000	Pallone, Frank
AOA	Jewish Social Service Agency, Fairfax, VA for a naturally occurring retirement community demonstration project	150,000	Davis, Tom
AOA	Nevada Rural Counties RSVP, Carson City, NV, to provide home services to seniors in rural areas	100,000	Reid
AOA	Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging, Front Royal, VA for a model group respite center for persons with Alzheimer's disease and dementia	150,000	Wolf, Frank
AOA	UJA Federation of Northern NJ, River Edge, NJ, for a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community	170,000	Lautenberg, Menendez; Garrett (NJ), Scott
AOA	United Jewish Communities of MetroWest, NJ, Parsippany, NJ for the Lifelong Involvement for Vital Elders Aging in Place initiative	500,000	Frelinghuysen, Rodney; Lautenberg, Menendez
AOA	United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities demonstration project	90,000	Specter
AOA	University of Florida, Gainesville, FL for a technology demonstration project to assist seniors	100,000	Stearns, Cliff
CDC	A Voice for All, Wilmington, DE, for speech and language evaluations for persons with disabilities	325,000	Harkin
CDC	Adler Aphasia Center, Maywood, NJ for a program to improve communication and other life skills for people with aphasia	125,000	Rothman, Steven
CDC	Advocate Good Shepard Hospital, Barrington, IL for the expansion of an ongoing pilot project to address the growing problem of childhood obesity among elementary schools in Lake County, IL	30,000	Bean, Melissa
CDC	Alameda County Public Health Department, Office of AIDS Administration, Oakland, CA for an HIV/AIDS prevention and testing initiative	300,000	Lee, Barbara
CDC	Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Juneau, AK, for an Obesity Prevention and Control project in Alaska	500,000	Stevens
CDC	Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Juneau, AK, for continuation and expansion of a program to detect and control tuberculosis in Alaska	500,000	Stevens

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
CDC	Alaska Multiple Sclerosis Center, Anchorage, AK, for multiple sclerosis related activities	150,000	Stevens
CDC	Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, Philadelphia, PA, for college student screening programs	169,500	Specter, Casey, Jr.
CDC	American Optometric Association, Alexandria, VA, for the InfantSee program	450,000	Byrd; Sessions, Pete
CDC	Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX for epidemiological research and educational outreach related to childhood cancer in cooperation with the Vannie E. Cook Jr. Cancer Foundation in McAllen, TX	320,000	Hinojosa, Rubén; Hutchison
CDC	Bayside Community Center, San Diego, CA for its STEPS health education and outreach program for senior citizens	175,000	Davis (CA), Susan
CDC	Berean Community & Family Life Center, Brooklyn, NY for obesity prevention programs and community health and wellness education	275,000	Towns, Edolphus
CDC	Bienestar Human Services, Inc., Los Angeles, CA to expand a mobile HIV rapid testing program in East Los Angeles	125,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille; Boxer
CDC	Boys and Girls Club of Delaware County, Jay, OK for equipment and operating expenses for programs to improve diet, physical activity, and emotional health	450,000	Boren, Dan
CDC	Brown County Oral Health Partnership, Green Bay, WI, to expand an oral health program	255,000	Kohl
CDC	California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, CA for programs aimed at preventing obesity and promoting health in children	400,000	Sanchez, Loretta; Boxer
CDC	Camden County, Camden, NJ, to purchase, equip and staff a mobile health van	340,000	Lautenberg, Menendez
CDC	Cascade AIDS, Portland, Oregon, to conduct HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programs	170,000	Smith
CDC	Center for Asbestos Related Disease Clinic, Libby, MT to create an epidemiological data repository on tremolite asbestos	260,000	Baucus
CDC	Center for International Rehabilitation, Chicago, IL, for the Disability Rights Monitor	200,000	Harkin
CDC	Charles R. Drew Wellness Center, Columbia, SC for an obesity focused wellness program	235,000	Clyburn, James
CDC	Charter County of Wayne, Michigan, Detroit, MI for Infant Mortality Prevention services	200,000	McCotter, Thaddeus
CDC	Chez Panisse Foundation, Berkeley, CA for the school lunch initiative to integrate lessons about wellness, sustainability and nutrition into the academic curriculum	250,000	Lee, Barbara; Boxer
CDC	Children's Hunger Alliance, Columbus, OH for programs to prevent childhood obesity	200,000	Pryce (OH), Deborah; Voinovich
CDC	Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO, for the development and deployment of Mine safety and Rescue through Sensing Networks and Robotics Technology (Mine-SENTRY)	169,500	Allard, Salazar
CDC	Columbus Children's Research Institute, Columbus, OH for the Center for Injury Research and Policy	200,000	Tiberi, Patrick
CDC	Community Health Centers in Hawaii for Childhood Rural Asthma Project, for childhood rural asthma project	125,000	Inouye
CDC	County of Marin, San Rafael, CA for research and analysis related to breast cancer incidence and mortality in the county and breast cancer screening	300,000	Woolsey, Lynn; Boxer
CDC	CREATE Foundation, Tupelo, MS for childhood obesity prevention programs	450,000	Wicker, Roger
CDC	DuPage County, Wheaton, IL for a county-wide physical fitness assessment pilot project	150,000	Biggert, Judy
CDC	East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine, Greenville, NC for a project to study the problem of racial disparities in cardiovascular diseases	250,000	Butterfield, G. K.; Dole, Burr
CDC	El Puente, Brooklyn, NY for an obesity, diabetes, STD, and HIV/AIDS prevention program for adolescents and their families as well as control and management of asthma and other environmentally connected diseases	220,000	Velázquez, Nydia
CDC	ExemplaSaint Joseph Hospital Foundation, Denver, CO, for the mobile mammography program	85,000	Salazar
CDC	Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT, to develop chronic disease registries	170,000	Leahy
CDC	Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network, Fairfax, VA, for the Iowa Food Allergy Education program	120,000	Harkin
CDC	Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation, Lake Success, NY to provide glaucoma screenings and follow-up in the Phoenix, AZ area	75,000	Pastor, Ed
CDC	Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation, Lake Success, NY to provide glaucoma screenings and follow-up in the Virgin Islands	325,000	Christensen, Donna
CDC	Georgia Chapter of the American Lung Association, Smyrna, GA to study the relationship between residential floor coverings and distributive patterns of airborne particulates	350,000	Deal (GA), Nathan
CDC	Georgia Rural Water Association, Barnesville, GA, for the National Fluoridation Training Institute	84,700	Chambliss
CDC	Haitian American Association Against Cancer, Inc., Miami, FL for cancer education, outreach, screening and related programs	240,000	Meek (FL), Kendrick
CDC	Health Care Network, Inc, Racine, WI, to coordinate dental services for low-income patients	85,000	Kohl
CDC	Healthy Eating Lifestyle Principles, Monterey, CA for a program to improve nutrition by promoting the accessibility and consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables in schools	175,000	Farr, Sam
CDC	Healthy Futures, Columbia, SC, to educate the community to recognize the health concerns, specifically obesity, of youth in the minority community	211,100	Graham
CDC	Healthy Northeast Pennsylvania Initiative, Clarks Summit, PA, for health education	90,000	Specter; Kanjorski, Paul
CDC	Henderson, NV, for a diabetes screening, education and counseling program for seniors	200,000	Reid; Porter, Jon
CDC	Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters—Florida, Coral Gables, FL to create a preventative health care model	175,000	Wasserman Schultz, Debbie
CDC	Ingalls Development Foundation, Harvey, IL for a comprehensive cancer prevention and early detection program, focusing on minority populations	225,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse
CDC	Institute of Medical Humanism, Inc, Bennington, VT, for an end-of-life care initiative	150,000	Leahy
CDC	International Rett Syndrome Association, Clinton, MD for education and awareness programs regarding Rett syndrome	150,000	Hoyer, Steny
CDC	Iowa Chronic Care Consortium, Des Moines, Iowa, for a preventative health demonstration program	150,000	Harkin, Grassley; Boswell, Leonard; Latham, Tom
CDC	Iowa Department of Public Health to continue the Harkin Wellness Grant program	1,500,000	Harkin

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
CDC	Iowa Games, Ames, IA, to continue the Lighten Up Iowa program	100,000	Harkin
CDC	Iowa Health Foundation, for wellness activities for dementia patients	100,000	Harkin
CDC	Iowa State University, Ames, IA, for the Iowa Initiative for Healthier Schools and Student Wellness	400,000	Harkin, Grassley
CDC	Kennedy Health System, Voorhees, NJ, for the Women and Children's Health Pavilion's Advanced Cancer Prevention and Treatment Initiative	380,000	Lautenberg, Menendez
CDC	Kids Kicking Cancer, Inc., Lansing, MI, for cancer treatment support activities	595,000	Levin, Stabenow
CDC	Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Bronx, NY for a nutrition and anti-obesity demonstration program for 6- to 12-year-old children	325,000	Crowley, Joseph
CDC	Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY for asthma education, counseling, and prevention programs	365,000	Towns, Edolphus; Clinton, Schumer
CDC	Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness, Louisville, KY for improving and providing preventative healthcare to men to address disease and obesity prevention, oral health, and stress management	100,000	Yarmuth, John
CDC	Lower Bucks Hospital, Bristol, PA, for autism therapy evaluation	90,000	Specter
CDC	Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, Baton Rouge, LA, for additional C.A.R.E. Network screenings and program development	100,000	Vitter; Jindal, Bobby
CDC	Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Kalamazoo, MI, to improve quality of care and patient safety in hospital surgery settings	425,000	Levin, Stabenow
CDC	Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN for research and education regarding ways of increasing physical activity and fitness among children and adolescents	350,000	Gordon, Bart
CDC	Myositis Association, Washington, DC to develop a national patient registry for individuals afflicted with myositis	175,000	Israel, Steve
CDC	Natividad Medical Center, Salinas, CA for a diabetes care management program	125,000	Farr, Sam
CDC	Nazareth Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, for health outreach	90,000	Specter
CDC	Nevada Cancer Institute, Las Vegas, NV for a comprehensive program to reduce cancer incidence and mortality rates and address cancer health disparities	300,000	Berkley, Shelley; Porter, Jon
CDC	North Shore Health Project, Gloucester, MA for outreach and education on hepatitis C	150,000	Tierney, John
CDC	Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, Scranton, PA, for cancer screening evaluation	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Carney, Christopher; Kanjorski, Paul
CDC	Nueva Esperanza, Philadelphia, PA, for HIV/AIDS programs	90,000	Specter
CDC	Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition, Ephrata, PA, for education, awareness and publication production	90,000	Specter, Casey
CDC	Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative, Pittsburgh, PA, for an infection control training program	90,000	Specter; Murphy, Tim
CDC	Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH for the Partners Enabling Active Rural Living Institute to develop an evidence-based model for promoting and enabling appropriate daily physical activity in rural communities	150,000	Hodes, Paul
CDC	Potter County Human Services, Roulette, PA, for health promotion programs	90,000	Specter
CDC	Providence Cancer Center, Portland, OR for the rural and underserved cancer outreach project	115,000	Wu, David; Blumenauer, Earl; Hooley, Darlene; Walden (OR), Greg; Wyden, Smith
CDC	Providence Multiple Sclerosis Center, Portland, Oregon, to develop a registry for multiple sclerosis	84,700	Smith, Wyden; Wu, David; Walden, Greg
CDC	Pulmonary Hypertension Association, Silver Spring, MD for public education and outreach	200,000	Brady (TX), Kevin; Lantos, Tom
CDC	Saint Michael's Medical Center, Newark, NJ, for heart disease screening	150,000	Menendez, Lautenberg
CDC	San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, San Antonio, TX for further studies and public health outreach regarding environmental health concerns at and near the former Kelly Air Force Base	440,000	Gonzalez, Charles
CDC	SHAREing and CAREing, Astoria, NY to provide culturally sensitive breast health education, referrals for screenings/diagnostic and support services for medically underserved and uninsured minority women	125,000	Crowley, Joseph
CDC	Silent Spring Institute, Newton, MA for studies of the impact of environmental pollutants on breast cancer and women's health	125,000	Delahunt, William; Kennedy, Kerry
CDC	Sister to Sister—Everyone Has a Heart Foundation to increase women's awareness of heart disease, Washington, D.C.	250,000	Cardin
CDC	South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, for interdisciplinary research on obesity prevention and treatment	125,000	Johnson, Thune
CDC	Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats, Emory University, Atlanta, GA for programs related to bioterrorism and emerging biological threats	400,000	Chambliss, Isakson; Price (GA), Tom; Lewis (GA), John
CDC	Spinal Muscular Atrophy Foundation, New York, NY, for outreach, patient education and registries	500,000	Harkin, Specter, Schumer, Clinton
CDC	St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, Wabasha, MN to support a disease prevention pilot program to reduce the incidence of heart disease	100,000	Walz (MN), Timothy; Klobuchar, Coleman
CDC	St. Francis Medical Center Foundation, Lynwood, CA for health education and outreach	140,000	Sánchez T., Linda
CDC	St. John's Regional Medical Center, Oxnard, CA for diabetes prevention and management programs	400,000	Capps, Lois
CDC	St. John's Well Child and Family Center, Los Angeles, CA for a patient education program to address obesity, diabetes, and hypertension	125,000	Becerra, Xavier
CDC	Supporting Autism Families Everywhere, Wilkes-Barre, PA, for Autism programs and education	90,000	Specter
CDC	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso, El Paso, TX, for the Center for Research and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases	375,000	Hutchison
CDC	United Mine Workers of America, Fairfax, VA, for a fuel-cell coalmine vehicle demonstration project	90,000	Specter
CDC	University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, AZ for diabetes educational outreach programs	270,000	Grijalva, Raúl; Giffords, Gabrielle
CDC	University of Findlay Center for Public Health Preparedness, Findlay, OH for training programs on school safety and workplace violence avoidance	275,000	Jordan, Jim; Brown, Voinovich
CDC	University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, for the biodiversity research center	1,171,000	Roberts
CDC	University of Montana Rehabilitation, Research, and Training Center, Missoula, MT, to develop program Living Well and Working Well with a Disability: Improving Health, Promoting Employment, and Reducing Medical Costs	120,000	Baucus

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
CDC	University of Montana, Missoula, MT, for Methamphetamine Detection and Health Effects Research	180,000	Tester
CDC	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with East Carolina University, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, for the Program in Racial Disparities in Cardiovascular Disease	585,000	Dole; Watt, Melvin
CDC	University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX for the Center for Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach	400,000	Granger, Kay
CDC	University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, for health outreach	169,500	Specter
CDC	University of South Florida, Tampa, FL to create, implement, and evaluate programs to assist school-aged children in becoming physically active and healthy	550,000	Castor, Kathy
CDC	University of Texas Pan American, Edinburg, TX for the South Texas Border Health Disparities Center's program on preventing obesity in minority populations	320,000	Hinojosa, Rubén
CDC	University of Texas, Brownsville, TX for studies regarding the health of the Hispanic population in the Rio Grande Valley	400,000	Ortiz, Solomon
CDC	University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, for evidence based adolescent pregnancy prevention programs	200,000	Kohl
CDC	Virgin Islands Perinatal Inc., Christiansted, VI for implementation of chronic disease management and prevention modalities to minimize adverse outcomes related to diabetes and hypertension	315,000	Christensen, Donna
CDC	Voorhees College, Denmark, SC for a demonstration program on reversing diabetes in minority communities	135,000	Clyburn, James
CDC	Wayne County Department of Public Health, Detroit, MI for a lead poisoning assessment, prevention, and intervention program	300,000	Conyers, John; Levin, Stabenow
CDC	WellSpan Health, York, PA, for health outreach	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Platts, Todd
CDC	WestCare Foundation, Las Vegas, NV, for the Batterers Intervention Program in Needles, CA and surrounding communities	500,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
CDC	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT to develop a comprehensive ovarian cancer prevention and early detection program	300,000	DeLauro, Rosa
CDC	YBH Project, Inc., Albany, GA for nutrition, fitness, and education programs for middle school students and their families	100,000	Bishop (GA), Sanford
CDC	Youth and Family Services, Rapid City, SD, for the Health Connections Program	150,000	Johnson, Thune; Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie
Child Abuse	Boys and Girls Town of Missouri, St. James, MO, to expand services to abused and neglected children	423,000	Bond
Child Abuse	Catholic Community Services of Juneau, Juneau, AK, to continue operations at its Family Resource Center for child abuse prevention and treatment in Juneau, Alaska	400,000	Stevens
Child Abuse	Children Uniting Nations, Los Angeles, CA for a foster child mentoring program in Los Angeles	300,000	Feinstein; Cardoza, Dennis
Child Abuse	Darkness to Light, Charleston, SC, to expand and disseminate the Stewards of Children program in consultation with the CARE House of Dayton, OH	300,000	Brown
Child Abuse	Jefferson County, Golden, CO for child abuse prevention and treatment programs	100,000	Udall (CO), Mark; Perlmutter, Ed; Salazar
Child Abuse	New York Center for Children, New York, NY for comprehensive support and services to abused children and their families	175,000	Maloney (NY), Carolyn
Child Abuse	Shelter for Abused Women, Winchester, VA to enhance community efforts to address domestic violence	100,000	Wolf, Frank
Child Abuse	Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Williamsport, PA, for abused and neglected children's CASA programs	90,000	Specter
CMHS	Access Community Health Center, Bloomingdale, IL for mental health services	250,000	Roskam, Peter
CMHS	Access Community Health Network, Chicago, IL, for behavioral health integration programs	400,000	Durbin
CMHS	Advocate Health Care, Oak Brook, IL for specialized and comprehensive psychotherapy and support to abused and neglected children and their families	325,000	Lipinski, Daniel
CMHS	Alfred University, Alfred, NY for graduate school psychologist training program	100,000	Kuhl (NY), John; Clinton, Schumer
CMHS	American Red Cross, Lower Bucks County Chapter, Levittown, PA to provide mental health counseling and case management services, along with related services	100,000	Murphy, Patrick
CMHS	Children's Health Fund, New York, NY, to provide mental health services to children and families in Louisiana	400,000	Landrieu
CMHS	City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA for mental health and substance abuse services for homeless persons in supportive housing	1,500,000	Pelosi, Nancy; Feinstein, Boxer
CMHS	City of Los Angeles, CA for supportive housing services	300,000	Waxman, Henry
CMHS	Community Counseling Center, Portland, ME, for the expansion of the Greater Portland Trauma Assistance Network	100,000	Collins, Snowe
CMHS	Community Rehabilitation Center, Inc., Jacksonville, FL for substance abuse and mental health programs	320,000	Brown, Corrine
CMHS	Corporate Alliance for Drug Education, Philadelphia, PA, for mental health programs	90,000	Specter
CMHS	Essex County, Newark, NJ, for a mental health initiative	635,000	Lautenberg, Menendez; Sires, Albio
CMHS	Family Services of Greater Waterbury, Waterbury, CT for the outpatient counseling/psychiatric program	125,000	Murphy (CT), Christopher
CMHS	Family Support Systems Unlimited, Inc., Bronx, NY for mental health services	175,000	Serrano, Jose
CMHS	Fulton County Department of Mental Health, Atlanta, GA for a jail diversion program	125,000	Scott (GA), David
CMHS	Heartland Health Outreach, Inc., Chicago, IL for mental health services to refugee children	150,000	Schakowsky, Janice
CMHS	Helen Wheeler Center for Community Mental Health, Kankakee, IL for mental health services	200,000	Weller, Jerry
CMHS	Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, PA for the Teenline suicide prevention program	100,000	Platts, Todd
CMHS	Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN for the Institute of Training in Addiction Studies	150,000	Souder, Mark; Bayh, Lugar
CMHS	Jewish Association for Residential Care, Farmington Hills, MI for the Lifelines project	300,000	Knollenberg, Joe; Levin, Stabenow
CMHS	Kids Hope United, Waukegan, IL for the multi-systemic therapy program for youth	270,000	Bean, Melissa
CMHS	New Image Homeless Shelter, Los Angeles, CA for mental health case management	75,000	Becerra, Xavier

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
CMHS	New Mexico Human Services Department, Behavioral Health Collaborative, Santa Fe, NM, to transform the behavioral health services system	210,000	Bingaman, Domenici
CMHS	Oregon Partnership, Portland, Oregon, for mental health services and programs	84,000	Smith
CMHS	Pacific Clinics, Arcadia, CA for mental health and suicide prevention programs for Latina youth	400,000	Napolitano, Grace
CMHS	Prime Time House, Inc., Torrington, CT for mental health services	125,000	Murphy (CT), Christopher
CMHS	Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud, SD, for youth residential and outpatient therapy at Piya Mani Otipi	150,000	Johnson
CMHS	Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service, Boca Raton, FL to provide preventive youth mental health services and clinical outreach to at risk students	190,000	Wexler, Robert
CMHS	Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, Sacramento, CA, for services to the chronically homeless	100,000	Boxer; Matsui, Doris
CMHS	Samaritans of Rhode Island, Providence, RI, to enhance the Suicide Crisis Hotline	210,000	Reed, Whitehouse
CMHS	Spurwink Services, New Gloucester, ME, to improve early detection, training, timely access and evaluating best practice models for child mental health services	100,000	Collins, Snowe; Allen, Thomas
CMHS	United Way of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the 211 project to provide a statewide health and human services management system for Alaska	600,000	Stevens
CMHS	Ventura County Probation Office, Ventura, CA for treatment and related services for juvenile offenders with mental health and chemical dependency problems	240,000	Capps, Lois
CMHS	Ventura County Sheriff's Department, Thousand Oaks, CA for training programs related to the mentally ill	200,000	Gallegly, Elton
CMHS	Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Transportation and Consumer Protection, Madison, WI, to provide mental health services for farmers and their families throughout Wisconsin	85,000	Kohl
CMHS	Youthville, Wichita, KS for an adoption and trauma resource center	450,000	Tiahrt, Todd
CMS	Access Health, Inc., Muskegon, MI, for a small business health coverage program	200,000	Hoekstra, Peter; Levin, Stabenow
CMS	Bedford Ride, Bedford, VA for a program to assist seniors	70,000	Goode, Virgil
CMS	Bi-State Primary Care Association, Concord, NH to treat uninsured patients	325,000	Hodes, Paul; Sanders, Gregg
CMS	City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA for enhancements to the HIV/AIDS service delivery system in San Francisco	1,300,000	Pelosi, Nancy; Feinstein
CMS	City of Detroit, MI for the Detroit Primary Care Access Project	350,000	Kilpatrick, Carolyn
CMS	City of Waterbury, CT for a health access program	200,000	Murphy (CT), Christopher; Lieberman
CMS	Gadsden County, FL, Quincy, FL for a prescription assistance medical services program	100,000	Boyd (FL), Allen
CMS	Jefferson Area Board for Aging, Charlottesville, VA to address nursing assistant shortages in long-term care settings	100,000	Goode, Virgil
CMS	Medicare Chronic Care Practice Research Network, Sioux Falls, SD, to evolve and continue the Medicare Coordinated Care Demonstration project	675,000	Johnson
CMS	Mosaic, Des Moines, IA, for the Iowa Community Integration Project	300,000	Harkin
CMS	Orange County's Primary Care Access Network, Orlando, FL for a health care access network	320,000	Brown, Corrine; Nelson, Bill
CMS	Piedmont Hospital, Atlanta, GA for a project regarding the transition of older patients from hospital to home.	200,000	Lewis (GA), John
CMS	Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA for Project Access for the uninsured	200,000	Smith (WA), Adam
CMS	University of Mississippi, University, MS, for the Medication Use and Outcomes Research Group	300,000	Cochran
CMS	University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy, Chapel Hill, NC, to study the impact of a primary care practice model utilizing clinical pharmacist practitioners to improve the care of Medicare-eligible populations in NC	100,000	Burr
CMS	Valley Hospice, Inc., Steubenville, OH to develop best practices for hospices across the State	400,000	Wilson (OH), Charles
CSAP	Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Eagle Butte, SD, for a methamphetamine prevention program	400,000	Johnson
CSAP	Clinton County Office of District Attorney, Lock Haven, PA, for substance abuse prevention programs	90,000	Specter
CSAP	Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, New Haven, CT to support innovative multi-disciplinary intervention programs serving children and families exposed to violence and trauma	500,000	DeLauro, Rosa
CSAP	Community Health Center on the Big Island of Hawaii	100,000	Inouye
CSAP	Fighting Back Partnership, Vallejo, CA for an intervention program targeting elementary and high school students who are at risk for substance abuse and misuse	250,000	Miller, George
CSAP	Institute for Research, Education and Training in Addictions (IRETA), Pittsburgh, PA, for substance abuse prevention programs	90,000	Specter
CSAP	Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Families, Oakland, CA for integrated HIV/AIDS and substance abuse prevention with African American women and teenagers	150,000	Lee, Barbara
CSAP	Iowa Office of Drug Control Policy, Des Moines, IA, to educate parents about drug use by teenagers	100,000	Harkin
CSAP	Municipality of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for methamphetamine education project in Alaska	400,000	Stevens, Murkowski; Young (AK), Don
CSAP	Operation SafeHouse, Riverside, CA for a substance abuse prevention program	100,000	Calvert, Ken
CSAP	Seton Hill University, Greensburg, PA, for substance abuse prevention programs	90,000	Specter
CSAP	Shiloh Economic Development Center, Bryan, TX for a substance abuse prevention program	150,000	Edwards, Chet
CSAP	South Boston Community Health Center, South Boston, MA for substance abuse prevention services	150,000	Lynch, Stephen
CSAP	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Fort Yates, ND, for a methamphetamine prevention program	400,000	Johnson
CSAP	Tanana Chiefs Conference, Fairbanks, AK, for the Ch'eghutsen Children's Mental Health Program in Interior Alaska	500,000	Stevens
CSAP	The Partnership for a Drug-Free America, New York, NY for educational awareness programs on prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse	250,000	Walsh (NY), James; Souder, Mark
CSAP	YMCA of the East Bay, Richmond, CA for substance abuse prevention activities	100,000	Miller, George

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
CSAT	Akeela, Inc., Anchorage, AK, for the Re-Entry Program in Anchorage, Alaska	200,000	Stevens; Young (AK), Don
CSAT	Anchorage Dept. of Health and Social Services, Anchorage, AK, for the Pathways to Sobriety Project in Anchorage, Alaska	400,000	Stevens
CSAT	Asian American Recovery Services, Inc., San Francisco, CA, for substance abuse treatment programs	170,000	Feinstein
CSAT	City of Las Vegas, NV for the EVOLVE program	400,000	Berkley, Shelley
CSAT	City of Oxford, Oxford, MS for a substance abuse treatment program	350,000	Wicker, Roger
CSAT	Fulton County, Atlanta, GA for Project Excell, an intensive outpatient treatment program serving homeless males with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders	100,000	Lewis (GA), John
CSAT	Gavin Foundation, South Boston, MA for substance abuse treatment services at its Cushing House facility for adolescents	350,000	Lynch, Stephen
CSAT	Glide Foundation, San Francisco, CA for substance abuse services	250,000	Pelosi, Nancy
CSAT	Heartland Family Services, Inc., Omaha, NE, for the Sarpy County Methamphetamine Treatment Program for women and children	100,000	Hagel, Ben Nelson
CSAT	Maine Lighthouse Corp., Bar Harbor, ME, for the Therapeutic Community for the Substance Abuse Treatment project	100,000	Collins, Snowe
CSAT	Maniilaq, Inc., Kotzebue, AK, for the Mavsigviq Family Recovery Program in Northwest Arctic Borough Alaska	500,000	Stevens
CSAT	Marin Services for Women, Inc., Greenbrae, CA, for substance abuse treatment for low-income women and their children	170,000	Feinstein
CSAT	Martin Addiction Recovery Center, Martin, SD, to enhance and expand substance abuse intervention and treatment services	200,000	Johnson
CSAT	Metro Homeless Youth Services of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA to expand services for homeless youth with substance abuse problems	300,000	Feinstein; Watson, Diane
CSAT	Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minneapolis, MN for a dual diagnosis outpatient treatment program	100,000	Ellison, Keith; Klobuchar, Coleman
CSAT	Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY for substance abuse treatment services	300,000	King (NY), Peter; McCarthy, Carolyn; Clinton, Schumer
CSAT	Nicasa in Round Lake, IL, Round Lake, IL, for evening outpatient substance abuse treatment program for women	325,000	Durbin
CSAT	Sandhills Teen Challenge, Carthage, NC for substance abuse treatment services	100,000	Coble, Howard
CSAT	Sheriffs Youth Program of Minnesota, Inver Grove Heights, MN for chemical dependency treatment services	125,000	Walz (MN), Timothy; Coleman
CSAT	Talbert House, Cincinnati, OH for a substance abuse treatment program	300,000	Schmidt, Jean
CSAT	Trumbull County Lifelines, Warren, OH for behavioral health services	200,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
CSAT	Union Station Foundation, Pasadena, CA for services to homeless families	150,000	Schiff, Adam
CSAT	United Way of Treasure Valley, Boise, ID for a substance abuse treatment program	400,000	Sali, Bill; Simpson, Michael, Crapo
CSAT	Wayne County Academy, Alpha, KY for a substance abuse counseling program	200,000	Rogers (KY), Harold
CSAT	WestCare Kentucky, Ashcamp, KY for a substance abuse treatment and voucher program	700,000	Rogers (KY), Harold
ETA	Adelante Development Center, Albuquerque, NM for employment and training services	200,000	Pearce, Stevan; Domenici
ETA	Agudath Israel of America Community Services, Inc., Brooklyn, NY for its Fresh Start job training and counseling program	450,000	Weiner, Anthony
ETA	Alu Like, Inc., Honolulu, HI, for training and education	100,000	Inouye
ETA	Arc of Blackstone Valley, Pawtucket, RI for a workforce development initiative	325,000	Reed; Kennedy, Patrick
ETA	Barnabus Uplift, Des Moines, IA, for job training and supportive services	425,000	Harkin
ETA	Bellingham Technical College, Bellingham, WA for a Process Technology Workforce Development Project	215,000	Larsen (WA), Rick
ETA	Bismarck State College, Bismarck, ND for an instrumentation and control training program for the energy industry	1,000,000	Dorgan, Conrad; Pomeroy, Earl
ETA	Brockton Area Private Industry Council, Inc., Brockton, MA, for workforce development programs	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry; Lynch, Stephen
ETA	Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ for workforce training programs through its Center for Excellence in Technology, Telecommunications and Economic Development	250,000	Holt, Rush
ETA	Capital IDEA, Austin, TX for workforce development services for disadvantaged adults	250,000	Doggett, Lloyd
ETA	Capps Workforce Training Center, Moorhead, MS, for Workforce Training	350,000	Cochran
ETA	Catholic Charities, Chicago, IL, for vocational training and support programs at the Saint Leo Residence for Veterans	500,000	Durbin; Lipinski, Daniel
ETA	Center for Employment Training, San Jose, CA for its building trades program for out-of-school youth	350,000	Lofgren, Zoe
X ETA	Center for Working Families, Long Beach, CA for job training and placement in demand industries	140,000	Richardson, Laura
ETA	Central Carolina Tech College, Sumter, SC for training in healthcare professions	400,000	Spratt, John
ETA	Central Maine Community College, Auburn, ME for a training program in precision metalworking and machine tool technology	200,000	Michaud, Michael; Collins, Snowe
ETA	Chinese-American Planning Council, New York, NY for counseling, vocational training, job placement, and ESL services	200,000	Velázquez, Nydia
ETA	City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA for a health care workforce training initiative through the Welcome Back Center	350,000	Lantos, Tom
ETA	City of Alexandria, VA for an automotive industry workforce development and training initiative	350,000	Moran (VA), James
ETA	City of Baltimore, MD for the Park Heights Partnership for Jobs	500,000	Cardin; Cummings, Elijah; Sarbanes, John
ETA	City of Milwaukee, WI for a project to train youth in construction trades	250,000	Moore (WI), Gwen
ETA	City of Palmdale, Palmdale, CA for a business resource network to enhance worker skills development	150,000	McKeon, Howard

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
ETA	City of Suffolk, VA for training programs at the Suffolk Workforce Development Center	250,000	Forbes, J.; Webb, Warner
ETA	City of West Palm Beach, FL for training programs for at-risk youth	375,000	Hastings (FL), Alcee
ETA	Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis, IN for workforce development in the health care industry	245,000	Carson, Julia
ETA	College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD, for its Partnership for the Advancement of Construction and Transportation Training Project	300,000	Hoyer, Steny; Mikulski, Cardin
ETA	Community Agricultural Vocational Institute, Yakima, WA, for training of agricultural workers	250,000	Murray
ETA	Community College of Allegheny College, Pittsburgh, PA, for job training programs	75,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Peterson (PA), John
ETA	Community Learning Center, Fort Worth, TX for expansion of the Advanced Manufacturing Training Partnership Program	500,000	Granger, Kay
ETA	Community Solution for Clackamas County, Oregon City, Oregon, to expand the Working for Independence (WFI) program in Clackamas County	127,000	Smith; Blumenauer, Earl; Hooley, Darlene
ETA	Community Transportation Association of America, Washington, DC, for the Joblinks program	400,000	Harkin
X ETA	Compton CareerLink, Compton, CA for job training and placement in demand industries	200,000	Richardson, Laura
ETA	Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc., Anchorage, AK, for the Alaska's People program to provide job training and employment counseling	500,000	Stevens
ETA	Crowder College, Neosho, MO, to expand technical education programs for workforce development	656,000	Bond
ETA	Des Moines Area Community College, Arkeny, IA for workforce recruitment and training to address area skill shortages	275,000	Boswell, Leonard; Grassley
ETA	Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA, for Project Employment	250,000	Harkin, Grassley; Boswell, Leonard
ETA	East Los Angeles Community Union, Los Angeles, CA for a workforce training initiative	300,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
ETA	Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana, Inc., Fort Wayne, IN for the Production and Worker Training Services program	100,000	Souder, Mark
ETA	Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI, for re-training of displaced workers	340,000	Stabenow, Levin; Dingell, John
ETA	Eastern Technology Council, Wayne, PA, for job training programs	75,000	Specter, Casey
ETA	Edgar Campbell Foundation, Philadelphia, PA for counseling, job placement and work readiness programs	400,000	Brady (PA), Robert
ETA	Employment & Economic Development Department of San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA for a work experience program for at-risk youth	175,000	McNerney, Jerry
ETA	Essex County Community Organization, Lynn, MA for its E-Team Machinist Training Program	300,000	Tierney, John
ETA	Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO, for the development of entrepreneurship programs to enhance regional development	127,000	Allard, Salazar
ETA	Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow, Las Vegas, NV, for job training, vocational education, and related support	150,000	Reid
ETA	Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber, Media, PA for workforce development and job readiness services	192,000	Sestak, Joe; Specter
ETA	Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin, Inc., Milwaukee, WI, to provide training, employment and supportive services, including for individuals with disabilities	210,000	Kohl
ETA	Goodwill of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, NV for workforce development programs	350,000	Porter, Jon
ETA	Greater Akron Chamber, Akron, OH for a summer apprenticeship program for youth	300,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
ETA	Groden Center, Providence, RI for job readiness training for adults with Asperger's Syndrome	150,000	Kennedy, Patrick; Reed, Whitehouse
ETA	Guam Community College, Mangilao, Guam for skilled craft training	400,000	Bordallo, Madeleine
ETA	Hamilton County Government, Chattanooga, TN for training activities related to manufacturing processes	850,000	Wamp, Zach; Alexander
ETA	Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA, for job training programs	75,000	Specter
ETA	Home of Life Community Development Corp., Chicago, IL for a financial services training and placement program	240,000	Davis (IL), Danny
ETA	Homecare Workers Training Center, Los Angeles, CA for nurse assistant training	125,000	Becerra, Xavier
ETA	Idaho Women Work! at Eastern Idaho Technical College, Idaho Falls, ID, to continue and expand the Recruiting for the Information Technology Age (RITA) initiative in Idaho	100,000	Craig
ETA	International Fellowship of Chaplains, Inc., Saginaw, MI for the Road to Hope training program in Seneca County, OH	200,000	Gillmor, Paul; Levin
ETA	Iowa Policy Project for a study on temporary and contingent workers	350,000	Harkin
ETA	Iowa Valley Community College, Marshalltown, IA for job training activities	250,000	Harkin; Latham, Tom
ETA	Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana - Columbus Region, Indianapolis, IN for the Center for Cybersecurity for workforce development	150,000	Pence, Mike; Bayh, Luger
ETA	Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana Lafayette, Indianapolis, IN for job training programs at the Center for Health Information Technology	140,000	Buyer, Steve; Bayh, Lugar
ETA	Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS for workforce training and placement for the retail and hospitality industries	320,000	Moore (KS), Dennis; Brownback
ETA	Kent State University/Trumbull County, Warren, OH for regional training through the Northeast Ohio Advanced Manufacturing Institute	250,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
ETA	Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential, Cleveland, Ohio, for training and skill development services for individuals with disabilities in coordination with the local workforce investment system	180,000	Brown
ETA	Louisiana Delta Community College, Monroe, LA for a job training initiative	250,000	Alexander, Rodney
ETA	Louisiana National Guard, Carville, LA for the Job Challenge Program	150,000	Baker, Richard
ETA	MAGLEV Inc., McKeesport, PA, for a training program in advanced precision fabrication	90,000	Specter
ETA	Manufacturing Association of Central New York, Syracuse, NY for a workforce training project	250,000	Walsh (NY), James

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
ETA	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Manchester, NH for training of nurses, physician assistants, and pharmacists	319,500	Sununu; Shea-Porter, Carol
ETA	Massachussets League of Community Health Centers, East Boston, MA, for a health-care workforce development program	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
ETA	Maui Community College Remote Rural Hawaii Job Training Project, HI, for the Remote Rural Hawaii Job Training project	2,400,000	Inouye
ETA	Maui Community College Training and Educational Opportunities, HI, for training and education	1,000,000	Inouye
ETA	Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for high tech training	475,000	Inouye
ETA	Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for the rural computer utilization training program	300,000	Inouye
ETA	McHenry County Community College, Woodstock, IL for employer-identified occupational training	400,000	Bean, Melissa
ETA	Memphis, Tennessee, for a prisoner re-entry program	200,000	Alexander; Cohen, Steve
ETA	Minot State University, Minot, ND for the Job Corps Executive Management Program	750,000	Dorgan, Conrad; Pomeroy, Earl
ETA	Mission Language and Vocational School, San Francisco, CA for a training program in health-related occupations	250,000	Pelosi, Nancy
ETA	Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for the Mississippi Integrated Workforce Performance System	400,000	Cochran; Pickering, Charles
ETA	Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for training development and delivery system at the Distributed Learning System for Workforce Training Program	200,000	Cochran
ETA	Mississippi Technology Alliance, Ridgeland, MS, for the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurial Services	150,000	Cochran
ETA	Mississippi Valley State University, Itta Bena, MS, for training and development programs at the Automated Identification Technology (AIT)/Automatic Data Collection (ADC)	200,000	Cochran
ETA	Moreno Valley, CA, to provide vocational training for young adults, as well as the development of an internship with local businesses to put the trainees' job skills to use upon graduation	125,000	Boxer
ETA	National Council of La Raza in Washington, DC, to provide technical assistance on Hispanic workforce issues including capacity building, language barriers, and health care job training	400,000	Harkin
ETA	Neighborhood First Program, Inc., Bristol, PA for services for at-risk youth	125,000	Murphy, Patrick
ETA	Neumann College, Aston, PA, for the Partnership Advancing Training for Careers in Health program	75,000	Specter
ETA	NewLife Academy of Information Technology, East Liverpool, OH for training for information technology careers	240,000	Wilson (OH), Charles
ETA	North Side Industrial Development Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA, for job training programs	75,000	Specter
ETA	North West Pasadena Development Corp., Pasedena, CA for job training for low-income individuals	125,000	Schiff, Adam
ETA	Northcott Neighborhood House, Milwaukee, WI for construction industry training for youth	70,000	Moore (WI), Gwen
ETA	Northwest Washington Electrical Industry Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, Mount Vernon, WA, for expanded training capability, including the acquistion of training equipment, to meet the need for skilled electrical workers	150,000	Murray
ETA	Northwest Wisconsin Concentrated Employment Program, Inc., Ashland, WI, for workforce development training in Northwest Wisconsin	255,000	Kohl
ETA	Oakland Community College, Bloomfield Hills, MI to lead a consortium on workforce development for emerging business sectors	600,000	Knollenberg, Joe; McCotter, Thaddeus; Levin, Sander; Levin
ETA	Opportunity, Inc., Highland Park, IL for workforce development activities	350,000	Kirk, Mark
ETA	Our Piece of the Pie, Hartford, CT for education and employment services for out-of-school youth	500,000	Larson (CT), John; Dodd, Lieberman
ETA	Pacific Mountain Workforce Consortium, Tumwater, WA, for training of qualified foresters and restoration professionals in Lewis County	140,000	Murray
ETA	Parish of Rapides Career Solutions Center, Alexandria, LA for a job training initiative	200,000	Alexander, Rodney; Landrieu, Vitter
ETA	Pennsylvania Women Work!, Pittsburgh, PA, for job training programs	90,000	Specter
ETA	Philadelphia Shipyard Development Corporation, Philadelphia, PA for on-the-job training in shipbuilding technology	435,000	Murtha, John; Specter
ETA	Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Philadelphia, PA, for veterans job training	75,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
ETA	Piedmont Virginia Community College, Charlottesville, VA for the Residential Construction Academy	100,000	Goode, Virgil
ETA	Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce Enterprise Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA, for workforce development	75,000	Specter
ETA	Poder Learning Center, Chicago, IL for immigrant neighborhood education and job development services	200,000	Gutierrez, Luis; Obama
ETA	Port Jobs, in partnership with South Seattle Community College, Seattle, WA, for training of entry-level airport workers	100,000	Murray
ETA	Portland Community College, Portland, OR, to support the Center for Business and Industry	85,000	Wyden, Smith
ETA	Precision Manufacturing Institute, Meadville, PA for high-technology training programs	338,000	English (PA), Phil
ETA	Project ARRIBA, El Paso, TX, for workforce development in the West Texas region	100,000	Hutchison; Reyes, Silvestre
ETA	Project One Inc., Louisville, KY for summer job activities for disadvantaged youth	150,000	Yarmuth, John
ETA	Project QUEST, Inc., San Antonio, TX for workforce development services to low-income residents	75,000	Rodriguez, Ciro
ETA	PRONTO of Long Island, Inc., Bayshore, NY for a vocational training initiative	100,000	Israel, Steve; Clinton, Schumer
ETA	Rhodes State College, Lima, Ohio, for equipment, curriculum development, training and internships for high-tech engineering technology programs	150,000	Brown
ETA	Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc., Durant, OK, for entrepreneurship training programs	100,000	Inhofe; Fallin, Mary
ETA	Saint Leonard's Ministries, Chicago, IL, for job training and placement for ex-offenders	260,000	Durbin
ETA	San Jose, CA, for job training for the homeless	330,000	Feinstein

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
ETA	Santa Ana, CA, for the Work Experience and Literacy Program	760,000	Feinstein, Boxer; Sanchez, Loretta
ETA	Santa Maria El Mirador, Santa Fe, NM, to provide an employment training program	700,000	Domenici
ETA	Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center, Charleston, WV for its Enterprise Development Initiate	250,000	Capito, Shelley
ETA	Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, MarLin, PA for a workforce training program	190,000	Holden, Tim
ETA	South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Hawthorne, CA for its Bridge-to-Work program	400,000	Waters, Maxine
ETA	Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO for equipment and training	450,000	Emerson, Jo Ann
ETA	Southern University at Shreveport, Shreveport, LA for healthcare worker training activities	100,000	McCrery, Jim
ETA	Southside Virginia Community College, Alberta, VA for the Heavy Equipment Training Program	300,000	Goode, Virgil
ETA	Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, Vancouver, WA, to create and sustain a partnership between business, education and workforce leaders in Southwest Washington	150,000	Murray
ETA	Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, OK for workforce development in the manufacturing sector	250,000	Lucas, Frank
ETA	St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment, St. Louis, MO for a summer jobs program for youth	550,000	Clay, Wm.
ETA	STRIVE/East Harlem Employment Service, Inc., NY, for the Core job training program	500,000	Schumer, Clinton
ETA	Towson University, Towson, MD for education and training services for careers in homeland security	275,000	Ruppersberger, C. A.
ETA	Twin Cities Rise!, Minneapolis, MN, for job training initiatives	255,000	Klobuchar
ETA	United Auto Workers Region 9, Local 624, New York, for incumbent worker training	300,000	Schumer, Clinton
ETA	United Mine Workers of America, Washington, PA for the UMWA Career Center's mine worker training and re-employment programs	750,000	Murtha, John
ETA	University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for Workforce Training in Marine Composite	500,000	Cochran
ETA	University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL to provide teacher training to veterans	284,500	Miller (FL), Jeff; Martinez
ETA	Urban League of Lancaster County, Inc., Lancaster, PA, for job training programs	75,000	Specter
ETA	Vermont Department of Labor, Montpelier, VT, for job training of female inmates in Vermont as they prepare to reenter the workforce	600,000	Leahy
ETA	Vermont Healthcare and Information Technology Education Center, Williston, VT, for advanced manufacturing training of displaced workers	200,000	Leahy
ETA	Vermont Healthcare and Information Technology Education Center, Williston, VT, for health care training of displaced workers	615,000	Leahy
ETA	Vermont Technical College and Vermont Workforce Development Council, Randolph Center, VT, to provide job training to displaced workers in Vermont	540,000	Leahy
ETA	Veteran Community Initiatives, Inc., Johnstown, PA for employment services and support programs for veterans	500,000	Murtha, John
ETA	Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN for heavy equipment operator training for the mining industry	375,000	Ellsworth, Brad; Lugar
ETA	Washington Workforce Association, Vancouver, WA, for job shadowing, internships, and scholarships to prepare students for high-demand occupations	400,000	Murray
ETA	Washington, Ozaukee, Waukesha Workforce Development Inc., Pewaukee, WI, for advanced manufacturing and technology training	380,000	Kohl
X ETA	Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Los Angeles, CA for job training and placement in demand industries	200,000	Richardson, Laura
ETA	Wayne County, NY Planning Department, Lyons, NY for workforce development programs in Central New York	250,000	Walsh (NY), James
ETA	West Los Angeles College, Culver City, CA for a craft and technican training program	540,000	Watson, Diane
ETA	Wisconsin Community Action Program, Madison, WI, for job training assistance of low-income individuals	275,000	Kohl
ETA	Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership, Milwaukee, WI, to assess, prepare, and place job-ready candidates in construction, manufacturing, and other skilled trades and industries	255,000	Kohl
ETA	Women Work and Community, Augusta, ME for a women's workforce training and development program	500,000	Allen, Thomas; Collins, Snowe
ETA	Workforce Connections, Inc., La Crosse, WI, to develop and implement strategic workforce development activities in Western Wisconsin	125,000	Kohl
ETA	Workforce Resource, Inc., Menomonee, WI, for employment assistance	210,000	Kohl; Obey, David
ETA	Wrightco Technologies, Inc, Claysburg, PA, to provide job training, retraining and vocational educational programs	90,000	Specter
FIE	ABC Unified School District, Cerritos, CA for an after-school program at Melbourne Elementary School	200,000	Sánchez T., Linda
FIE	Academy for Urban School Leadership, Chicago, IL for Chicago Academy and Chicago Academy High School, which may include support for resident teachers	200,000	Emanuel, Rahm
FIE	Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc., Bridgeport, CT for teacher training programs	500,000	Lieberman, Dodd; Shays, Christopher
FIE	African-American Male Achievers Network, Inc., Inglewood, CA for its Project STEP program for at-risk youth	40,000	Waters, Maxine
FIE	Akron Public Schools, OH for a Math, Science, and Technology Community Learning Center, which may include equipment	250,000	Sutton, Betty; Voinovich
FIE	Alamance-Burlington School District, Burlington, NC for the Professional Development Academy	150,000	Coble, Howard
FIE	Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Juneau, AK, for Big Brothers/Big Sisters statewide, in partnership with Alaska Dept. of Education, Boys and Girls Club, and Cook Inlet Tribal Council for a comprehensive mentoring program in Alaska	300,000	Stevens
FIE	Alaska Sealife Center, Seward, AK, for a marine ecosystems education program	250,000	Stevens
FIE	All Kinds of Minds, Chapel Hill, NC for teacher training programs	150,000	Hall (TX), Ralph
FIE	Allied Services Foundation, Clarks Summit, PA, for dyslexia education programs at the Allied Services dePaul School	75,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Kanjorski, Paul

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	American Ballet Theatre, New York, NY for educational activities	150,000	Maloney (NY), Carolyn; Schumer
FIE	American Foundation for Negro Affairs National Education and Research Fund, Philadelphia, PA, to raise the achievement level of minority students and increase minority access to higher education	90,000	Specter
FIE	Amistad America, New Haven, CT for the Atlantic Freedom Tour of the Armistad educational programs	250,000	Courtney, Joe; DeLauro, Rosa, Shays, Christopher; Larson, John; Murphy, Chris; Dodd
FIE	An Achievable Dream, Inc., Newport News, VA for education and support services for at-risk children, which may include teacher stipend scholarships	240,000	Scott (VA), Robert; Davis, Jo Ann
FIE	Anchorage's Promise, Anchorage, AK, to implement America's Promise child mentoring and support program in Anchorage	100,000	Stevens
FIE	Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX for a teacher training initiative	200,000	Conaway, K.
FIE	Apache County Schools, St. Johns, AZ for a teacher training initiative	150,000	Renzi, Rick
FIE	Arab City Schools, Arab, AL for technology upgrades	200,000	Aderholt, Robert; Shelby
FIE	ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey, Newark, NJ, to provide academic assistance and leadership development	85,000	Lautenberg, Menendez
FIE	AVANCE, Inc, El Paso, TX for parenting education programs	125,000	Reyes, Silvestre
FIE	AVANCE, Inc., Del Rio, TX for a family literacy program	100,000	Rodriguez, Ciro
FIE	AVANCE, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for training and curriculum development for a parent-child educational program	212,000	Cornyn; Gonzalez, Charles
FIE	AVANCE, Inc., Waco, TX for parenting education programs	125,000	Edwards, Chet
FIE	Barat Education Foundation, Lake Forest, IL for the American Citizen Initiative pilot program	400,000	Kirk, Mark
FIE	Barnstable, MA, for the development of programs and procurement of educational equipment at a youth and community center	210,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIE	Bay Haven Charter Academy Middle School, Lynn Haven, FL for its physical education program, which may include equipment	150,000	Boyd (FL), Allen
FIE	Baylor University, Waco, TX for its Language and Literacy Center	100,000	Edwards, Chet
FIE	Beaver County, Beaver County, PA, to implement educational programming for K-12 students, including safe and appropriate use of the Internet	75,000	Specter
FIE	Berkeley Unified School District, Berkeley, CA, for a nutrition education program	90,000	Boxer
FIE	Berks County Intermediate Unit, Reading, PA, for music education programs	90,000	Specter
FIE	Best Buddies International, Miami, FL for mentoring programs for persons with intellectual disabilities	661,000	Kennedy, Patrick; Ramstad, Jim; Harkin
FIE	Best Buddies Maryland, Baltimore, MD for mentoring programs for persons with intellectual disabilities	300,000	Hoyer, Steny
FIE	Best Buddies Rhode Island, Providence, RI for mentoring programs for persons with intellectual disabilities	150,000	Kennedy, Patrick
FIE	Best Buddies, Miami, FL, to develop a Nevada site for Best Buddies	170,000	Reid
FIE	Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Southeastern Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, for recruitment, placement, and oversight of school-based mentoring programs	508,500	Specter
FIE	Big Top Chautauqua, WI for educational activities	250,000	Obey, David
FIE	Boise State University, Boise, ID for the Idaho SySTEMic Solution program	200,000	Simpson, Michael; Crapo
FIE	Bowie State University, Bowie, MD for establishment of a Principal's Institute	200,000	Hoyer, Steny; Mikulski, Cardin
FIE	Boys & Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, to expand an early literacy program for children in Milwaukee	255,000	Kohl
FIE	Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI for a multi-media center, which may include equipment	425,000	Abercrombie, Neil
FIE	Boys & Girls Town of Missouri, Columbia, MO for technology upgrades	150,000	Hulshof, Kenny
FIE	Boys and Girls Club of San Bernardino, CA for an after-school program in the Delman Heights community, which may include equipment	140,000	Baca, Joe; Boxer
FIE	Bradford Area School District, Bradford, PA for the purchase of equipment	150,000	Peterson (PA), John
FIE	Brigham City, Brigham City, Utah, for acquisition of equipment for a distance learning program	50,000	Hatch; Bishop (UT), Rob
FIE	Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ for a Student Success Center in Asbury Park, NJ which may include equipment	250,000	Pallone, Frank; Lautenberg, Menendez
FIE	Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, NY, for the Learning Centers	500,000	Clinton, Schumer; Clarke, Yvette; Towns, Edolphus
FIE	Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts, Hartford, CT for arts education programs	100,000	Larson (CT), John; Dodd
FIE	California State University Northridge, CA for development of an assessment and accountability system for teacher education	400,000	Sherman, Brad
FIE	California State University, San Bernardino, CA for a leadership training program for urban youth	500,000	Baca, Joe
FIE	Canton Symphony Orchestra Association, Canton, OH for the Northeast Ohio Arts Education Collaborative, including teacher training and curriculum development	100,000	Regula, Ralph
FIE	Carnegie Hall, New York, NY for its National Music Education Program	400,000	Clinton, Schumer; Maloney (NY), Carolyn; Hatch
FIE	Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Cedar Rapids, IA, to support the Residency program	400,000	Harkin
FIE	Center for Advancing Partnerships in Education, Allentown, PA, to develop a foreign language distance learning program and for teacher training	75,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
FIE	Central County Occupational Center, San Jose, CA for a first responder career and technical training program for high school students	100,000	Honda, Michael
FIE	Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology, State College, PA for curriculum and equipment at its vocational training program	600,000	Peterson (PA), John
FIE	Centro de Salud Familiar Le Fe, El Paso, TX for an elementary charter school, which may include equipment	225,000	Reyes, Silvestre
FIE	Charlotte County School District, Port Charlotte, FL for an instructional system for English language learners, which may include equipment and software	250,000	Mahoney (FL), Tim

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	Charter School Development Foundation, Las Vegas, NV for the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy	500,000	Reid; Berkley, Shelley
FIE	Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Annapolis, MD, to provide teacher training, student education and field experiences in the Chesapeake Bay	425,000	Cardin
FIE	Chester County Intermediate Unit, Dowingtown, PA, for a vocational technical education program	75,000	Specter
FIE	Child and Family Network Centers, Virginia, Alexandria, VA, for education services for at-risk youth	150,000	Warner, Webb
FIE	ChildSight New Mexico, Gallup, NM, for a vision screening and eye glass program for children	50,000	Domenici
FIE	City of Fairfield, CA for after-school programs	425,000	Tauscher, Ellen; Boxer
FIE	City of Gadsden, AL for technology upgrades in city schools	300,000	Aderholt, Robert; Shelby
FIE	City of Hayward, Hayward, CA for after-school programs	275,000	Stark, Fortney
FIE	City of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN for the Indianapolis Center for Education Entrepreneurship to recruit leaders to implement educational reform	400,000	Bayh, Lugar; Carson, Julia
FIE	City of Newark, Newark, CA for after-school programs	25,000	Stark, Fortney
FIE	City of Pawtucket School Department, Pawtucket, RI for the Jacqueline Walsh School of the Performing and Visual Arts, which may include equipment	300,000	Kennedy, Patrick; Reed, Whitehouse
FIE	City of Pembroke Pines, FL for the autism program at the Pembroke Pines—Florida State University Charter School	225,000	Wasserman Schultz, Debbie
FIE	City of San Jose, CA for development of a Smart Start early childhood development training and certification program at National Hispanic University	290,000	Lofgren, Zoe
FIE	City of San Jose, CA for early childhood education programs, including parental involvement	200,000	Feinstein; Honda, Michael
FIE	City of Springfield, MO for the Ready to Learn Program	600,000	Blunt, Roy; Bond
FIE	City of Whittier, Whittier, CA for after-school programs, which may include equipment	250,000	Sanchez T., Linda
FIE	City School District of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY for after-school learning centers	225,000	Lowey, Nita
FIE	City Year New Hampshire, Stratham, NH, for expansion of an afterschool program for the Young Heroes Program	150,000	Gregg
FIE	Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV for the Education Executive Leadership Program	400,000	Porter, Jon; Reid
FIE	Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV for the Newcomer Academy	250,000	Reid; Porter, Jon
FIE	Clay County School system, WV, for the continuation and expansion of Skills West Virginia programs in counties around West Virginia	180,000	Byrd
FIE	Clovis Unified School District, Clovis, CA for curriculum development	190,000	Radanovich, George; Nunes, Devin
FIE	College Summit, Inc., Washington, DC for an initiative to increase college enrollment of low-income youth in South Carolina	135,000	Clyburn, James
FIE	Communities In Schools—Northeast Texas, Mount Pleasant, TX for dropout prevention programs	200,000	Hall (TX), Ralph
FIE	Communities in Schools of Cochran and Bleckley County, Cochran, GA for after-school programs	40,000	Marshall, Jim
FIE	Communities in Schools of Coweta, Inc., Newnan, GA for education technology upgrades	100,000	Westmoreland, Lynn
FIE	Communities in Schools of Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County, Fitzgerald, GA for after-school programs	50,000	Marshall, Jim
FIE	Communities in Schools of Georgia, Atlanta, GA, for mentoring programs	84,700	Chambliss
FIE	Communities In Schools of Tacoma, Tacoma, WA for after-school programs	50,000	Smith (WA), Adam
FIE	Communities in Schools, Austin, TX for mentoring, dropout prevention and college preparatory programs	200,000	McCaul (TX), Michael
FIE	Communities in Schools, San Fernando Valley, Inc., North Hills, CA to implement full service community schools	340,000	Berman, Howard
FIE	Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles, Monterey Park, CA for the South Whitter community education and computer center	150,000	Sanchez T., Linda
FIE	Community Empowerment Association, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, for a truancy reduction initiative	75,000	Specter
FIE	Community Service Society, New York, NY for a program that utilizes seniors as literacy mentors and in-class assistants to elementary students	340,000	Clarke, Yvette
FIE	Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Inc., Philadelphia, PA, for a career education and preparation initiative for at-risk youth	90,000	Specter, Casey
FIE	Connecticut Technical High School System, Middletown, CT for equipment for the Manufacturing Technologies Department of Platt Technical High School in Milford, CT	250,000	DeLauro, Rosa
FIE	Contra Costa College, San Pablo, CA for its Bridges to the Future Program	100,000	Miller, George
FIE	Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 11 for after-school programs	450,000	Obey, David
FIE	Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 12, Ashland, WI for after-school programs	650,000	Obey, David
FIE	Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 5, Portage, WI for after-school programs	400,000	Obey, David
FIE	Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 9, Tomahawk, WI for after-school programs	400,000	Obey, David
FIE	Council Bluffs Early Learning Resource Center, Council Bluffs, IA, for the FAMILY program	450,000	Harkin
FIE	County of San Diego, San Pasqual Academy, Escondido, CA for purchase of equipment	200,000	Hunter, Duncan
FIE	Creative Visions in Des Moines, IA, for outreach to at-risk youth	100,000	Harkin
FIE	Cristo Rey High School, Chicago, IL, to improve technologies for the school's library and technology center	400,000	Durbin
FIE	Cumberland, RI, for afterschool programs and activities	425,000	Reed; Kennedy, Patrick
FIE	Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners, Cleveland, OH for an early childhood initiative	450,000	Kucinich, Dennis; Brown, Voinovich
FIE	Delaware Department of Education, Dover, DE for the Starting Stronger Early Learning Initiative	400,000	Castle, Michael; Biden, Carper
FIE	Delaware Department of Education, Dover, DE, for the Vision Network of Schools and Districts	210,000	Carper, Biden; Castle, Michael

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	Delta Arts Alliance, Cleveland, MS, for in-school and after school arts education programs	100,000	Cochran
FIE	Des Moines Community School District and Urban Dreams, Des Moines, IA, to continue a demonstration on full service community schools	300,000	Harkin
FIE	Des Moines Community School District to expand pre-kindergarten programs	600,000	Harkin
FIE	Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program, Detroit, MI, for student tracking and curriculum development	170,000	Levin, Stabenow
FIE	Detroit Youth Foundation, Detroit, MI for comprehensive educational and enrichment activities for middle and high school youth	75,000	Kilpatrick, Carolyn; Levin
FIE	DNA EpiCenter, Inc., New London, CT for a learning center for students and teachers	75,000	Courtney, Joe
FIE	Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville, FL for purchase of equipment	250,000	Crenshaw, Ander
FIE	Early Childhood and Family Learning Center Foundation, New Orleans, LA, to establish a comprehensive early childhood center	500,000	Landrieu
FIE	East Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, CA, to provide afterschool learning and enrichment activities for the students of East Palo Alto	80,000	Boxer; Eshoo, Anna
FIE	East Saint Louis High School, East Saint Louis, IL, to upgrade the school's technology and sciences programs	550,000	Durbin
FIE	ECHO Center, Burlington, VT, to enhance educational opportunities for students regarding the Lake Champlain Quadracentennial	100,000	Leahy
FIE	Edgar School District, Edgar, WI for equipment and techonology for a new computer technology center	100,000	Obey, David
FIE	Edison and Ford Winter Estates Education Foundation for educational programming	150,000	Mack, Connie
FIE	Educating Young Minds, Los Angeles, CA, for educational programs	85,000	Feinstein
FIE	Education Partnership, Providence, RI for school leadership professional development	200,000	Kennedy, Patrick
FIE	Education Service Center, Region 12, Hillsboro, TX for a GEAR UP college preparedness program	100,000	Edwards, Chet
FIE	Eisenhower Foundation to replicate the Delaney Street project in Iowa	575,000	Harkin
FIE	Ennis Independent School District, Ennis, TX for English as a second language instruction, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Barton (TX), Joe
FIE	Envision Schools, San Francisco, CA for the Metropolitan Arts and Technology High School, which may include equipment	250,000	Pelosi, Nancy
FIE	Erskine College, Due West, SC for an elementary and secondary school arts initiative	250,000	Barrett (SC), J.
FIE	Esmeralda County School District, Goldfield, NV, to continue accelerated reading and math programs for K–8 students in Esmeralda County	200,000	Reid
FIE	Everybody Wins, Washington, DC, for childhood literacy programs	500,000	Harkin
FIE	Exploratorium, San Francisco, CA for its Bay Area Science Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Improvement Initiative	300,000	Pelosi, Nancy
FIE	Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, Fairbanks, AK, to expand the PLATO learning program to Fairbanks North Star Borough	250,000	Stevens
FIE	Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA for language programs in Franklin Sherman Elementary School and Chesterbrook Elementary School in McLean, Virginia	300,000	Wolf, Frank
FIE	Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA for emergency medical services curriculum development	200,000	Davis, Tom
FIE	Fairhope Center for the Arts, Bay Minette, AL for arts education programs, including purchase of equipment	205,000	Bonner, Jo; Shelby
FIE	Families In Schools, Los Angeles, CA for its Read with Me/Lea Conmigo family literacy program	175,000	Becerra, Xavier
FIE	Fayetteville Technical Community College, Fayettevile, NC for teacher training and professional development programs	250,000	Hayes, Robin
FIE	First Book, Washington, DC, for the expansion of programs in West Virginia	225,000	Byrd
FIE	FirstBook, Washington, DC, for the Maine literacy initiative for Low Income Children	100,000	Collins, Snowe
FIE	Florence Prever Rosten Foundation, Darby, MT, to develop MAPS: Media Arts in the Public Schools program	80,000	Baucus
FIE	Forward in the Fifth, Somerset, KY for a civic literacy program	250,000	Rogers (KY), Harold
FIE	Friends of the Children National, Portland, OR for mentoring programs	320,000	Blumenauer, Earl; Wyden
FIE	Galena City School District, Galena, AK, for a boarding school for low performing Native students from remote villages across Western Alaska	500,000	Stevens
FIE	George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc., Bethesda, MD for tutoring services for at-risk students	250,000	Van Hollen, Chris
FIE	George S. Eccles Ice Center, North Logan, Utah, to expand the science, physical education, and creative movement program	50,000	Hatch
FIE	Girl Scouts of the USA, New York, NY for the Fair Play initiative to engage girls in science, technology, engineering and math	250,000	Walsh (NY), James
FIE	Graham County Schools, Safford, AZ for a teacher training initiative	150,000	Renzi, Rick
FIE	Guam Public School System, Hagatna, GU for development and implementation of Chamorro language instructional programs	240,000	Bordallo, Madeleine
FIE	Hackett-Bower Clinic at Magnolia Speech School, Jackson, MS, for acquisition of equipment and programs	300,000	Cochran
FIE	Hamilton Wings, Elgin, IL for arts education programs	150,000	Hastert, J.
FIE	Harford County Board of Education, Bel Air, MD, to support a science and math program at Aberdeen High School	300,000	Mikulski
FIE	Harris County Department of Education, Houston, TX for an after-school safety program, which may include the purchase of software	250,000	Lampson, Nick
FIE	Harrisburg (PA) Area School District, Harrisburg, PA, to support the district's pre-kindergarten program	425,000	Casey, Jr.
FIE	Harvey Public School District 152, Harvey, IL for an early literacy program, which may include equipment	200,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	Hawaii Department of Education, Honolulu, HI for educational activities	500,000	Hirono, Mazie
FIE	Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Kempton, PA for curriculum development	150,000	Dent, Charles
FIE	Hays Community Economic Development Corporation, Hays, MT, to develop a Native American culturally competent curriculum	160,000	Baucus, Tester
FIE	Helen Keller International, New York, NY for the ChildSight Vision Screening Program and to provide eyeglasses to children whose educational performance may be hindered because of poor vision	1,250,000	DeLauro, Rosa; Clinton, Schumer
FIE	High Plains Regional Education Cooperative, Raton, NM for its Cooperative Broadband Education project, which may include equipment	500,000	Udall (NM), Tom
FIE	Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY for the Work-Scholarship Connection Youth Employment Training Academy	250,000	Slaughter, Louise; Clinton, Schumer
FIE	Hoke County Schools, Raeford, NC for instructional technology	100,000	Hayes, Robin
FIE	Homer-Center School District, Homer City, PA, for science curriculum development and acquisition of technology	90,000	Specter
FIE	Houston Independent School District, Houston, TX for a teacher incentive program	673,000	Cornyn; Lampson, Nick; Green, Al
FIE	Houston Zoo, Houston, TX, for educational programming	100,000	Hutchison
FIE	I KNOW I CAN, Columbus, OH for college preparatory programs	100,000	Pryce (OH), Deborah
FIE	In Tune Foundation Group, Washington, DC for educational activities	450,000	Hoyer, Steny
FIE	Independent School District 181, Brainerd, MN for its Teacher Support System	150,000	Oberstar, James
FIE	Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY for school reform activities at Wyandanch High School	250,000	Israel, Steve
FIE	Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY to implement small learning communities at one or more high schools in the Bronx	50,000	Serrano, Jose
FIE	Institute for Student Achievement, Lake Success, NY, for the ISA High School Improvement Program	250,000	Schumer, Clinton; Israel, Steve
FIE	Internet Keep Safe Coalition, Salt Lake City, Utah, to provide educational materials to K–12 students regarding Internet safety	381,300	Bennett
FIE	Iowa Association of School Boards, Des Moines, IA, for the Lighthouse for School Reform project	400,000	Harkin
FIE	Iowa City Community School District, Iowa City, IA for an early literacy program	600,000	Harkin; Loebsack, David; Grassley
FIE	Iowa Department of Education to continue the Harkin grant program	5,000,000	Harkin
FIE	Iowa School Boards Foundation, Des Moines, IA, for continuation and expansion of the Skills Iowa program	2,500,000	Harkin
FIE	Iowa State Education Association, Des Moines, IA, for an initiative to educate students on the role of international trade in the U.S. economy	63,500	Grassley
FIE	Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana—Southeast, Madison, IN for an early college and middle college program	100,000	Hill, Baron; Bayh, Lugar
FIE	Jacob Burns Film Center, Pleasantville, NY for education programs	225,000	Lowey, Nita
FIE	Jazz at Lincoln Center, New York, NY for music education programs	400,000	Clinton, Schumer; Nadler, Jerrold
FIE	Jefferson County Public Schools, Golden, CO for technological instruction, testing, and support, which may include equipment	325,000	Perlmutter, Ed
FIE	Jeremiah Cromwell Disabilities Center, Portland, ME, for awareness training for students	100,000	Collins, Snowe
FIE	Jersey Shore Area School District, Jersey Shore, PA for equipment to create a digital classroom	150,000	Peterson (PA), John
FIE	JFYNetWorks, Boston, MA for academic support for Adequate Yearly Progress initiative, including educational software, professional development instruction, and technical assistance	250,000	Capuano, Michael
FIE	JFYNetWorks, Boston, MA for implementation of its computer-based JFYNet: Academic Support for Adequate Yearly Progress initiative in Malden, Revere, and Framingham, MA, which may include the purchase of software	250,000	Markey, Edward
FIE	Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth, Baltimore, MD, to conduct a longitudinal study on outcomes of Center for Talented Youth summer programs	135,000	Mikulski
FIE	Joplin School District, Joplin, MO for the Smart Board initiative, including purchase of equipment	100,000	Blunt, Roy
FIE	Jumpstart for Young Children, Boston, MA, to recruit and train college students to serve as mentors for at-risk preschool children in Rhode Island	125,000	Reed
FIE	Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc., Boston, MA for an early literacy program for at-risk children in Boston, MA	350,000	Capuano, Michael
FIE	Jumpstart for Young Children, San Francisco, CA for an early childhood enhancement project to provide student mentors to preschool children	250,000	Pelosi, Nancy
FIE	Jumpstart for Young Children, Seattle, WA, to expand Jumpstart's One Child at a Time mentoring project in Washington	240,000	Murray
FIE	Kanawha County School System, WV, for the continuation of Following the Leaders programs	730,000	Byrd
FIE	Kansas Learning Center for Health, Halstead, KS, to support health education, including curriculum development	100,000	Roberts
FIE	Kauai Economic Development Board, HI, for math and science education	300,000	Inouye
FIE	Kelberman Center, Utica, NY to expand programs for pre-school and school age children with autism spectrum disorder	75,000	Arcuri, Michael
FIE	KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA, for student programs and extended learning time at KIPP Gaston College Preparatory and KIPP Pride High School in Gaston, NC	100,000	Burr, Dole
FIE	KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA for a subgrant to the KIPP Delta College Preparatory School in Helena, AR	150,000	Berry, Marion; Lincoln, Pryor
FIE	KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA for curriculum development and the recruitment and professional development of school leaders, teachers, and administrators	100,000	Pelosi, Nancy
FIE	KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA for KIPP Reach College Preparatory School in Oklahoma City, OK	250,000	Fallin, Mary; Inhofe

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA, to support student programs and extended learning time through a subgrant to KIPP Ujima Village Academy in Baltimore, MD	255,000	Cardin
FIE	KIPP Foundation, San Francisco, CA, for student programs and extended learning time in Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee	100,000	Alexander
FIE	Klingberg Family Centers, Inc., New Britain, CT, for equipment associated with the Special Education Enhancement Initiative	340,000	Dodd, Lieberman; Murphy (CT), Christopher
FIE	La Causa Charter School, Milwaukee, WI, to implement a science and robotics lab	85,000	Kohl
FIE	La Crosse School District, La Crosse, WI for a 21st Century Community Learning Center at Logan Middle School, including parental involvement	70,000	Kind, Ron
FIE	Lafayette Parish School Board, Lafayette, LA, for acquisition of equipment technology upgrades	66,000	Vitter
FIE	Lander County School District, Battle Mountain, NV, to continue a math and science remediation program for high school students	350,000	Reid
FIE	Learning Point Associates/North Central Regional Education Laboratory, Naperville, IL to help schools implement No Child Left Behind	300,000	Kirk, Mark
FIE	Lee Pesky Learning Center, Boise, ID to provide educational materials for the Literacy Matters! Program	300,000	Simpson, Michael; Crapo
FIE	Lemay Child & Family Center, St. Louis, MO for early childhood education and family literacy programs	100,000	Carnahan, Russ
FIE	Loess Hills Area Education Agency in Iowa for a demonstration in early childhood education	700,000	Harkin
FIE	Loras College, Dubuque, IA, for a literacy program with the Dubuque elementary schools	450,000	Harkin, Grassley; Braley (IA), Bruce
FIE	Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Los Angeles, CA for a hands-on, science-based program for public school students	75,000	Harman, Jane
FIE	Los Angeles, CA, for the LA's BEST afterschool enrichment program	205,000	Feinstein
FIE	Louisiana Arts and Sciences Museum, Baton Rouge, LA for curriculum development and purchase of equipment	200,000	Baker, Richard
FIE	Louisiana State University in Shreveport, LA, to provide professional development for teachers and faculty in Title I schools with low performance scores	220,000	Landrieu, Vitter
FIE	Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA for IDEA Place and the SciTech Classroom, including purchase of equipment and curriculum development	350,000	Alexander, Rodney; Landrieu, Vitter
FIE	Lower East Side Conservancy, New York, NY for education programs and outreach	225,000	Maloney (NY), Carolyn
FIE	Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative, West Springfield, MA, for educational equipment and program development	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry; Neal (MA), Richard
FIE	Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, Austin, Texas for the Presidential timeline project	750,000	Harkin
FIE	Lynwood, CA, to expand the afterschool Homework Assistance Program at the Lynwood Public Library	80,000	Boxer
FIE	Madison County Schools, Richmond, KY for a computer lab, which may include equipment	75,000	Chandler, Ben
FIE	Maine Alliance for Arts Education, Augusta, ME, for the Complete Education for Rural Students project	100,000	Collins, Snowe
FIE	Marketplace of Ideas/Marketplace for Kids, Inc., Mandan, ND, for a statewide program focused on entrepreneurship education	425,000	Dorgan, Conrad
FIE	Massachusetts 2020 Foundation, Boston, MA, for continued development of an expanded instruction demonstration program	185,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIE	Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for the girls into science program	250,000	Inouye
FIE	McKelvey Foundation, New Wilmington, PA, for entrepreneurial college scholarships for rural, low-income Pennsylvania and West Virginia high school graduates	175,000	Specter, Casey, Byrd
FIE	Mentoring Partnership of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, PA, for recruitment, placement, and oversight of school-based mentoring programs	423,750	Specter
FIE	Mercy Vocational High School, Philadelphia, PA, for vocational education programs	90,000	Specter
FIE	Mesa Unified School District, Mesa, AZ for after-school educational and enrichment activities for at-risk youth	150,000	Mitchell, Harry
FIE	Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League, Wilmington, DE, to continue a program aimed at closing the achievement gap among low-income and minority students	425,000	Biden, Carper
FIE	Military Heritage Center Foundation, Carlisle, PA for the Voices of the Past Speak to the Future program, including purchase of equipment	132,000	Platts, Todd; Shuster, Bill; Specter
FIE	Miller County Development Authority, Colquit, GA for a video/television production training program for high school drop-outs and at-risk youth in Miller County	100,000	Bishop (GA), Sanford
FIE	Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, Washington, DC for a full service school demonstration project in the Canton City, OH public school district	150,000	Regula, Ralph
FIE	Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee, WI for after-school or summer community learning centers	1,100,000	Kohl; Moore (WI), Gwen
FIE	Minnesota Humanities Commission, St. Paul, MN to implement curricula and classroom resources on Native Americans	500,000	McCollum (MN), Betty; Klobuchar
FIE	Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS for strengthening partnerships between K-12 parents and their children's teachers, principals, superintendents and other school officials	300,000	Wicker, Roger
FIE	Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS, for environmental education programs for the Science on the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway program	200,000	Cochran
FIE	Missouri State University, Springfield, MO for a college preparatory pilot program	100,000	Blunt, Roy
FIE	Monroe County School District, Key West, FL for technology upgrades	200,000	Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana
FIE	Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD to recruit and certify postdoctoral scientists, mathematicians, or engineers from the National Institutes of Health to become teachers	300,000	Van Hollen, Chris; Mikulski, Cardin
FIE	Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL for marine science curriculum development	200,000	Buchanan, Vern; Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana
FIE	Mount Hood Community College, Gresham, OR for early childhood education and training activities, which may include equipment	320,000	Blumenauer, Earl

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	National American Indian, Alaskan and Hawaiian Educational Development Center, Sheridan, WY, to train teachers serving Native American students in an early literacy learning and math framework	838,250	Enzi
FIE	National Center for Electronically Mediated Learning, Inc., Milford, CT for the P.E.B.B.L.E.S. Project, which may include equipment and technology	150,000	DeLauro, Rosa
FIE	National Council on Crime and Delinquency, Oakland, CA for a school-based model on violence prevention	200,000	Lee, Barbara
FIE	National Cued Speech Association, Bethesda, MD for parent, teacher, and transliterator training and certification in cued speech for preschool and school-aged children	175,000	Van Hollen, Chris; Landrieu
FIE	National Flight Academy, Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL for technology upgrades	150,000	Miller (FL), Jeff
FIE	National Teacher's Hall of Fame, Emporia, KS for teacher professional development and retention programs	150,000	Moran (KS), Jerry
FIE	Neighborhood Youth Association, Venice, CA for academic support to ensure college readiness	100,000	Harman, Jane
FIE	New Mexico Military Institute, Roswell, NM, for a character development leadership camp at the New Mexico Military Institute	50,000	Domenici
FIE	New Mexico Public Education Department, Santa Fe, NM for summer reading and math institutes throughout the State	500,000	Udall (NM), Tom; Wilson (NM), Heather; Domenici
FIE	New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, for the Southern New Mexico Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy	200,000	Domenici
FIE	New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, to continue a program to transition high school students into technical careers	340,000	Bingaman, Domenici; Pearce, Stevan
FIE	New School University, New York, NY, for the Institute for Urban Education	950,000	Clinton, Schumer
FIE	New York Hall of Science, Queens, NY, for science exhibits and educational programming	600,000	Clinton, Schumer; Ackerman, Gary
FIE	Newton Public Schools, Newton, KS for an educational technology initiative, including purchase of equipment	100,000	Tiahrt, Todd
FIE	North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University, Greensboro, NC for a project to reduce suspension rates of students in the Guilford County School System	400,000	Miller (NC), Brad; Watt, Melvin; Dole, Burr
FIE	North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC for academic enrichment activities, including parental involvement	170,000	Price (NC), David; Burr
FIE	North Carolina Symphony, Raleigh, NC for musical and artistic residency activities for elementary and secondary students	175,000	Price (NC), David
FIE	North Carolina Technology Association Education Foundation, Raleigh, NC for school technology demonstration projects, including subgrants	100,000	Foxx, Virginia; Dole, Burr
FIE	North Country Education Services Agency, Gorham, NH, for the North Country Gear Up College Prep Initiative, including online curriculum development	140,000	Gregg
FIE	North Philadelphia Youth Association, Philadelphia, PA for education and enrichment services for youth	50,000	Brady (PA), Robert
FIE	North Slope Borough, Anchorage, AK, for an early education program	300,000	Stevens
FIE	Northeast Louisiana Family Literacy Interagency Consortium to provide children's literacy services	200,000	Alexander, Rodney
FIE	Northern Tier Industry & Education Consortium, Dimock, PA for the activities of its Advisory and Assessment Committees	50,000	Carney, Christopher
FIE	Northwest Center, Seattle, WA, to provide and expand academic and vocational resources to developmentally delayed or disabled persons in King County	200,000	Murray, Cantwell; Smith (WA), Adam
FIE	Norwich Public School System, Norwich, CT for English language instruction	275,000	Courtney, Joe
FIE	Oakland School of the Arts, Oakland, CA, for educational equipment	420,000	Feinstein
FIE	Oakland Unified School District, Oakland, CA for a technology integration project to implement a new data system, which may include equipment	200,000	Lee, Barbara
FIE	Oelwein Community School District, Oelwein, IA, for technology and program needs for a math and science academy	106,000	Grassley
FIE	Ogden City Schools, Ogden, Utah, to enhance the aerospace, math, and science curriculum	50,000	Hatch; Bishop (UT), Rob
FIE	Omaha, Nebraska, for expansion of the Omaha's after school initative	100,000	Hagel
FIE	O'Neill Sea Odyssey, Santa Cruz, CA for science education programs for elementary school children	100,000	Farr, Sam
FIE	OneWorld Now!, Seattle, WA for after-school programs and student scholarships	250,000	McDermott, Jim
FIE	Ossining Union Free School District, Ossining, NY for after-school, literacy, or school reform initiatives	225,000	Lowey, Nita
FIE	Ouachita Parish School Board, Monroe, LA, for acquisition of equipment technology upgrades	106,000	Vitter
FIE	Pacific Islands Center for Educational Development in American Samoa, for a mentoring program aimed at college prep	500,000	Inouye
FIE	Parent Institute for Quality Education, San Diego, CA for a parent training program	450,000	Filner, Bob
FIE	Parents as Teachers National Center, St. Louis, MO, for expanded outreach to support school readiness in the Gateway Parents as Teachers program in the City of St. Louis	190,000	Bond
FIE	PE4life Foundation, Kansas City, MO, for expansion and assessment of PE4life programs across Iowa	400,000	Harkin
FIE	PE4life, Kansas City, MO for physical education programs in the Titusville, Pennsylvania School District, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Peterson (PA), John
FIE	PE4life, Kansas City, MO to establish a P.E. program in Mississippi, including purchase of equipment	350,000	Wicker, Roger
FIE	People for People, Philadelphia, PA for after-school programs	75,000	Fattah, Chaka
FIE	Peru State College, Peru, NE for the Adopt a High School initiative	200,000	Fortenberry, Jeff; Hagel, Nelson, Ben
FIE	Philadelphia Academies, Inc., Philadelphia, PA for a longitudinal study on the impact of the organization's career-based education model	100,000	Fattah, Chaka
FIE	Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr. Association for Nonviolence Inc., Philadelphia, PA, for its College for Teens program	90,000	Specter
FIE	Pinal County Education Service Agency, Florence, AZ for a teacher training initiative	100,000	Renzi, Rick

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	Polk County Public Schools, Bartow, FL for purchase of assistive technologies	100,000	Putnam, Adam
FIE	Polynesian Voyaging Society, Honolulu, HI, for cultural education programs	150,000	Inouye
FIE	Port Chester—Rye Union Free School District, Port Chester, NY for academic enrichment, professional development, family engagement, or other activities to implement full service community schools	225,000	Lowey, Nita
FIE	Project GRAD USA, Philadelphia, PA for college readiness programs	100,000	Fattah, Chaka
FIE	Project HOME, Philadelphia, PA, for an after school program	90,000	Specter
FIE	Provo City, Provo, Utah, to expand education programs at the Arts Center	50,000	Hatch
FIE	Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN for equipment and start-up expenses for a magnet school	250,000	Visclosky, Peter
FIE	Queens Theatre in the Park, Flushing, NY for a project to provide youth with career planning and development in the performing arts industry	150,000	Ackerman, Gary
FIE	Rapides Parish School Board, Alexandria, LA, for acquisition of equipment technology upgrades	67,000	Vitter
FIE	Renwick Public Schools, Andale, KS for an educational technology initiative, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Tiahrt, Todd
FIE	Rio Rancho Public Schools, Rio Ranch, NM for distance learning, which may include equipment	500,000	Udall (NM), Tom; Wilson (NM), Heather; Domenici, Bingaman
FIE	Riverside Community College, Riverside, CA for the Fast-Track to the Associate Degree Nursing Program	350,000	Calvert, Ken; Boxer
FIE	Riverside County Office of Education, Riverside, CA for the High School Science Initiative	350,000	Calvert, Ken
FIE	Robert H. Clampitt Foundation, Inc., New York, NY, to train elementary and secondary students in journalism	150,000	Landrieu
FIE	Rockdale County Public Schools, Conyers, GA for a credit recovery program, which may include the purchase of software	440,000	Johnson (GA), Henry
FIE	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN for a K-12 STEM Immersion Initiative	200,000	Ellsworth, Brad; Lugar
FIE	Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA, to develop a Public Education Partnership to provide professional development to area principals and teachers	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
FIE	Saint Louis SCORES, St. Louis, MO, to expand after school programs	84,000	Bond
FIE	Salesian Boys and Girls Club of Los Angeles, CA for education and support services for middle and high school students	100,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
FIE	San Bernardino Boys and Girls Club, San Bernardino, CA, to expand programs that are available in education, health and the arts	235,000	Boxer
FIE	San Bernardino City Unified School District, San Bernardino, CA for the English Learners program	250,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry; Baca, Joe
FIE	San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, San Bernardino, CA to expand the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics initiative	300,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
FIE	San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA for its San Joaquin A Plus tutoring program	375,000	McNerney, Jerry
FIE	San Juan School District, Blanding, Utah, to provide intervention advocacy and case management for at-risk students	50,000	Hatch
FIE	San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA for its Preschool for All program	320,000	Eshoo, Anna
FIE	Save the Children, Westport, CT, to implement supplemental literacy programs for children in grades K-8 in rural Nevada schools	240,000	Reid
FIE	School at Jacob's Pillow, Beckett, MA, for the development of youth cultural and educational programs	150,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIE	School Board of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, FL for teacher support and development	450,000	Wexler, Robert
FIE	Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership, Jacksonville, FL for purchase of equipment	300,000	Crenshaw, Ander
FIE	Selden/Centereach Youth Association, Selden, NY for after-school programs	140,000	Bishop (NY), Timothy; Schumer
FIE	Sevier School District, Richfield, Utah, for teacher training and professional development to increase student achievement in mathematics	50,000	Hatch
FIE	Shiloh Economic and Entrepreneurial Lifelong Development Corporation, Plainfield, NJ, for academic enrichment programs	190,000	Menendez, Lautenberg
FIE	Silver Crescent Foundation, Charleston, SC for a middle and high school academic engineering and technology program	200,000	Wilson (SC), Joe
FIE	Skills Alaska, Anchorage, AK, for statewide teacher training and mentoring program, Anchorage	1,000,000	Stevens
FIE	Sociedad Latina, Roxbury, MA for its Mission Community Enrichment Program	100,000	Capuano, Michael
FIE	South Dakota Symphony, Sioux Falls, SD, for educational outreach to Native Americans	100,000	Johnson
FIE	SouthCoastConnected, New Bedford, MA, for implementation of the Drop the Drop-Out Rate Initiative	150,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIE	Southeast Island School District, Thorne Bay, AK, to develop interactive video conferencing to provide special education services to 9 isolated school sites in Southeast Alaska	100,000	Stevens
FIE	SouthEastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education, Glenside, PA, for the Institute of Mathematics and Science to provide professional development to K-12 teachers	126,675	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Murphy, Patrick; Schwartz, Allyson, Gerlach, Jim
FIE	Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX for a Center for Hispanic Studies college preparatory initiative	275,000	Hutchison; Carter, John
FIE	Springboard for Improving Schools, San Francisco, CA for a professional development center to serve Central Valley, CA teachers and administrators	250,000	Costa, Jim
FIE	Springfield Public School District No. 19, Springfield, OR for an Academy of Arts and Academics	100,000	DeFazio, Peter; Wyden
FIE	St. Mary's County Public Schools, Leonardtown, MD for a mathematics, science, and technology academy	500,000	Hoyer, Steny
FIE	State of Nevada Department of Education for technology upgrades in the Elko, Nye, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill school districts, including subgrants	400,000	Heller, Dean
FIE	Summit Educational Resources, Getzville, NY for service coordination and support for children with developmental disabilities	200,000	Reynolds, Thomas
FIE	Susannah Wesley Community Center, Honolulu, HI for computers and technology to serve at-risk high school students, and other students in an after-school program	120,000	Abercrombie, Neil

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	Tampa Metropolitan YMCA, Tampa, FL for after-school programs	125,000	Castor, Kathy
FIE	Technical Research and Development Authority, Titusville, FL, to provide professional workshops for teachers in STEM-related fields	210,000	Bill Nelson
FIE	Texas Southern University, Houston, TX for the TSU Lab School, which may include equipment and technology	440,000	Jackson-Lee (TX), Sheila
FIE	Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, Los Angeles, CA for a longitudinal study on high school graduation rates	100,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
FIE	Town of Cumberland, Cumberland, RI for the Mayor's Office of Children and Learning for evidence-based innovative K-12 education programs	150,000	Kennedy, Patrick
FIE	Towson University, Towson, MD for an education partnership with the City of Baltimore, Baltimore City Public School System and the Cherry Hill community	325,000	Ruppersberger, C. A.; Mikulski, Cardin
FIE	Tracy Joint Unified School District, Tracy, CA for English language learner initiatives	125,000	McNerney, Jerry
FIE	Tri-County Educational Service, Wooster, OH for the Olweus Bullying Prevention program	150,000	Regula, Ralph
FIE	Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Niles, OH for school robotics programs, which may include subgrants	185,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
FIE	Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, to provide teacher education and leadership preparation to support the rebuilding of New Orleans schools	1,200,000	Landrieu; Melancon, Charlie
FIE	Tulsa Public Schools, Tulsa, OK for innovative programming for students at risk of dropping out, including curriculum development	200,000	Sullivan, John; Inhofe
FIE	Union County Public Schools, Monroe, NC for equipment and technology needs for the information technology academy	100,000	Hayes, Robin
FIE	Union County, Elizabeth, NJ, for training programs at the Union County Academy for Allied Health Sciences	255,000	Lautenberg, Menendez
FIE	Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, Sleepy Hollow, NY for family literacy activities and professional development to support literacy instruction	225,000	Lowey, Nita
FIE	United Inner City Services, Kansas City, MO, to enhance and expand early learning programs	635,000	Bond; Cleaver, Emanuel
FIE	United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, for recruitment, placement, and oversight of school-based mentoring programs	339,000	Specter
FIE	University of Akron, Akron, OH to link regional school districts with industry to promote STEM academic and career pathways	150,000	Ryan (OH), Tim; Sutton, Betty
FIE	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL to implement a manufacturing engineering curriculum for high schools students	500,000	Davis (AL), Artur; Shelby
FIE	University of Alaska/Southeast, Juneau, AK, for the Alaska Distance Education Technology Consortium for distance learning	255,000	Stevens
FIE	University of Maine, Orono, ME, to maintain healthy interscholastic youth sports programs	147,500	Collins, Snowe
FIE	University of North Alabama, Florence, AL, for research to develop a model center for teacher preparation	127,125	Sessions
FIE	University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, for a teletherapy program to address the shortage of speech language pathologists	70,000	Burr, Dole; Watt, Melvin
FIE	University of Northern Iowa to continue the 2+2 teacher education demonstration program	450,000	Harkin, Grassley
FIE	University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for gifted education programs at the Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies program	400,000	Cochran
FIE	University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for literacy enhancement	400,000	Cochran
FIE	University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, to establish the Educational Excellence program	3,000,000	Leahy, Byrd, Harkin, Inouye
FIE	UrbanFUTURE, St. Louis, MO, to expand literacy, mentoring, and after-school services	254,000	Bond
FIE	USD 259, Wichita Public Schools, Wichita, KS for technology upgrades	300,000	Tiahrt, Todd
FIE	Utah State Office of Education, Salt Lake City, Utah, for a mentoring program	423,700	Bennett
FIE	Valle Lindo School District, South El Monte, CA for technology upgrades	75,000	Solis, Hilda
FIE	Venango Technology Center, Oil City, PA for the purchase of equipment	200,000	Peterson (PA), John
FIE	Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center (VAMSC), Virginia Beach, VA, to expand education outreach programs	50,000	Warner, Webb
FIE	Vision Therapy Project, Casper, WY for a teacher training initiative	350,000	Cubin, Barbara
FIE	Visually Impaired Preschool Services, Louisville, KY for programs to address school readiness needs of visually impaired children	100,000	Yarmuth, John
FIE	Waldo County Preschool & Family Services, Belfast, ME, for the Maine early language and literacy initiative	100,000	Collins, Snowe
FIE	Washington College, Chestertown, MD for K-12 science, technology, engineering and mathematics outreach programs	350,000	Gilchrest, Wayne; Mikulski, Cardin
FIE	Washington State University, Tacoma, WA for education and enrichment services for youth at its Center for Community Education, Enrichment and Urban Studies	250,000	Dicks, Norman; Cantwell, Murray
FIE	Washoe County School District, Reno, NV, for equipment for a parental notification system	350,000	Reid
FIE	Washoe County School District, Reno, NV, to expand the Classroom on Wheels Program for low-income students	400,000	Reid
FIE	WE CARE San Jacinto Valley, Inc., San Jacinto, CA for the after school tutoring program	100,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
FIE	West Contra Costa Unified School District, Richmond, CA for high school architecture, construction, and engineering curricula	100,000	Miller, George
FIE	West River Foundation, Rapid City, SD, for K-12 administrator development	100,000	Johnson; Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie
FIE	West Valley City, West Valley City, Utah, to expand the after school learning program	50,000	Hatch; Cannon, Chris
FIE	White-Williams Scholars, Philadelphia, PA for a college preparation initiative, which may include student scholarships	75,000	Fattah, Chaka
FIE	Widener University, Chester, PA for school-readiness programs	210,000	Sestak, Joe; Specter

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIE	Wildlife Information Center, Inc., Slatington, PA for an environmental education initiative	350,000	Dent, Charles
FIE	Williamsburg County First Steps, Kingstree, SC for a school-readiness program	87,000	Clyburn, James
FIE	YMCA of Greater Saint Louis, St. Louis, MO, to expand after school programming at the Monsanto Family YMCA	211,000	Bond
FIE	Yonkers Public Schools, Yonkers, NY for after-school and summer academic enrichment, literacy, and professional development services, and for parental involvement activities	250,000	Lowey, Nita
FIE	Youngstown City School District, OH for a Pathways to Building Trades Program in the Youngstown and Warren, OH school districts	225,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
FIE	Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH for a pilot K-12 attention enhancement for learning project	100,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
FIE	Youth Advocate Programs, Inc., Harrisburg, PA, for alternative school services	90,000	Specter
FIE	YWCA of Gary, Gary, IN for after-school and summer programs, which may include equipment	200,000	Visclosky, Peter
FIPSE	AIB College of Business, Des Moines, IA, to recruit and train captioners and court reporters and to provide scholarships	400,000	Harkin, Grassley
FIPSE	Aims Community College, Greeley, CO, for equipment for career training in the health professions	45,000	Salazar; Udall (CO), Mark; Musgrave, Marilyn
FIPSE	Alabama Institute of the Deaf and Blind, Talladega, AL for the interpreter training program	200,000	Rogers (AL), Mike; Shelby
FIPSE	Albany State University, Albany, GA, in partnership with Darton College, for an initiative to increase the success of minority males and nontraditional students in postsecondary education	250,000	Bishop (GA), Sanford
FIPSE	Albertson College of Idaho, Caldwell, ID, for acquisition of equipment, technology and library upgrade	300,000	Craig, Crapo
FIPSE	Albright College, Reading, PA, for laboratory equipment acquisition	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Alpena Community College, Alpena, MI, for curriculum development for the Rural Communications Initiative	255,000	Levin , Stabenow
FIPSE	Alvernia College, Reading, PA, for scholarships and nursing education programs	90,000	Specter; Gerlach, Jim
FIPSE	American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation, Rockville, MD for its New Century Scholars Program	275,000	Van Hollen, Chris; Cardin
FIPSE	Anne Arundel Community College, Arnold, MD for a health care training initiative, which may include equipment and technology	125,000	Ruppersberger, C. A.; Cardin
FIPSE	Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA for development of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Cyber Security and Investigation Technology	284,700	Kingston, Jack; Chambliss, Isakson
FIPSE	Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield, CT for manufacturing technology training programs, which may include equipment and technology	250,000	Courtney, Joe; Lieberman
FIPSE	Assumption College, Worcester, MA for program development including equipment	125,000	Kennedy, Kerry; McGovern, James
FIPSE	Azusa Pacific University, San Bernardino, CA for nursing programs	400,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
FIPSE	Bellevue Community College, Bellevue, WA for development of computer security curriculum	330,000	Reichert, David; Cantwell
FIPSE	Beloit College, Beloit, WI for equipment and technology	200,000	Baldwin, Tammy
FIPSE	Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN for equipment for an engineering technology center	350,000	Peterson (MN), Collin; Klobuchar, Coleman
FIPSE	Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, Boston, MA, for educational equipment and curriculum development to support medical technology professional training programs	210,000	Kennedy, Kerry; Lynch, Stephen
FIPSE	Bennett College for Women, Greensboro, NC for equipment, technology, and professional development	540,000	Watt, Melvin; Dole, Burr
FIPSE	Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Winchester, KY for equipment and technology	350,000	Chandler, Ben
FIPSE	Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, IA for equipment	192,000	Harkin, Grassley; King (IA), Steve
FIPSE	Bristol Community College, Fall River, MA, to expand adult literacy and career development academic programs	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Broward Community College, Broward County, FL for an education and training program in emergency preparedness and response	300,000	Hastings (FL), Alcee
FIPSE	Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA for environmental studies programs and community outreach, which may include equipment	200,000	Carney, Christopher
FIPSE	Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, for laboratory equipment acquisition	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA for curriculum development	250,000	King (IA), Steve; Grassley
FIPSE	Butler Community College, Andover, KS for a closed captioning training program, including curriculum development	350,000	Tiahrt, Todd; Roberts
FIPSE	Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Hudson, NC for curriculum development	100,000	McHenry, Patrick; Burr
FIPSE	California Baptist University, Riverside, CA for purchase of equipment	350,000	Calvert, Ken
FIPSE	California Community Colleges, Sacramento, CA, for Math and Science Teacher Initiative	170,000	Feinstein
FIPSE	California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000	McCarthy (CA), Kevin
FIPSE	California State University - Channel Islands, Camarillo, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000	Gallegly, Elton
FIPSE	California State University - Fullerton, Fullerton, CA for technology upgrades at the Ruby Gerontology Center	350,000	Royce, Edward
FIPSE	California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA, for curriculum development and teacher training to enhance math and science instruction	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
FIPSE	Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC for its Advancement for Underrepresented Minority Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Scientists Program	320,000	Etheridge, Bob
FIPSE	Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI, to establish a bachelors of science nurse degree program	275,000	Kohl
FIPSE	Carroll College, Helena, MT, for curriculum development in Civil Engineering	200,000	Baucus, Tester
FIPSE	Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA, for nursing education programs	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Central Arizona College, Coolidge, AZ for nursing programs, including curriculum development	300,000	Renzi, Rick
FIPSE	Central Florida Community College, Ocala, FL for curriculum development	100,000	Stearns, Cliff

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIPSE	Central Maine Community College, Auburn, ME, for nursing education expansion and outreach	107,500	Collins, Snowe
FIPSE	Central Methodist University, Fayette, MO for a science, technology, engineering and math teacher training program	350,000	Graves, Sam
FIPSE	Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, NC, for curriculum development at the Center for Integrated Emergency Response Training	200,000	Hayes, Robin
FIPSE	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA for curriculum development	200,000	Hastings (WA), Doc; Cantwell
FIPSE	Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR for equipment and technology for health sciences education and training programs	565,000	Hooley, Darlene; Wyden
FIPSE	City College of New York, NY for the Charles B. Rangel Center for Public Service to prepare individuals for careers in public service, which may include establishing an endowment, library and archives for such center	2,000,000	Rangel, Charles
FIPSE	Clark State Community College, Springfield, OH for curriculum development and purchase of equipment	300,000	Hobson, David
FIPSE	Clayton College and State University, Morrow, GA for development of a Master of Arts in Archive degree program, which may include student scholarships and community outreach	325,000	Scott (GA), David
FIPSE	Clinton School of Public Service at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR, for curriculum development	1,000,000	Lincoln, Pryor
FIPSE	Clover Park Technical College, Lakewood, WA for an institute for environmental sustainability in the workforce	150,000	Smith (WA), Adam
FIPSE	College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL for curriculum development	350,000	Kirk, Mark
FIPSE	College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, ID for the Pro-Tech program	250,000	Simpson, Michael; Crapo
FIPSE	College of Southern Maryland, LaPlata, MD for nursing education programs	100,000	Hoyer, Steny
FIPSE	College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA for creation of the medical lab technician degree program, including curriculum development and purchase of equipment	100,000	McKeon, Howard
FIPSE	College Success Foundation, Issaquah, WA for the Leadership 1000 Scholarship Program	500,000	Cantwell; Inslee, Jay; Dicks, Norman; Reichert, David
FIPSE	Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA for a technical education initiative	400,000	Peterson (PA), John
FIPSE	Community College of Beaver County, Monaca, PA for equipment and technology	100,000	Altmire, Jason; Casey
FIPSE	Community College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, NV, to purchase equipment and other support for Internet-based course offerings	750,000	Reid; Berkley, Shelley
FIPSE	Connecticut State University, Hartford, CT, for nursing education programs	340,000	Dodd, Lieberman; DeLauro, Rosa
FIPSE	Consensus Organizing Center, San Diego, CA, for its Step Up college preparation initiative	100,000	Davis (CA), Susan
FIPSE	Coppin State University, Baltimore, MD for its nursing education program, which may include equipment and technology	225,000	Cummings, Elijah; Ruppersberger, C. A.; Mikulski, Cardin
FIPSE	Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, for a new interdisciplinary initiative on engineering and medicine	300,000	Gregg
FIPSE	Darton College, Albany, GA for a biotechnology education and training collaboration with Albany State University and Albany Technical College	300,000	Bishop (GA), Sanford
FIPSE	Deaf West Theatre, North Hollywood, CA, for cultural experiences for the deaf	250,000	Boxer
FIPSE	Dean College, Franklin, MA, to develop programs and procure equipment for the Learning Center	200,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Delaware County Community College, Media, PA for equipment and instrumentation for science, engineering, and technology laboratories	175,000	Sestak, Joe; Specter
FIPSE	Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA for the Jasper County Career Academy, which may include equipment	100,000	Boswell, Leonard
FIPSE	DeSales University, Center Valley, PA for the Digital Campus Initiative, including purchase of equipment	500,000	Dent, Charles
FIPSE	Dillard University, New Orleans, LA for recruitment and training of nursing assistants	750,000	Landrieu, Vitter; Jefferson, William
FIPSE	Duquesne University of the Holy Spirit, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment and technology acquisition for a supercomputing facility	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	East Stroudsburg University, East Stroudsburg, PA, for forensic science education programs	90,000	Specter; Kanjorski, Paul
FIPSE	Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL for nursing programs	150,000	Johnson (IL), Timothy
FIPSE	Eastern Iowa Community College, Davenport, IA, for the creation of a center on sustainable energy, including equipment	300,000	Harkin, Grassley
FIPSE	Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, NM, for technological equipment upgrades	1,000,000	Domenici
FIPSE	Eastern Shore Community College Industrial Maintenance Program, Melfa, VA for curriculum development	250,000	Drake, Thelma
FIPSE	Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL for purchase of equipment	200,000	Young (FL), C.W.
FIPSE	Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA, to support a computer forensics training program at its Western Pennsylvania High Tech Crime Training Center	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Edison College, Charlotte County Campus, Punta Gorda, FL for a nursing education program	75,000	Mahoney (FL), Tim
FIPSE	El Camino College, Torrance, CA for nursing, engineering and nontraditional education and training programs	200,000	Waters, Maxine; Harman, Jane
FIPSE	Elmira College, Elmira, NY for technology upgrades	200,000	Kuhl (NY), John
FIPSE	Emerson College, Boston, MA, for educational equipment and program development	340,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Emmanuel College, Boston, MA, for the procurement of educational equipment and program development	255,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell, MT, for program development at the Center for Community Entrepreneurship Education	280,000	Baucus, Tester
FIPSE	Florida Campus Compact, Tallahassee, FL for a project to enhance service learning on college campuses throughout Florida	250,000	Boyd (FL), Allen; Nelson, Bill
FIPSE	Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, FL for the Coastal Watershed Institute	200,000	Mack, Connie
FIPSE	Focus: HOPE, Detroit, MI for an experiential learning laboratory and related equipment and technology to support undergraduate education and training	600,000	Levin, Stabenow; Conyers, John; Levin, Sander; Kilpatrick, Carolyn

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIPSE	Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, NH for a nursing education program, which may include equipment	150,000	Shea-Porter, Carol; Hodes, Paul
FIPSE	Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, NH, for technology-based educational programs and services	350,000	Gregg
FIPSE	Frontier Community College, Fairfield, IL for purchase of equipment	150,000	Shimkus, John
FIPSE	Ft. Valley State University, Ft. Valley, GA for a teacher preparation program, which may include equipment and technology	175,000	Bishop (GA), Sanford
FIPSE	Gadsden State Community College, Gadsden, AL for technology upgrades	350,000	Aderholt, Robert; Rogers, Mike
FIPSE	Gateway Community and Technical College, Ft. Mitchell, KY for the Center for Advanced Manufacturing Competitiveness, including purchase of equipment	300,000	Davis (KY), Geoff
FIPSE	Gateway Community College, New Haven, CT, for radiography and radiation therapy training programs, which may include equipment	100,000	DeLauro, Rosa
FIPSE	George Meany Center for Labor Studies- the National Labor College for curriculum development	750,000	Harkin
X FIPSE	George Washington University, Washington, DC, for health professions training for students from the District of Columbia	316,700	Hatch; Norton, Eleanor
FIPSE	Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, for science education partnership programs between colleges, universities, schools and life science community educational organizations	84,700	Chambliss
FIPSE	Gila County Community College, Globe, AZ for the registered nursing program, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Renzi, Rick
FIPSE	Golden Apple Foundation, Chicago, IL, for a math and science teacher training initiative	350,000	Durbin
FIPSE	Grace College, Winona Lake, IN for technology upgrades	200,000	Souder, Mark
FIPSE	Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA for education and training programs in the arts, which may include equipment and student scholarships	175,000	Olver, John
FIPSE	Harcum College, Bryn Mawr, PA for purchase of equipment	300,000	Gerlach, Jim
FIPSE	Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA for curriculum development	150,000	Platts, Todd
FIPSE	Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Harrisburg, PA for instructional programs, which may include equipment and technology	300,000	Holden, Tim
FIPSE	Henry Kuualoha Giugni Archives at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, to establish an archival facility of historical Native Hawaiian records and stories	200,000	Inouye
FIPSE	Herkimer County Community College, Herkimer, NY for equipment and technology for science laboratories	100,000	Arcuri, Michael
FIPSE	Hermiston, Hermiston, OR, to support programs and systems for Latino education	254,900	Smith
FIPSE	Hiwassee College, Madisonville, TN for a dental hygiene program, including curriculum development	400,000	Duncan, John
FIPSE	Holy Family University, Philadelphia, PA for nurse education programs	200,000	Schwartz, Allyson
FIPSE	Holyoke Community College, Holyoke, MA, for educational equipment and information technology	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Houston Community College, Houston, TX, for the Accelerated Nursing Proficiency Center	150,000	Hutchison
FIPSE	Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY, to expand the nursing program	500,000	Clinton, Schumer; McNulty, Michael; Gillibrand, Kirsten
FIPSE	Huntington Junior College, WV for an initiative to recruit and train students in closed captioning	1,080,000	Byrd; Rahall, Nick
FIPSE	Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, TX for a math and science education initiative, which may include equipment	250,000	McCaul (TX), Michael; Doggett, Lloyd; Cornyn
FIPSE	Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA, for equipment acquisition and curriculum development for a mine safety course	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Shuster, Bill
FIPSE	Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Danville, VA for professional development for teachers in the field of nanotechnology	200,000	Goode, Virgil; Webb, Warner
FIPSE	Iowa Lakes Community College, Estherville, IA, for equipment to support the Sustainable Energy Education program	250,000	Harkin, Grassley; Latham, Tom
FIPSE	Ivy Tech Community College, Evansville, IN for equipment and technology	75,000	Ellsworth, Brad; Luger
FIPSE	Jackson State University, Jackson, MS for establishment of an osteopathic medical school	500,000	Thompson (MS), Bennie
FIPSE	James Rumsey Technical Institute, Martinsburg, WV for the Automotive Technology Program, including purchase of equipment	100,000	Capito, Shelley
FIPSE	Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City, KS, to provide workforce development training to improve economic conditions and to reduce prisoner recidivism	500,000	Brownback
FIPSE	Kent State University, New Philadelphia, OH for equipment and technology for its Tuscarawas County campus	150,000	Space, Zachary
FIPSE	Keystone College, LaPlume, PA, for classroom and laboratory equipment upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA to provide educational opportunities for students through civic engagement and service learning	343,000	Kanjorski, Paul; Specter, Casey
FIPSE	La Sierra University, Riverside, CA	210,000	Calvert, Ken
FIPSE	Lackawanna College, Scranton, PA for equipment, furnishings and operating expenses for an extension center in Susquehanna County	175,000	Carney, Christopher
FIPSE	Lackawanna College, Scranton, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Lake City Community College, Lake City, FL for a math skills initiative	100,000	Crenshaw, Ander
FIPSE	Latino Institute, Inc., Newark, NJ for its Latino Scholars Program	140,000	Sires, Albio
FIPSE	Lesley University, Cambridge, MA, for educational and research equipment to support new science instruction laboratories	210,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey, IL, for its National Great Rivers Research and Education Center	400,000	Costello, Jerry
FIPSE	Lewis-Clark State College, Lewiston, ID, to continue and expand the American Indian Students in Leadership of Education (AISLE) program	192,500	Craig, Crapo

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIPSE	Lincoln College, Lincoln, IL for training, material acquisition and purchase of equipment	100,000	LaHood, Ray
FIPSE	Lincoln Memorial University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Harrogate, TN for curriculum development	500,000	Wamp, Zach
FIPSE	Lincoln University, Lincoln University, PA, for campus-wide technology upgrades and wiring	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, OR for science and health equipment and technology	540,000	DeFazio, Peter; Hooley, Darlene; Wyden
FIPSE	Lock Haven University, Lock Haven, PA, to provide professional development partnerships and related services	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Lorain County Community College, Elyria, OH for its library and community resource center, which may include equipment and technology	350,000	Kaptur, Marcy; Sutton, Betty
FIPSE	Los Angeles Valley College, Valley Glen, CA for its Solving the Math Achievement Gap program	200,000	Waxman, Henry
FIPSE	Lyon College, Batesville, AR, to purchase and install equipment	75,000	Berry, Marion; Lincoln, Pryor
FIPSE	MacMurray College, Jacksonville, IL for technology upgrades	350,000	LaHood, Ray
FIPSE	Madonna University, Livonia, MI for curriculum development for a disaster relief and recovery program	270,000	McCotter, Thaddeus; Levin
FIPSE	Maricopa County Community College, Tempe, AZ for the Bilingual Nursing Program at Gateway Community College in Phoenix, AZ	350,000	Pastor, Ed
FIPSE	Maryland Association of Community Colleges, Annapolis, MD, to expand and improve nursing programs at Maryland's community colleges	2,340,000	Mikulski
FIPSE	Marymount Manhattan College, New York, NY for a minority teacher preparation initiative	350,000	Maloney (NY), Carolyn; Schumer
FIPSE	McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA for the Louisiana Academy for Innovative Teaching and Learning	150,000	Boustany, Charles; Landrieu, Vitter
FIPSE	Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ for an online registered nurse recertification program	125,000	Mitchell, Harry
FIPSE	Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ for the Enfermeras En Escalera program to address a shortage of nurses	175,000	Mitchell, Harry
FIPSE	Messiah College, Grantham, PA, for wireless technology acquisition and technology infrastructure improvements	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
FIPSE	Metro State College, Denver, CO, for training and equipment acquisition	127,125	Allard
FIPSE	Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN for nursing education programs	500,000	McCollum (MN), Betty; Klobuchar, Coleman
FIPSE	MidAmerica Nazarene University, Olathe, KS, for equipment acquisition to expand distance education for teachers in western Kansas	300,000	Brownback; Moore (KS), Dennis
FIPSE	Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN, for the comprehensive math and science teacher training program	500,000	Alexander; Gordon, Bart
FIPSE	Midland College, Midland, TX for purchase of equipment at the Advanced Technology Center	150,000	Conaway, K.
FIPSE	Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove, IL for the Advanced Career Explorers Program	100,000	Roskam, Peter
FIPSE	Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Office of the Chancellor, St. Paul, MN for a statewide veterans re-entry education program	1,148,500	Klobuchar, Coleman; Walz (MN), Timothy; Peterson (MN), Collin
FIPSE	Mira Costa Community College District, Oceanside, CA for a nursing education program, including purchase of equipment	350,000	Issa, Darrell
FIPSE	Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Gautier, MS for equipment and furnishings for a marine technology center and estuarine education center	200,000	Taylor, Gene; Lott
FIPSE	Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for a leadership training program at the Appalachian Leadership Honors Program	100,000	Cochran; Pickering, Charles
FIPSE	Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for acquisition of equiment and curriculum development at the Wise Center-Broadcast Facility Conversion to Digital	1,000,000	Cochran
FIPSE	Missouri State University, Springfield, MO, for program development and expansion, equipment and technology for the Distance Learning Project on the West Plains Campus	847,000	Bond
FIPSE	Missouri State University-West Plains, West Plains, MO for technology upgrades and programming at the Academic Support Center	200,000	Emerson, Jo Ann
FIPSE	Monroe Community College, Rochester, NY for a special needs preparedness training program	450,000	Kuhl (NY), John; Clinton, Schumer
FIPSE	Montana Committee for the Humanities, Missoula, MT, to continue civic educational programs	80,000	Baucus
FIPSE	Montana State University - Billings, Billings, MT, for the Montana Energy Workforce Training Center	130,000	Tester
FIPSE	Montana State University-Billings, Billings, MT, to develop job-training programs	160,000	Baucus
FIPSE	Montana State University-Billings, Billings, MT, to expand professional development education programs for the health care industry	160,000	Baucus, Tester
FIPSE	Montgomery County Community College, Blue Bell, PA for curricula, equipment and technology, faculty, and outreach for its advanced technologies initiative	440,000	Schwartz, Allyson
FIPSE	Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA, for equipment and technology acquisition and curriculum development for a science initiative	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA, to establish a research initiative to improve college graduation of minority students	84,700	Chambliss, Isakson
FIPSE	Mott Community College - Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CAM), Flint, MI, for a clearinghouse and pilot program for new technology	425,000	Levin , Stabenow
FIPSE	Mount Ida College, Newton, MA, for a veterinary technology program, which may include equipment	150,000	Frank (MA), Barney; Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA, for education and outreach services to support undergraduate students with disabilities	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Dent, Charles
FIPSE	Murray State University, Hopkinsville, KY for purchase of equipment at the Veterinary Center	200,000	Whitfield, Ed
FIPSE	Nevada State College, Henderson, NV for the accelerated nursing program	450,000	Porter, Jon
FIPSE	Nevada State College, Henderson, NV, for math and science teacher initiatives	325,000	Reid
FIPSE	New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL for equipment at the Jane Bancroft Cook Library	250,000	Buchanan, Vern

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIPSE	New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL for the Public Archaeology Laboratory, including purchase of equipment	225,000	Buchanan, Vern; Nelson, Bill
FIPSE	New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL for the Strategic Languages Resource Center, including purchase of equipment	300,000	Buchanan, Vern
FIPSE	New Hampshire Community Technical College System, Concord, NH, to expand and modernize engineering technology programs	254,100	Sununu, Gregg
FIPSE	New Hampshire Community Technical College System, Concord, NH, to standardize technology and learning across seven community colleges	150,000	Gregg
FIPSE	New Hampshire Community Technical College-Manchester, Manchester, NH for equipment for nursing and allied health education and training programs	150,000	Shea-Porter, Carol
FIPSE	Niagara County Community College, Sanborn, NY for equipment	350,000	Reynolds, Thomas; Clinton, Schumer
FIPSE	North Arkansas College, Harrison, AR for technology upgrades	215,000	Boozman, John; Lincoln, Pryor
FIPSE	North Carolina Center for Engineering Technologies, Hickory, NC for purchase of equipment at the Center for Engineering Technologies	150,000	McHenry, Patrick
FIPSE	North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, ND for a Center for Nanoscience Technology Training	1,000,000	Dorgan, Conrad; Pomeroy, Earl
FIPSE	Northeast Community College, Norfolk, NE, for nurse training, including the purchase of equipment	170,000	Hagel, Ben Nelson
FIPSE	Northern Essex Community College, Lawrence, MA, for equpment for allied health program	205,000	Kennedy, Kerry; Meehan, Martin
FIPSE	Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL for its College of Engineering and Engineering Technology	250,000	Lipinski, Daniel
FIPSE	Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation, Highland Heights, KY for the METS Center, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Davis (KY), Geoff
FIPSE	Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY, for the Infrastructure Management Institute	500,000	McConnell
FIPSE	Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY, for the nursing education program	127,125	Bunning
FIPSE	Northern Rockies Educational Services, Twin Bridges, MT, to develop Taking Technology to the Classroom program	80,000	Baucus
FIPSE	Northwest Shoals Community College, Phil Campbell, AL for technology upgrades	350,000	Aderholt, Robert; Shelby
FIPSE	Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, LA, for a nursing education program	200,000	Landrieu, Vitter; McCrery, Jim
FIPSE	Norwich University, Northfield, VT for equipment and technology for a nursing program	350,000	Welch (VT), Peter
FIPSE	Oakland Community College, Bloomfield Hills, MI for international education programs	340,000	Levin, Sander; Levin
FIPSE	Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Goodwell, OK for purchase of equipment	100,000	Lucas, Frank
FIPSE	Onondaga Community College, Syracuse, NY for purchase of equipment	250,000	Walsh (NY), James; Clinton, Schumer
FIPSE	Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, OR for academic programs in the OGI School of Science and Engineering	400,000	Wu, David; Wyden
FIPSE	Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls, OR for development of associate's and bachelor's degree programs in the health professions	350,000	Walden (OR), Greg; Smith
FIPSE	Owens Community College, Toledo, OH for a first responder training initiative, including curriculum development	150,000	Gillmor, Paul
FIPSE	Palm Beach Community College, Lake Worth, FL for equipment and technology	325,000	Klein (FL), Ron; Hastings (FL), Alcee; Wexler, Robert
FIPSE	Paula and Anthony Rich Center for the Study and Treatment of Autism, Youngstown, OH for distance learning technology and programs	440,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
FIPSE	Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, Johnstown, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Philadelphia School District, Philadelphia, PA for the CORE Philly Scholarship Program	575,000	Fattah, Chaka
FIPSE	Philadelphia University, Philadelphia, PA, for the Scientific Reasoning / Inquiry Based Education (SCRIBE) initiative	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Pierce College, Tacoma, WA for the Center of Excellence for Homeland Security, including curriculum development and training	186,000	Reichert, David; Dicks, Norm; Cantwell
FIPSE	Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS for equipment for its Kansas Technology Center	275,000	Boyda (KS), Nancy
FIPSE	Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, for a collaborative research institute for sustainable rural economics	200,000	Gregg; Hodes, Paul
FIPSE	Polk Community College, Winter Haven, FL for advanced manufacturing training programs	300,000	Putnam, Adam
FIPSE	Portland State University, Portland, OR for equipment and technology for its science research and teaching center	400,000	Wyden, Smith; Wu, David; Walden (OR), Greg
FIPSE	Prince George's Community College, Largo, MD for equipment and technology to upgrade a management information system	350,000	Wynn, Albert
FIPSE	Purchase College, State of University of New York, Purchase, NY, for science and math education programs, including teacher preparation programs	200,000	Lowey, Nita; Schumer
FIPSE	Radford University, Radford, VA for a study of the feasibility of establishing a graduate school in the medical sciences	400,000	Boucher, Rick
FIPSE	Redlands Community College, El Reno, OK, for nursing programs	100,000	Inhofe; Lucas, Frank
FIPSE	Rhode Island College, Providence, RI for development of a Portuguese and Lusophone Studies Program	100,000	Kennedy, Patrick; Reed, Whitehouse
FIPSE	Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Pomona, NJ for curriculum development	350,000	LoBiondo, Frank
FIPSE	Richland Community College, Decatur, IL for development of an alternative fuels education and training program	320,000	Hare, Phil; Johnson (IL), Timothy
FIPSE	Richmond Community College, Hamlet, NC for equipment and programs at the Industrial Training Center	200,000	Hayes, Robin
FIPSE	Robert Morris University, Moon Township, PA, for health care professional education programs in the use of electronic health records	90,000	Specter; Murphy, Tim
FIPSE	Rochester Area Colleges, Rochester, NY, for Excellence in Math and Science	1,000,000	Schumer, Clinton

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIPSE	Rockford College, Rockford, IL for technology upgrades and other equipment	200,000	Manzullo, Donald
FIPSE	Round Rock Higher Education Center, Round Rock, TX for nursing programs, including purchase of equipment	450,000	Carter, John
FIPSE	Rust College, Holly Springs, MS, for acquisition of equipment for the Science and Mathematics Annex	500,000	Cochran
FIPSE	Rutgers University School of Law - Camden, NJ for student scholarships and loan repayment, internships and public interest programming	640,000	Andrews, Robert; Lautenberg
FIPSE	Ryan Foundation, Wayne, PA, for civic education programs	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Saint Anselm College, Manchester, NH, for a civic education program	200,000	Gregg
FIPSE	Salt Lake Community College, Salt Lake City, Utah, to train health care professionals	423,700	Bennett
FIPSE	Salve Regina University, Newport, RI, for historic preservation education programs including equipment	850,000	Reed, Whitehouse
FIPSE	San Jacinto College, Pasadena, TX for a health care education and training initiative, which may include equipment and technology	250,000	Lampson, Nick
FIPSE	Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA for equipment, technology, and training for its library and information commons initiative	500,000	Honda, Michael; Eshoo, Anna
FIPSE	Security on Campus, Inc., King of Prussia, PA, for campus safety peer education programs	30,150	Specter
FIPSE	Seminole State College, Seminole, OK, for the Medical Laboratory Technology Program, including technology acquisition	100,000	Inhofe; Fallin, Mary
FIPSE	Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ for equipment and technology for its science and technology center	525,000	Payne, Donald; Rothman, Steven; Lautenberg, Menendez
FIPSE	Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA, for technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Platts, Todd
FIPSE	Siena Heights University, Adrian, MI for nursing programs	200,000	Walberg, Timothy; Levin
FIPSE	Silver Lake College, Manitowoc, WI for nursing programs, including curriculum development	185,000	Petri, Thomas
FIPSE	Simpson College, Indianola, IA for purchase of equipment	300,000	Latham, Tom; Grassley
FIPSE	South Carolina Technical College System, Columbia, SC, to fund apprenticeship pilot programs in economically distressed areas	169,500	Graham
X FIPSE	South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, for the Thomas Daschle Center for Public Service & Representative Democracy	1,000,000	Byrd, Reid, Johnson, Harkin
FIPSE	Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education, Glenside, PA, for equipment	425,000	Casey, Jr.
FIPSE	Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah, to enhance academic skills and training of science teachers in southern Utah through mobile classrooms	50,000	Hatch
FIPSE	Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, Albuquerque, NM, to expand a renewable energy training program	340,000	Bingaman
FIPSE	Sparks College, Shelbyville, IL for a closed captioner training program	200,000	Shimkus, John; Obama
FIPSE	Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, for programs to recruit and increase graduation rates for African-American females pursuing sciences, mathematics, or dual-engineering degrees	84,700	Chambliss
FIPSE	Springfield Public Schools Academy of Arts and Academics, Springfield, OR, for classroom equipment and technology	84,700	Smith, Wyden
FIPSE	St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY for equipment at the science facility	350,000	Kuhl (NY), John; Walsh, James T.
FIPSE	St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY for technology upgrades	300,000	Kuhl (NY), John; Schumer
FIPSE	St. Clair County Community College, Port Huron, MI for purchase of equipment	150,000	Miller (MI), Candice; Levin
FIPSE	St. Francis College, Brooklyn, NY for equipment and technology to support its science, technology, engineering and math initiative	770,000	Clarke, Yvette; Towns, Edolphus; King (NY), Peter; Clinton, Schumer
FIPSE	St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL for a distance learning program, including technology upgrades and purchase of equipment	300,000	Young (FL), C.W.
FIPSE	State University of New York at New Paltz, NY, for curriculum development in economic development and governance	300,000	Schumer, Clinton
FIPSE	State University of New York at Potsdam, Potsdam, NY for teacher training initiatives	100,000	McHugh, John; Clinton, Schumer
FIPSE	Stonehill College, Easton, MA, to procure equipment and develop programs for the Center for Non-Profit Management	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology acquisition	90,000	Specter, Casey
FIPSE	Sweetwater Education Foundation, Chula Vista, CA, for its Compact for Success program, which may include student scholarships	300,000	Filner, Bob; Feinstein
FIPSE	Texas Chiropractic College, Pasadena, TX for health professions training	100,000	Lampson, Nick
FIPSE	Texas State Technical College, Waco, TX, for equipment for education and training programs	150,000	Edwards, Chet
FIPSE	Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX for the Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery	150,000	Neugebauer, Randy
FIPSE	Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX, for the Institute of Health Sciences Dallas Center, for acquisition of technology	175,000	Hutchison
FIPSE	Thiel College, Greenville, PA, for technology infrastructure upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Tohono O'odham Community College, Sells, AZ for computer, science and mathematics equipment, technology and instructional materials	125,000	Grijalva, Raul
FIPSE	Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, MS, for an international study abroad program	200,000	Cochran
FIPSE	Tri-County Community College, Murphy, NC for equipment and technology	50,000	Shuler, Heath; Burr
FIPSE	Trident Technical College, Charleston, SC for nursing curriculum development	200,000	Brown (SC), Henry
FIPSE	Trinity University, San Antonio, TX for purchase of equipment	150,000	Smith (TX), Lamar
FIPSE	Turtle Mountain Community College, Belcourt, ND, to develop a vocational and technical training curriculum	640,000	Dorgan, Conrad; Pomeroy, Earl
X FIPSE	Univ. of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City, UT for the Health Sciences LEAP Program to expand the pipeline of underrepresented students in health professions	84,750	Hatch

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIPSE	University of Alaska, Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the 49th State Scholars program	350,000	Stevens
FIPSE	University of Alaska, Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the Alaska Native Students Science and Engineering program	1,000,000	Stevens
FIPSE	University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ for development of a pilot project to provide instructional and support services to ensure the academic success of disabled veterans	350,000	Grijalva, Raul
FIPSE	University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, for the Integrative Medicine in Residency program	200,000	Harkin
FIPSE	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR, for equipment and curriculum development for genetic counseling and other health care programs	400,000	Lincoln, Pryor
FIPSE	University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA for the Matsui Center for Politics and Public Service, which may include establishing an endowment, and for cataloguing the papers of Congressman Robert Matsui	1,000,000	Lee, Barbara
FIPSE	University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR, for a technology training and instruction initiative, which may include equipment	625,000	Lincoln, Pryor; Snyder, Vic
FIPSE	University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL for the Lou Frey Institute of Politics	250,000	Keller, Ric
FIPSE	University of Dubuque in Dubuque, Iowa for the establishment of a nursing education program	450,000	Harkin
FIPSE	University of Florida, Gainesville, FL for purchase of equipment at the College of Education	200,000	Mica, John
FIPSE	University of Hawaii at Hilo for an Applied Rural Science program and a Clinical Pharmacy Training Program, for clinical pharmacy training program	800,000	Inouye
FIPSE	University of Hawaii School of Law, for a health policy center and cultural education programs	200,000	Inouye
FIPSE	University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, for the Gateway to Math Program, for continued outreach to pre-college math students	125,000	Craig, Crapo
FIPSE	University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA for technology upgrades at the College of Pharmacy	400,000	Alexander, Rodney; Landrieu, Vitter
FIPSE	University of Michigan Depression Center, Ann Arbor, MI for the Postsecondary Education Campus Support project	400,000	Knollenberg, Joe; Levin
FIPSE	University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS, for program development, start-up costs and curriculum	2,542,500	Lott
FIPSE	University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL for the Teacher Leadership Initiative for School Improvement	200,000	Aderholt, Robert; Shelby
FIPSE	University of New Hampshire, Manchester Campus, Manchester, NH, to expand business and high technology academic programs	339,000	Sununu
FIPSE	University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM for the American Indian Language Policy Research and Teacher Training Center	300,000	Wilson (NM), Heather; Domenici
FIPSE	University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, NC for development of an assistive technology center, which may include equipment	390,000	McIntyre, Mike; Dole
FIPSE	University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, North Carolina, for nursing programs including military veterans, clinical research and distance learning	211,250	Dole
FIPSE	University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL for the Virtual School Readiness Incubator	250,000	Crenshaw, Ander
FIPSE	University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA, for the development of math and science programs	169,500	Grassley
FIPSE	University of Scranton, Scranton, PA, for equipment acquisition to support nursing and allied health education programs	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Kanjorski, Paul
FIPSE	University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, for curriculum development and acquisition of equipment	847,500	Lott
FIPSE	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, for the Baker Center for Public Policy	5,000,000	Byrd, Cochran, Harkin
FIPSE	University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, TX for a science, technology, engineering and mathematics program, including teacher training	150,000	Gohmert, Louie; Cornyn
FIPSE	University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX for nursing programs	150,000	Paul, Ron
FIPSE	University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX for the Centralized Clinical Placement system, including purchase of equipment	100,000	Paul, Ron
FIPSE	University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK, for acquisition of equipment at the Center for Information Security	100,000	Inhofe; Sullivan, John
FIPSE	University of Vermont of Burlington, Burlington, VT, to establish advanced practice graduate nursing program in psychiatric-mental health nursing	200,000	Leahy
FIPSE	University of Vermont of Burlington, VT, Burlington, VT, to establish a child psychiatry fellowship program	200,000	Leahy
FIPSE	University of Virginia Center for Politics, Charlottesville, VA for the Youth Leadership Initiative	430,000	Goode, Virgil; Forbes J.; Webb, Warner
FIPSE	University of Washington at Bothell, WA for an initiative to train nursing faculty in partnership with a consortium of colleges	300,000	Cantwell; Inslee, Jay; Reichert, David
FIPSE	University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI, to provide educational programs in nanotechnology	160,000	Kohl
FIPSE	University of Wisconsin Platteville, Platteville, WI, to establish an English as a Second Language teacher certification program	125,000	Kohl; Kind, Ron
FIPSE	University of Wisconsin Whitewater, Whitewater, WI, to establish a certification program for science teachers	125,000	Kohl
FIPSE	University of Wisconsin-Marshfield, Marshfield, WI for equipment and technology for science laboratories	200,000	Obey, David
FIPSE	Urban College of Boston, Boston, MA, to support higher education programs serving low-income and minority students	635,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Utah Valley State College, Orem, UT for a civic education program, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Cannon, Chris; Hatch
FIPSE	Utah Valley State College, Orem, Utah, to expand nursing education, including technology acquisition and curriculum development	50,000	Hatch
FIPSE	Vanguard University Nursing Center, Costa Mesa, CA for teacher and nurse training programs	150,000	Rohrabacher, Dana
FIPSE	Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT, for equipment for Fire Science Program	425,000	Sanders
FIPSE	Villa Julie College, Stevenson, MD, to expand the Nursing Distance Learning Program	500,000	Mikulski; Sarbanes, John
FIPSE	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, for equipment	400,000	Warner, Webb

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
FIPSE	Waldorf College, Forest City, IA for purchase of equipment	120,000	Latham, Tom; Grassley
FIPSE	Washburn University, Topeka, KS, for equipment acquisition to train students in science and health-related fields	242,500	Brownback
FIPSE	Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, PA, for foreign language programs	90,000	Specter
FIPSE	Washington State University, Pullman, WA, for mentoring programs women in science programs	350,000	Murray, Cantwell
FIPSE	Weber State University, Ogden, UT for the TAPT program to recruit additional teachers	150,000	Bishop (UT), Rob; Hatch
FIPSE	Weber State University, Ogden, Utah, for stipends and tuition asssistance for faculty to pursue advanced nursing degree	423,700	Bennett
FIPSE	Weber State University, Ogden, Utah, to provide mentoring for minority disadvantaged students	50,000	Hatch
FIPSE	West Central Technical College, Waco, GA for purchase of equipment	150,000	Westmoreland, Lynn
FIPSE	West Chester University, West Chester, PA for nursing program development	250,000	Gerlach, Jim
FIPSE	West Chester University, West Chester, PA, for technology infrastructure upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
FIPSE	Western Iowa Tech Community College, Sioux City, IA, for equipment	100,000	Harkin, Grassley; King (IA), Steve
FIPSE	Western Kentucky University Research Foundation, Bowling Green, KY, for equipment acquisition for the science, technology and engineering facility	1,500,000	McConnell
FIPSE	Western Oregon University, Monmouth, OR, for equipping a nursing simulation laboratory	210,000	Wyden, Smith; Hooley, Darlene
FIPSE	Wheaton College, Norton, MA, to procure educational equipment and information technology to support science center expansion	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	Wheelock College, Boston, MA, for educational equipment and curriculum development for the K-9 science teachers program	210,000	Kennedy, Kerry
FIPSE	William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ, for curriculum development and other activities to establish the Center for the Study of Critical Languages	210,000	Lautenberg
FIPSE	Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Madison, WI for continued implementation of the WAICU Collaboration Project	345,000	Obey, David; Kohl
FIPSE	Wittenberg University, Springfield OH for a teacher training initiative	400,000	Hobson, David
FIPSE	York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA, for laboratory equipment and technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter, Casey
FIPSE	York College, City University of New York, Jamaica, NY for activities to prepare students for careers in aviation management	320,000	Meeks (NY), Gregory; Schumer
FIPSE	York College, York, NE, for training of clinical social workers in central and western Nebraska, including curriculum development	100,000	Hagel, Ben Nelson
HHS OS	Alma Family Services, Monterey Park, CA to increase access to culturally competent health information to minority populations, which may include the purchase of a fully equipped mobile computer lab/resource unit	75,000	Solis, Hilda
HHS OS	Bronx-Lebanon Hospital, New York, NY for demonstration project to increase access to health care for low-income minority men in South and Central Bronx	400,000	Serrano, Jose
HHS OS	Community Health Partnership, Santa Clara, CA for its Healthy Women, Healthy Choices project to provide comprehensive health education to underserved women	200,000	Honda, Michael
HHS OS	Community Transportation Association of America, Washington, DC, for technical assistance to human services transportation providers on ADA requirements	850,000	Harkin
HHS OS	Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ for its Latino Healthcare Initiative	90,000	Holt, Rush; Lautenberg, Menendez
HHS OS	Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, LA for a health literacy program	250,000	McCrery, Jim; Landrieu
HHS OS	Marymount University, Arlington, VA for a project to provide health screenings, referrals and health education at a nurse managed health center for minority populations	70,000	Moran (VA), James
HHS OS	Nassau University Medical Centers, East Meadow, NY for a minority health institute	320,000	McCarthy (NY), Carolyn; Clinton, Schumer
HHS OS	National Hispanic Medical Association, Washington, DC for a Hispanic health portal to provide online health education materials	500,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille; Gutierrez, Luis; Grijalva, Raúl; Velázquez, Nydia; Becerra, Xavier; Napolitano, Grace; Reyes, Silvestre; Sires, Albio; Baca, Joe; Solis, Hilda
HHS OS	Palmer College on Chiropractice, Consortial Center for Chiropractic Research in Davenport, Iowa, and the Policy Institute for Integrative Medicine in Philadelphia, PA for a best practices initiative on lower back pain	325,000	Harkin
HHS OS	Prince George's County, Upper Marlboro, MD for a media campaign for pregnant women about health insurance for prenatal care	140,000	Wynn, Albert; Mikulski, Cardin
HHS OS	St. Luke's Community Free Clinic, Front Royal, VA for activities focused on adult hypertension and dental care	350,000	Wolf, Frank
HHS OS	Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, Olympia, WA for a demonstration project to increase care for non-English-speaking patients	90,000	Baird, Brian; Cantwell
HHS OS/OMH	Saint Francis Hospital, Wilmington, DE, to expand prenatal, maternity, pediatric, and other primary care services to indigent populations	590,000	Biden, Carper
HRSA	A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital, Oneonta, NY for facilities and equipment	250,000	Arcuri, Michael; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Access Community Health Network, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment for Chicago sites	225,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse; Rush, Bobby; Durbin
HRSA	Addison County Dental Care, Middlebury, VT, for equipment and facility upgrades	150,000	Sanders
HRSA	Adirondack Medical Center, Saranac Lake, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000	McHugh, John; Gillibrand, Kirsten; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Adrian College, Adrian, MI for nurse training programs, including facilities and equipment	500,000	Walberg, Timothy; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Adventist Glen Oaks Hospital, Glendale Heights, IL for facilities and equipment	200,000	Roskam, Peter
HRSA	Adventist Health, Roseville, CA for expansions to the clinical information system, including purchase of equipment	350,000	Doolittle, John
HRSA	AIDS Resource Center Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, to provide health care and case management services	125,000	Kohl; Moore (WI), Gwen
HRSA	Alamo Community College System, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	440,000	Cuellar, Henry

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Alaska Addictions Rehabilitation Services, Inc., Wasilla, AK for facilities and equipment	150,000	Young (AK), Don
HRSA	Alaska Family Practice Residency Program, Anchorage, AK, to support its family practice residency programs	1,000,000	Stevens
HRSA	Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage, AK, for equipment	750,000	Stevens, Murkowski
HRSA	Alaska Psychiatric Institute, Juneau, AK, for the Telebehavioral Health Project in Alaska	400,000	Stevens
HRSA	Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY, for the establishment of the Patient Safety Center	500,000	Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Albuquerque Indian Health Center, New Mexico, for renovations and equipment	85,000	Bingaman
HRSA	Alderson-Broaddus College, Philippi, WV for facilities and equipment for the nursing program	125,000	Mollohan, Alan
HRSA	Alegent Health Care System, Omaha, NE, for a community-based Electronic Medical Records System	100,000	Hagel, Ben Nelson
HRSA	Alice Hyde Medical Center, Malone, NY for facilities and equipment	350,000	McHugh, John; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Alleghany Memorial Hospital, Sparta, NC for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	150,000	Foxx, Virginia
HRSA	Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	169,500	Specter
HRSA	Allegheny Singer Research Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Alle-Kiski Medical Center, Natrona Heights, PA for facilities and equipment	375,000	Altmire, Jason
HRSA	Allen Memorial Hospital, Moab, Utah, for construction, renovation, and equipment	50,000	Hatch
HRSA	Alliance for NanoHealth, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	650,000	Culberson, John
HRSA	AltaMed Health Services Corp., Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment	275,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille; Boxer
HRSA	American Oncologic Hospital, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA for facilities and equipment	500,000	Hoyer, Steny
HRSA	American Samoa, Pago Pago, AQ for facilities and equipment for the LBJ Medical Center	640,000	Faleomavaega, Eni
HRSA	Amite County Medical Services, Liberty, MS for facilities and equipment	135,000	Pickering, Charles
HRSA	Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center, Anchorage, AK, for construction, renovation, and equipment	339,000	Murkowski
HRSA	AnMed Health, Anderson, SC, for renovation and equipment	84,750	Graham
HRSA	Arc of Northern Virginia, Falls Church, VA, for equipment and software to create a Resource Navigator System for individuals with developmental disabilities in the Commonwealth of Virginia	150,000	Warner, Webb; Moran (VA), James
HRSA	Armstrong County Memorial Hospital, Kittanning, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Arnold Palmer Hospital, Orlando, FL for facilities and equipment	200,000	Keller, Ric
HRSA	Ashland County Oral Health Services, Ashland, OH for facilities and equipment	100,000	Regula, Ralph
HRSA	Asian Americans for Community Involvement, San Jose, CA for facilities and equipment for a community health clinic	378,000	Honda, Michael; Lofgren, Zoe
HRSA	Association for Utah Community Health, Salt Lake City, UT for health information technology for community health centers represented by the Association throughout the State	796,650	Matheson, Jim; Bennett, Hatch
HRSA	Atchison Hospital Association, Atchison, KS, for renovation and equipment	300,000	Brownback
HRSA	Atlantic Health Systems, Florham Park, NJ for an electronic disease tracking system	500,000	Frelinghuysen, Rodney; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Avis Goodwin Community Health Center, Dover, NH for facilities and equipment in Somerworth, NH	400,000	Shea-Porter, Carol
HRSA	Avista Adventist Hospital, Louisville, CO for health information systems	320,000	Udall (CO), Mark; Salazar, Allard
HRSA	Bad River Tribe of Lake Superior Chippewa, Odanah, WI for facilities and equipment for a health clinic	500,000	Obey, David
HRSA	Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie, IN, for facilities and equipment	100,000	Pence, Mike; Bayh
HRSA	Baltimore City Health Department, Baltimore, MD for facilities and equipment for mobile units	320,000	Sarbanes, John
HRSA	Baltimore Medical System, Baltimore, MD for facilities and equipment for a community health care facility	320,000	Sarbanes, John; Cardin, Mikulski
HRSA	Baptist Health Medical Center - Heber Springs, Heber Springs, AR for facilities and equipment	75,000	Berry, Marion
HRSA	Barnert Hospital, Paterson, NJ for facilities and equipment	320,000	Pascrell, Bill; Lautenberg
HRSA	Barnes-Kasson County Hospital, Susquehanna, PA for obstetrical care	150,000	Carney, Christopher
HRSA	Barnes-Kasson County Hospital, Susquehanna, PA, for renovation and equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Barre Family Health Center, Barre, MA for facilities and equipment	275,000	Olver, John
HRSA	Bay Area Medical Clinic, Marinette, WI for facilities and equipment	200,000	Kagen, Steve
HRSA	BayCare Health System, Clearwater, FL for upgrades to medical information systems	350,000	Young (FL), C.W.
HRSA	Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, for construction, renovation, and equipment at the Vannie E. Cook, Jr. Children's Cancer and Hematology Clinic	175,000	Hutchison
HRSA	Baylor Research Institute, Dallas, TX for facilities and equipment	352,000	Cornyn; Johnson, E. B., Eddie
HRSA	Bayonne Medical Center, Bayonne, NJ for health information technology	500,000	Sires, Albio
HRSA	Baystate Health Systems, Springfield, MA for facilities and equipment	320,000	Neal (MA), Richard
HRSA	Bear River Health Department, Logan, Utah, for the Medical Reserve Corps Program	50,000	Hatch
HRSA	Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI for a Core Molecular Laboratory, including facilities and equipment	500,000	Knollenberg, Joe; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Beaver Valley Hospital, Beaver, Utah, for renovation and equipment	50,000	Hatch
HRSA	Beebe Medical Center, Lewes, DE, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000	Biden, Carper
HRSA	Belmont University, Nashville, TN for facilities and equipment for the Health Science Center	140,000	Cooper, Jim
HRSA	Beloit Area Community Health Center, Beloit, WI, for construction, renovation and equipment	425,000	Kohl
HRSA	Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN for a nurse training program	250,000	Peterson (MN), Collins; Klobuchar
HRSA	Benedictine Hospital, Kingston, NY for health information systems	200,000	Hinchey, Maurice; Schumer

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Benefis Healthcare Foundation, Great Falls, MT, for health information technology	320,000	Baucus
HRSA	Benefis Healthcare, Great Falls, MT for facilities and equipment	500,000	Rehberg, Dennis
HRSA	Berea Health Ministry Rural Health Clinic, Inc., Berea, KY for facilities and equipment for a rural diabetes clinic	50,000	Chandler, Ben
HRSA	Billings Clinic, Billings, MT, for a Rural Clinical Information System	280,000	Baucus
HRSA	Billings Clinic, Billings, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment of a cancer center	320,000	Baucus, Tester
HRSA	Billings Clinic, Billings, MT, for the Diabetes Center to prevent and treat diabetes	300,000	Tester, Baucus
HRSA	Bloomington Hospital Foundation, Bloomington, IN for health information systems	200,000	Hill, Baron
HRSA	Bloomsburg Hospital, Bloomsburg, PA for facilities and equipment	343,000	Kanjorski, Paul; Specter, Casey
HRSA	Blount Memorial Hospital, Maryville, TN for purchase of equipment	150,000	Duncan, John
HRSA	Boone County Senior Citizen Service Corporation, Columbia, MO, for equipment and technology for the Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Center on the Bluff's campus	847,000	Bond
HRSA	Boone Hospital Center, Columbia, MO for facilities and equipment	200,000	Hulshof, Kenny; Skelton, Ike
HRSA	Boriken Neighborhood Health Center, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	150,000	Rangel, Charles
HRSA	Boscobel Area Health Care, Boscobel, WI for facilities and equipment	405,000	Kind, Ron
HRSA	Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, Boston, MA, for the construction of a health care facility	145,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA for facilities and equipment for the J. Joseph Moakley Medical Services Building	1,000,000	Markey, Edward; Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Boston University Medical School, Boston, MA for facilities and equipment for biomedical research related to amyloidosis	250,000	Capuano, Michael
HRSA	Boys Town National Research Hospital, Omaha, NE, for construction, renovation and equipment	720,000	Ben Nelson
HRSA	Brackenridge Hospital, Austin, TX, for construction, renovation, and equipment	175,000	Hutchison; Smith (TX), Lamar
HRSA	Bridge Community Health Clinic, Wausau, WI for facilities and equipment	500,000	Obey, David
HRSA	Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, CT for facilities and equipment	350,000	Shays, Christopher; Dodd, Lieberman
HRSA	Brockton Hospital, Brockton, MA, for equipment	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, Brockton, MA for facilities and equipment	320,000	Kennedy, Kerry; Lynch, Stephen
HRSA	Brookside Community Health Center, San Pablo, CA for facilities and equipment	350,000	Miller, George
HRSA	Brunswick County, Bolivia, NC for facilities and equipment for a senior center	250,000	McIntyre, Mike; Dole, Burr
HRSA	Bryan W. Whitfield Hospital, Demopolis, AL for facilities and equipment	140,000	Davis (AL), Artur; Shelby
HRSA	Bureau County Health Clinic, Princeton, IL to expand rural health services, including purchase of equipment	150,000	Weller, Jerry
HRSA	Cactus Health Services, Inc., Sanderson, TX for primary health care services in rural communities in Terrell and Pecos Counties	175,000	Rodriguez, Ciro
HRSA	California Hospital Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment	400,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
HRSA	California State University, Bakersfield, CA for nurse training programs, including purchase of equipment	200,000	McCarthy (CA), Kevin
HRSA	Camillus House, Inc., Miami, FL for facilities and equipment	200,000	Nelson, Bill, Martinez; Meek (FL), Kendrick
HRSA	Canonsburg General Hospital, Canonsburg, PA for purchase of equipment	350,000	Murphy, Tim
HRSA	Cape Cod Free Clinic and Community Health Center, Mashpee, MA for facilities and equipment	175,000	Delahunt, William; Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Capital Park Family Health Center, Columbus, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000	Hobson, David
HRSA	Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI for a nursing training program	100,000	Moore (WI), Gwen
HRSA	Carilion Health System, Roanoke, VA, for renovation and equipment	125,000	Warner, Webb
HRSA	Caring Health Center, Inc., Springfield, MA, for equipment needed to expand urgent care and oral health programs	210,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment and renovation	127,125	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Carolinas HealthCare System, Charlotte, NC for facilities and equipment	400,000	Dole, Burr; Hayes, Robin
HRSA	Carroll County Regional Medical Center, Carrollton, KY for facilities and equipment	300,000	Davis (KY), Geoff
HRSA	Carroll County Youth Service Bureau, Westminster, MD for facilities and equipment for the Outpatient Mental Health Clinic	350,000	Bartlett (MD), Roscoe; Cardin, Mikulski
HRSA	Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, for equipment	84,750	Voinovich; Jones (OH), Stephanie
HRSA	Center for Health Equity, Louisville, KY for facilities and equipment	250,000	Yarmuth, John
HRSA	Central Carolina Allied Health Center, Sumter, SC, for construction, renovation, and equipment	211,875	Graham; Spratt, John
HRSA	Central Wyoming College, Riverton, WY for facilities and equipment at the Virtual Medical Skills Center for Training Nurses in Rural Health Care	200,000	Cubin, Barbara
HRSA	CentroMed, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	400,000	Rodriguez, Ciro
HRSA	Champlain Valley Physician's Hospital, Plattsburgh, NY for facilities and equipment	1,500,000	Schumer, Clinton; McHugh, John
HRSA	Charles A. Dean Memorial Hospital, Greenville, ME for facilities and equipment	250,000	Michaud, Michael
HRSA	Charles Drew Health Center, Inc., Omaha, NE, for construction, renovation and equipment	1,000,000	Ben Nelson
HRSA	Chatham County Safety Net Collaborative, Savannah, GA for purchase of equipment	300,000	Kingston, Jack
HRSA	Cherry Street Health Services, Grand Rapids, MI for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	200,000	Ehlers, Vernon; Levin
HRSA	Chester County Hospital, West Chester, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter; Gerlach, Jim

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Children's Friend and Family Services, Salem, MA for facilities and equipment	250,000	Tierney, John
HRSA	Children's Hospital of KidsPeace, Orefield, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, to provide pediatric palliative care education and consultation services to clinicians and providers	252,125	Coleman, Klobuchar
HRSA	Children's Home of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA for facilities and equipment	320,000	Doyle, Michael
HRSA	Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN for facilities and equipment	315,000	Bachmann, Michele; Ellison, Keith; Walz (MN), Timothy; Klobuchar
HRSA	Children's Hospital and Health System, Milwaukee, WI for purchase of equipment	350,000	Sensenbrenner, F.
HRSA	Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY for facilities and equipment	320,000	McNulty, Michael
HRSA	Children's Hospital Boston, Boston, MA, for the development of comprehensive pediatric electronic medical records system	185,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron, Akron, OH for facilities and equipment	375,000	Sutton, Betty
HRSA	Children's Hospital of Orange County, Mission Viejo, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000	Miller, Gary
HRSA	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	127,125	Specter
HRSA	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, for construction	127,125	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Doyle, Michael
HRSA	Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters (CHKD) Health Systems, Norfolk, VA, to purchase and equip a Mobile Intensive Care Transport Vehicle for the critically ill neonatal and pediatric populations	125,000	Webb, Warner
HRSA	Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, Norfolk, VA for pediatric facilities and equipment	550,000	Drake, Thelma; Warner
HRSA	Childrens Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000	Kohl
HRSA	Children's Hospital, Aurora, CO, for equipment	169,500	Allard, Salazar
HRSA	Children's Hospital, Denver, CO for facilities and equipment	320,000	Udall (CO), Mark; Salazar
HRSA	Children's Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, for construction and program expansion	90,000	Specter, Casey
HRSA	Children's Medical Center, Dallas, Dallas, TX, for construction, renovation, and equipment	175,000	Hutchison, Cornyn; Edwards, Chet
HRSA	Children's Medical Center, Dayton, OH for CARE House, including facilities and equipment	200,000	Hobson, David; Turner, Michael
HRSA	Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	525,000	Emanuel, Rahm; Jackson (IL), Jesse; Bean, Melissa; Rush, Bobby; Kirk, Mark; Obama
HRSA	Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC for facilities and equipment for emergency preparedness	500,000	Hoyer, Steny
HRSA	Children's Specialized Hospital, Mountainside, NJ for facilities and equipment	500,000	Ferguson, Mike; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Chippewa Valley Hospital, Durand, WI for facilities and equipment	295,000	Kohl; Kind, Ron
HRSA	Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc., Elfrida, AZ for facilities and equipment for the Bisbee/Naco Chiricahua community health center in Bisbee, AZ and the Douglas/El Frida Medical and Dental Border Healthcare Clinic in Douglas, AZ	400,000	Giffords, Gabrielle
HRSA	CHOICE Regional Health Network, Olympia, WA, for construction, renovation and equipment	300,000	Murray
HRSA	Christian Health Care Center of New Jersey, Wyckoff, NJ for facilities and equipment	200,000	Garrett (NJ), Scott; Rothman, Steven; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center, Indianapolis, IN for facilities and equipment	200,000	Burton (IN), Dan
HRSA	Christiana Care Health System, Wilmington, DE, for construction, renovation and equipment	425,000	Biden, Carper
HRSA	Christus Santa Rosa's Children's Hospital, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	375,000	Gonzalez, Charles; Hutchison, Cornyn
HRSA	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH for purchase of equipment	500,000	Chabot, Steve; Voinovich
HRSA	Citrus County Board of County Commissioners, Inverness, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000	Brown-Waite, Ginny
HRSA	City of Austin, TX for facilities and equipment for the Travis County Hospital District	290,000	Doggett, Lloyd
HRSA	City of Chesapeake, VA for an infant mortality and chronic disease prevention program, including equipment	100,000	Forbes, J.
HRSA	City of Oakland, CA for facilities and equipment for a new youth center to house health services programs	500,000	Lee, Barbara
HRSA	City of Stockton, CA for facilities and equipment for a health care facility	450,000	Cardoza, Dennis
HRSA	City of Stonewall, OK for facilities and equipment	360,000	Cole (OK), Tom
HRSA	Clarion Health Center, Clarion, PA for purchase of equipment	290,000	Peterson (PA), John; Specter
HRSA	Clearfield Hospital, Clearfield, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Cleveland Clinic Huron Hospital, East Cleveland, OH for facilities and equipment	300,000	Jones (OH), Stephanie
HRSA	Cobb County Government, Marietta, GA for a senior health center, including facilities and equipment	325,000	Gingrey, Phil; Isakson, Chambliss
HRSA	Coffeyville Regional Medical Center, Coffeyville, KS for facilities and equipment	350,000	Tiahrt, Todd; Roberts
HRSA	Coles County Council on Aging, Mattoon, IL for facilities and equipment	200,000	Johnson (IL), Timothy
HRSA	College Misericordia, Dallas, PA for facilities and equipment for the NEPA Assistive Technology Research Institute	310,000	Carney, Christopher; Specter, Casey
HRSA	College of Saint Scholastica, Duluth, MN, to implement a rural health and technology demonstration project	254,250	Coleman, Klobuchar; Oberstar, James
HRSA	Collier County, Naples, FL to develop a health care access network for the under- and uninsured, including information technology upgrades	342,000	Diaz-Balart, M., Mario
HRSA	Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO for purchase of equipment	300,000	Musgrave, Marilyn; Salazar, Allard
HRSA	Columbia Memorial Hospital, Hudson, NY for health information systems	150,000	Gillibrand, Kirsten
HRSA	Columbus Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH for a telehealth project	100,000	Space, Zachary
HRSA	Columbus Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH for purchase of equipment	300,000	Pryce (OH), Deborah
HRSA	Communi Care, Inc., Columbia, SC for health information systems, facilities, and equipment	285,000	Wilson (SC), Joe; Clyburn, James

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Community Action Agency of Southern New Mexico, Las Cruces, NM, for the Access to Healthcare Initiative	297,000	Bingaman, Domenici
HRSA	Community College of Aurora, Aurora, CO for facilities and equipment	350,000	Perlmutter, Ed
HRSA	Community College of Rhode Island, Lincoln, RI, for equipment and laboratory facilities for health care education	210,000	Reed
HRSA	Community Dental Services, Albuquerque, NM for facilities and equipment	500,000	Wilson (NM), Heather
HRSA	Community Health Care, Tacoma, WA for facilities and equipment	425,000	Dicks, Norman
HRSA	Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Pittsburg, KS, for renovation and equipment	350,000	Brownback
HRSA	Community Health Center of the Black Hills, Rapid City, SD, for facilities and equipment	339,750	Johnson, Thune; Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie
HRSA	Community Health Centers in Iowa	1,750,000	Harkin
HRSA	Community Health Centers of Arkansas, North Little Rock, AR, for an infrastructure development program	600,000	Lincoln, Pryor
HRSA	Community Health Centers of the Rutland Region, Bomoseen, VT, for equipment	100,000	Sanders
HRSA	Community Health Works, Forsyth, GA for rural health care outreach	50,000	Marshall, Jim
HRSA	Community Home, Health & Hospice, Longview, WA, to implement a home health telemonitoring system	250,000	Murray, Cantwell; Baird, Brian
HRSA	Community Hospital of Bremen, Bremen, IN for facilities and equipment	125,000	Donnelly, Joe
HRSA	Community Hospital TeleHealth Consortium, Lake Charles, LA for a telehealth initiative	300,000	Landrieu, Vitter; Boustany, Charles
HRSA	Community Medical Center, Missoula, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment	280,000	Baucus, Tester
HRSA	Community Medical Centers, Stockton, CA for facilities and equipment for Gleason House	225,000	Cardoza, Dennis
HRSA	Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP), Cranston, RI for facilities and equipment for dental care	190,000	Langevin, James
HRSA	Connecticut Hospice, Inc., Branford, CT for health information systems	300,000	DeLauro, Rosa
HRSA	Cook Children's Medical Center, Fort Worth, TX for facilities and equipment	775,000	Granger, Kay; Hutchison; Edwards, Chet; Cornyn
HRSA	Cooperative Education Service Agency 11 Rural Health Dental Clinic, Turtle Lake, WI for dental services	225,000	Obey, David
HRSA	Cooperative Telehealth Network, Portneuf Medical Center, Pocatello, ID, to provide and improve distance healthcare access in southeast Idaho	350,000	Craig, Crapo
HRSA	Counseling Services of Addison County, Middlebury, VT, to implement an electronic medical record	200,000	Leahy
HRSA	County of Modoc Medical Center, Alturas, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000	Doolittle, John
HRSA	County of Peoria, Peoria, IL, for facilities and equipment	250,000	LaHood, Ray
HRSA	County of San Diego, CA Public Health Services for the purchase of equipment	286,000	Bilbray, Brian
HRSA	Crouse Hospital, Syracuse, NY for purchase of equipment and improvement of electronic medical information	300,000	Walsh (NY), James
HRSA	Crowder College-Nevada Campus, Nevada, MO for facilities and equipment for the Moss Higher Education Center	200,000	Skelton, Ike
HRSA	Crozer-Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA for facilities and equipment	325,000	Sestak, Joe
HRSA	Crumley House Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center, Limestone, TN, for brain injury programs	100,000	Alexander; Davis, David
HRSA	Culpeper Regional Hospital, Culpeper, VA, for facility design, engineering and construction to expand the Emergency Department	200,000	Warner, Webb
HRSA	Cumberland Medical Center, Crossville, TN for facilities and equipment.	240,000	Davis, Lincoln
HRSA	Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH for facilities and equipment	275,000	Hodes, Paul
HRSA	Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, for training autism caregivers	175,000	Brown; Gillmor, Paul
HRSA	Delaware Technical and Community College, Dover, DE for purchase of equipment	250,000	Castle, Michael
HRSA	Delta Dental of Iowa, Ankeny, IA, for a dental loan repayment program	150,000	Harkin, Grassley; Boswell, Leonard; Loebsack, David
HRSA	Delta Dental of South Dakota, Pierre, SD, to provide mobile dental health services	200,000	Johnson
HRSA	Denver Health and Hospital Authority, Denver, CO for facilities and equipment	450,000	DeGette, Diana; Salazar, Allard
HRSA	Des Moines University and Broadlawns Medical Center, Des Moines, IA for a mobile clinic	200,000	Boswell, Leonard; Grassley
HRSA	Desert Hot Springs, Downey, CA, to construct a primary and urgent care medical clinic	80,000	Boxer
HRSA	Detroit Primary Care Access, Detroit, MI for health care information technology	375,000	Conyers, John; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Dixie County, Cross City, FL for facilities and equipment for the primary care facility	75,000	Boyd (FL), Allen
HRSA	Dodge County Hospital, Eastman, GA for facilities and equipment	100,000	Marshall, Jim
HRSA	Drew County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, AR for facilities and equipment	440,000	Ross, Mike; Lincoln, Pryor
HRSA	DuBois Regional Medical Center, DuBois, PA for purchase of equipment and electronic medical records upgrades	217,750	Peterson (PA), John; Specter, Casey
HRSA	East Carolina University, Greenville, NC for the Metabolic Institute, including facilities and equipment	350,000	Jones (NC), Walter; Burr, Dole
HRSA	East Orange General Hospital, East Orange, NJ, for facilities and equipment	635,000	Lautenberg, Menendez; Payne, Donald
HRSA	East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Knoxville, TN for facilities and equipment	300,000	Duncan, John
HRSA	East Tennessee State University College of Pharmacy, Johnson City, TN for facilities and equipment	250,000	Davis, David
HRSA	Easter Seals Iowa, for construction and enhancement of a health care center	300,000	Harkin
HRSA	Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago, Chicago, IL, for their therapeutic School and Center for Autism Research	550,000	Obama, Durbin; Davis (IL), Danny
HRSA	Easter Seals of Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana Counties, Youngstown, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000	Ryan (OH), Tim
HRSA	Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton, OK, for health information systems and pharmacy technology programs	100,000	Inhofe

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Eastern Shore Rural Health System Onley Community Health Center, Nassawadox, VA, for construction, renovation and equipment	120,000	Webb, Warner
HRSA	Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley, CA, for construction, renovations and equipment	250,000	Boxer
HRSA	Eddy County, NM, for a regional substance abuse rehabilitation center, including facilities and equipment	150,000	Pearce, Stevan; Domenici
HRSA	Edgemoor Hospital, Santee, CA for purchase of equipment	150,000	Hunter, Duncan; Feinstein
HRSA	Eisenhower Medical Center, Rancho Mirage, CA for facilities and equipment	150,000	Bono, Mary
HRSA	El Proyecto del Barrio, Arleta, CA for facilities and equipment at the Azusa Health Center, Azusa, CA	490,000	Solis, Hilda
HRSA	El Proyecto del Barrio, Winnetka, CA for health information systems	240,000	Sherman, Brad
HRSA	Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, NC for facilities and equipment for a science education building	390,000	Butterfield, G. K.; Dole
HRSA	Elliot Health System, Manchester, NH, for a backup and support system for continuity of services	200,000	Gregg; Shea-Porter, Carol
HRSA	Emerson Hospital, Concord, MA for facilities and equipment	200,000	Meehan, Martin
HRSA	Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Englewood, NJ for facilities and equipment	175,000	Rothman, Steven; Garrett (NJ), Scott; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Ephrata Community Hospital, Ephrata, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Excela Health, Mt. Pleasant, PA for facilities and equipment	350,000	Murtha, John
HRSA	Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH for facilities and equipment	397,000	Hobson, David
HRSA	Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina, MN for purchase of equipment	150,000	Ramstad, Jim
HRSA	Family and Children's Aid, Danbury, CT for facilities and equipment for the Harmony Center	275,000	Murphy (CT), Christopher
HRSA	Family Behavioral Resources, Greensburg, PA for community health outreach activities	150,000	Murphy, Tim
HRSA	Family Center of the Northern Neck, Inc., White Stone, VA for obstetric care services, including facilities and equipment	200,000	Davis, Jo Ann
HRSA	Family Health Center of Southern Oklahoma, Tishomingo, OK for facilities and equipment	190,000	Boren, Dan
HRSA	Family Health Centers of San Diego, Inc., San Diego, CA, for construction, renovation and equipment	80,000	Boxer; Davis (CA), Susan
HRSA	Family HealthCare Network, Visalia, CA for electronic medical records upgrades	200,000	Nunes, Devin
HRSA	Family Medicine Spokane, Spokane, WA for rural training assistance	150,000	McMorris Rodgers, Cathy
HRSA	Fenway Community Health Center, Boston, MA, for construction, renovation and equipment	210,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Fish River Rural Health, Eagle Lake, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	100,000	Collins, Snowe; Michaud, Michael
HRSA	Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT, for construction, renovation and equipment	400,000	Leahy
HRSA	Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000	Keller, Ric
HRSA	Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL for facilities and equipment for the Autism Research and Treatment Center	2,500,000	Weldon (FL), Dave
HRSA	Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL for purchase of equipment to support nursing programs	400,000	Putnam, Adam
HRSA	Floyd Valley Hospital, Le Mars, IA for facilities and equipment	100,000	King (IA), Steve; Grassley
HRSA	Fort Wayne, IN, for training of emergency medical personnel, including equipment purchase	165,000	Bayh
HRSA	Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	127,125	Specter
HRSA	Franklin County Medical Center, Preston, ID, for construction, renovation, and equipment	250,000	Craig
HRSA	Free Clinic of the Greater Menomonie Area, Inc, Menomonie, WI, for equipment	85,000	Kohl
HRSA	Free Clinics of Iowa in Des Moines, to support a network of free clinics	350,000	Harkin
HRSA	Freeman Health System, Joplin, MO for purchase of equipment	400,000	Blunt, Roy
HRSA	Fulton County Medical Center, McConnellsburg, PA for facilities and equipment	263,750	Shuster, Bill; Specter
HRSA	Gardner Family Health Network, Inc., San Jose, CA for facilities and equipment	300,000	Honda, Michael
HRSA	Garfield Memorial Hospital, Panguitch, Utah, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the emergency room and adjacent clinic	84,750	Hatch
HRSA	Gaston College, Health Education Institute, Dallas, NC for nurse training programs, including facilities and equipment	150,000	Myrick, Sue; Burr
HRSA	Gateway to Care, Houston, TX for health information technology	225,000	Green, Gene
HRSA	Geisinger Health System, Danville, PA, for construction and equipment	169,500	Specter; Carney, Christopher
HRSA	Generations, Inc, Camden, NJ, for construction of a medical center	380,000	Lautenberg, Menendez; Andrews, Robert
HRSA	Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA, for rural health outreach and training	84,700	Chambliss; Barrow, John
HRSA	Gertrude A. Barber Center, Erie, PA for the Autism Early Identification Diagnostic and Treatment Center, including purchase of equipment	162,000	English (PA), Phil
HRSA	Glen Rose Medical Center, Glen Rose, TX for facilities and equipment	330,000	Edwards, Chet
HRSA	Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale, CA for facilities and equipment	375,000	Schiff, Adam
HRSA	Glens Falls Hospital, Glens Falls, NY for facilities and equipment.	400,000	Gillibrand, Kirsten
HRSA	Glory House, Sioux Falls, SD, to construct a methamphetamine treatment center	150,000	Johnson
HRSA	Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, Pottsville, PA, for medical outreach	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital, Allentown, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Grady Health Systems, Atlanta, GA for electronic medical records upgrades	334,700	Isakson; Chambliss, Price (GA), Tom; Westmoreland, Lynn; Johnson, H.; Scott, Robert
HRSA	Grandview Hospital, Dayton, OH for facilities and equipment	250,000	Turner, Michael

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center,Inc., Newburgh, NY for facilities and equipment.	125,000	Hinchey, Maurice
HRSA	Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, New Bedford, MA for health information systems	350,000	Frank (MA), Barney
HRSA	Greene County, Waynesburg, PA, for a telemedicine initiative	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Griffin Hospital, Derby, CT for facilities and equipment	400,000	DeLauro, Rosa
HRSA	Gritman Medical Center, Moscow, ID for facilities and equipment	500,000	Craig, Crapo; Sali, Bill
HRSA	Gundersen Lutheran Health System, West Union, IA for a mobile health unit	250,000	Braley (IA), Bruce
HRSA	Gundersen Lutheran Hospital, La Crosse, WI, for a health information technology system	170,000	Kohl
HRSA	Gunderson Lutheran, Decorah, IA for a Remote Fetal Monitoring Program, including purchase of equipment	300,000	Latham, Tom; Grassley
HRSA	Halifax Regional Health System, South Boston, VA for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	400,000	Goode, Virgil; Warner, Webb
HRSA	Hamilton Community Health Network, Flint, MI for health care information technology	320,000	Kildee, Dale; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Hamot Medical Center, Erie, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Hampton University, Hampton, VA for health professions training	400,000	Scott (VA), Robert
HRSA	Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	250,000	Culberson, John
HRSA	Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	500,000	Green, Al
HRSA	Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment for an outpatient physical and occupational therapy center	200,000	Jackson-Lee (TX), Sheila
HRSA	Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment for the diabetes program	415,000	Green, Gene; Cornyn
HRSA	Harris Methodist Erath County Hospital, Stephenville, TX for facilities and equipment	140,000	Carter, John
HRSA	Hatzoloh EMS, Inc., Monsey, NY for purchase of ambulances	200,000	Engel, Eliot
HRSA	Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo, IA for facilities and equipment for a health center	375,000	Braley (IA), Bruce; Grassley
HRSA	Hazleton General Hospital, Hazleton, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Healing Tree Addiction Treatment Solutions, Inc., Sterling, CO for facilities and equipment	150,000	Musgrave, Marilyn
HRSA	HEALS Dental Clinic, Huntsville, AL for facilities and equipment.	75,000	Cramer, Robert; Shelby
HRSA	HealthCare Connection, Cincinnati, OH for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	250,000	Chabot, Steve
HRSA	HealthEast Care System, St. Paul, MN for health information systems	500,000	McCollum (MN), Betty; Bachmann, Michele; Klobuchar, Coleman
HRSA	HealthHUB, South Royalton, VT, for equipment and facilities	100,000	Sanders
HRSA	Heartland Community Health Clinic, Peoria, IL for facilities and equipment	300,000	LaHood, Ray
HRSA	Heartland Partnership, Peoria, IL, for construction of a cancer research laboratory	400,000	Durbin
HRSA	Hektoen Institute for Medical Research Beloved Community Wellness Program, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	400,000	Rush, Bobby
HRSA	Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI for facilities and equipment	100,000	Ehlers, Vernon; Levin
HRSA	Helene Fuld College of Nursing, NY, for construction, renovation and equipment	100,000	Schumer, Clinton; Rangel, Charles
HRSA	Henry Ford Health System, Flint, MI, for training in advanced techniques	295,000	Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, Valencia, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000	McKeon, Howard
HRSA	Heritage Valley Health System, Beaver, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Altmire, Jason
HRSA	Hidalgo Medical Services Inc., Lordsburg, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment for a Community Health Center in Silver City, New Mexico	750,000	Domenici, Bingaman
HRSA	Highland Community Hospital, Picayune, MS for health information systems	440,000	Taylor, Gene
HRSA	Highlands County, Sebring, FL for facilities and equipment for the veterans service office	425,000	Mahoney (FL), Tim
HRSA	Hilo Medical Center, HI, for a medical robotics training lab	100,000	Inouye
HRSA	Holy Cross Hospital, Chicago, IL, for equipment	1,000,000	Durbin
HRSA	Holy Cross Hospital, Silver Spring, MD, for equipment	375,000	Mikulski, Cardin; Van Hollen, Chris
HRSA	Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, NJ for facilities and equipment	175,000	Rothman, Steven; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Holy Redeemer Health System, Huntingdon Valley, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Holy Rosary Healthcare, Miles City, MT, for a tele-radiology program	175,000	Tester
HRSA	Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Holyoke Hospital, Holyoke, MA, for equipment	185,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Home Nursing Agency, Altoona, PA, for telehealth services, including purchase of equipment	100,000	Shuster, Bill
HRSA	Hood River County, Hood River, OR, for construction of an integrated health care facility	295,000	Wyden, Smith; Walden (OR), Greg
HRSA	Hormel Foundation, Austin, MN for facilities and equipment for the cancer research center	425,000	Walz (MN), Timothy
HRSA	Hospice Care Plus, Berea, KY, for construction, renovation, and equipment	127,125	Bunning
HRSA	Hospice of Northwest Ohio Toledo Center, Toledo, OH for health information systems	125,000	Kaptur, Marcy
HRSA	Hospice of the Western Reserve, Cleveland, OH for a pediatric care program	150,000	LaTourette, Steven; Voinovich
HRSA	Hospital for Special Surgery, New York, NY, for expansion and modernization of its clinical facilities	500,000	Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Houston County Hospital District, Crockett, TX for facilities and equipment	200,000	Barton (TX), Joe
HRSA	Howard Community College, Columbia, MD for facilities and equipment for radiologic technology	300,000	Cummings, Elijah
HRSA	Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology, Huntsville, AL for facilities and equipment	325,000	Cramer, Robert; Shelby

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Inc., Glens Falls, NY for health information systems	100,000	Gillibrand, Kirsten; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Humility of Mary Health Partners, Youngstown, OH for health information technology	200,000	Ryan (OH), Tim; Voinovich
HRSA	Humphreys County Memorial Hospital, Belzoni, MS for facilities and equipment	175,000	Thompson (MS), Bennie
HRSA	Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, NJ for facilities and equipment	645,000	Ferguson, Mike
HRSA	Hunter's Hope Foundation, Orchard Park, NY, including purchase of equipment	600,000	Clinton, Schumer; Reynolds, Thomas
HRSA	Huntridge Teen Center and Nevada Dental Association, Las Vegas, NV, to purchase equipment and coordinate care for the Huntridge Dental Clinic	275,000	Reid
HRSA	Huntsville Hospital, Huntsville, AL for facilities and equipment	200,000	Cramer, Robert
HRSA	Hurley Medical Center, Flint, MI for health information systems	320,000	Kildee, Dale; Levin
HRSA	Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID for the Advanced Clinical Simulation Laboratory, including facilities and equipment	250,000	Simpson, Michael; Crapo
HRSA	Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000	Emanuel, Rahm
HRSA	Illinois Primary Health Care Association, Springfield, IL for health information systems for clinic sites across the State	600,000	Durbin, Obama; Jackson (IL), Jesse; LaHood, Ray
HRSA	India Community Center, Milpitas, CA for facilities and equipment for the medical clinic	300,000	Honda, Michael
HRSA	Indiana Regional Medical Center, Indiana, PA, for services expansion	90,000	Specter; Murtha, John
HRSA	Indiana University Bloomington, IN for facilities and equipment for the School of Nursing	75,000	Hill, Baron; Bayh, Luger
HRSA	Indiana University School of Medicine, Gary, IN for facilities and equipment for the Northwest Indiana Health Research Institute	525,000	Visclosky, Peter
HRSA	Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN for facilities and equipment	150,000	Burton (IN), Dan
HRSA	Indiana University Southeast, New Albany, IN for facilities and equipment for the School of Nursing	75,000	Hill, Baron
HRSA	Inland Behavioral Health Services, Inc., San Bernardino, CA for facilities and equipment	500,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
HRSA	Inova Health System, Falls Church, VA, for construction, renovation, and equipment	100,000	Warner, Webb; Davis, Tom
HRSA	Institute for Family Health, New Paltz, NY for health information systems across all eight academic health centers	100,000	Hinchey, Maurice
HRSA	Institute for Research and Rehabilitation, Houston, TX for purchase of equipment	200,000	Culberson, John
HRSA	INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma City, OK for a telemedicine demonstration	200,000	Fallin, Mary; Cole, Tom; Lucas, Frank
HRSA	INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma City, OK, for statewide digital radiology equipment	100,000	Inhofe
HRSA	Intermountain Healthcare, Salt Lake City, UT for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	170,000	Cannon, Chris; Bishop, Rob; Bennett
HRSA	Iowa Caregivers Association, for training and support of certified nurse assistants	300,000	Harkin
HRSA	Jackson Medical Mall Foundation, Jackson, MS, for construction, renovation, and equipment	150,000	Cochran
HRSA	Jackson State University, Jackson, MS, for Southern Institute for Mental Health Research and Training	250,000	Cochran
HRSA	Jameson Hospital, New Castle, PA for facilities and equipment	304,000	Altmire, Jason; Specter, Casey
HRSA	Jasper Memorial Hospital, Monticello, GA for facilities and equipment	40,000	Marshall, Jim
HRSA	Jefferson County, AL for the Senior Citizens' Centers, including facilities and equipment	300,000	Bachus, Spencer
HRSA	Jefferson Regional Medical Center Nursing School, Pine Bluff, AR for facilities and equipment	1,000,000	Lincoln, Pryor; Ross, Mike
HRSA	Jefferson Regional Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Murphy, Tim
HRSA	Jenkins County GA Hospital, Millen, GA for facilities and equipment	275,000	Barrow, John
HRSA	Jewish Renaissance Medical Center, Perth Amboy, NJ, for construction, renovation and equipment	190,000	Menendez, Lautenberg; Sires, Albio
HRSA	John Wesley Community Health Institute, Bell Gardens, CA for facilities and equipment for the Bell Gardens Health Center	150,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
HRSA	Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, to expand the Critical Event Preparedness and Response program	250,000	Mikulski
HRSA	Johnson Memorial Hospital, Stafford Springs, CT for facilities and equipment	250,000	Courtney, Joe
HRSA	Johnston Memorial Hospital, Smithfield, NC for facilities and equipment	320,000	Etheridge, Bob; Burr
HRSA	Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kalamazoo, MI for purchase of equipment	350,000	Upton, Fred; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Kane Community Hospital, Kane, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, for equipment for the Midwest Institute for Comparative Stem Cell Biology	500,000	Brownback; Boyda (KS), Nancy
HRSA	Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD, for medical equipment	250,000	Mikulski, Cardin
HRSA	Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD for facilities and equipment for the International Center for Spinal Cord Injury facility	450,000	Hoyer, Steny; Cummings, Elijah
HRSA	Kenosha Community Health Center, Kenosha, WI, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000	Kohl
HRSA	Kent State University Stark Campus, North Canton, OH for facilities and equipment	500,000	Regula, Ralph
HRSA	Kent State University, Ashtabula, OH for facilities and equipment	400,000	LaTourette, Steven
HRSA	Kilmichael Hospital, Kilmichael, MS for facilities and equipment	175,000	Thompson (MS), Bennie
HRSA	Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, IA for facilities, equipment and curriculum for an advanced medical simulation instruction center	225,000	Loebsack, David; Grassley
HRSA	Knox Community Hospital, Mount Vernon, OH for facilities and equipment	275,000	Space, Zachary; Voinovich
HRSA	Kootenai Medical Center, Sandpoint, ID, to continue providing and improving distance healthcare access in north Idaho	250,000	Craig

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	La Clinica de la Raza, Oakland, CA for facilities and equipment for the San Antonio Neighborhood Health Center	300,000	Lee, Barbara
HRSA	La Rabida Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	225,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse
HRSA	Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Erie, PA for the Drug Information Center	500,000	English (PA), Phil
HRSA	Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH for a health information training program, including facilities and equipment	100,000	LaTourette, Steven
HRSA	Lakeshore Foundation, Birmingham, AL, for construction, renovation, and equipment	508,500	Sessions
HRSA	Lamar University, Beaumont, TX for the Community and University Partnership Service, including facilities and equipment	150,000	Poe, Ted
HRSA	Lamoille Community Health Services, Morrisville, VT, for rural outreach activities	75,000	Sanders
HRSA	Lanai Women's Center, Lanai City, HI for facilities and equipment	140,000	Hirono, Mazie
HRSA	Lane County, Eugene, Oregon, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the Springfield Community Health Center	127,000	Smith, Wyden; DeFazio, Peter
HRSA	Laurens County Health Care System, Clinton, SC for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	100,000	Barrett (SC), J.
HRSA	Lawrence Hospital Center, Bronxville, NY for facilities and equipment	225,000	Lowey, Nita
HRSA	Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, Memphis, TN, for construction, renovation, and equipment	400,000	Alexander; Cohen, Steve
HRSA	Le Mars Dialysis Center, Le Mars, IA, for construction, renovation and equipment	200,000	Harkin
HRSA	League Against Cancer, Miami, FL for purchase of equipment	200,000	Diaz-Balart, L., Lincoln
HRSA	Legacy Health System, Portland, Oregon, for telemedicine equipment	84,700	Smith; Blumenauer, Earl; Walden (OR), Greg
HRSA	Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network, Allentown, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey, IL, to purchase and equip a mobile health clinic to serve rural areas	295,000	Obama
HRSA	Liberty County, FL, Bristol, FL for facilities and equipment for a medical facility	350,000	Boyd (FL), Allen
HRSA	Liberty Regional Medical Center, Hinesville, GA for facilities and equipment	200,000	Kingston, Jack
HRSA	LifeBridge Health of Baltimore, MD, to implement the Computerized Physician Order Entry Initiative	425,000	Cardin, Mikulski; Sarbanes, John; Cummings, Elijah
HRSA	Limestone Community Care, Inc. Medical Clinic, Elkmont, AL for facilities and equipment	75,000	Cramer, Robert; Shelby
HRSA	Lincoln Community Health Center, Durham, NC for facilities and equipment	200,000	Price (NC), David
HRSA	Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, Bronx, NY for facilities and equipment	225,000	Serrano, Jose
HRSA	Lodi Memorial Hospital, Lodi, CA for a telehealth project	175,000	McNerney, Jerry
HRSA	Loretto, Syracuse, NY for facilities and equipment for elderly health care and skilled nursing programs	250,000	Walsh (NY), James
HRSA	Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital, Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment in the Lowman Center	275,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
HRSA	Lou Ruvo Alzheimer's Institute, Las Vegas, NV, for construction, renovation, and equipment	339,000	Ensign
HRSA	Louisville Metro Department of Public Works, Louisville, KY for facilities and equipment for a mobile health unit	250,000	Yarmuth, John
HRSA	Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County, Willingboro, NJ for purchase of equipment	150,000	Saxton, Jim; Lautenberg, Menendez
X HRSA	Lowell Community Health Center, Lowell, MA for facilities and equipment	240,000	Tsongas, Niki
HRSA	Loyola University Health System, Maywood, IL for facilities and equipment	400,000	Davis (IL), Danny
HRSA	Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Palo Alto, CA for facilities and equipment	320,000	Eshoo, Anna
HRSA	Madison Center, South Bend, IN for facilities and equipment for a clinic for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder	150,000	Donnelly, Joe; Bayh
HRSA	Madison Community Health Center, Madison, WI, for equipment	275,000	Kohl
HRSA	Madison County Memorial Hospital, Rexburg, ID for facilities and equipment	250,000	Simpson, Michael
HRSA	Madison County, Virginia City, MT for facilities and equipment	300,000	Rehberg, Dennis; Baucus
HRSA	Madison St. Joseph Health Center, Madisonville, TX for facilities and equipment	120,000	Edwards, Chet
HRSA	Magee Rehabilitation Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Magee-Women's Research Institute and Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Maine Center for Marine Biotechnology, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland, ME for facilities and equipment	140,000	Allen, Thomas; Collins, Snowe
HRSA	Maine Coast Memorial Hospital, Ellsworth, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	147,500	Collins, Snowe; Michaud, Michael
HRSA	Maine Primary Care Association, Augusta, ME for health information systems in community health centers across the State	190,000	Michaud, Michael
HRSA	Maliheh Free Clinic, Salt Lake City, Utah, for renovation and equipment	50,000	Hatch
HRSA	Manchester Memorial Hospital, Manchester, CT for facilities and equipment	300,000	Larson (CT), John; Lieberman
HRSA	Marana Health Center, Marana, AZ for facilities and equipment	125,000	Giffords, Gabrielle
HRSA	Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital, Hamilton, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment	240,000	Baucus
HRSA	Marcus Institute, Atlanta, GA, for equipment	184,700	Isakson, Chambliss
HRSA	Marian Community Hospital, Carbondale, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Marias Medical Center, Shelby, MT for purchase of equipment	200,000	Baucus; Rehberg, Dennis
HRSA	Marquette General Hospital, Marquette, MI for facilities and equipment	450,000	Stupak, Bart; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, for a dental health outreach program	210,000	Kohl

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Marshall University, WV, for the Bioengineering and Biomanufacturing Institute	1,575,000	Byrd
HRSA	Marshall University, WV, for the construction of a patient care and clinical training site in Southwestern West Virginia	2,925,000	Byrd
HRSA	Marshall University, WV, for the Virtual Colonoscopy Outreach Program	1,420,000	Byrd
HRSA	Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center, Marshalltown, IA for high resolution medical imaging, including purchase of equipment	400,000	Latham, Tom; Grassley
HRSA	Mary Scott Nursing Center, Dayton, OH for facilities and equipment	500,000	Turner, Michael; Voinovich
HRSA	Maryland Hospital Association, Elkridge, MD, for the Nursing Career Lattice Program	450,000	Mikulski
HRSA	Maryland State Dental Association, Columbia, MD for facilities and equipment for mobile dental care units	150,000	Wynn, Albert
HRSA	Maryville University, St. Louis, MO for facilities and equipment at the Center for Science and Health Professions	200,000	Akin, W.
HRSA	Mason County Board of Health, Maysville, KY for facilities and equipment	400,000	Davis (KY), Geoff
HRSA	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Worcester, MA for health information technology systems	350,000	McGovern, James
HRSA	Maui Community Health Center, HI, for construction, renovation and equipment	800,000	Inouye
HRSA	Maui Economic Development Board, HI, for the Lanai Women's Initiative	100,000	Inouye
HRSA	Maury Regional Hospital, Columbia, TN for facilities and equipment	400,000	Davis, Lincoln
HRSA	McKinley County, New Mexico, Gallup, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the dialysis center	960,000	Domenici, Bingaman; Udall (NM), Tom
HRSA	Meadville Medical Center, Meadville, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey
HRSA	Medical Education Development Consortium, Scranton, PA, for construction	847,500	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Kanjorski, Paul
HRSA	Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN for facilities and equipment	500,000	Cooper, Jim
HRSA	Memorial Hermann Baptist Beaumont Hospital, Beaumont, TX for facilities and equipment	200,000	Poe, Ted
HRSA	Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	200,000	Culberson, John
HRSA	Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital, Houston, TX for facilities and equipment	140,000	Green, Al
HRSA	Memorial Hospital of Laramie County, Cheyenne, WY, for design of the Comprehensive Community Cancer Center	360,000	Enzi
HRSA	Memorial Hospital, York, PA, for information technology equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Memphis Bioworks Foundation, Memphis, TN, for construction, renovation, and equipment at the research park	400,000	Alexander
HRSA	Mendocino Coast District Hospital, Fort Bragg, CA for facilities and equipment	500,000	Thompson (CA), Mike
HRSA	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Keshena, WI for facilities and equipment for the Family Wellness Center	400,000	Kagen, Steve
HRSA	Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, Toledo, OH for facilities and equipment for the continuing professional education division	200,000	Kaptur, Marcy
HRSA	Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Darby, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Mercy Health Foundation, Durango, CO for facilities and equipment for a community health clinic	300,000	Salazar, John; Salazar, Allard
HRSA	Mercy Health Partners, Scranton, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Mercy Hospital Grayling, Grayling, MI for facilities and equipment	125,000	Stupak, Bart; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Mercy Hospital, Baltimore, MD, for equipment	750,000	Mikulski
HRSA	Mercy Hospital, Buffalo, NY for facilities and equipment.	200,000	Higgins, Brian; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Mercy Medical Center, Redding, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000	Herger, Wally
HRSA	Mercy Medical Center, Springfield, MA, for equipment	190,000	Kennedy, Kerry; Neal (MA), Richard
HRSA	Mercy Medical Center-House of Mercy, Des Moines, IA for facilities and equipment related to substance abuse	500,000	Harkin; Boswell, Leonard; Grassley
HRSA	Mercy Memorial Hospital, Monroe, MI for facilities and equipment	200,000	Dingell, John
HRSA	Mercy Ministries Health Center, Laredo, TX for a mobile health unit	200,000	Cuellar, Henry
HRSA	Mercy Suburban Hospital, Norristown, PA for facilities and equipment	450,000	Gerlach, Jim
HRSA	Methodist Hospital of Southern California, Arcadia, CA for facilities and equipment	700,000	Dreier, David
HRSA	Methodist Hospital, Houston, Texas, for renovation and equipment	424,000	Cornyn, Hutchison
HRSA	Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX for purchase of equipment	375,000	Culberson, John; Hutchison, Cornyn; Green, Al
HRSA	Metro Health, Cleveland, OH, for The Northeast Ohio Senior Health and Wellness Center	84,750	Voinovich
HRSA	Metropolitan Hospital, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	100,000	Rangel, Charles
HRSA	MetroWest Medical Center Framingham Union Hospital, Framingham, MA for facilities and equipment for interpreting services	100,000	Markey, Edward
HRSA	Miami Beach Community Health Center, Miami Beach, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000	Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana
HRSA	Mid Valley Hospital, Peckville, PA, for equipment, construction and renovation	90,000	Specter; Carney, Christopher
HRSA	Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN for facilities and equipment for the school of nursing	250,000	Gordon, Bart; Alexander
HRSA	Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA for facilities and equipment for the health education programs	200,000	Meehan, Martin; Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Middletown Regional Hospital, Middletown, OH for facilities and equipment for the Greentree Science Academy in Franklin, OH	100,000	Turner, Michael; Voinovich

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Mid-Ohio FoodBank, Columbus, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000	Pryce (OH), Deborah
HRSA	Miles Community College, Miles City, MT for the Pathways to Careers in Healthcare initiative	350,000	Baucus, Tester; Rehberg, Dennis
HRSA	Minot State University, Minot, ND, to monitor and treat individuals with autism spectrum disorder in rural areas with limited access to health professionals	420,000	Dorgan, Conrad
HRSA	Mission Hospitals, Asheville, NC for facilities and equipment	200,000	Shuler, Heath; Dole, Burr
HRSA	Mississippi Primary Health Care Association, Jackson, MS	400,000	Cochran
HRSA	Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for the Tissue Engineering Research Center	250,000	Cochran
HRSA	Missouri Delta Medical Center, Sikeston, MO for purchase of equipment	200,000	Emerson, Jo Ann
HRSA	Monongahela Valley Hospital, Monongahela, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Murtha, John
HRSA	Monroe Clinic, Monroe, WI for health care information technology	300,000	Baldwin, Tammy
HRSA	Monroe County Hospital, Forsyth, GA for facilities and equipment	45,000	Marshall, Jim
HRSA	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY for health information systems	140,000	Engel, Eliot; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Montgomery Area Nontraditional Equestrians, Pike Road, AL for construction of facilities to serve the disabled	100,000	Rogers (AL), Mike; Shelby
HRSA	Monticello, Utah, to provide preventive screening for Monticello Mill Legacy	84,750	Hatch
HRSA	Morehead State University, Morehead, KY to improve rural health	300,000	Rogers (KY), Harold
HRSA	Morris Heights Health Center, Inc., Bronx, NY for facilities and equipment	125,000	Serrano, Jose; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Morton Hospital and Medical Center, Taunton, MA for facilities and equipment	350,000	Frank (MA), Barney
HRSA	Moses Taylor Hospital, Scranton, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Kanjorski, Paul
HRSA	Mount Nittany Medical Center, State College, PA for facilities and equipment	251,750	Peterson (PA), John; Specter, Casey
HRSA	Mount Sinai Medical Center, Miami Beach, FL, for construction, renovation and equipment	340,000	Bill Nelson, Martinez; Wasserman Schultz, Debbie
HRSA	Mount Vernon Hospital, Mount Vernon, NY for facilities and equipment	300,000	Engel, Eliot
HRSA	Mount Wachusett Community College, Gardner, MA for facilities and equipment	525,000	Olver, John
HRSA	Mountain State University, Beckley, WV, for the construction of the Allied Health Technology Tower	3,240,000	Byrd
HRSA	Muhlenberg Community Hospital, Greenville, KY for facilities and equipment	150,000	Whitfield, Ed
HRSA	Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, to develop three models of integrative programs of clinical excellence	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
X HRSA	National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver, CO, for facilities and equipment	500,000	Salazar, Allard
HRSA	Naugatuck Valley Community College, Waterbury, CT for facilities and equipment for the nursing program	100,000	DeLauro, Rosa
HRSA	Nebraska Hospital Association Research and Education Foundation, Lincoln, NE for a telehealth demonstration, including purchase of equipment	475,000	Hagel, Nelson, Ben; Fortenberry, Jeff
HRSA	Nevada Rural Hospital Partners, Reno, NV, to expand and enhance a rural telemedicine project	450,000	Reid
HRSA	New Hampshire Community Health Centers, Concord, NH, for construction, renovation, and equipment	400,000	Gregg; Hodes, Paul
HRSA	New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, New Orleans, LA, for equipment and supplies for a mobile medical hospital	1,000,000	Landrieu
HRSA	New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury, NY for disease management and patient advocacy programs, including purchase of equipment	430,000	King (NY), Peter; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000	Rangel, Charles; Schumer
HRSA	New York-Presbyterian Hospital, NY, for cardiac care telemetry	600,000	Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark, NJ for facilities and equipment	290,000	Payne, Donald; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Newark-Wayne Community Hospital, Newark, NY for facilities improvements and digital health care equipment	750,000	Walsh (NY), James
HRSA	Newport Hospital, Newport, RI for facilities and equipment	300,000	Kennedy, Patrick
HRSA	Newton Memorial Hospital, Newton, NJ for purchase of equipment	150,000	Garrett (NJ), Scott; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Niagara Falls, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000	Slaughter, Louise; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Noble Hospital, Westfield, MA, for construction, renovation and equipment	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Norman Regional Health System, Norman, OK for telehealth and electronic medical records initiatives	640,000	Cole (OK), Tom; Inhofe
HRSA	North Country Children's Clinic, Inc., Watertown, NY, for construction and renovation	500,000	Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, to expand a statewide telepharmacy project	850,000	Dorgan, Conrad; Pomeroy, Earl
HRSA	North General Hospital, New York, NY, for construction, renovation and equipment	700,000	Clinton, Schumer; Rangel, Charles
HRSA	Northcentral Montana Healthcare Alliance, Great Falls, MT, for health information technology	175,000	Tester
HRSA	NorthEast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, Inc., Cleveland, OH for facilities and equipment	300,000	Jones (OH), Stephanie
HRSA	Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay, WI for a mobile health clinic	175,000	Kagen, Steve
HRSA	Northeastern Pennsylvania Technology Institute, Scranton, PA, to connect the eighteen regional hospitals with state and federal medical experts during incident response and recovery	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Northern Dutchess Hospital, Rhinebeck, NY for health information technology systems.	200,000	Gillibrand, Kirsten
HRSA	Northern Larimer County Health District, Fort Collins, CO, for the Acute Mental Health and Detoxification Facility	85,000	Salazar
HRSA	Northern Maine Community College, Presque Isle, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	107,500	Collins, Snowe; Michaud, Michael
HRSA	Northern Virginia Urban League, Alexandria, VA, for services and equipment to promote healthy pregnancy outcomes in the Northern Virginia region	150,000	Warner, Webb; Moran (VA), James

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Northern Westchester Hospital, Mount Kisco, NY for facilities and equipment	100,000	Hall (NY), John
HRSA	Northland Medical Center, Princeton, MN for purchase of equipment	350,000	Bachmann, Michele
HRSA	Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association, Inc., Steamboat Springs, CO, to construct and equip a community health clinic	125,000	Salazar; Salazar, John
HRSA	Northwest Community Health Care, Pascoag, RI for facilities and equipment	450,000	Langevin, James; Reed, Whitehouse
HRSA	Northwest Hospital and Medical Center, Seattle, WA, for a Community Health Education and Simulation Center	1,000,000	Murray, Cantwell; Inslee, Jay
HRSA	Northwest Hospital Intermediate Care Unit, Randallstown, MD for facilities and equipment	125,000	Ruppersberger, C. A.; Mikulski
HRSA	Northwest Hospital, Baltimore, MD, for equipment	375,000	Mikulski
HRSA	Northwest Kidney Centers, Seattle, WA for facilities and equipment	290,000	McDermott, Jim; Smith (WA), Adam; Reichert, David; Cantwell
HRSA	Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, ID for facilities and equipment	450,000	Craig, Crapo; Sali, Bill
HRSA	Northwest Research and Education Institute, Billings, MT, to create a continuing medical education program	280,000	Baucus
HRSA	Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment for Prentice Women's Hospital	375,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse; Kirk, Mark; Durbin
HRSA	NYU School of Medicine, NY, NY, for the Basic Research and Imaging Program	900,000	Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Oakland University School of Nursing, Rochester, MI for facilities and equipment	350,000	Knollenberg, Joe; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Oaklawn Adult Group Home, Goshen, IN for facilities and equipment	150,000	Souder, Mark
HRSA	Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation, Dearborn, MI for facilities and equipment for the Western Wayne Family Health Center	200,000	Dingell, John; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Ocean Beach Hospital, Ilwaco, WA for a telepharmacy program	550,000	Baird, Brian
HRSA	Oconee Memorial Hospital, Seneca, SC, to design, develop, and implement a community-wide health information exchange system	84,750	Graham
HRSA	Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, OH for James Cancer Survivorship Center for construction of facilities	234,750	Tiberi, Patrick; Voinovich
HRSA	Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, for the Appalachian Healthcare Screening Program	200,000	Brown; Space, Zachary
HRSA	Ohio Valley General Hospital, McKees Rocks, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Oklahoma Foundation for Kidney Disease, Oklahoma City, OK, for telehealth applications	85,750	Inhofe
HRSA	Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF), Oklahoma City, OK, for construction, renovation, and equipment of a Biotech Research Tower	100,000	Inhofe; Fallin, Mary
HRSA	Oklahoma State University, Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa, OK, for mobile health clinics	100,000	Inhofe; Sullivan, John
HRSA	Oklahoma University College of Medicine -Tulsa, Tulsa, OK for facilities and equipment	150,000	Sullivan, John; Inhofe
HRSA	Olympic Community Action Program, Port Angeles, WA for facilities and equipment for the OlyCAP Oral Health Center	50,000	Dicks, Norman
HRSA	Orange County Government, Orlando, FL, for health information technology equipment	169,500	Martinez, Bill Nelson
HRSA	Oregon Coast Community College, Newport, OR for facilities and equipment for health professions education	134,700	Smith, Wyden; Hooley, Darlene
HRSA	Osceola County Health Department, Poinciana, FL for facilities and equipment	200,000	Putnam, Adam
HRSA	Osceola Medical Center, Osceola, WI for facilities and equipment	150,000	Obey, David
HRSA	Ottumwa Regional Health Center, Ottumwa, IA, for construction, renovation and equipment	400,000	Harkin, Grassley; Loebsack, David
HRSA	Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, Camden, NJ, for facilities and equipment	600,000	Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital, Binghamton, NY for facilities and equipment	350,000	Hinchey, Maurice
HRSA	Owensboro Medical Center, Owensboro, KY, for construction, renovation, and equipment	127,125	Bunning
HRSA	Palisades Medical Center, North Bergen, NJ for facilities and equipment	275,000	Rothman, Steven; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Palmetto Health Foundation, Columbia, SC for facilities and equipment	1,000,000	Clyburn, James
HRSA	Parkland Health Center, Farmington, MO for facilities and equipment	200,000	Emerson, Jo Ann
HRSA	Passavant Area Hospital, Jacksonville, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000	LaHood, Ray
HRSA	Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center, Richmond, KY for facilities and equipment	250,000	Chandler, Ben
HRSA	Pee Dee Healthy Start, Florence, SC for programs to improve maternal and child health	88,000	Clyburn, James
HRSA	Peninsula Hospital Center, New York, NY for health information systems	320,000	Meeks (NY), Gregory; Schumer
HRSA	Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center/College of Medicine, Hershey, PA, for construction	169,500	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	People, Inc., Williamsville, NY for electronic health records upgrades	400,000	Reynolds, Thomas; Schumer
HRSA	Peralta Community College, Oakland, CA for facilities and equipment for the nursing program at Highland Hospital	300,000	Lee, Barbara
HRSA	Person Memorial Hospital, Roxboro, NC for facilities and equipment	340,000	Miller (NC), Brad
HRSA	Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Albany, GA, to partner with Dougherty County School System to implement a pilot program to promote healthy lifestyles in school children	84,700	Chambliss
HRSA	Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ for health information systems	300,000	Pastor, Ed
HRSA	Piedmont Access to Health Services, Inc. (PATHS), Danville, VA, for construction, renovation and equipment	145,000	Webb, Warner
HRSA	Pinnacle Health System, Harrisburg, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Pioneer Valley Life Sciences Institute, Springfield, MA, for the construction of biomedical research facilities	380,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	Placer County, Auburn, CA for construction of the Children's Health Center/Emergency Shelter	400,000	Doolittle, John

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Pocono Medical Center, East Stroudsburg, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Pointe Coupee Better Access Community Health, New Roads, LA for facilities and equipment	350,000	Landrieu, Vitter; Alexander, Rodney
HRSA	Ponce Center of Autism, Municipality of Ponce, PR for facilities and equipment at the Autism Center	225,000	Fortuno, Luis
HRSA	Powell County Medical Center, Deer Lodge, MT for facilities and equipment	100,000	Baucus; Rehberg, Dennis
HRSA	Powell Valley Health Care, Powell, WY for electronic information technology	400,000	Cubin, Barbara; Enzi
HRSA	Prairie Star Health Center, Hutchinson, KS for facilities and equipment	200,000	Moran (KS), Jerry
HRSA	Preston Memorial Hospital, Kingwood, WV for information technology equipment	300,000	Mollohan, Alan
HRSA	Primary Care Association of HI, for construction, renovation, equipment, disability services and outreach at the State's health centers	1,000,000	Inouye, Akaka
HRSA	Project Access Spokane, Spokane, WA for healthcare delivery to low income residents	200,000	McMorris Rodgers, Cathy
HRSA	ProMedica Continuing Care Service Corporation, Adrian, MI for a telemedicine initiative	163,000	Walberg, Timothy; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Provena Saint Joseph Hospital, Elgin, IL for facilities and equipment	300,000	Hastert, J.
HRSA	Providence Community Health Centers, Providence, RI, for construction	255,000	Reed, Whitehouse
HRSA	Providence Health System, Anchorage, AK to improve services in underserved regions	200,000	Young (AK), Don; Stevens
HRSA	Providence Medical Center, Kansas City, KS, for telehealth upgrades	350,000	Brownback
HRSA	Providence Telehealth Network Rural Outreach Program, Spokane, WA, for equipment	250,000	Murray
HRSA	Putnam Hospital Center, Carmel, NY for facilities and equipment	200,000	Hall (NY), John; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Quebrada Health Center, Municipality of Camuy, PR for purchase of equipment	125,000	Fortuno, Luis
HRSA	Quincy Valley Medical Center, Quincy, WA for facilities and equipment	150,000	Hastings (WA), Doc
HRSA	Rancho Santiago Community College District, Santa Ana, CA for facilities and equipment for a medical education complex in Garden Grove, CA	240,000	Sanchez, Loretta
HRSA	Rapid City Area School District 51/4, Rapid City, SD, for construction, renovation, and equipment for a school-based health clinic	84,750	Thune
HRSA	Reading Hospital and Medical Center, West Reading, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	Reading Hospital School of Nursing, West Reading, PA for nurse training programs including facilities and equipment	200,000	Gerlach, Jim
HRSA	Redevelopment Authority of the County of Washington, Washington, PA, for construction and renovation at Washington Hospital	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association, Pittsburgh, PA for facilities and equipment for a skilled nursing facility.	320,000	Doyle, Michael
HRSA	Regional Children's Hospital, Johnson City, TN for facilities and equipment	100,000	Davis, David
HRSA	Rhode Island Quality Institute, Providence, RI for health information technology in conjunction with Rhode Island mental health organizations	900,000	Whitehouse, Reed; Kennedy, Patrick
HRSA	Rice University, Houston, TX, for equipment for the Collaborative Research Center	375,000	Hutchison; Culberson, John
HRSA	Rio Arriba County, Espanola, NM for facilities and equipment for the Health Commons	750,000	Udall (NM), Tom; Bingaman
HRSA	Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Moreno Valley, CA for facilities and equipment	600,000	Feinstein; Bono, Mary, Calvert, Ken
HRSA	Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Moreno Valley, CA for facilities and equipment	140,000	Calvert, Ken; Bono, Mary
HRSA	Riverside Health System, Newport News, VA for the Patient Navigator Program	150,000	Davis, Jo Ann; Scott, Robert
HRSA	Riverside Healthcare, Kankakee, IL, for a computerized physician order entry system	295,000	Obama
HRSA	Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, NY, for heart failure equipment and training	250,000	Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Roosevelt Hospital, New York, NY for facilities and equipment	390,000	Nadler, Jerrold; Schumer
HRSA	Roper/Saint Francis Healthcare, Charleston, SC, for the expansion initiative for construction, renovation, and equipment	169,500	Graham; Brown (SC), Henry
HRSA	Rosebud Inter-facility Transport, Rosebud, SD, for purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment	200,000	Johnson
HRSA	Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud, SD for facilities and equipment	800,000	Johnson; Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie
HRSA	Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY for facilities and equipment	440,000	Higgins, Brian; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Rural Health Technology Consortium for facilities and equipment	200,000	Rehberg, Dennis
HRSA	Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative, Sauk City, WI, for health information technology	190,000	Kohl
HRSA	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment for the Center for Advanced Medical Response	225,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse
HRSA	Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa for a Tribal Health Care Clinic	625,000	Harkin
HRSA	Sacred Heart Hospital of Allentown, Allentown, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, MI for purchase of equipment	350,000	Camp (MI), Dave; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Saint Agnes Hospital, Baltimore, MD, for equipment	750,000	Mikulski, Cardin; Cummings, Elijah
HRSA	Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, Boise, ID, for rural emergency medical services training and equipment	250,000	Craig
HRSA	Saint Anthony Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK, for construction, renovation, and equipment of a Level II Newborn Nursery	100,000	Inhofe; Fallin, Mary
HRSA	Saint Croix Regional Family Health Center, Princeston, ME, for construction, renovation, and equipment	137,500	Collins, Snowe
HRSA	Saint Francis Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI, for construction, renovation and equipment	255,000	Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Saint Joseph's Hospital, Nashua, NH, for the Patient Focused Technology Initiative	589,000	Sununu, Gregg; Hodes, Paul
HRSA	Saint Joseph's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ, to purchase and equip a mobile prenatal clinic for the MoMobile program	423,750	Kyl; Pastor, Ed
HRSA	Saint Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis, MO, for construction, renovation, and equipment of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Expansion	847,000	Bond
HRSA	Saint Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, TX, for equipment for the Neuroscience Center	175,000	Hutchison; Green, Al; Lampson, Nick; Green, Gene
HRSA	Saint Luke's Hospital, Allentown, PA, for construction and equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Saint Luke's Miners Memorial Hospital, Coaldale, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Saint Mary Medical Center, Langhorne, PA, for health outreach programs	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Saint Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital, Mount Vernon, IL, for equipment	450,000	Durbin; Shimkus, John
HRSA	Saint Mary's Health Care, Grand Rapids, MI for an electronic health records initiative, including equipment	150,000	Ehlers, Vernon
HRSA	Saint Mary's Hospital Incorporated, Waterbury, CT, for construction, renovation and equipment	550,000	Lieberman, Dodd; Murphy (CT), Christopher
HRSA	Saint Mary's Medical Center, Lewiston, ME, for equipment	162,500	Collins, Snowe; Allen, Thomas
HRSA	Saint Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, Missoula, MT, to implement an electronic medical records system	320,000	Baucus, Tester; Rehberg, Dennis
HRSA	Saint Peter's Hospital, Helena, MT, for construction, renovation and equipment	120,000	Baucus
HRSA	Saint Vincent Healthcare Foundation, Billings, MT, for a feasibility study on the establishment of the Montana Children's Hospital Network	600,000	Baucus, Tester
HRSA	Saint Vincent Regional Medical Center, Santa Fe, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment	750,000	Domenici, Bingaman; Udall (NM), Tom
HRSA	Sam Rogers Health Clinic, Kansas City, MO for facilities and equipment	320,000	Cleaver, Emanuel
HRSA	San Antonio Hospital Foundation, Upland, CA for facilities and equipment	550,000	Dreier, David
HRSA	San Diego County, Santee, CA, to purchase equipment for Edgemoor Hospital renovation	420,000	Feinstein
HRSA	San Francisco Medical Center Outpatient Improvement Programs, Inc., San Francisco, CA for facilities and equipment	450,000	Pelosi, Nancy
HRSA	San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center, Alamosa, CO, for health information technology	170,000	Salazar
HRSA	San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA for facilities and equipment for the San Mateo Medical Center Emergency Department	450,000	Lantos, Tom
HRSA	San Ysidro Health Center, San Ysidro, CA for facilities and equipment	100,000	Filner, Bob
HRSA	Sandoval County, Bernalillo, NM for a telemedicine initiative, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Wilson (NM), Heather; Udall, Tom; Bingaman, Domenici
HRSA	Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, Orange, CA for facilities and equipment	390,000	Woolsey, Lynn
HRSA	Schneck Medical Center, Seymour, IN for facilities and equipment	400,000	Hill, Baron; Bayh, Lugar
HRSA	Scotland Memorial Hospital, Laurinburg, NC for facilities and equipment	300,000	Hayes, Robin
HRSA	Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Seattle, WA for facilities and equipment	1,500,000	Murray; McDermott, Jim; Cantwell; Inslee, Jay; Smith (WA), Adam; Dicks, Norman; Larsen (WA), Rick; Reichert, David
HRSA	Sharon Regional Health System, Sharon, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Sharp Rehabilitation Services, San Diego, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000	Davis (CA), Susan
HRSA	Shasta Community Health Center, Redding, CA for facilities and equipment	150,000	Herger, Wally
HRSA	Shawano County Rural Health Initiative, Shawano, WI for rural health care	75,000	Kagen, Steve
HRSA	Shodair Children's Hospital, Helena, MT, for project Cancer Genetics	120,000	Baucus
HRSA	Sidney Health Center, Sidney, MT for purchase of equipment	300,000	Rehberg, Dennis
HRSA	Sierra Nevada Memorial Foundation, Grass Valley, CA for an electronic health records initiative	350,000	Doolittle, John
HRSA	Sierra Vista Hospital, Truth or Consequences, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment	750,000	Domenici, Bingaman
HRSA	Sistersville General Hospital, Sisterville, WV for facilities and equipment	250,000	Mollohan, Alan
HRSA	Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, Milwaukee, WI, for renovations	275,000	Kohl
HRSA	Skagit Valley Hospital Cancer Care Center, Mount Vernon, WA for facilities and equipment	425,000	Larsen (WA), Rick; Cantwell
HRSA	Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital, Wellsboro, PA, for emergency department expansion	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital, Wellsboro, PA for purchase of equipment	200,000	Peterson (PA), John
HRSA	Somerset Hospital, Somerset, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Shuster, Bill
HRSA	Somerset Medical Center, Somerville, NJ for electronic health records upgrades	500,000	Frelinghuysen, Rodney; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	South Broward Hospital District, Hollywood, FL for facilities and equipment	275,000	Wasserman Schultz, Debbie
HRSA	South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council, Columbia, SC for health outreach	185,000	Clyburn, James
HRSA	South Carolina Office of Rural Health, Lexington, SC, for an electronic medical records system	169,500	Graham
HRSA	South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, for construction of a pharmacy education space	300,000	Johnson
HRSA	South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, to construct the Center for Accelerated Design, Screen, and Development of Biomaterials	350,000	Johnson
HRSA	South Nassau Communities Hospital, Oceanside, NY for facilities and equipment	320,000	McCarthy (NY), Carolyn
HRSA	South Shore Hospital, South Weymouth, MA for facilities and equipment	400,000	Delahunt, William; Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	South Sound Health Communication Network, Tacoma, WA, for a community Health Record Bank	200,000	Cantwell
HRSA	Southampton Hospital, Southampton, NY for facilities and equipment	500,000	Bishop (NY), Timothy; Clinton, Schumer

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Southcentral Foundation, Anchorage, AK, to purchase equipment for the Primary Care Center in Anchorage, Alaska	1,000,000	Stevens
HRSA	Southeast Alabama Medical Center, Dothan, AL for facilities and equipment for the Southeast Regional Cancer Screening Program	350,000	Everett, Terry; Shelby
HRSA	Southeast Community College, Cumberland, KY for facilities and equipment for an allied health training center	100,000	Rogers (KY), Harold
HRSA	Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX for purchase of equipment	325,000	Hutchison; Sessions, Pete
HRSA	Southern Vermont Recreation Center Foundation, Springfield, VT for facilities and equipment for a medical rehabilitation unit	125,000	Welch (VT), Peter
HRSA	Southwest Tennessee Community College, Memphis, TN for facilities and equipment	320,000	Cohen, Steve
HRSA	St James Hospital and Health Centers, Chicago Heights, IL for facilities and equipment for the Olympia Fields campus	225,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse
HRSA	St. Agnes Hospital, Fresno, CA for purchase of equipment	160,000	Radanovich, George
HRSA	St. Ambrose University, Davenport, IA for facilities and equipment	550,000	Harkin, Grassley; Braley (IA), Bruce
HRSA	St. Anthony Community Hospital, Warwick, NY for facilities and equipment	100,000	Hall (NY), John
HRSA	St. Anthony Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	440,000	Gutierrez, Luis
HRSA	St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers, Hammond, IN for facilities and equipment	275,000	Donnelly, Joe; Luger
HRSA	St. Bernard Health Center, Inc., Chalmette, LA for facilities and equipment	1,350,000	Landrieu, Vitter; Melancon, Charlie
HRSA	St. Bernardine Medical Center, San Bernardino, CA for facilities and equipment	700,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
HRSA	St. Camillus Health and Rehabilitation Center, Syracuse, NY for the brain injury program, including facilities and equipment	400,000	Walsh (NY), James; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	St. Catharine College, St. Catharine, KY for the allied health science program, including facilities and equipment	175,000	Lewis (KY), Ron
HRSA	St. Charles Parish, LaPlace, LA for purchase of equipment	150,000	Jindal, Bobby
HRSA	St. Clair Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA for facilities and equipment	500,000	Murphy, Tim
HRSA	St. Claire Regional Medical Center, Morehead, KY for facilities construction	200,000	Rogers (KY), Harold
HRSA	St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Utica, NY for facilities and equipment	425,000	Arcuri, Michael; Schumer
HRSA	St. Francis Hospital, Escanaba, MI for facilities and equipment	125,000	Stupak, Bart; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton, NJ for facilities and equipment	250,000	Smith (NJ), Christopher; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	St. James Parish Hospital, Lutcher, LA for facilities and equipment	440,000	Melancon, Charlie
HRSA	St. John's North Shore Hospital, Harrison Township, MI for facilities and equipment	200,000	Miller (MI), Candice; Levin
HRSA	St. Joseph of the Pines, Southern Pines, NC for an electronic health records system	100,000	Coble, Howard; Dole, Burr
HRSA	St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend, IN for health care information technology	300,000	Donnelly, Joe; Lugar
HRSA	St. Joseph's Hospital Mercy Care Services, Atlanta, GA for health information technology	400,000	Lewis (GA), John; Isakson
HRSA	St. Joseph's Hospital, Buckhannon, WV for facilities and equipment	100,000	Capito, Shelley
HRSA	St. Joseph's Hospital, Savannah, GA for facilities and equipment	275,000	Barrow, John; Isakson
HRSA	St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Paterson, NJ for health information technology	320,000	Pascrell, Bill; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, Savannah, GA for purchase of equipment	250,000	Kingston, Jack
HRSA	St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital, Quakertown, PA for facilities and equipment	425,000	Murphy, Patrick
HRSA	St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Ltd. Boise, ID for purchase of equipment	500,000	Simpson, Michael; Craig, Crapo
HRSA	St. Mary Medical Center Foundation, Langhorne, PA for facilities and equipment	100,000	Murphy, Patrick
HRSA	St. Mary Medical Center, Apple Valley, CA for the electronic intensive care unit	500,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
HRSA	St. Mary's Hospital Foundation, Grand Junction, CO for facilities and equipment for the Saccomanno Education Center	440,000	Salazar, John
HRSA	St. Mary's Hospital, Madison, WI for facilties and equipment	200,000	Baldwin, Tammy
HRSA	St. Mary's Medical Center, Huntington, WV for facilities and equipment for the Center for Education	450,000	Rahall, Nick
HRSA	St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, Reno, NV for facilities and equipment	400,000	Heller, Dean
HRSA	St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center, Missoula, MT for an electronic medical records system	300,000	Rehberg, Dennis; Baucus, Tester
HRSA	St. Peter's Hospital Foundation, Albany, NY for facilities and equipment for the St. Peter's Breast Center	320,000	McNulty, Michael; Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL for facilities and equipment	500,000	Young (FL), C.W.
HRSA	St. Vincent Hospital, Billings, MT for facilities and equipment	400,000	Rehberg, Dennis; Baucus, Tester
HRSA	St. Vincent's Charity Hospital, Cleveland, OH for facilities and equipment	450,000	Jones (OH), Stephanie; Regula, Ralph, Voinovich
HRSA	St. Vincent's Medical Center, Bridgeport, CT for facilities and equipment	425,000	Shays, Christopher; Dodd
HRSA	St. Xavier University, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	200,000	Biggert, Judy; Obama
HRSA	Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT for facilities and equipment	375,000	Shays, Christopher; Dodd
HRSA	Stark Prescription Assistance Network, Canton, OH for facilities and equipment	150,000	Regula, Ralph
HRSA	State Fair Community College, Sedalia, MO for facilities and equipment	350,000	Skelton, Ike
HRSA	Stewart-Marchman Center, Inc., Daytona Beach, FL for facilities and equipment	150,000	Mica, John
HRSA	Stone Soup Group, Anchorage, AK, to continue and expand services to Alaskans with autism in Alaska	200,000	Stevens
HRSA	Stony Point Ambulance Corps, Stony Point, NY for facilities and equipment	400,000	Hall (NY), John

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Straub Hospital Burn Center, HI, for health professions training in burn treatment	100,000	Inouye
HRSA	Summers County Commission, Hinton, WV for facilities and equipment for the Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital	280,000	Rahall, Nick
HRSA	Susquehanna Health System, Williamsport, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.; Carney, Christopher
HRSA	Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000	Emanuel, Rahm
HRSA	Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, WA, for construction, renovation and equipment	200,000	Cantwell
HRSA	Sylvan Grove Hospital, Jackson, GA for facilities and equipment	50,000	Marshall, Jim
HRSA	Tangipahoa Parish, Loranger, LA for facilities and equipment	100,000	Jindal, Bobby
HRSA	Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX for the Rural Nursing Education Program, including purchase of equipment	200,000	Carter, John
HRSA	Tarrant County Infant Mortality Task Force, Ft. Worth, TX for education and outreach programs	100,000	Burgess, Michael
HRSA	Taylor Regional Hospital, Hawkinsville, GA for facilities and equipment	55,000	Marshall, Jim
HRSA	Temple Health and Bioscience Economic Development District, Temple, TX for facilities and equipment	350,000	Carter, John
HRSA	Temple University Health System, Philadelphia, PA, for construction and renovation	169,500	Specter, Casey
HRSA	Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN, for construction, renovation, and equipment of an animal research facility for biomedical research	200,000	Alexander; Cooper, Jim
HRSA	Teton Valley Hospital and Surgicenter, Driggs, ID for purchase of equipment	250,000	Simpson, Michael; Crapo
HRSA	Texas A&M University—Kingsville, Kingsville, TX for facilities and equipment for a research facility	240,000	Ortiz, Solomon
HRSA	Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, for equipment in the Michael E. DeBakey Institute	225,000	Hutchison; Edwards, Chet
HRSA	Texas Health Institute, Austin, TX, for equipment for an emergency communications demonstration project	200,000	Hutchison
HRSA	Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine, College Station, TX for facilities and equipment	125,000	Brady (TX), Kevin
HRSA	Texas Medical Center, Houston, TX, for the National Center for Human Performance	175,000	Hutchison
HRSA	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, El Paso and Lubbock, TX for facilities and equipment for the West Texas Center for Influenza Research, Education and Treatment	550,000	Thornberry, Mac; Reyes, Silvestre; Conaway, K.
HRSA	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, TX for health professionals training, including facilities and equipment	100,000	Neugebauer, Randy
HRSA	The Idaho Caring Foundation, Inc., Boise, ID for oral health services for low-income children	300,000	Simpson, Michael
HRSA	The Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, OH for facilities and equipment	200,000	Pryce (OH), Deborah; Voinovich
HRSA	The Village Network Boys' Village Campus, Wooster, OH for facilities and equipment	500,000	Regula, Ralph
HRSA	Thomas Jefferson University Breast Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA for facilities and equipment	469,500	Brady (PA), Robert; Specter, Casey
HRSA	Thomason General Hospital, El Paso, TX for facilities and equipment	400,000	Reyes, Silvestre
HRSA	Thundermist Health Center, Woonsocket, RI for health information technology	500,000	Kennedy, Patrick
HRSA	Tohono O'odham Nation, Sells, AZ for facilities and equipment for its diabetes and dialysis program	125,000	Grijalva, Raul
HRSA	Toledo Children's Hospital, Toledo, OH for facilities and equipment for a palliative care program	100,000	Kaptur, Marcy
HRSA	Tomorrow's Child/Michigan SIDS, Lansing, MI for facilities and equipment	200,000	Rogers (MI), Mike; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	Toumey Health Care System, Sumter, SC, for equipment	84,750	Graham
HRSA	Touro University, Henderson, NV, for construction and equipment for the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders	600,000	Reid
HRSA	Town of Argo, AL for facilities and equipment for the Senior Citizens' Center for Health and Wellness	100,000	Bachus, Spencer; Shelby
HRSA	Translational Genomics Research Institute, Phoenix, AZ for facilities and equipment	923,750	Mitchell, Harry; Pastor, Ed; Kyl
HRSA	Transylvania Community Hospital, Inc., Brevard, NC for facilities and equipment	275,000	Shuler, Heath; Dole, Burr
HRSA	Trinitas Health Foundation, Elizabeth, NJ, for construction, equipment and renovation	150,000	Menendez, Lautenberg; Sires, Albio
HRSA	Trinity County, Weaverville, CA, for renovation and equipment to Mountain Community Medical Services	80,000	Boxer; Herger, Wally
HRSA	Tulare District Hospital, Tulare, CA for an electronic medical record system	150,000	Nunes, Devin
HRSA	Tuomey Healthcare System, Sumter, SC for health information systems	250,000	Spratt, John; Graham
HRSA	Twin City Hospital, Dennison, OH for facilities and equipment	325,000	Space, Zachary
HRSA	Tyrone Hospital, Tyrone, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Union Hospital, Terre Haute, IN for health information technology	200,000	Ellsworth, Brad; Luger
HRSA	Uniontown Hospital, Uniontown, PA for facilities and equipment for the chest pain center	300,000	Murtha, John
HRSA	Unity Health Care, Washington, DC for health information systems	320,000	Norton, Eleanor
HRSA	University Community Hospital/Pepin Heart Hospital, Tampa, FL for purchase of equipment	200,000	Bilirakis, Gus
HRSA	University Health System, San Antonio, TX for facilities and equipment	175,000	Rodriguez, Ciro
HRSA	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL for a telehealth initiative	100,000	Aderholt, Robert; Shelby
HRSA	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, for construction, renovation, and equipment	9,322,500	Shelby; Bonner, Jo
HRSA	University of Alaska Statewide Office, Fairbanks, AK, for the Health Distance Education Program in Alaska	500,000	Stevens
HRSA	University of Alaska Statewide Office, Fairbanks, AK, to develop and implement a statewide health agenda in Alaska	750,000	Stevens
HRSA	University of Alaska/Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, for the Geriatric and Disabled Care Training Program in Anchorage, Alaska	250,000	Stevens
HRSA	University of Arizona Medical Center, Tucson, AZ for facilities and equipment	425,000	Giffords, Gabrielle; Grijalva, Raul

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR for facilities and equipment	620,000	Snyder, Vic; Boozman, John; Berry, Marion
HRSA	University of Arkansas Medical School Cancer Research Center, Little Rock, AR for facilities and equipment	400,000	Berry, Marion; Lincoln, Pryor
HRSA	University of California, Davis Health System, Sacramento, CA for facilities and equipment for the Center for Education	595,000	Matsui, Doris
HRSA	University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL for facilities and equipment	225,000	Jackson (IL), Jesse
HRSA	University of Colorado, Denver, CO, for construction, renovation, and equipment	254,250	Allard, Salazar
HRSA	University of Delaware, Newark, DE, for the Delaware Biotechnology Institute	380,000	Biden, Carper
HRSA	University of Georgia, Athens, GA, for construction, renovation, and equipment	84,700	Chambliss
HRSA	University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria, IL for facilities and equipment	250,000	LaHood, Ray
HRSA	University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA for facilities and equipment for a public health research and education building	2,250,000	Harkin; Loebsack, David; Grassley
HRSA	University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA for facilities and equipment for an advanced biomedical research institute	4,000,000	Harkin; Loebsack, David; Grassley
HRSA	University of Kansas Research Center, Lawrence, KS for facilities and equipment	425,000	Boyda (KS), Nancy
HRSA	University of Kentucky Research Foundation, Lexington, KY, for equipment and renovation	1,500,000	McConnell; Rogers (KY), Harold
HRSA	University of Kentucky Research Foundation, Lexington, KY, for the Kentucky Oral Health Initiative	500,000	McConnell
HRSA	University of Louisville Research Foundation, Louisville, KY, to upgrade and expand cardiovascular facilities at the University of Louisville	8,424,375	McConnell
HRSA	University of Maryland School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD, for the Institute for Educators in Nursing and Health Professions	750,000	Mikulski, Cardin; Cummings, Elijah
HRSA	University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA for health information technology	900,000	Kennedy, Kerry
HRSA	University of Memphis, Memphis, TN for facilities and equipment for the community health building	320,000	Cohen, Steve
HRSA	University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL, for the Center for Patient Safety	425,000	Bill Nelson
HRSA	University of Miami, Miami, FL for equipment at the Center for Research in Medical Education	150,000	Diaz-Balart, Lincoln
HRSA	University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI for facilities and equipment for the C.S. Mott Children's and Women's Hospitals	450,000	Dingell, John
HRSA	University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, for construction, renovation, and equipment	296,625	Coleman, Klobuchar; McCollum (MN), Betty
HRSA	University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, for construction, renovation, and equipment at the Arthur C. Guyton Laboratory Building	3,000,000	Cochran
HRSA	University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, for equipment for the School of Dentistry	100,000	Cochran
HRSA	University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, University, MS, for construction, renovation, and equipment	2,300,000	Cochran
HRSA	University of Mississippi, University, MS, for Phase II of the National Center for Natural Products Research	5,000,000	Cochran
HRSA	University of Mississippi, University, MS, for the Center for Thermal Pharmaceutical Processing	300,000	Cochran
HRSA	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, for construction of a cancer floor	725,000	Ben Nelson
HRSA	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, for construction, renovation and equipment at the College of Nursing in Lincoln, Nebraska	100,000	Hagel, Ben Nelson
HRSA	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, for the NEED-IT program for statewide lung cancer screenings	100,000	Hagel, Ben Nelson
HRSA	University of Nevada Health Sciences System, Las Vegas, NV, for construction and equipment	1,000,000	Reid
HRSA	University of Nevada School of Medicine, Center for Molecular Medicine, Reno, NV, for the purchase of equipment and for construction	1,500,000	Reid
HRSA	University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV, for construction at the School of Public Health	700,000	Reid
HRSA	University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, for construction, renovation, and equipment	3,750,000	Domenici
HRSA	University of North Alabama, Florence, AL for facilities and equipment for a science building	250,000	Cramer, Robert; Shelby
HRSA	University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Services, Grand Forks, ND, for construction of a forensic facility	1,275,000	Dorgan, Conrad
HRSA	University of North Texas, Denton, TX for the Center for Computational Epidemiology, including facilities and equipment	500,000	Hutchison; Marchant, Kenny
HRSA	University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO to develop the National Center for Nursing Education, including facilities and equipment	450,000	Musgrave, Marilyn; Salazar, Allard
HRSA	University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	169,500	Specter, Casey
HRSA	University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	169,500	Specter
HRSA	University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL, for renovation and equipment	508,500	Sessions; Davis (AL), Artur
HRSA	University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, Vermillion, SD, for medical equipment	2,000,000	Johnson
HRSA	University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD, for biomedical laboratory facilities and equipment	100,000	Johnson
HRSA	University of South Florida for the Tampa, FL Cancer Clinical Trials Project	550,000	Young (FL), C.W.; Bilirakis, Gus
HRSA	University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN, for equipment at the regional biocontainment laboratory	250,000	Alexander; Cohen, Steve
HRSA	University of Tennessee of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN for a low birth weight study	400,000	Wamp, Zach
HRSA	University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, for equipment	385,000	Hutchison; Lampson, Nick; Green, Gene
HRSA	University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX, for equipment	200,000	Hutchison; Green, Gene
HRSA	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX for facilities and equipment for the sickle cell program	500,000	Johnson, E. B., Eddie

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX for purchase of equipment	200,000	Sessions, Pete
HRSA	University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA for a telehealth project for southwest VA	240,000	Boucher, Rick
HRSA	University of Wisconsin Superior, Superior, WI, for construction and equipment	170,000	Kohl
HRSA	University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI for facilities and equipment	200,000	Petri, Thomas; Kohl
HRSA	Utah Navajo Health System, Inc., Montezuma Creek, UT for telehealth systems	140,000	Matheson, Jim
HRSA	Valley Baptist Health System, Harlingen, TX, for the Hispanic Stroke Care Center of Excellence for equipment	175,000	Hutchison; Ortiz, Solomon; Hinojosa, Ruben
HRSA	Valley Cooperative Health Care, Hudson, WI for health information systems	100,000	Kind, Ron
HRSA	Vanguard University Nursing Center, Costa Mesa, CA for facilities and equipment	200,000	Rohrabacher, Dana
HRSA	Vermont Information Technology Leaders, Inc, Montpelier, VT, for health information technology	500,000	Leahy
HRSA	Village of Kiryas Joel, NY, for equipment for a women's health center	150,000	Clinton, Schumer
HRSA	Virginia Dental Health Foundation, Richmond, VA, for the Mission of Mercy project	100,000	Warner, Webb
HRSA	Virginia Primary Care Association, Richmond, VA, for health information technology	140,000	Webb, Warner
HRSA	Virtua Memorial Hospital Burlington County, Mount Holly, NJ for purchase of equipment	200,000	Saxton, Jim; Lautenberg, Menendez
HRSA	Visiting Nurse Association Healthcare Partners of Ohio, Cleveland, OH for telehealth	400,000	Hobson, David; Kaptur, Marcy; LaTourette, Steven; Regula, Ralph
HRSA	Wadsworth Rittman Hospital Foundation, Wadsworth, OH for facilities and equipment	400,000	Regula, Ralph
HRSA	Wake County, Raleigh, NC for facilities and equipment for Holly Hill Hospital	300,000	Price (NC), David; Dole, Burr
HRSA	WakeMed Health & Hospitals, Raleigh, North Carolina, for the Emergency Operations and Regional Call Center	175,000	Dole; Miller (NC), Brad
HRSA	Washington State University, Seattle, WA, for construction and equipment at the College of Nursing	1,345,000	Murray, Cantwell
HRSA	Washington County, GA Regional Medical Center, Sandersville, GA for facilities and equipment	250,000	Barrow, John
HRSA	Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC for facilities and equipment	320,000	Norton, Eleanor
HRSA	Washington Parish, Bogalusa, LA for health care centers, including facilities and equipment	100,000	Jindal, Bobby
HRSA	Wayne Memorial Hospital, Honesdale, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Wayne Memorial Hospital, Jesup, GA for facilities and equipment	550,000	Kingston, Jack; Chambliss
HRSA	Wayne Memorial Hospital, Jesup, GA, for construction, renovation, and equipment	84,700	Chambliss, Isakson
HRSA	Wentworth-Douglass Hospital, Dover, NH, for equipment	370,000	Gregg, Sununu; Shea-Porter, Carol
HRSA	Wesley College, Dover, DE, for the expansion of the nursing program	170,000	Carper, Biden; Castle, Michael
HRSA	West Jefferson Medical Center, Marrero, LA for facilities and equipment	440,000	Jefferson, William; Jindal, Bobby; Vitter
HRSA	West Shore Medical Center, Manistee, MI for facilities and equipment	150,000	Hoekstra, Peter; Levin, Stabenow
HRSA	West Side Community Health Services, St. Paul, MN for facilities and equipment	150,000	McCollum (MN), Betty
HRSA	West Virginia University Hospital, Morgantown, WV for facilities and equipment	200,000	Mollohan, Alan
HRSA	West Virginia University, for the construction and equipping of medical simulation research and training centers in Morgantown, Charleston and Martinsburg	2,835,000	Byrd; Mollohan, Alan
HRSA	West Virginia University, for the construction of a Multiple Sclerosis Center	3,645,000	Byrd
HRSA	Westerly Hospital, Westerly, RI, for construction, renovation and equipment	425,000	Reed; Langevin, James
HRSA	Western Kentucky University Research Foundation, Bowling Green, KY, for the Western Kentucky University Mobile Health Screening Unit	500,000	McConnell
HRSA	Western North Carolina Health System, Asheville, NC for health information technology	325,000	Shuler, Heath; Dole
HRSA	Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Wetzel County Hospital, WV, for the expansion and remolding of the Emergency Department	900,000	Byrd
HRSA	Whidden Memorial Hospital, Everett, MA for facilities and equipment	375,000	Markey, Edward
HRSA	White County Memorial Hospital, Monticello, IN for facilities and equipment	210,000	Buyer, Steve
HRSA	White Memorial Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA for facilities and equipment	400,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
HRSA	White Plains Hospital Center, White Plains, NY for facilities and equipment	225,000	Lowey, Nita
HRSA	Whiteside County Department of Health, Rock Falls, IL for facilities and equipment	320,000	Hare, Phil
HRSA	Whitman Walker Clinic of Northern Virginia, Arlington, VA, for construction, renovation and equipment	140,000	Webb, Warner
HRSA	Whittemore Peterson Institute for Neuro-Immune Disease, Sparks, NV for facilities and equipment	200,000	Heller, Dean; Berkley, Shelley; Sestak, Joe; Ensign
HRSA	Wills Eye Health System, Philadelphia, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Wind River Community Health Center, Riverton, WY for facilities and equipment	250,000	Cubin, Barbara; Enzi
HRSA	Wing Memorial Hospital, Palmer, MA for facilities and equipment	320,000	Neal (MA), Richard
HRSA	Winneshiek Medical Center, Decorah, IA for purchase of medical equipment	280,000	Latham, Tom
HRSA	Wistar Institute, Philadelphia, PA, for construction	90,000	Specter
HRSA	Wolfson Children's Hospital, Jacksonville, FL for purchase of equipment	500,000	Nelson, Bill; Crenshaw, Ander
HRSA	Woodhull Medical and Mental Health Center, Brooklyn, NY for equipment for a hospital-based radiologic technology school	330,000	Velazquez, Nydia
HRSA	Woodruff County Nursing Home, McCrory, AR for facilities and equipment	225,000	Berry, Marion
HRSA	Wyoming County Community Hospital, Warsaw, NY for facilities and equipment	150,000	Reynolds, Thomas

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
HRSA	Wyoming Health Resources Network, Inc., Cheyenne, WY, to expand recruitment and retention of medical professionals in Wyoming	412,000	Enzi
HRSA	Wyoming Valley Health Care System-Hospital, Wilkes-Barre, PA, for equipment	90,000	Specter, Casey, Jr.
HRSA	YMCA of Central Stark County, Canton, OH for facilities and equipment	750,000	Regula, Ralph
HRSA	York Memorial Hospital, York, PA for facilities and equipment	92,000	Platts, Todd
HRSA	Youth Crisis Center, Jacksonville, FL for facilities and equipment	300,000	Crenshaw, Ander; Martinez, Nelson, Bill; Brown, Corrine
HRSA	Zucker Hillside Hospital, Glen Oaks, NY for facilities and equipment	490,000	Ackerman, Gary
IMLS	Aerospace Museum of California Foundation, McClellan, CA for exhibits	350,000	Lungren E., Daniel
IMLS	Alabama School of Math and Science, Mobile, AL for purchase of library materials	145,000	Bonner, Jo; Shelby
IMLS	Alaska Native Heritage Center, Anchorage, AK, for a partnership with Koahnic Broadcasting for a Native Values project	250,000	Stevens
IMLS	America's Black Holocaust Museum, Milwaukee, WI for exhibits and education programs, which may include acquisition of interactivemedia center kiosks	75,000	Moore (WI), Gwen
IMLS	American Airpower Museum, Farmingdale, NY for exhibits and education programs	300,000	Israel, Steve; Schumer
IMLS	American Jazz Museum, Kansas City, MO for exhibits and education programs, and an archival project	320,000	Cleaver, Emanuel
IMLS	American West Heritage Center, Wellsville UT for the Lifelong Learning Initiative	200,000	Bishop (UT), Rob; Bennett
IMLS	Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc., Annapolis, MD for exhibits and preservation	50,000	Hoyer, Steny
IMLS	Archives Partnership Trust, New York, NY, to digitize fragile artifacts	85,000	Reid
IMLS	Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA for educational programming	75,000	Schiff, Adam
IMLS	Bandera County, Bandera, TX for library enhancements	200,000	Smith (TX), Lamar
IMLS	Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA	500,000	Reichert, David; Cantwell
IMLS	Bibliographical Society of America, New York, NY, for the First Ladies Museum in Canton, OH for the First White House Library Catalogue	130,000	Voinovich; Regula, Ralph
IMLS	Bishop Museum in Honolulu, HI, to enhance library services	100,000	Inouye
IMLS	Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI, to provide Filipino cultural education	250,000	Inouye
IMLS	Boston Children's Museum, Boston, MA, for the development of exhibitions	170,000	Kennedy, Kerry
IMLS	Boyle County Public Library, Danville, KY for educational materials and equipment	200,000	Chandler, Ben
IMLS	Burpee Museum for educational programming and exhibits	150,000	Manzullo, Donald
IMLS	Charlotte County, FL, Port Charlotte, FL for archiving and equipment	300,000	Buchanan, Vern; Mahoney (FL), Tim
IMLS	Children's Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN for exhibits and equipment	245,000	Carson, Julia; Bayh, Luger
IMLS	Children's Museum of Los Angeles, Van Nuys, CA for exhibits and education programs	300,000	Berman, Howard
IMLS	Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati, OH for a digital records initiative	250,000	Chabot, Steve; Voinovich
IMLS	City of Chino Hills, Chino Hills, CA for library facility improvements	200,000	Miller, Gary
IMLS	College Park Aviation Museum, College Park, MD for exhibits and educational programs	150,000	Hoyer, Steny
IMLS	Connecticut Historical Society Museum, Hartford, CT for educational programs and interactive school programs at the Old State House	100,000	Larson (CT), John; Lieberman
IMLS	Contra Costa County, Martinez, CA for library services and its Technology for Teens in Transition volunteer mentor program at the Juvenile Hall Library	125,000	Tauscher, Ellen; Boxer
IMLS	Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Forest, VA for expansion of exhibits and outreach	200,000	Goodlatte, Bob
IMLS	County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino, CA for exhibits and programming	250,000	Lewis (CA), Jerry
IMLS	Dallas, Texas, Dallas, TX, for the Women's Museum to expand outreach and programming efforts	200,000	Hutchison
IMLS	Des Moines Art Center, IA, for exhibits	300,000	Harkin
IMLS	Discovery Center of Idaho, Boise, ID for a science center	250,000	Simpson, Michael; Crapo
IMLS	Everson Museum of Art of Syracuse, Syracuse, NY for expansion of the Visual Thinking Strategies and Arts Education program	250,000	Walsh (NY), James
IMLS	Fairfield County Public Library, Winnsboro, SC, for acquisition of equipment to upgrade the library facilities	84,750	Graham; Spratt, John
IMLS	Figge Foundation, Davenport, Iowa, for exhibits, education programs, community outreach, and/or operations	300,000	Harkin
IMLS	Florida Holocaust Museum, St. Petersburg, FL for exhibits and programming	300,000	Young (FL), C.W.; Wexler, Robert; Nelson, Bill
IMLS	Florida Memorial University, Miami Gardens, FL, for upgrades to the Nathan W Collier Library	170,000	Bill Nelson
IMLS	Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL to digitize holdings and create an online exhibit	250,000	Putnam, Adam
IMLS	Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation, Philadelphia, PA, for technology upgrades and acquisition	90,000	Specter
IMLS	George and Eleanor McGovern Library, Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, SD for cataloging, preparing, and archiving documents and artifacts relating to the public service of Senator Francis Case and Senator George McGovern	350,000	Johnson, Thune; Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie
IMLS	George C. Marshall Foundation, Lexington, VA for research activities	150,000	Goodlatte, Bob
IMLS	George Washington University, Washington, DC for the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project	380,000	Moran (VA), James
IMLS	Great Basin College, Elko, NV, to develop exhibits and conduct outreach to education programs	350,000	Reid
IMLS	Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ for web-based exhibits and educational programming	100,000	Pastor, Ed
IMLS	Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY for digitalization of collections and related activities	100,000	Israel, Steve; Schumer
IMLS	Historic Hudson Valley, Tarrytown, NY for education programs	50,000	Hall (NY), John

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
IMLS	Historic Hudson Valley, Tarrytown, NY, for education programs at Philipsburg Manor	225,000	Lowey, Nita
IMLS	History Museum of East Ottertail County, Perham, MN for exhibits and equipment	150,000	Peterson (MN), Collin
IMLS	Holbrook Public Library, Holbrook, MA, for the development of exhibits	125,000	Kennedy, Kerry
IMLS	Impression 5 Science Center, Lansing, MI for exhibits	150,000	Rogers (MI), Mike; Levin
IMLS	Iola Public Library, Iola, Kansas for educational programs, outreach, and materials	50,000	Boyda (KS), Nancy
IMLS	Iowa Radio Reading Information Service (IRRIS), to expand services	200,000	Harkin
IMLS	Italian-American Cultural Center of Iowa in Des Moines, IA for exhibits, multi-media collections, display	150,000	Harkin
IMLS	James A. Michener Art Museum, Doylestown, PA for equipment, salaries and supplies	100,000	Murphy, Patrick
IMLS	James K. Polk Association, Columbia, TN, for exhibit preparation at Polk Presidential Hall	250,000	Alexander
IMLS	Jefferson Barracks Heritage Foundation Museum, St. Louis, MO for exhibits	150,000	Carnahan, Russ
IMLS	Kansas Regional Prisons Museum, Lansing, KS for educational and outreach programs	100,000	Boyda (KS), Nancy
IMLS	Kellogg Hubbard Library, Montpelier, VT, for education and outreach	400,000	Leahy
IMLS	Los Angeles Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA, for education and outreach	85,000	Feinstein, Boxer; Watson, Diane
IMLS	Massie Heritage Center, Savannah, GA for exhibit upgrades and purchase of equipment	250,000	Kingston, Jack; Barrow, John
IMLS	Metropolitan Library System, Chicago, IL for educational programming and materials	240,000	Rush, Bobby
IMLS	Mid-America Arts Alliance, Kansas City, MO, for the HELP program	100,000	Ben Nelson
IMLS	Monterey Bay Aquarium, Monterey, CA for educational programming and outreach	75,000	Farr, Sam
IMLS	Morris Museum, Morristown, NJ for development of the Interactive Educational Workshop Center Exhibit	250,000	Frelinghuysen, Rodney; Lautenberg, Menendez
IMLS	Museum of Afro-American History, Boston, MA, for the development of youth educational programs	210,000	Kennedy, Kerry
IMLS	Museum of Aviation Foundation, Warner Robins, GA for education programs	350,000	Marshall, Jim; Chambliss
IMLS	Museum of Science and Technology, Syracuse, NY for museum exhibits and operations	250,000	Walsh (NY), James
IMLS	Museum of Utah Art & History, Salt Lake City, Utah, to improve technology and exhibit preparation	211,900	Bennett
IMLS	Newport News, Virginia, Newport News, VA, to enhance library services	150,000	Warner, Webb; Davis, Jo Ann
IMLS	Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation, Oklahoma City, OK, for educational programs and services	100,000	Inhofe
IMLS	Onondaga County Public Library, Syracuse, NY for technology upgrades	250,000	Walsh (NY), James
IMLS	Orem, Utah, for technological upgrades, equipment and resource sharing for the Orem public library	254,350	Bennett, Hatch; Cannon, Chris
IMLS	Overton County Library, Livingston, TN for collections, technology, and education programs	250,000	Gordon, Bart
IMLS	Pennsylvania State Police Historical, Educational and Memorial Museum, Hershey, PA for exhibits and educational materials	150,000	Holden, Tim
IMLS	Pico Rivera Library, Pico Rivera, CA for books and materials, equipment, and furnishings	240,000	Napolitano, Grace
IMLS	Portfolio Gallery and Education Center, St. Louis, MO for educational programming	90,000	Clay, Wm.
IMLS	Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science, Davenport, IA, for exhibits and community outreach	300,000	Harkin, Grassley
IMLS	Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum, Savannah, GA for exhibits, education programs, and equipment	50,000	Barrow, John
IMLS	Rust College, Holly Springs, MS to purchase equipment and digitize holdings	300,000	Wicker, Roger
IMLS	Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, State University of New York at New Paltz, NY for exhibits and programs	150,000	Hinchey, Maurice; Schumer
IMLS	San Gabriel Library, San Gabriel, CA for equipment, furnishings, and materials	200,000	Schiff, Adam
IMLS	Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, IL for exhibits and community outreach	150,000	Bean, Melissa; Emanuel, Rahm
IMLS	South Carolina Aquarium, Charleston, SC for exhibits and curriculum	150,000	Brown (SC), Henry
IMLS	South Florida Science Museum, West Palm Beach, FL for educational and outreach programs	325,000	Klein (FL), Ron
IMLS	Southwest Museum of the American Indian, Los Angeles, CA, for the Native American Learning Lab	420,000	Feinstein, Boxer
IMLS	Texas Historical Commission, Austin, TX, for educational programming, outreach, and exhibit development	200,000	Hutchison
IMLS	Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX to digitize library holdings	450,000	Johnson, Sam; Neugebauer, Randy
IMLS	Tubman African American Museum, Macon, GA for exhibits and education programs	70,000	Marshall, Jim
IMLS	Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, MN for the Minnesota Digital Public Media Archive	500,000	McCollum (MN), Betty
IMLS	University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA for the James R. Slater Museum of Natural History for collections, education programs, and outreach	250,000	Dicks, Norman
IMLS	University of Vermont of Burlington, VT, Burlington, VT, for a digitization project	400,000	Leahy
IMLS	Yolo County Library, Woodland, CA for an after-school assistance and literacy program	140,000	Thompson (CA), Mike; Boxer
IMLS	Young At Art Children's Museum, Davie, FL for the Global Village Project	175,000	Wasserman Schultz, Debbie
MSHA	Wheeling Jesuit University, for the National Technology Transfer Center for a coal slurry impoundment pilot project	1,215,000	Byrd
Rehab	Advocating Change Together, Inc., St. Paul, MN for a disability rights training initiative	100,000	McCollum (MN), Betty; Klobuchar
Rehab	Alaska Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Anchorage, AK, for a partnership with the Lions Club to expand low vision services to Alaskans	250,000	Stevens
Rehab	City of North Miami Beach, FL, North Miami Beach, FL for fitness and other programs for the disabled	340,000	Meek (FL), Kendrick
Rehab	Darden Rehabilitation Foundation, Gadsden, AL, for programs serving individuals with disabilities who seek to enter the work force	127,125	Sessions
Rehab	Deaf Blind Service Center, Seattle, WA, to support the National Support Service Provider Pilot Project	350,000	Murray

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
Rehab	Enable America, Inc., Tampa, Florida, for civic/citizenship demonstration project for disabled adults	500,000	Harkin; Young (FL), C.W.
Rehab	Jewish Vocational and Career Counseling Service, San Francisco, CA for a Transition Services Project to provide vocational training and job placement for youth and adults with disabilities	250,000	Pelosi, Nancy
Rehab	Kenai Peninsula Independent Living Center, Homer, AK, for the Total Recreation and Independent Living Services (TRAILS) project	200,000	Stevens
Rehab	National Ability Center, Park City, Utah, to provide transportation for individuals with cognitive and physical disabilities to participate independently in therapeutic recreational programs	211,375	Bennett
Rehab	Rainbow Center for Communicative Disorders, Blue Springs, MO, to expand programs available to individuals with severe disabilities	254,000	Bond
Rehab	Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc, Juneau, AK, to continue a joint recreation and employment project with the Tlingit-Haida Tribe	200,000	Stevens
Rehab	Special Olympics of Iowa, Des Moines, IA, for technology upgrades	100,000	Harkin; Latham, Tom
Rehab	University of Northern Colorado National Center for Low-Incidence Disabilities, Greeley, CO, for support to local schools, educational professionals, families of infants, children, and youth with low-incidence disabilities	169,500	Allard
Rehab	Vocational Guidance Services, Cleveland, OH for equipment and technology in order to increase employment for persons with disabilities	190,000	Kucinich, Dennis; Brown, Voinovich
Social Services	A+ For Abstinence, Waynesboro, PA, for abstinence education and related services	25,425	Specter
Social Services	Abyssinian Development Corporation, New York, NY, to support and expand youth and family displacement prevention programs	150,000	Clinton, Schumer
Social Services	Alaska Children's Services, Anchorage, AK, for its program to serve low income youth in Anchorage, Alaska	250,000	Stevens
Social Services	Alaska Statewide Independent Living Council, Inc., Anchorage, AK, to continue and expand the Personal Care Attendant Program and to expand outreach efforts to the disabled living in rural Alaska	200,000	Stevens, Murkowski; Young (AK), Don
Social Services	Anna Maria College, Paxton, MA, for program development at the Molly Bish Center for the Protection of Children and the Elderly	85,000	Kennedy, Kerry; McGovern, James
Social Services	Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia, MN for the Family-to-Family community based mentoring program to assist low-income families	300,000	Oberstar, James; Klobuchar, Coleman
Social Services	Augusta Levy Learning Center, Wheeling, WV for services to children with Autism	100,000	Mollohan, Alan
Social Services	Beth El House, Alexandria, VA for social services and transitional housing for formerly homeless women and their children	75,000	Moran (VA), James
Social Services	Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA	175,000	Kennedy, Kerry
Social Services	Catholic Family Center, Rochester, NY, for the Kinship Caregiver Resource Network	250,000	Clinton, Schumer
Social Services	Catholic Social Services, Wilkes-Barre, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
Social Services	Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Tacoma, WA, for a child care quality initiative	900,000	Murray
Social Services	Children's Home Society of Idaho, Boise, ID, for the Bridge Project to place Idaho children-in-care in foster care	225,000	Craig
Social Services	Children's Home Society of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD for services related to domestic violence, child abuse, and neglect	300,000	Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie
Social Services	Christian Outreach of Lutherans, Waukegan, IL for Latino leadership development in underserved areas	125,000	Kirk, Mark
Social Services	City of Chester, Bureau of Health, Chester, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000	Specter
Social Services	City of Detroit, MI for an Individual Development Account initiative	400,000	Kilpatrick, Carolyn; Levin, Stabenow
Social Services	City of Fort Worth, TX for programming at neighborhood-based early childhood resource centers	200,000	Burgess, Michael
Social Services	City of San Jose, CA for its Services for New Americans program, including assistance with job seeking skills, citizenship, family safety and resettlement	200,000	Honda, Michael
Social Services	Cliff Hagan Boys and Girls Club—Mike Horn Unit, Owensboro, KY for purchase of equipment	175,000	Lewis (KY), Ron
Social Services	Communities In Schools, Bell-Coryell Counties, Inc., Killeen, TX for youth counseling services	260,000	Carter, John
Social Services	Community Partnership for Children, Inc., Silver City, NM, for a child care quality initiative	170,000	Bingaman
Social Services	Community Services for Children, Inc., Allentown, PA, for early childhood development services	90,000	Specter
Social Services	Connecticut Council of Family Service Agencies, Wethersfield, CT, for the Empowering People for Success initiative	340,000	Dodd, Lieberman; DeLauro, Rosa
Social Services	Covenant House Florida, Ft. Lauderdale, FL for a program for pregnant and parenting teens and young adults	200,000	Klein (FL), Ron
Social Services	Crisis Nursery of the Ozarks, Springfield, MO for a child abuse prevention program	245,350	Blunt, Roy; Bond
Social Services	Crozer Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000	Specter
Social Services	Eisner Pediatric and Family Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA for the Parent-Child Home Program	125,000	Roybal-Allard, Lucille
Social Services	Every Citizen Has Opportunities, Inc., Leesburg, VA for services to disabled individuals	250,000	Wolf, Frank
Social Services	Family Center of Washington County, Montpelier, VT for childcare and related services	500,000	Leahy; Welch (VT), Peter
Social Services	Family Service & Childrens Aid Society, Oil City, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000	Specter
Social Services	Fathers and Families Center, Indianapolis, IN	80,000	Bayh
Social Services	First 5 Alameda County, San Leandro, CA for development and support of postsecondary early childhood education and training programs, which may include student scholarships	275,000	Stark, Fortney
Social Services	Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children, West Chester, PA, for programs to provide safe, secure housing for children through an emergency shelter for families, transitional housing, specialized foster care and adoption programs	90,000	Specter
Social Services	Friendship Circle of the South Bay, Redondo Beach, CA for services for children with developmental disabilities	465,000	Harman, Jane

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
Social Services	Greater New Britain Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Inc., New Britain, CT for the Pathways/Senderos Center for education and outreach	125,000	Murphy (CT), Christopher
Social Services	Guidance Center, Ridgeway, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000	Specter
Social Services	Hamilton-Madison House, New York, NY for services and equipment for a social services program	100,000	Velázquez, Nydia
Social Services	Healthy Learners Dillon, Columbia, SC for social services for economically disadvantaged children	200,000	Spratt, John
Social Services	Heart Beat, Millerstown, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
Social Services	Helping Children Worldwide, Herndon, VA to assist students and families	250,000	Wolf, Frank
Social Services	Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, Minneapolis, MN for the Family Healing and Restoration Network Project	425,000	Ellison, Keith; Klobuchar
Social Services	Hillside Family of Agencies, Rochester, NY for the Hillside Children's Center for adoption services	100,000	Slaughter, Louise; Clinton, Schumer
Social Services	Hope Village for Children, Meridian, MS for a program to assist foster children	215,000	Pickering, Charles
Social Services	Horizons for Homeless Children, Boston, MA for Playspace Programs for homeless children in the 7th Congressional District	75,000	Markey, Edward
Social Services	Horizons for Homeless Children, Boston, MA to continue and expand the Playspace program	160,000	Kennedy, Kerry
Social Services	Keystone Central School District, Mill Hall, PA, for abstinence education and related services	33,900	Specter
Social Services	Keystone Economic Development Corporation, Johnstown, PA, for abstinence education and related services	33,900	Specter
Social Services	Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY for the New American's Center	190,000	Weiner, Anthony; Clinton, Schumer
Social Services	L.I.F.T. Women's Resource Center, Detroit, MI for services to improve self-sufficiency and life skills of women transitioning from substance abuse, domestic violence, or homelessness	100,000	Kilpatrick, Carolyn; Levin, Stabenow
Social Services	LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	47,000	Specter
Social Services	Lawrence County Social Services, New Castle, PA for early childhood, parental training, and life skills programs	125,000	Altmire, Jason
Social Services	Lutheran Social Services, Duluth, MN for services to runaway, homeless, and other at-risk youth and their families	400,000	Oberstar, James; Klobuchar, Coleman
Social Services	Marcus Institute, Atlanta, GA for services for children and adolescents with developmental disabilities and severe and challenging behaviors	400,000	Linder, John; Johnson (GA), Henry; Chambliss, Isakson
Social Services	Mary's Family, Orlean, VA to develop a respite program for Winchester-area special needs families	100,000	Wolf, Frank
Social Services	Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, NC, for a program to combat domestic violence	200,000	Hayes, Robin; Myrick, Sue; Burr
Social Services	Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, for abstinence education and related services	47,000	Specter
Social Services	Missouri Bootheel Regional Consortium, Portageville, MO for the Fatherhood First program	350,000	Emerson, Jo Ann
Social Services	Monterey County Probation Department, Salinas, CA for the Silver Star gang prevention and intervention program	450,000	Farr, Sam; Boxer
Social Services	My Choice, Inc., Athens, PA, for abstinence education and related services	22,000	Specter
Social Services	Nashua Adult Learning Center, Nashua, NH for a Family Resource Center	100,000	Hodes, Paul
Social Services	National Energy Assistance Directors' Association, Washington, DC for research and information dissemination related to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program	200,000	DeLauro, Rosa
Social Services	Neighborhood United Against Drugs, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
Social Services	Network for Instructional TV, Inc., Reston, VA for a training program for child care providers	50,000	Moran (VA), James
Social Services	New Brighton School District, New Brighton, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000	Specter
Social Services	Northeast Guidance Center, Detroit, MI, Detroit, MI, for the Family Life Center project	210,000	Levin , Stabenow
Social Services	Northwest Family Services, Alva, OK, to establish behavioral health services and family counseling programs	85,625	Inhofe; Lucas, Frank
Social Services	Nueva Esperanza, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	30,000	Specter
Social Services	Nurses for Newborns Foundation, St. Louis, MO for nurse home visiting program	475,000	Carnahan, Russ; Akin, W.
Social Services	Organization of the NorthEast, Chicago, IL for development of a local homeless services continuum	80,000	Schakowsky, Janice
Social Services	Our Piece of the Pie, Hartford, CT, for social outreach services to grandparents raising teenagers	210,000	Dodd, Lieberman
Social Services	Partners for Healthier Tomorrows, Ephrata, PA, for abstinence education and related services	22,000	Specter
Social Services	Pediatric Interim Care Center, Kent, WA for the Drug-Exposed Infants Outreach and Education program	150,000	Reichert, David
Social Services	Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Harrisburg, PA, for domestic violence programs	90,000	Specter
Social Services	Positively Kids, Las Vegas, NV, to create a program to provide home, respite, and medical day care for severely-disabled children	100,000	Reid
Social Services	Progressive Believers Ministry, Wynmoor, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000	Specter
Social Services	Public Health Department, Solano County, Fairfield, CA for a program to support pregnant women and new mothers	100,000	Miller, George
Social Services	Real Commitment, Gettysburg, PA, for abstinence education and related services	47,000	Specter
Social Services	School District of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
Social Services	Sephardic Bikur Holim of Monmouth County, Deal, NJ for social services programs	140,000	Pallone, Frank
Social Services	Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network, San Jose, CA for assistance to immigrants seeking citizenship	100,000	Honda, Michael
Social Services	Shepherd's Maternity House, Inc., East Stroudsburg, PA, for abstinence education and related services	26,000	Specter
Social Services	Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL for the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders	240,000	Costello, Jerry
Social Services	Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX for coordination of family and child services	300,000	Gohmert, Louie; Hutchison

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
Social Services	Susan Wesley Family Learning Center, East Prairie, MO for programs to assist at-risk youth and their families	100,000	Emerson, Jo Ann
Social Services	TLC for Children and Families, Inc., Olathe, KS for a transitional living program for at-risk and homeless youth	320,000	Moore (KS), Dennis
Social Services	Tuscarora Intermediate Unit, McVeytown, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
Social Services	United Way Southeastern Michigan, Detroit, MI for the Communities of Early Learning initiative	300,000	Levin, Sander; Levin, Stabenow
Social Services	University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO for the treatment of autism spectrum disorders	300,000	Skelton, Ike
Social Services	Urban Family Council, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services	67,800	Specter
Social Services	Visitation Home, Inc., Yardville, NJ for programs to assist developmentally disabled residents	100,000	Smith (NJ), Christopher
Social Services	Washington Hospital Teen Outreach, Washington, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
Social Services	Women's Care Center of Erie County, Inc., Erie, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
Social Services	York County Human Life Services, York, PA, for abstinence education and related services	39,000	Specter
X Social Services	YWCA of Greater Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA for a project providing coordinated assistance to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence	100,000	Richardson, Laura
	NATIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES		
Corporation for National and Community Service	National Civilian Community Corps for the acquistion and startup of two residential campuses in Vicksburg, MS and Vinton, IA authorized under the National and Community Service Act	5,000,000	Cochran, Harkin
DOL Departmental Management	International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor for the U.S. contribution to a multinational effort to combat child labor, consistent with Executive Order 12216 and the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005	41,000,000	Harkin; Miller, George
ETA	Denali Commission for job training activities under the Denali Commission Act of 1998	6,875,000	Stevens
ETA	Working for America Institute for assistance to union-based and labor-management training programs authorized under the Workforce Investment Act	1,500,000	Harkin
ETA	Appalachian Council for regional employment and training programs and career transition services for Job Corps graduates authorized under the Workforce Investment Act	2,200,000	Specter
ETA	National Center on Education and the Economy for technical assistance and policy support on national workforce development strategies authorized under the Workforce Investment Act	2,600,000	McGovern, James
Innovation and Improvement	Arts in Education Program for model arts education and other activities authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act	38,041,000	Cochran, Bingaman, Kennedy; Abercrombie, Neil
Innovation and Improvement	Exchanges with Historic Whaling and Trading Partners Program for activities authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act	9,000,000	Cochran, Inouye, Stevens, Kennedy
Higher Education	Strengthening Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions Programs for activities authorized under the Higher Education Act	12,143,000	Inouye, Stevens
Higher Education	B.J. Stupak Olympic Scholarship Program for activities authorized under the Higher Education Act	970,000	Stupak, Bart
Higher Education	Thurgood Marshall Legal Sholarships Program for activities authorized under the Higher Education Act	2,946,000	Hoyer, Steny; Jackson, Jesse
HRSA	Delta Health Alliance, Inc. to improve the delivery of public health services in the Mississippi Delta region under title III of the Public Health Service Act	25,000,000	Cochran
HRSA	Denali Commission to support health projects and economic development activities for the arctic region under the Denali Commission Act of 1998	39,283,000	Stevens
HRSA	Native Hawaiian Health Care to provide primary health promotion and disease prevention services to Native Hawaiians through regional clinics under the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act of 1988	14,200,000	Inouye, Akaka
Innovation and Improvement	Close Up Fellowships Program for activities authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act	1,977,000	Harkin, Craig, Lautenberg
Innovation and Improvement	National Board for Professional Teaching Standards for activities authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act	9,821,000	Cochran, Harkin, Hoyer, Steny; Jackson, Jesse
Innovation and Improvement	National Writing Project for activities authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act	24,000,000	Cochran, Durbin, Feinstein, Landrieu, Leahy, Mikulski, Reed, Akaka, Baucus, Bayh, Biden, Bingaman, Boxer, Brown, Bunning, Cardin, Casey, Clinton, Coleman, Collins, Conrad, Crapo, Dodd, Grassley, Kennedy, Kerry, Klobuchar, Levin, Lieberman, Lincoln, Lott, Lugar, Menendez, Obama, Pryor, Reid, Salazar, Sanders, Schumer, Smith, Snowe, Stabenow, Tester, Whitehouse, Wyden; Abercrombie, Neil; Crowley, Joseph; Dent, Charles; Ellison, Keith; Eshoo, Anna; Hare, Phil; Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie; Loebsack, Dave; Matsui, Doris; Miller, George; Renzi, Rick; Shays, Christopher; Whitfield, Ed
Mine Safety and Health Administration	United Mine Workers of America for mine rescue team training activities authorized under the Mine Safety and Health Act	2,200,000	Byrd, Specter
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	Institutional Competency Grants under the Susan Harwood Training Program authorized under the Occupational Safety and Health Act	3,200,000	Miller, George
Rehabilitation Services and Disability Research	American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists for programs to improve the quality of orthotic and prosthetic research authorized under the Rehabilitation Services Act	1,000,000	Harkin
Safe Schools and Citizenship Education	Civic Education Program for activities authorized under the Education for Democracy Act and a comprehensive program between the Center for Civic Education, Indiana University, and National Conference of State Legislatures to improve public knowledge, understanding, and support of the Congress and the State legislatures	33,318,000	Abercrombie, Neil; Davis (AL), Artur; Davis, Geoff; Dent, Charles; Dingell, John; Eshoo, Anna; Kildee, Dale; Kind, Ron; Matsui, Doris; Miller (NC), Brad; Moran, Jerry; Rahall, Nick; Cochran, Landrieu, Leahy, Reed, Akaka, Baucus, Bayh, Biden, Bingaman, Boxer, Brown, Bunning, Cantwell, Cardin, Clinton, Coleman, Collins, Conrad, Dodd, Dole, Durbin, Ensign, Feinstein, Hagel, Kennedy, Kerry, Levin, Lieberman, Lincoln, Lott, Lugar, Martinez, Menendez, Murkowski, Bill Nelson, Obama, Pryor, Salazar, Sanders, Schumer, Sesssions, Smith, Snowe, Stabenow, Tester, Whitehouse, Wyden
School Improvement	Alaska Native Educational Equity for activities authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act	34,204,000	Stevens
School Improvement	Education for Native Hawaiians for activities authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act	34,204,000	Inouye, Akaka
Special Education	Special Olympics 2009 World Winter Games to support the educational, competitive athletic, and public awareness objectives of the winter games authorized under the Special Olympics Sports Empowerment Act	8,000,000	Simpson, Michael; Craig

LABOR / HHS / EDUCATION—Continued

Account	Project	Amount (in dollars)	Member
Special Education	Washington Educational Television Association for a national program to provide information on diagnosis, intervention, and teaching strategies for children with disabilities authorized under P.L. 105-78	1,500,000	Cochran
Special Education	Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, Inc. for development, production, and circulation of recorded educational materials as authorized under section 674(c)(1)(D) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	13,000,000	Harkin
Special Education	Special Olympics for Special Olympics educational programs that can be integrated into classroom instruction and for activities to increase the participation of individuals with intellectual disabilities, as authorized under the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act	5,000,000	Harkin; Hoyer, Steny; DeLauro, Rosa

CONFERENCE AGREEMENT

The following table displays the amounts agreed to for each program, project or activity with appropriate comparisons.

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF LABOR									
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION									
TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES									
Grants to States:									
Adult Training, current year	152,199	---	152,199	152,199	152,199	---	---	---	D FF
Advance from prior year	(712,000)	(712,000)	(712,000)	(712,000)	(712,000)	---	---	---	NA
FY 2009	712,000	712,000	712,000	712,000	712,000	---	---	---	D
Adult Training	864,199	712,000	864,199	864,199	864,199	---	---	---	
Youth Training	940,500	840,500	940,500	940,500	940,500	---	---	---	D FF
Dislocated Worker Assistance, current year	341,811	54,939	341,811	341,811	341,811	---	---	---	D FF
Advance from prior year	(848,000)	(848,000)	(848,000)	(848,000)	(848,000)	---	---	---	NA
FY 2009	848,000	848,000	848,000	848,000	848,000	---	---	---	D
Dislocated Worker Assistance	1,189,811	902,939	1,189,811	1,189,811	1,189,811	---	---	---	
Subtotal, Grants to States	2,994,510	2,455,439	2,994,510	2,994,510	2,994,510	---	---	---	
Current Year	(1,434,510)	(895,439)	(1,434,510)	(1,434,510)	(1,434,510)	---	---	---	
FY 2009	(1,560,000)	(1,560,000)	(1,560,000)	(1,560,000)	(1,560,000)	---	---	---	
Federally Administered Programs:									
Dislocated Worker Assistance National Reserve:									
Current year	70,092	---	70,092	70,092	70,092	---	---	---	D FF
Advance from prior year 1/	(212,000)	(212,000)	(212,000)	(212,000)	(212,000)	---	---	---	NA

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate		
FY 2009	212,000	212,000	212,000	212,000	212,000	---	---	---	D	
Dislocated Worker Assistance Nat'l Reserve	282,092	212,000	282,092	282,092	282,092	---	---	---		
Less Community-based Job Training Grants (NA)	(-125,000)	---	(-125,000)	(-150,000)	(-125,000)	---	---	(+25,000)	NA	
Dislocated Worker Assistance Nat'l Reserve	157,092	212,000	157,092	132,092	157,092	---	---	+25,000		
Total, Dislocated Worker Assistance	1,471,903	1,114,939	1,471,903	1,471,903	1,471,903	---	---	---		
Native Americans	53,696	45,000	56,381	53,696	55,039	+1,343	-1,342	+1,343	D	FF
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers	79,752	---	83,740	79,752	82,740	+2,988	-1,000	+2,988	D	FF
Women in apprenticeship	1,000	---	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---	---	D	FF
YouthBuild	49,500	50,000	60,000	65,000	62,500	+13,000	+2,500	-2,500	D	FF
Subtotal, Federally Administered Programs	466,040	307,000	483,213	481,540	483,371	+17,331	+158	+1,831		
Current Year	(254,040)	(95,000)	(271,213)	(269,540)	(271,371)	(+17,331)	(+158)	(+1,831)		
FY 2009	(212,000)	(212,000)	(212,000)	(212,000)	(212,000)	---	---	---		
National Activities 2/ 3/:										
Pilots, Demonstrations and Research	14,700	13,000	28,140	30,650	50,569	+35,869	+22,429	+19,919	D	FF
Responsible Reintegration of Youthful Offenders 4/	49,104	---	---	55,000	---	-49,104	---	-55,000	D	FF
Prisoner Re-entry 4/	19,642	---	---	---	---	-19,642	---	---	D	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate		
Reintegration of Ex-Offenders 4/	---	39,600	68,746	13,642	78,694	+78,694	+9,948	+65,052	D	FF
Evaluation	4,921	7,000	4,921	4,921	4,921	---	---	---	D	FF
Community-based Job Training Grants	---	150,000	---	---	---	---	---	---	D	
· Community-based Job Training Grants (NA)5/	(125,000)	---	(125,000)	(150,000)	(125,000)	---	---	(-25,000)	NA	
Subtotal, program level	125,000	150,000	125,000	150,000	125,000	---	---	-25,000		
Denali Commission	6,875	---	---	6,875	6,875	---	+6,875	---	D	
Undistributed reduction	---	---	-49,000	---	---	---	+49,000	---	D	
Other	480	---	---	---	---	-480	---	---	D	FF
Subtotal, National activities	95,722	209,600	52,807	111,088	141,059	+45,337	+88,252	+29,971		
Total, Training and Employment Services	3,556,272	2,972,039	3,530,530	3,587,138	3,618,940	+62,668	+88,410	+31,802		
Current Year	(1,784,272)	(1,200,039)	(1,758,530)	(1,815,138)	(1,846,940)	(+62,668)	(+88,410)	(+31,802)		
FY 2009	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---	---		
COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS	483,611	350,000	530,900	483,611	530,900	+47,289	---	+47,289	D	FF
FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES	837,600	888,700	888,700	888,700	888,700	+51,100	---	---	M	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS									
Unemployment Compensation (UI):									
State Operations	2,496,330	2,550,723	2,550,723	2,550,723	2,550,723	+54,393	...	...	TF
National Activities	11,340	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500	-840	...	...	TF
Subtotal, Unemployment Compensation	2,507,670	2,561,223	2,561,223	2,561,223	2,561,223	+53,553	...	...	
Employment Service:									
Allotments to States:									
Federal Funds	22,883	22,016	23,203	22,883	22,883	...	-320	...	D
Trust Funds	693,000	666,763	702,680	693,000	693,000	...	-9,680	...	TF
Subtotal, Allotments to States	715,883	688,779	725,883	715,883	715,883	...	-10,000	...	
ES National Activities	33,428	32,766	32,766	34,000	32,766	-662	...	-1,234	TF
Subtotal, Employment Service	749,311	721,545	758,649	749,883	748,649	-662	-10,000	-1,234	
Federal Funds	22,883	22,016	23,203	22,883	22,883	...	-320	...	
Trust Funds	726,428	699,529	735,446	727,000	725,766	-662	-9,680	-1,234	
One-Stop Career Centers/Labor Market Information	63,855	55,985	52,985	55,985	52,985	-10,870	...	-3,000	D
Work Incentives Grants	19,514	...	9,757	19,541	14,649	-4,865	+4,892	-4,892	D FF
Total, State Unemployment & Employment Srvcs	3,340,350	3,338,753	3,382,614	3,386,632	3,377,506	+37,156	-5,108	-9,126	
Federal Funds	106,252	78,001	85,945	98,409	90,517	-15,735	+4,572	-7,892	
Trust Funds	(3,234,098)	(3,260,752)	(3,296,669)	(3,288,223)	(3,286,989)	(+52,891)	(-9,680)	(-1,234)	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
ADVANCES TO THE UI AND OTHER TRUST FUNDS 6/	465,000	437,000	437,000	437,000	437,000	-28,000	---	---	M
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION									
Adult Employment and Training	43,442	45,593	43,442	44,593	43,442	---	---	-1,151	D
Trust Funds	7,846	8,283	7,846	7,846	7,846	---	---	---	TF
Youth Employment and Training 3/	39,354	40,311	10,981	11,439	10,981	-28,373	---	-458	D
Employment Security	6,354	6,376	6,354	6,376	6,354	---	---	-22	D
Trust Funds	72,113	84,436	72,113	84,436	78,275	+6,162	+6,162	-6,161	TF
Apprenticeship Services	21,542	21,725	21,542	21,725	21,542	---	---	-183	D
Executive Direction 3/	6,967	7,250	6,132	7,000	6,132	-835	---	-868	D
Trust Funds	2,090	2,188	2,090	2,090	2,090	---	---	---	TF
Total, Program Administration	199,708	216,162	170,500	185,505	176,662	-23,046	+6,162	-8,843	
Federal Funds	117,659	121,255	88,451	91,133	88,451	-29,208	---	-2,682	
Trust Funds	82,049	94,907	82,049	94,372	88,211	+6,162	+6,162	-6,161	
Total, Employment and Training Administration	8,882,541	8,202,654	8,940,244	8,968,586	9,029,708	+147,167	+89,464	+61,122	
Federal Funds	5,566,394	4,846,995	5,561,526	5,585,991	5,654,508	+88,114	+92,982	+68,517	
Current Year	(3,794,394)	(3,074,995)	(3,789,526)	(3,813,991)	(3,882,508)	(+88,114)	(+92,982)	(+68,517)	
FY 2009	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---	---	
Trust Funds	3,316,147	3,355,659	3,378,718	3,382,595	3,375,200	+59,053	-3,518	-7,395	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SECURITY ADMINISTRATION									
SALARIES AND EXPENSES									
Enforcement and Participant Assistance 7/	118,718	123,163	118,663	119,000	118,663	-55	...	-337	D
Policy and Compliance Assistance	17,585	18,315	18,315	18,315	18,315	+730	...	...	D
Executive Leadership, Program Oversight and Admin	5,270	5,947	5,947	5,947	5,947	+677	...	...	D
Total, EBSA	141,573	147,425	142,925	143,262	142,925	+1,352	...	-337	
PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION 7/									
Pension insurance activities	(80,357)	(74,784)	(74,784)	(74,784)	(74,784)	(-5,573)	...	...	NA
Pension plan termination	(128,466)	(205,158)	(205,158)	(205,158)	(205,158)	(+76,692)	...	...	NA
Operational support	(196,567)	(131,209)	(131,209)	(131,209)	(131,209)	(-65,358)	...	...	NA
Total, PBGC (Program level)	(405,390)	(411,151)	(411,151)	(411,151)	(411,151)	(+5,761)	...	...	
EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ADMINISTRATION									
SALARIES AND EXPENSES									
Enforcement of Wage and Hour Standards	170,220	182,365	182,365	184,365	183,365	+13,145	+1,000	-1,000	D
Office of Labor-Management Standards	47,753	56,888	45,737	45,737	45,737	-2,016	...	...	D
Federal Contractor EEO Standards Enforcement	82,441	84,182	84,182	84,182	84,182	+1,741	...	...	D
Federal Programs for Workers' Compensation	100,889	104,478	104,478	104,478	104,478	+3,589	...	...	D
Trust Funds	2,042	2,111	2,111	2,111	2,111	+69	...	...	TF

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Program Direction and Support	17,526	17,635	17,635	17,635	17,635	+109	...	...	D
Total, ESA salaries and expenses	420,871	447,659	436,508	438,508	437,508	+16,637	+1,000	-1,000	
Federal Funds	418,829	445,548	434,397	436,397	435,397	+16,568	+1,000	-1,000	
Trust Funds	2,042	2,111	2,111	2,111	2,111	+69	...	...	
SPECIAL BENEFITS									
Federal employees' compensation benefits	224,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	-24,000	...	...	*
Longshore and harbor workers' benefits	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	...	...	...	*
Total, Special Benefits	227,000	203,000	203,000	203,000	203,000	-24,000	...	...	
SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR DISABLED COAL MINERS									
Benefit payments	298,000	271,000	271,000	271,000	271,000	-27,000	...	...	*
Administration	5,373	5,221	5,221	5,221	5,221	-152	...	...	*
Subtotal, FY 2008 program level	303,373	276,221	276,221	276,221	276,221	-27,152	...	...	
Less funds advanced in prior year	-74,000	-68,000	-68,000	-68,000	-68,000	+6,000	...	...	*
Total, Current Year, FY 2008	229,373	208,221	208,221	208,221	208,221	-21,152	...	...	
New advances, 1st quarter FY 2009	68,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	-6,000	...	...	*
Total, Special Benefits for Disabled Coal Miners	297,373	270,221	270,221	270,221	270,221	-27,152	...	...	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION FUND, Part B Administrative Expenses	102,307	104,745	104,745	104,745	104,745	+2,438	---	---	*
BLACK LUNG DISABILITY TRUST FUND									
Benefit payments and interest on advances	1,010,011	1,009,763	1,009,763	1,009,763	1,009,763	-248	---	---	*
Employment Standards Admin., Salaries and expenses	33,578	32,761	32,761	32,761	32,761	-817	---	---	*
Departmental Management, Salaries and expenses	25,255	24,785	24,785	24,785	24,785	-470	---	---	*
Departmental Management, Inspector General	346	335	335	335	335	-11	---	---	*
Subtotal, Black Lung Disability	1,069,190	1,067,644	1,067,644	1,067,644	1,067,644	-1,546	---	---	
Treasury Department Administrative Costs	356	356	356	356	356	---	---	---	*
Total, Black Lung Disability Trust Fund	1,069,546	1,068,000	1,068,000	1,068,000	1,068,000	-1,546	---	---	
Total, Employment Standards Administration	2,117,097	2,093,625	2,082,474	2,084,474	2,083,474	-33,623	+1,000	-1,000	
Federal Funds	2,115,055	2,091,514	2,080,363	2,082,363	2,081,363	-33,692	+1,000	-1,000	
Current year	(2,047,055)	(2,029,514)	(2,018,363)	(2,020,363)	(2,019,363)	(-27,692)	(+1,000)	(-1,000)	
FY 2009	(68,000)	(62,000)	(62,000)	(62,000)	(62,000)	(-6,000)	---	---	
Trust Funds	2,042	2,111	2,111	2,111	2,111	+69	---	---	
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION									
SALARIES AND EXPENSES									
Safety and Health Standards	16,892	16,851	16,933	16,892	16,892	---	-41	---	D
Federal Enforcement	176,973	183,046	190,128	188,005	190,128	+13,155	---	+2,123	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
State Programs	91,093	91,093	91,093	91,093	91,093	---	---	---	D
Technical Support	22,392	22,066	22,066	22,066	22,066	-326	---	---	D
Compliance Assistance:									
Federal Assistance	72,659	79,607	75,566	72,659	72,659	---	-2,907	---	D
State Consultation Grants	53,357	54,531	54,531	54,531	54,531	+1,174	---	---	D
Training Grants	10,116	---	10,116	10,116	10,116	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Compliance Assistance	136,132	134,138	140,213	137,306	137,306	+1,174	-2,907	---	D
Safety and Health Statistics	32,274	32,082	32,082	32,082	32,082	-192	---	---	D
Executive Direction and Administration	11,169	11,001	11,001	11,001	11,001	-168	---	---	D
Total, OSHA	486,925	490,277	503,516	498,445	500,568	+13,643	-2,948	+2,123	
MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION									
SALARIES AND EXPENSES									
Coal Enforcement	120,396	140,620	140,620	157,420	157,420	+37,024	+16,800	---	D
Metal/Non-Metal Enforcement	72,506	72,290	72,290	72,690	72,690	+184	+400	---	D
Standards Development	2,727	2,737	2,737	3,237	3,237	+510	+500	---	D
Assessments	6,556	5,743	5,743	6,243	6,243	-313	+500	---	D
Educational Policy and Development	35,326	34,256	34,256	37,256	37,256	+1,930	+3,000	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Technical Support	29,237	28,200	28,200	30,000	30,000	+763	+1,800	...	D
Program evaluation and information resources (PEIR)	21,185	16,219	16,219	16,219	16,219	-4,966	...	...	D
Program Administration	13,637	13,413	13,413	16,963	16,828	+3,191	+3,415	-135	D
Total, Mine Safety and Health Administration	301,570	313,478	313,478	340,028	339,893	+38,323	+26,415	-135	
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS									
SALARIES AND EXPENSES									
Employment and Unemployment Statistics	169,722	175,320	175,320	174,320	174,320	+4,598	-1,000	...	D
Labor Market Information	77,067	78,264	78,264	78,000	78,000	+933	-264	...	TF
Prices and Cost of Living	177,847	192,149	192,599	178,992	185,796	+7,949	-6,803	+6,804	D
Compensation and Working Conditions	81,658	84,859	86,084	85,859	85,859	+4,201	-225	...	D
Productivity and Technology	11,063	11,332	11,332	11,063	11,063	...	-269	...	D
Executive Direction and Staff Services	30,766	32,519	32,519	31,766	31,766	+1,000	-753	...	D
Total, Bureau of Labor Statistics	548,123	574,443	576,118	560,000	566,804	+18,681	-9,314	+6,804	
Federal Funds	471,056	496,179	497,854	482,000	488,804	+17,748	-9,050	+6,804	
Trust Funds	77,067	78,264	78,264	78,000	78,000	+933	-264	...	
OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY									D
Salaries and expenses	27,712	18,602	27,712	27,712	27,712	...	...	...	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT									
SALARIES AND EXPENSES									
Executive Direction	28,189	28,680	23,237	28,680	23,237	-4,952	...	-5,443	D
Undistributed reduction	...	...	-20,666	-3,000	...	...	+20,666	+3,000	D
Firefighter fatality investigation and prevention	...	...	...	2,500	...	...	...	-2,500	D
Departmental IT Crosscut	29,462	31,405	18,000	22,000	20,000	-9,462	+2,000	-2,000	D
Departmental Management Crosscut	1,108	750	500	750	500	-608	...	-250	D
Legal Services	85,488	95,162	94,937	95,162	95,050	+9,562	+113	-112	D
Trust Funds	308	318	318	318	318	+10	...	...	TF
International Labor Affairs	72,516	14,097	72,516	82,516	82,516	+10,000	+10,000	...	D
Administration and Management	32,865	33,362	32,865	33,362	32,865	...	...	-497	D
Frances Perkins building security enhancements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	D
Adjudication	27,537	28,289	28,289	28,289	28,289	+752	...	...	D
Women's Bureau	9,666	9,832	10,500	10,300	10,300	+634	-200	...	D
Civil Rights Activities	6,445	6,763	6,763	6,763	6,763	+318	...	...	D
Chief Financial Officer	5,336	5,578	5,336	5,578	5,336	...	...	-242	D
Total, Salaries and expenses	298,920	254,236	272,595	313,218	305,174	+6,254	+32,579	-8,044	
Federal Funds	298,612	253,918	272,277	312,900	304,856	+6,244	+32,579	-8,044	
Trust Funds	308	318	318	318	318	+10	...	...	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
OFFICE OF JOB CORPS 2/									
Administration 3/	---	---	28,872	28,872	28,872	+28,872	---	---	
Operations	879,357	831,372	916,684	925,000	916,684	+37,327	---	-8,316	D FF
Advance from prior year	(591,000)	(591,000)	(591,000)	(591,000)	(591,000)	---	---	---	NA
FY 2009	591,000	591,000	591,000	591,000	591,000	---	---	---	D
Construction and Renovation	7,920	---	12,920	15,000	13,960	+6,040	+1,040	-1,040	D FF
Advance from prior year	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---	---	---	NA
FY 2009	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	---	---	---	D
Total, Job Corps	1,578,277	1,522,372	1,649,476	1,659,872	1,650,516	+72,239	+1,040	-9,356	
Current Year	(887,277)	(831,372)	(958,476)	(968,872)	(959,516)	(+72,239)	(+1,040)	(-9,356)	
FY 2009	(691,000)	(691,000)	(691,000)	(691,000)	(691,000)	---	---	---	
VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING									
State administration, Grants	160,791	161,894	161,894	161,894	161,894	+1,103	---	---	TF
Federal Administration	31,187	33,282	33,282	36,282	33,282	+2,095	---	-3,000	TF
National Veterans Training Institute	1,967	1,949	1,967	1,967	1,967	---	---	---	TF
Homeless Veterans Program	21,809	23,620	23,620	23,620	23,620	+1,811	---	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Veterans Workforce Investment Programs	7,435	7,351	7,435	7,435	7,435	...	...	...	D FF
Total, Veterans Employment and Training	223,189	228,096	228,198	231,198	228,198	+5,009	...	-3,000	
Federal Funds	29,244	30,971	31,055	31,055	31,055	+1,811	...	...	
Trust Funds	193,945	197,125	197,143	200,143	197,143	+3,198	...	-3,000	
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL									
Program Activities	67,214	72,929	72,929	73,929	72,929	+5,715	...	-1,000	D
Trust Funds	5,552	5,729	5,729	5,729	5,729	+177	...	...	FF
Total, Office of the Inspector General	72,766	78,658	78,658	79,658	78,658	+5,892	...	-1,000	
Federal funds	67,214	72,929	72,929	73,929	72,929	+5,715	...	-1,000	
Trust funds	5,552	5,729	5,729	5,729	5,729	+177	...	...	
Total, Departmental Management	2,173,152	2,083,362	2,228,927	2,283,946	2,262,546	+89,394	+33,619	-21,400	
Federal Funds	1,973,347	1,880,190	2,025,737	2,077,756	2,059,356	+86,009	+33,619	-18,400	
Current Year	(1,482,152)	(1,392,362)	(1,537,927)	(1,592,946)	(1,571,546)	(+89,394)	(+33,619)	(-21,400)	
FY 2009	(691,000)	(691,000)	(691,000)	(691,000)	(691,000)	...	...	...	
Trust Funds	199,805	203,172	203,190	206,190	203,190	+3,385	...	-3,000	
WORKING CAPITAL FUND									
Working capital fund	6,168	12,000	...	...	...	-6,168	...	...	D
Total, Title I, Department of Labor	14,684,861	13,935,866	14,815,394	14,906,453	14,953,630	+268,769	+138,236	+47,177	
Federal Funds	11,089,800	10,296,660	11,153,111	11,237,557	11,295,129	+205,329	+142,018	+57,572	
Current Year	(8,558,800)	(7,771,660)	(8,628,111)	(8,712,557)	(8,770,129)	(+211,329)	(+142,018)	(+57,572)	
FY 2009	(2,531,000)	(2,525,000)	(2,525,000)	(2,525,000)	(2,525,000)	(-6,000)	...	...	
Trust Funds	3,595,061	3,639,206	3,662,283	3,668,896	3,658,501	+63,440	-3,782	-10,395	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Title I Footnotes:									
1/ Includes FY 2006 rescission of $125M for Community College Initiative									
2/ In FY 2007, Job Corps was requested and funded in ETA; FY 2008 requested in ETA but funded in Dept Mgmt									
3/ Administration for Job Corps funding was transferred from ETA to DM in FY 2006 Act and FY 2008.									
4/ In FY08 Request, the Responsible Reintegration of Youthful Offenders and Prisoner Re-entry programs will be combined into Reintegration of Ex-Offenders program									
5/ Funding from the Dislocated Worker National Reserve									
6/ Two year availability									
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES									
HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION									
HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES									
BUREAU OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE									
Community health centers	1,988,039	1,988,467	2,188,000	2,238,039	2,213,020	+224,981	+25,020	-25,019	D
State health access grants	---	---	75,000	---	50,000	+50,000	-25,000	+50,000	D
Free Clinics Medical Malpractice	41	100	40	40	40	-1	---	---	D
National Hansen's Disease Program	15,972	16,109	16,109	16,500	16,305	+333	+196	-195	D
Buildings and Facilities	220	100	100	220	160	-60	+60	-60	D
Payment to Hawaii, treatment of Hansen's	1,996	1,976	1,996	1,996	1,996	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Bureau of Primary Health Care	2,006,268	2,006,752	2,281,245	2,256,795	2,281,521	+275,253	+276	+24,726	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
BUREAU OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS									
National Health Service Corps:									
Field placements	40,443	30,729	40,443	40,443	40,443	---	---	---	D
Recruitment	85,230	85,230	91,057	85,230	91,057	+5,827	---	+5,827	D
Subtotal, National Health Service Corps	125,673	115,959	131,500	125,673	131,500	+5,827	---	+5,827	
Health Professions, Training for Diversity:									
Centers of excellence	11,880	---	28,431	11,880	20,156	+8,276	-8,275	+8,275	D
Health careers opportunity program	3,960	---	28,440	3,960	16,200	+12,240	-12,240	+12,240	D
Faculty loan repayment	1,289	---	1,289	1,289	1,289	---	---	---	D
Scholarships for disadvantaged students	46,657	9,733	46,657	46,657	46,657	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Training for Diversity	63,786	9,733	104,817	63,786	84,302	+20,516	-20,515	+20,516	
Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry	48,851	---	48,851	48,851	48,851	---	---	---	D
Interdisciplinary Community-Based Linkages:									
Area health education centers	28,681	---	31,200	28,681	29,941	+1,260	-1,259	+1,260	D
Allied health and other disciplines	3,960	---	3,960	7,960	8,960	+5,000	+5,000	+1,000	D
Geriatric programs	31,548	---	31,548	31,548	31,548	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Interdisciplinary Comm. Linkages	64,189	---	66,708	68,189	70,449	+6,260	+3,741	+2,260	
Public health, preventive med. and dental programs	7,920	---	7,920	8,920	8,420	+500	+500	-500	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Nursing Programs:									
Advanced Education Nursing	57,061	---	57,061	68,889	62,975	+5,914	+5,914	+5,914	D
Nurse education, practice, and retention	37,291	37,291	37,291	37,291	37,291	---	---	---	D
Nursing workforce diversity	16,107	16,107	16,107	16,107	16,107	---	---	---	D
Loan repayment and scholarship program	31,055	43,744	44,000	36,000	40,000	+8,945	-4,000	+4,000	D
Comprehensive geriatric education	3,392	3,392	3,392	3,392	3,392	---	---	---	D
Nursing faculty loan program	4,773	4,773	7,773	8,000	7,887	+3,114	+114	+113	D
Subtotal, Nursing programs	149,679	105,307	165,624	169,679	167,652	+17,973	+2,028	-2,027	
Subtotal, Health Professions	334,425	115,040	393,920	359,425	379,674	+45,249	-14,246	+20,249	
Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education	297,009	110,018	307,009	200,000	307,009	+10,000	---	+107,009	D
Patient Navigator	---	---	---	8,000	4,000	+4,000	+4,000	-4,000	D
National Practitioner Data Bank	16,200	18,900	18,900	18,900	18,900	+2,700	---	---	D
User Fees	-16,200	-18,900	-18,900	-18,900	-18,900	-2,700	---	---	D
Health Care Integrity and Protection Data Bank	3,825	---	4,000	3,825	3,825	---	-175	---	D
User Fees	-3,825	---	-4,000	-3,825	-3,825	---	+175	---	D
Subtotal, Bureau of Health Professions	757,107	341,017	832,429	693,098	822,183	+65,076	-10,246	+129,085	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BUREAU									
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	693,000	693,000	750,000	673,337	683,000	-10,000	-67,000	+9,663	D
Sickle cell anemia demonstration program	2,180	2,184	2,184	3,180	3,180	+1,000	+996	---	D
Traumatic Brain Injury	8,910	---	8,910	10,000	9,455	+545	+545	-545	D
Autism and other developmental disorders	---	---	---	37,000	37,000	+37,000	+37,000	---	D
Healthy Start	101,518	100,503	120,000	101,518	110,759	+9,241	-9,241	+9,241	D
Universal Newborn Hearing	9,804	---	11,000	12,000	11,500	+1,696	+500	-500	D
Emergency medical services for children	19,800	---	22,300	20,000	19,900	+100	-2,400	-100	D
Subtotal, Maternal and Child Health Bureau	835,212	795,687	914,394	857,035	874,794	+39,582	-39,600	+17,759	
HIV/AIDS BUREAU									
Ryan White AIDS Programs:									
Emergency Assistance	603,993	603,993	636,300	603,993	636,300	+32,307	---	+32,307	D
Comprehensive Care Programs	1,195,500	1,215,518	1,239,500	1,225,518	1,232,509	+37,009	-6,991	+6,991	D
AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) (NA)	(789,546)	(814,546)	(830,593)	(814,546)	(822,570)	(+33,024)	(-8,023)	(+8,024)	NA
Early Intervention Program	193,721	199,821	216,700	193,622	205,161	+11,440	-11,539	+11,539	D
Children, Youth, Women, and Families	71,794	71,794	75,300	75,000	75,300	+3,506	---	+300	D
AIDS Dental Services	13,086	13,086	13,086	13,086	13,086	---	---	---	D
Education and Training Centers	34,701	28,700	34,700	34,700	34,700	-1	---	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Subtotal, Ryan White AIDS programs	2,112,795	2,132,912	2,215,586	2,145,919	2,197,056	+84,261	-18,530	+51,137	
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Ryan White AIDs program level	(2,137,795)	(2,157,912)	(2,240,586)	(2,170,919)	(2,222,056)	(+84,261)	(-18,530)	(+51,137)	
Subtotal, HIV/AIDS Bureau	2,112,795	2,132,912	2,215,586	2,145,919	2,197,056	+84,261	-18,530	+51,137	
HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS BUREAU									
Organ Transplantation	23,049	23,049	23,049	25,049	24,049	+1,000	+1,000	-1,000	D
National Cord Blood Inventory	3,963	1,966	15,000	12,000	12,000	+8,037	-3,000	---	D
Bone Marrow Program	25,168	22,701	25,168	22,701	23,935	-1,233	-1,233	+1,234	D
Office of Pharmacy Affairs	---	2,940	2,940	2,940	2,940	+2,940	---	---	D
Trauma Care	---	---	---	3,000	3,000	+3,000	+3,000	---	D
Poison control	23,000	10,000	30,100	23,000	30,100	+7,100	---	+7,100	D
Subtotal, Healthcare systems bureau	75,180	60,656	96,257	88,690	96,024	+20,844	-233	+7,334	
RURAL HEALTH PROGRAMS									
Rural outreach grants	38,885	---	52,962	40,000	52,962	+14,077	---	+12,962	D
Rural Health Research	8,737	8,737	9,500	9,500	9,500	+763	---	---	D
Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants	63,538	---	63,538	38,538	38,538	-25,000	-25,000	---	D
Delta Health Initiative 1/	---	---	---	25,000	25,000	+25,000	+25,000	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Rural and community access to emergency devices	1,487	---	2,000	3,000	2,500	+1,013	+500	-500	D
State Offices of Rural Health	8,141	8,141	9,000	9,000	9,000	+859	---	---	D
Black lung clinics 2/	5,891	5,886	5,891	6,000	6,000	+109	+109	---	D
Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program 2/	1,919	1,904	1,917	1,917	1,917	-2	---	---	D
Subtotal, Rural health programs	128,598	24,668	144,808	132,955	145,417	+16,819	+609	+12,462	
Denali Commission	39,283	---	---	39,283	39,283	---	+39,283	---	D
Family Planning	283,146	283,103	310,910	300,000	310,910	+27,764	---	+10,910	D
Health Care-related Facilities and activities	---	---	127,926	191,235	317,684	+317,684	+189,758	+126,449	D
Telehealth	6,819	6,819	7,000	13,800	7,000	+181	---	-6,800	D
Undistributed reduction	---	---	-11,037	---	---	---	+11,037	---	D
Program Management	146,294	144,191	142,191	145,000	143,596	-2,698	+1,405	-1,404	D
Total, Health resources and services	6,390,702	5,795,805	7,061,709	6,863,810	7,235,468	+844,766	+173,759	+371,658	
Total, Health resources & services program level	(6,415,702)	(5,820,805)	(7,086,709)	(6,888,810)	(7,260,468)	(+844,766)	(+173,759)	(+371,658)	
Evaluation tap funding	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	---	---	---	
HEALTH EDUCATION ASSISTANCE LOANS (HEAL) PROGRAM:									
Liquidating account	(4,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(-3,000)	---	---	NA
Program management	2,898	2,906	2,906	2,906	2,906	+8	---	---	D
Total, HEAL	2,898	2,906	2,906	2,906	2,906	+8	---	---	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM TRUST FUND:									
Post-FY 1988 claims	55,871	57,547	57,547	57,547	57,547	+1,676	---	---	M
HRSA administration	3,982	3,528	3,528	3,528	6,000	+2,018	+2,472	+2,472	D
Total, Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	59,853	61,075	61,075	61,075	63,547	+3,694	+2,472	+2,472	
Total, Health Resources and Services Admin	6,453,453	5,859,786	7,125,690	6,927,791	7,301,921	+848,468	+176,231	+374,130	
Total, HRSA program level	(6,482,453)	(5,885,786)	(7,151,690)	(6,953,791)	(7,327,921)	(+845,468)	(+176,231)	(+374,130)	
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION									
Infectious Diseases	1,773,903	1,781,574	1,900,508	1,762,083	1,848,601	+74,698	-51,907	+86,518	D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(12,794)	(12,794)	(12,794)	(12,794)	(12,794)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(1,786,697)	(1,794,368)	(1,913,302)	(1,774,877)	(1,861,395)	(+74,698)	(-51,907)	(+86,518)	
Health Promotion	947,004	958,732	1,002,212	982,876	992,214	+45,210	-9,998	+9,338	D
Health Information and Service	136,580	108,361	70,104	98,854	117,168	-19,412	+47,064	+18,314	D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(133,826)	(135,135)	(183,924)	(133,799)	(185,824)	(+51,998)	(+1,900)	(+52,025)	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(270,406)	(243,496)	(254,028)	(232,653)	(302,992)	(+32,586)	(+48,964)	(+70,339)	
Environmental health and injury	282,752	287,674	305,151	300,507	306,856	+24,104	+1,705	+6,349	D
Occupational safety and health 4/	164,620	165,927	219,076	181,326	237,388	+72,768	+18,312	+56,062	D
Supplemental (P.L. 110-28) (emergency)	63,000	---	---	---	---	-63,000	---	---	
Evaluation Tap Funding	(87,480)	(87,071)	(91,861)	(92,071)	(97,404)	(+9,924)	(+5,543)	(+5,333)	NA

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Subtotal, Program level 4/	(315,100)	(252,998)	(310,937)	(273,397)	(334,792)	(+19,692)	(+23,855)	(+61,395)	
Global health	330,053	379,719	381,337	334,038	377,352	+47,299	-3,985	+43,314	D
Terrorism preparedness and response 3/	1,495,730	1,504,375	1,598,751	1,632,448	1,549,143	+53,413	-49,608	-83,305	D
Public Health research:									D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(31,000)	(31,000)	(31,000)	(31,000)	(31,000)	---	---	---	NA
Public health improvement and leadership	202,559	190,412	199,237	209,829	230,239	+27,680	+31,002	+20,410	D
Preventive health and health services block grant	99,000	---	109,000	99,000	104,000	+5,000	-5,000	+5,000	D
Undistributed reduction	---	---	-2,000	---	---	---	+2,000	---	D
Buildings and Facilities	134,400	20,000	10,500	220,000	147,000	+12,600	+136,500	-73,000	D
Business services	370,971	319,877	344,377	344,377	378,328	+7,357	+33,951	+33,951	D
Total, Centers for Disease Control	5,937,572	5,716,651	6,138,253	6,165,338	6,288,289	+350,717	+150,036	+122,951	
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA)	(265,100)	(266,000)	(319,579)	(269,664)	(327,022)	(+61,922)	(+7,443)	(+57,358)	
Total, Centers for Disease Control program level	(6,265,672)	(5,982,651)	(6,457,832)	(6,435,002)	(6,615,311)	(+349,639)	(+157,479)	(+180,309)	
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH									
National Cancer Institute	4,792,624	4,782,114	4,880,382	4,910,160	4,925,740	+133,116	+45,358	+15,580	D
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	2,922,391	2,925,413	2,965,775	2,992,197	3,001,691	+79,300	+35,916	+9,494	D
National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research	389,066	389,722	395,753	398,602	399,867	+10,801	+4,114	+1,265	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	1,702,996	1,708,045	1,731,893	1,747,784	1,753,037	+50,041	+21,144	+5,253	D
Juvenile diabetes (mandatory)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, NIDDK	(1,852,996)	(1,858,045)	(1,881,893)	(1,897,784)	(1,903,037)	(+50,041)	(+21,144)	(+5,253)	
National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke	1,532,988	1,537,019	1,569,106	1,573,268	1,578,210	+45,222	+9,104	+4,942	D
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	4,264,034	4,292,482	4,332,019	4,368,472	4,382,585	+118,551	+50,566	+14,113	D
Global HIV/AIDS Fund Transfer	99,000	300,000	299,825	300,000	300,000	+201,000	+175	---	D
Subtotal, NIAID	4,363,034	4,592,482	4,631,844	4,668,472	4,682,585	+319,551	+50,741	+14,113	
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	1,932,580	1,941,462	1,966,019	1,978,601	1,984,879	+52,299	+18,860	+6,278	D
National Institute of Child Health & Human Development	1,252,765	1,264,946	1,273,863	1,282,231	1,286,379	+33,614	+12,516	+4,148	D
National Eye Institute	665,986	667,820	677,039	681,962	684,126	+18,140	+7,087	+2,164	D
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	647,242	637,406	652,303	656,176	658,258	+11,016	+5,955	+2,082	D
National Institute on Aging	1,045,468	1,047,148	1,062,833	1,073,048	1,076,389	+30,921	+13,556	+3,341	D
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	507,374	508,082	516,044	519,810	521,459	+14,085	+5,415	+1,649	D
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	392,992	393,682	400,305	402,680	403,958	+10,966	+3,653	+1,278	D
National Institute of Nursing Research	137,188	137,800	139,527	140,456	140,900	+3,712	+1,373	+444	D
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	435,585	436,505	442,870	445,702	447,245	+11,660	+4,375	+1,543	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
National Institute on Drug Abuse	1,001,952	1,000,365	1,015,559	1,022,594	1,025,839	+23,887	+10,280	+3,245	D
National Institute of Mental Health	1,402,385	1,405,421	1,425,531	1,436,001	1,440,557	+38,172	+15,026	+4,556	D
National Human Genome Research Institute	508,256	484,436	493,996	497,031	498,748	-9,508	+4,752	+1,717	D
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	296,380	300,463	303,318	304,319	305,884	+9,504	+2,566	+1,565	D
National Center for Research Resources	1,131,633	1,112,498	1,171,095	1,177,997	1,182,015	+50,382	+10,920	+4,018	D
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine	121,371	121,699	123,380	124,213	124,647	+3,276	+1,267	+434	D
National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities	199,107	194,495	202,691	203,895	204,542	+5,435	+1,851	+647	D
John E. Fogarty International Center	66,372	66,594	67,599	68,000	68,216	+1,844	+617	+216	D
National Library of Medicine	321,570	312,562	325,484	327,817	329,039	+7,469	+3,555	+1,222	D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(8,200)	(8,200)	(8,200)	(8,200)	(8,200)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, NLM	329,770	320,762	333,684	336,017	337,239	+7,469	+3,555	+1,222	
Office of the Director 3/	1,047,001	517,062	1,114,422	1,145,790	1,145,790	+98,789	+31,368	---	D
Common fund	(483,000)	(121,540)	(495,153)	(531,300)	(531,300)	(+48,300)	(+36,147)	---	NA
Buildings and Facilities	83,581	136,000	121,081	121,081	130,000	+46,419	+8,919	+8,919	D
Total, National Institutes of Health (NIH)	28,899,887	28,621,241	29,669,712	29,899,887	30,000,000	+1,100,113	+330,288	+100,113	
Global HIV/AIDS Fund Transfer	-99,000	-300,000	-299,825	-300,000	-300,000	-201,000	-175	---	
Evaluation Tap Funding	(8,200)	(8,200)	(8,200)	(8,200)	(8,200)	---	---	---	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Total, NIH, Program Level	(28,809,087)	(28,329,441)	(29,378,087)	(29,608,087)	(29,708,200)	(+899,113)	(+330,113)	(+100,113)	
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)									
Mental Health:									
Programs of Regional and National Significance	263,263	186,633	277,030	298,217	304,668	+41,405	+27,638	+6,451	D
Mental Health block grant	406,843	406,843	419,843	406,843	406,843	---	-13,000	---	D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(21,413)	(21,413)	(21,413)	(21,413)	(21,413)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(428,256)	(428,256)	(441,256)	(428,256)	(428,256)	---	(-13,000)	---	
Children's Mental Health	104,078	104,078	104,078	104,078	104,078	---	---	---	D
Grants to States for the Homeless (PATH)	54,261	54,261	54,261	54,261	54,261	---	---	---	D
Protection and Advocacy	34,000	34,000	34,000	39,000	36,500	+2,500	+2,500	-2,500	D
Subtotal, Mental Health	862,445	785,815	889,212	902,399	906,350	+43,905	+17,138	+3,951	
Subtotal, Program level	(883,858)	(807,228)	(910,625)	(923,812)	(927,763)	(+43,905)	(+17,138)	(+3,951)	
Substance Abuse Treatment:									
Programs of Regional and National Significance	394,649	347,790	398,102	422,268	412,963	+18,314	+14,861	-9,305	D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(4,300)	(4,300)	(4,300)	(4,300)	(4,300)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(398,949)	(352,090)	(402,402)	(426,568)	(417,263)	(+18,314)	(+14,861)	(-9,305)	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Substance Abuse block grant	1,679,391	1,679,391	1,714,391	1,679,391	1,696,891	+17,500	-17,500	+17,500	D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(79,200)	(79,200)	(79,200)	(79,200)	(79,200)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(1,758,591)	(1,758,591)	(1,793,591)	(1,758,591)	(1,776,091)	(+17,500)	(-17,500)	(+17,500)	
Subtotal, Substance Abuse Treatment	2,074,040	2,027,181	2,112,493	2,101,659	2,109,854	+35,814	-2,639	+8,195	
Subtotal, Program level	(2,157,540)	(2,110,681)	(2,195,993)	(2,185,159)	(2,193,354)	(+35,814)	(-2,639)	(+8,195)	
Substance Abuse Prevention:									
Programs of Regional and National Significance	192,902	156,461	194,502	197,108	197,675	+4,773	+3,173	+567	D
Program Management	76,721	76,969	76,721	76,969	76,969	+248	+248	---	D
Evaluation Tap funding (NA)	(16,000)	(16,250)	(16,000)	(21,750)	(19,750)	(+3,750)	(+3,750)	(-2,000)	NA
Subtotal, Program level	92,721	93,219	92,721	98,719	96,719	+3,998	+3,998	-2,000	
Total, SAMHSA	3,206,108	3,046,426	3,272,928	3,278,135	3,290,848	+84,740	+17,920	+12,713	
Evaluation Tap funding	(120,913)	(121,163)	(120,913)	(126,663)	(124,663)	(+3,750)	(+3,750)	(-2,000)	
Total, SAMHSA program level	(3,327,021)	(3,167,589)	(3,393,841)	(3,404,798)	(3,415,511)	(+88,490)	(+21,670)	(+10,713)	
AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY									
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes:									
Federal Funds	---	---	271,564	271,564	---	---	-271,564	-271,564	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Evaluation Tap funding (NA)	(260,986)	(271,564)	---	---	(276,564)	(+15,578)	(+276,564)	(+276,564)	NA
Clinical effectiveness research (NA)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(+15,000)	---	---	NA
Patient safety research (NA)	(84,000)	(93,934)	(78,934)	(78,934)	(78,934)	(-5,066)	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(260,986)	(271,564)	(271,564)	(271,564)	(276,564)	(+15,578)	(+5,000)	(+5,000)	
Medical Expenditures Panel Surveys:									
Federal Funds	---	---	8,236	55,300	---	---	-8,236	-55,300	NA D
Evaluation Tap funding (NA)	(55,300)	(55,300)	(47,064)	---	(55,300)	---	(+8,236)	(+55,300)	NA
Subtotal, Medical Expenditures Panel Surveys	(55,300)	(55,300)	(55,300)	(55,300)	(55,300)	---	---	---	
Program Support:									
Federal Funds	---	---	2,700	2,700	---	---	-2,700	-2,700	D
Evaluation Tap funding (NA)	(2,700)	(2,700)	---	---	(2,700)	---	(+2,700)	(+2,700)	NA
Subtotal, Program support	(2,700)	(2,700)	(2,700)	(2,700)	(2,700)	---	---	---	
Total, AHRQ	---	---	282,500	329,564	---	---	-282,500	-329,564	
Evaluation Tap funding (NA)	(318,986)	(329,564)	(47,064)	---	(334,564)	(+15,578)	(+287,500)	(+334,564)	
Total, AHRQ program level	(318,986)	(329,564)	(329,564)	(329,564)	(334,564)	(+15,578)	(+5,000)	(+5,000)	
Total, Public Health Service appropriation	44,560,020	43,244,104	46,489,083	46,600,715	46,881,058	+2,321,038	+391,975	+280,343	
Total, Public Health Service program level	(45,203,219)	(43,695,031)	(46,711,014)	(46,731,242)	(47,401,507)	(+2,198,288)	(+690,493)	(+670,255)	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES									
GRANTS TO STATES FOR MEDICAID									
Medicaid current law benefits	155,467,869	194,109,000	194,109,000	194,109,000	194,109,000	+38,641,131	...	...	*
State and local administration	9,881,583	10,014,716	10,014,716	10,014,716	10,014,716	+133,133	...	...	*
Vaccines for Children	2,905,330	2,761,957	2,763,957	2,761,957	2,761,957	-143,373	-2,000	...	*
Subtotal, Medicaid program level	168,254,782	206,885,673	206,887,673	206,885,673	206,885,673	+38,630,891	-2,000	...	
Less funds advanced in prior year	-62,783,825	-65,257,617	-65,257,617	-65,257,617	-65,257,617	-2,473,792	...	...	*
Total, Grants to States for medicaid	105,470,957	141,628,056	141,630,056	141,628,056	141,628,056	+36,157,099	-2,000	...	
New advance, 1st quarter	65,257,617	67,292,669	67,292,669	67,292,669	67,292,669	+2,035,052	...	...	*
State Children's Health Insurance program shortfall payment (SCHIP) (emergency)	396,000	...	...	...	...	-396,000	...	...	
PAYMENTS TO HEALTH CARE TRUST FUNDS									
Supplemental medical insurance	137,623,000	140,704,000	140,704,000	140,704,000	140,704,000	+3,081,000	...	...	*
Hospital insurance for the uninsured	239,000	269,000	269,000	269,000	269,000	+30,000	...	...	*
Federal uninsured payment	229,000	237,000	237,000	237,000	237,000	+8,000	...	...	*
Program management	175,000	192,000	192,000	192,000	192,000	+17,000	...	...	*
General revenue for Part D benefit	37,329,000	46,299,000	46,299,000	46,299,000	46,299,000	+8,970,000	...	...	*
General revenue for Part D administration	703,480	744,000	744,000	744,000	744,000	+40,520	...	...	*

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
HCFAC reimbursement	---	183,000	383,000	383,000	383,000	+383,000	---	---	*
Subtotal, Payments to Trust Funds, current law	176,298,480	188,628,000	188,828,000	188,828,000	188,828,000	+12,529,520	---	---	
Less funds advanced in prior year	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Total, Payments to Trust Funds, current law	176,298,480	188,628,000	188,828,000	188,828,000	188,828,000	+12,529,520	---	---	
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT 5/									
Research, Demonstration, Evaluation	57,420	33,700	23,070	35,325	36,990	-20,430	+13,920	+1,665	TF
Medicare Operations 6/	2,159,242	2,303,615	2,221,215	2,276,052	2,253,634	+94,392	+32,419	-22,418	TF
Revitalization plan	23,963	---	---	---	---	-23,963	---	---	TF
State Survey and Certification	258,128	293,524	293,524	293,524	293,524	+35,396	---	---	TF
High risk insurance pools	---	---	50,000	---	50,000	+50,000	---	+50,000	TF
Federal Administration 6/	642,354	643,187	642,354	643,187	642,354	---	---	-833	TF
Total, Program management, Limitation on new BA	3,141,107	3,274,026	3,230,163	3,248,088	3,276,502	+135,395	+46,339	+28,414	
Survey and Certification user fee	---	(-35,000)	---	(-35,000)	---	---	---	(+35,000)	
Total, Program management, program level	(3,141,107)	(3,239,026)	(3,230,163)	(3,213,088)	(3,276,502)	(+135,395)	(+46,339)	(+63,414)	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL									
Part D drug benefit/medicare advantage (MIP)	---	137,840	288,480	288,480	249,620	+249,620	-38,860	-38,860	TF
HHS Office of Inspector General	---	17,530	36,690	36,690	36,690	+36,690	---	---	TF
Department of Justice	---	17,530	36,690	36,690	36,690	+36,690	---	---	TF
Medicaid/SCHIP	---	---	---	---	35,000	+35,000	+35,000	+35,000	TF
HHS Secretary	---	10,100	21,140	21,140	25,000	+25,000	+3,860	+3,860	TF
Total, Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control	---	183,000	383,000	383,000	383,000	+383,000	---	---	
Total, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services	350,564,161	401,005,751	401,363,888	401,379,813	401,408,227	+50,844,066	+44,339	+28,414	
Federal funds	347,423,054	397,548,725	397,750,725	397,748,725	397,748,725	+50,325,671	-2,000	---	
Current year	(282,165,437)	(330,256,056)	(330,458,056)	(330,456,056)	(330,456,056)	(+48,290,619)	(-2,000)	---	
New advance, FY 2009	(65,257,617)	(67,292,669)	(67,292,669)	(67,292,669)	(67,292,669)	(+2,035,052)	---	---	
Trust Funds	3,141,107	3,457,026	3,613,163	3,631,088	3,659,502	+518,395	+46,339	+28,414	
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES									
FAMILY SUPPORT PAYMENTS TO STATES									
Payments to territories	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	---	---	---	M
Repatriation	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---	---	M
Subtotal, Welfare payments	39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	---	---	---	
Child Support Enforcement:									
State and local administration	3,943,678	3,417,713	3,417,713	3,417,713	3,417,713	-525,965	---	---	M
Federal incentive payments	471,000	483,000	483,000	483,000	483,000	+12,000	---	---	M

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Access and visitation	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---	---	*
Subtotal, Child Support Enforcement	4,424,678	3,910,713	3,910,713	3,910,713	3,910,713	-513,965	---	---	
Total, Family support payments program level	4,463,678	3,949,713	3,949,713	3,949,713	3,949,713	-513,965	---	---	
Less funds advanced in previous years	-1,200,000	-1,000,000	-1,000,000	-1,000,000	-1,000,000	+200,000	---	---	*
Total, Family support payments, current year	3,263,678	2,949,713	2,949,713	2,949,713	2,949,713	-313,965	---	---	
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2009	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	---	---	---	*
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)									
Formula grants	1,980,000	1,500,000	1,980,000	1,980,000	1,980,000	---	---	---	D
Contingency fund	181,170	282,000	682,000	181,170	431,585	+250,415	-250,415	+250,415	D
Total, LIHEAP	2,161,170	1,782,000	2,662,000	2,161,170	2,411,585	+250,415	-250,415	+250,415	
REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE									
Transitional and Medical Services	265,546	294,021	294,021	294,021	294,021	+28,475	---	---	D
Victims of Trafficking	9,823	14,816	9,814	9,823	9,814	-9	---	-9	D
Social Services	154,005	149,610	154,005	154,005	154,005	---	---	---	D
Preventive Health	4,748	4,700	4,748	4,748	4,748	---	---	---	D
Targeted Assistance	48,590	48,104	48,590	48,590	48,590	---	---	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Unaccompanied minors	95,318	134,662	129,635	133,162	131,399	+36,081	+1,764	-1,763	D
Victims of Torture	9,817	9,717	9,817	9,817	9,817	...	...	...	D
Total, Refugee and entrant assistance	587,847	655,630	650,630	654,166	652,394	+64,547	+1,764	-1,772	
CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT									D
Child Care and Development Block Grant	2,062,081	2,062,081	2,137,081	2,062,081	2,094,581	+32,500	-42,500	+32,500	D
Child Care for Small Business	...	...	...	5,000	5,000	+5,000	+5,000	...	D
Total, Child Care and Development Block Grant	2,062,081	2,062,081	2,137,081	2,067,081	2,099,581	+37,500	-37,500	+32,500	
SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (TITLE XX)	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	...	...	...	M
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS									
Programs for Children, Youth and Families:									
Head Start, current funded	5,499,771	5,399,771	5,574,771	5,699,771	5,653,396	+153,625	+78,625	-46,375	D
Advance from prior year	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	...	...	...	NA
FY 2009	1,388,800	1,388,800	1,388,800	1,388,800	1,388,800	...	...	...	D
Subtotal, Head Start, program level	6,888,571	6,788,571	6,963,571	7,088,571	7,042,196	+153,625	+78,625	-46,375	
Consolidated Runaway, Homeless Youth Program	87,837	87,837	97,837	102,837	100,337	+12,500	+2,500	-2,500	D
Prevention grants to reduce abuse of runaway youth	15,027	15,027	15,027	20,027	17,527	+2,500	+2,500	-2,500	D
Child Abuse State Grants	27,007	27,007	27,007	27,007	27,007	...	...	...	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	25,780	36,138	36,833	37,738	38,026	+12,246	+1,193	+288	D
Community based child abuse prevention	42,430	42,430	42,430	42,430	42,430	---	---	---	D
Abandoned Infants Assistance	11,835	11,835	11,835	11,835	11,835	---	---	---	D
Child Welfare Services	286,754	286,754	286,754	286,754	286,754	---	---	---	D
Child Welfare Training	7,335	7,335	7,335	7,335	7,335	---	---	---	D
Adoption Opportunities	26,848	26,848	26,848	26,848	26,848	---	---	---	D
Adoption Incentive	5,000	13,500	9,500	9,500	4,400	-600	-5,100	-5,100	D
Adoption Awareness	12,674	12,674	14,674	12,674	13,674	+1,000	-1,000	+1,000	D
Interstate Home Study for Adoption and Foster Care	---	10,000	---	---	---	---	---	---	D
Compassion Capital Fund	64,350	75,000	64,350	53,625	53,625	-10,725	-10,725	---	D
Social Services and Income Maintenance Research	5,868	---	8,635	5,825	15,898	+10,030	+7,263	+10,073	D
Evaluation tap funding	(6,000)	(5,880)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(11,868)	(5,880)	(14,635)	(11,825)	(21,898)	(+10,030)	(+7,263)	(+10,073)	
Developmental Disabilities Programs:									
State Councils	71,771	71,771	76,771	77,271	77,271	+5,500	+500	---	D
Protection and Advocacy	38,718	38,718	38,718	42,718	41,718	+3,000	+3,000	-1,000	D
Voting access for individuals with disabilities	15,720	15,720	36,720	16,720	18,820	+3,100	-17,900	+2,100	D
Developmental Disabilities Projects of National Significance	11,414	11,414	11,414	15,414	14,414	+3,000	+3,000	-1,000	D D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities	33,212	33,213	33,213	38,713	37,613	+4,401	+4,400	-1,100	D D
Subtotal, Developmental disabilities programs	170,835	170,836	196,836	190,836	189,836	+19,001	-7,000	-1,000	
Native American Programs	44,332	44,332	47,332	49,332	48,332	+4,000	+1,000	-1,000	D
Community Services:									
Grants to States for Community Services	630,425	---	660,425	670,425	665,425	+35,000	+5,000	-5,000	D
Community Initiative Program:									
Economic Development	27,022	---	32,700	27,022	32,700	+5,678	---	+5,678	D
Job Opportunities for Low-Income Individuals	5,382	---	5,382	5,382	5,382	---	---	---	D
Individual Development Account Initiative	24,452	24,452	24,452	24,452	24,452	---	---	---	D
Rural Community Facilities	7,293	---	8,000	8,000	8,000	+707	---	---	D
Subtotal, Community Initiative Program	64,149	24,452	70,534	64,856	70,534	+6,385	---	+5,678	
Subtotal, Community Services	694,574	24,452	730,959	735,281	735,959	+41,385	+5,000	+678	
Domestic Violence Hotline	2,970	2,970	2,970	3,200	3,085	+115	+115	-115	D
Family Violence/Battered Women's Shelters	124,731	124,731	134,731	127,000	130,866	+6,135	-3,865	+3,866	D
Mentoring Children of Prisoners	49,493	50,000	49,493	49,493	49,493	---	---	---	D
Independent Living Training Vouchers	46,157	46,157	46,157	46,157	46,157	---	---	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Abstinence Education	108,900	136,664	136,664	80,416	136,664	+27,764	---	+56,248	D
Evaluation Tap Funding	(4,500)	(4,500)	(4,500)	(4,500)	(4,500)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, Program level	(113,400)	(141,164)	(141,164)	(84,916)	(141,164)	(+27,764)	---	(+56,248)	
Faith-Based Center	1,386	1,386	1,386	1,386	1,386	---	---	---	D
Program Direction	187,776	197,225	187,776	197,225	191,025	+3,249	+3,249	-6,200	D
Total, Children and Families Services Programs	8,938,470	8,239,709	9,146,940	9,213,332	9,220,695	+282,225	+73,755	+7,363	
Current Year	(7,549,670)	(6,850,909)	(7,758,140)	(7,824,532)	(7,831,895)	(+282,225)	(+73,755)	(+7,363)	
FY 2009	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	(1,388,800)	---	---	---	
Evaluation Tap funding	(10,500)	(10,380)	(10,500)	(10,500)	(10,500)	---	---	---	
Total, Program level	8,948,970	8,250,089	9,157,440	9,223,832	9,231,195	+282,225	+73,755	+7,363	
PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES 7/	345,000	345,000	345,000	345,000	345,000	---	---	---	*
Discretionary Funds	89,100	89,100	89,100	89,100	89,100	---	---	---	D
PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION									
Foster Care	4,475,000	4,581,000	4,593,000	4,581,000	4,581,000	+106,000	-12,000	---	*
Adoption Assistance	2,027,000	2,156,000	2,159,000	2,156,000	2,156,000	+129,000	-3,000	---	*
Independent living	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	---	---	---	*
Total, Payments to States	6,642,000	6,877,000	6,892,000	6,877,000	6,877,000	+235,000	-15,000	---	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Less Advances from Prior Year	-1,730,000	-1,810,000	-1,810,000	-1,810,000	-1,810,000	-80,000	---	---	*
Total, payments, current year	4,912,000	5,067,000	5,082,000	5,067,000	5,067,000	+155,000	-15,000	---	
New Advance, 1st quarter	1,810,000	1,776,000	1,776,000	1,776,000	1,776,000	-34,000	---	---	*
Total, Administration for Children & Families	26,869,346	25,666,233	27,538,464	27,022,562	27,311,068	+441,722	-227,396	+288,506	
Current year	(22,670,546)	(21,501,433)	(23,373,664)	(22,857,762)	(23,146,268)	(+475,722)	(-227,396)	(+288,506)	
FY 2009	(4,198,800)	(4,164,800)	(4,164,800)	(4,164,800)	(4,164,800)	(-34,000)	---	---	
Evaluation Tap funding	(10,500)	(10,380)	(10,500)	(10,500)	(10,500)	---	---	---	
Total, Administration for Children & Families	26,879,846	25,676,613	27,548,964	27,033,062	27,321,568	+441,722	-227,396	+288,506	
ADMINISTRATION ON AGING									
Grants to States:									
Supportive Services and Centers	350,595	350,595	357,595	355,595	357,595	+7,000	---	+2,000	D
Preventive Health	21,400	---	21,400	21,400	21,400	---	---	---	D
Protection of Vulnerable Older Americans-Title VII	20,156	19,166	20,156	21,156	21,000	+844	+844	-156	D
Family Caregivers	156,167	154,187	156,167	159,167	158,167	+2,000	+2,000	-1,000	D
Native American Caregivers Support	6,241	6,241	6,428	6,428	6,428	+187	---	---	D
Subtotal, Caregivers	162,408	160,428	162,595	165,595	164,595	+2,187	+2,000	-1,000	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Nutrition:									
Congregate Meals	398,919	383,401	411,692	419,519	418,019	+19,100	+6,327	+1,500	D
Home Delivered Meals	188,305	180,998	194,337	198,805	197,305	+9,000	+2,968	+1,500	D
Nutrition Services Incentive Program	147,846	147,110	152,570	157,246	156,157	+8,311	+3,587	-1,089	D
Subtotal, Nutrition	735,070	711,509	758,599	775,570	771,481	+36,411	+12,882	-4,089	
Subtotal, Grants to States	1,289,629	1,241,698	1,320,345	1,339,316	1,336,071	+46,442	+15,726	-3,245	
Grants for Native Americans	26,134	26,134	26,918	27,834	27,376	+1,242	+458	-458	D
Program Innovations	24,058	35,485	10,240	11,420	15,094	-8,964	+4,854	+3,674	D
Aging Network Support Activities	13,133	13,133	29,633	42,651	37,901	+24,768	+8,268	-4,750	D
Alzheimer's Disease Demonstrations	11,668	---	11,668	11,668	11,668	---	---	---	D
Program Administration	18,385	18,696	18,385	18,696	18,541	+156	+156	-155	D
Total, Administration on Aging	1,383,007	1,335,146	1,417,189	1,451,585	1,446,651	+63,644	+29,462	-4,934	
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY									
GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT:									
Federal Funds	179,175	225,442	195,021	227,403	211,726	+32,551	+16,705	-15,677	D
Rescission (P.L. 110-28)	-500	---	---	---	---	+500	---	---	D
Undistributed reduction	---	---	-31,000	-1,000	---	---	+31,000	+1,000	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Trust Funds	5,792	5,851	5,851	5,851	5,851	+59	---	---	TF
Subtotal	184,467	231,293	169,872	232,254	217,577	+33,110	+47,705	-14,677	
Adolescent Family Life (Title XX)	30,307	30,307	30,307	30,307	30,307	---	---	---	D
Lifespan respite care	---	---	10,000	---	2,000	+2,000	-8,000	+2,000	D
Minority health	53,455	43,775	49,284	49,475	49,620	-3,835	+336	+145	D
Office of women's health	28,246	27,369	28,800	30,369	31,585	+3,339	+2,785	+1,216	D
Minority HIV/AIDS	51,891	51,891	51,891	51,891	51,891	---	---	---	D
Afghanistan	5,892	5,941	5,941	5,941	5,941	+49	---	---	D
Embryo adoption awareness campaign	1,980	1,980	1,980	4,000	4,000	+2,020	+2,020	---	D
Evaluation tap funding (ASPE) (NA)	(39,552)	(46,756)	(46,756)	(46,756)	(46,756)	(+7,204)	---	---	NA
Total, General Departmental Management	356,238	392,556	348,075	404,237	392,921	+36,683	+44,846	-11,316	
Federal Funds	(350,946)	(386,705)	(342,224)	(398,386)	(387,070)	(+36,124)	(+44,846)	(-11,316)	
Rescissions	(-500)	---	---	---	---	(+500)	---	---	
Trust Funds	5,792	5,851	5,851	5,851	5,851	+59	---	---	
Evaluation tap funding	(39,552)	(46,756)	(46,756)	(46,756)	(46,756)	(+7,204)	---	---	
OFFICE OF MEDICARE HEARINGS AND APPEALS	59,727	70,000	65,000	70,000	67,500	+7,773	+2,500	-2,500	TF
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 8/	42,402	89,872	13,302	43,000	27,651	-14,751	+14,349	-15,349	D
Evaluation tap funding	(18,900)	(28,000)	(48,000)	(28,000)	(38,500)	(+19,600)	(-9,500)	(+10,500)	NA
Total, Health Information Tech. program level	(61,302)	(117,872)	(61,302)	(71,000)	(66,151)	(+4,849)	(+4,849)	(-4,849)	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL:									
Federal Funds	39,808	44,687	44,687	45,687	45,187	+5,379	+500	-500	D
HIPAA funding (NA)	(175,570)	(196,418)	(196,418)	(196,418)	(196,418)	(+20,848)	---	---	NA
Medicaid integrity program									NA
Deficit Reduction Act (P.L. 109-171) (NA)	---	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(12,500)	(+12,500)	(-12,500)	(-12,500)	NA
Total, Inspector General program level	(215,378)	(266,105)	(266,105)	(267,105)	(254,105)	(+38,727)	(-12,000)	(-13,000)	
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS:									
Federal Funds	31,628	33,748	33,748	33,748	33,748	+2,120	---	---	D
Trust Funds	3,281	3,314	3,314	3,314	3,314	+33	---	---	TF
Total, Office for Civil Rights	34,909	37,062	37,062	37,062	37,062	+2,153	---	---	
MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS									
Retirement payments	292,249	317,967	317,967	317,967	317,967	+25,718	---	---	*
Survivors benefits	17,338	18,026	18,026	18,026	18,026	+688	---	---	*
Dependents' medical care	61,111	66,549	66,549	66,549	66,549	+5,438	---	---	*
Total, Medical benefits for Commissioned Officers	370,698	402,542	402,542	402,542	402,542	+31,844	---	---	
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE EMERGENCY FUND									
Office of the Secretary activities	717,320	780,646	757,291	786,556	741,586	+24,266	-15,705	-44,970	D
Other PHSSEF activities	---	25,000	---	55,000	---	---	---	-55,000	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Pandemic influenza preparedness	---	948,091	948,091	888,000	763,923	+763,923	-184,168	-124,077	D
Total, PHSSEF	717,320	1,753,737	1,705,382	1,729,556	1,505,509	+788,189	-199,873	-224,047	
Covered countermeasure process fund	---	---	5,000	---	---	---	-5,000	---	D
Total, Office of the Secretary	1,621,102	2,790,456	2,621,050	2,732,084	2,478,372	+857,270	-142,678	-253,712	
Federal Funds	1,552,302	2,711,291	2,546,885	2,652,919	2,401,707	+849,405	-145,178	-251,212	
Trust Funds	68,800	79,165	74,165	79,165	76,665	+7,865	+2,500	-2,500	
Total, Title II, Dept of Health & Human Services	424,997,636	474,041,690	479,429,674	479,186,759	479,525,376	+54,527,740	+95,702	+338,617	
Federal Funds	421,787,729	470,505,499	475,742,346	475,476,506	475,789,209	+54,001,480	+46,863	+312,703	
Current year	(352,331,312)	(399,048,030)	(404,284,877)	(404,019,037)	(404,331,740)	(+52,000,428)	(+46,863)	(+312,703)	
Emergency appropriations	(459,000)	---	---	---	---	(-459,000)	---	---	
FY 2009	(69,456,417)	(71,457,469)	(71,457,469)	(71,457,469)	(71,457,469)	(+2,001,052)	---	---	
Trust Funds	3,209,907	3,536,191	3,687,328	3,710,253	3,736,167	+526,260	+48,839	+25,914	

Title II Footnotes:
1/ In FY06 the Delta Health initiative was funded through the Rural hospital flexibility grant program
2/ Depart. of Health & Human Services reorganization (7/12/06) of the Office of Rural Health Policy
3/ Funds provided for biodefense activities are reflected within CDC and NIH respectively.
4/ Includes Mine Safety and Health.
5/ The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 provided $74M for CMS Program Management.
6/ FY 2006 Appropriations Act included a $60M program administrative reduction.
7/ The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 provided $20M for the Promoting Safe and Stable Entitlement Program.
8/ An additional $50 million for Health IT within AHRQ in FY 2007; an additional $45 million in FY 2008.

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION									
EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED									
Grants to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)									
Basic Grants:									
Advance from prior year	(1,478,584)	(1,353,584)	(1,353,584)	(1,353,584)	(1,353,584)	(-125,000)	---	---	NA
Forward funded	5,451,387	5,325,824	5,451,387	5,038,599	6,171,144	+719,757	+719,757	+1,132,545	D **
Current funded	3,437	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	+563	---	---	D
Subtotal, Basic grants current year approp.	5,454,824	5,329,824	5,455,387	5,042,599	6,175,144	+720,320	+719,757	+1,132,545	
Subtotal, Basic grants total funds available	(6,933,408)	(6,683,408)	(6,808,971)	(6,396,183)	(7,528,728)	(+595,320)	(+719,757)	(+1,132,545)	
Basic Grants FY 2009 Advance	1,353,584	1,478,584	1,353,584	1,765,808	633,827	-719,757	-719,757	-1,131,981	D
Subtotal, Basic grants, program level	6,808,408	6,808,408	6,808,971	6,808,407	6,808,971	+563	---	+564	
Concentration Grants:									
Advance from prior year	(1,365,031)	(1,365,031)	(1,365,031)	(1,365,031)	(1,365,031)	---	---	---	NA
FY 2009 Advance	1,365,031	1,365,031	1,365,031	1,365,031	1,365,031	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Concentration Grants program level	1,365,031	1,365,031	1,365,031	1,365,031	1,365,031	---	---	---	
Targeted Grants:									
Forward funded	---	1,196,775	771,219	---	---	---	-771,219	---	D **
Advance from prior year	(2,269,843)	(2,332,343)	(2,332,343)	(2,332,343)	(2,332,343)	(+62,500)	---	---	NA

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate		
FY 2009 Advance	2,332,343	2,269,843	2,323,343	2,868,231	3,068,680	+736,337	+745,337	+200,449	D	
Subtotal, Targeted Grants program level	2,332,343	3,466,618	3,094,562	2,868,231	3,068,680	+736,337	-25,882	+200,449		
Education Finance Incentive Grants:										
Advance from prior year	(2,269,843)	(2,332,343)	(2,332,343)	(2,332,343)	(2,332,343)	(+62,500)	---	---	NA	
FY 2009 Advance	2,332,343	2,269,843	3,094,260	2,868,231	3,068,680	+736,337	-25,580	+200,449	D	
Subtotal, Education Finance Incentive Grants	2,332,343	2,269,843	3,094,260	2,868,231	3,068,680	+736,337	-25,580	+200,449		
Subtotal, Grants to LEAs, program level	12,838,125	13,909,900	14,362,824	13,909,900	14,311,362	+1,473,237	-51,462	+401,462		
Even Start	82,283	---	99,000	---	62,636	-19,647	-36,364	+62,636	D	EE
School improvement grants	125,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	+375,000	---	---	D	EE
Reading First State Grants	1,029,234	1,018,692	353,500	800,000	400,000	-629,234	+46,500	-400,000	D	EE
Early Reading First	117,666	117,666	114,550	117,666	114,550	-3,116	---	-3,116	D	
Striving readers 1/	31,870	100,000	31,870	36,000	36,000	+4,130	+4,130	---	D	EE
Math Now for elementary school students	---	125,000	---	---	---	---	---	---	D	
Math Now for middle school students	---	125,000	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Literacy through School Libraries	19,485	19,486	19,486	23,000	21,243	+1,758	+1,757	-1,757	D	
Promise scholarships	---	250,000	---	---	---	---	---	---	D	
America's opportunity scholarships for kids	---	50,000	---	---	---	---	---	---	D	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate		
State Agency Programs:										
Migrant	386,524	380,295	393,900	386,524	390,212	+3,688	-3,688	+3,688	D	FF
Neglected and Delinquent/High Risk Youth	49,797	49,797	49,797	49,797	49,797	---	---	---	D	FF
Subtotal, State Agency programs	436,321	430,092	443,697	436,321	440,009	+3,688	-3,688	+3,688		
Evaluation	9,330	9,327	9,330	9,330	9,330	---	---	---	D	
Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration	2,352	---	1,634	1,634	1,634	-718	---	---	D	FF
Migrant Education:										
High School Equivalency Program	18,550	18,550	18,550	18,550	18,550	---	---	---	D	
College Assistance Migrant Program	15,377	15,377	15,377	15,377	15,377	---	---	---	D	
Subtotal, Migrant Education	33,927	33,927	33,927	33,927	33,927	---	---	---		
Total, Education for the disadvantaged	14,725,593	16,689,090	15,969,818	15,867,778	15,930,691	+1,205,098	-39,127	+62,913		
Current Year	(7,342,292)	(9,305,789)	(7,833,600)	(7,000,477)	(7,794,473)	(+452,181)	(-39,127)	(+793,996)		
FY 2009	(7,383,301)	(7,383,301)	(8,136,218)	(8,867,301)	(8,136,218)	(+752,917)	---	(-731,083)		
Subtotal, forward funded	(7,158,447)	(8,571,383)	(7,652,307)	(6,812,554)	(7,611,423)	(+452,976)	(-40,884)	(+798,869)		
IMPACT AID										
Basic Support Payments	1,091,867	1,091,867	1,140,517	1,111,867	1,126,192	+34,325	-14,325	+14,325	D	
Payments for Children with Disabilities	49,466	49,466	49,466	49,466	49,466	---	---	---	D	
Facilities Maintenance (Sec. 8008)	4,950	4,597	4,950	4,950	4,950	---	---	---	D	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate		
Construction (Sec. 8007)	17,820	17,820	17,820	17,820	17,820	---	---	---	D	
Payments for Federal Property (Sec. 8002)	64,350	64,350	65,700	64,350	64,350	---	-1,350	---	D	
Total, Impact aid	1,228,453	1,228,100	1,278,453	1,248,453	1,262,778	+34,325	-15,675	+14,325		
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS										
State Grants for Improving Teacher Quality	1,452,439	1,352,488	1,752,439	1,452,439	1,602,439	+150,000	-150,000	+150,000	D	FF
Advance from prior year	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	---	---	---	NA	
FY 2009	1,435,000	1,435,000	1,435,000	1,435,000	1,435,000	---	---	---	D	
Subtotal, State Grants for Improving Teacher Quality, program level	2,887,439	2,787,488	3,187,439	2,887,439	3,037,439	+150,000	-150,000	+150,000		
Early Childhood Educator Professional Development	14,550	---	---	14,550	---	-14,550	---	-14,550	D	
Mathematics and Science Partnerships	182,160	182,124	197,826	184,000	183,080	+920	-14,746	-920	D	FF
State Grants for Innovative Education (Education Block Grant)	99,000	---	99,000	---	---	-99,000	-99,000	---	D	FF
Educational Technology State Grants	272,250	---	272,250	272,250	272,250	---	---	---	D	FF
Supplemental Education Grants	18,001	18,001	18,001	18,001	18,001	---	---	---	D	
21st Century Community Learning Centers	981,166	981,180	1,106,166	1,000,000	1,081,166	+100,000	-25,000	+81,166	D	FF
State Assessments/Enhanced Assessment Instruments	407,563	411,630	411,630	416,000	416,000	+8,437	+4,370	---	D	FF
Javits gifted and talented education	7,596	---	7,596	7,596	7,596	---	---	---	D	
Foreign language assistance	23,780	23,755	26,780	26,780	26,780	+3,000	---	---	D	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate		
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	61,871	61,878	66,878	66,878	66,878	+5,007	---	---	D	FF
Training and Advisory Services (Civil Rights)	7,113	7,113	7,113	7,113	7,113	---	---	---	D	
Education for Native Hawaiians	33,907	---	33,907	34,500	34,204	+297	+297	-296	D	
Alaska Native Education Equity	33,907	---	33,907	34,500	34,204	+297	+297	-296	D	
Rural Education	168,918	168,851	168,918	168,918	168,918	---	---	---	D	FF
Comprehensive Centers	56,257	56,256	56,257	60,000	58,129	+1,872	+1,872	-1,871	D	
Total, School improvement programs	5,255,478	4,698,276	5,693,668	5,198,525	5,411,758	+156,280	-281,910	+213,233		
Current Year	(3,820,478)	(3,263,276)	(4,258,668)	(3,763,525)	(3,976,758)	(+156,280)	(-281,910)	(+213,233)		
FY 2009	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	(1,435,000)	---	---	---		
Subtotal, forward funded	(3,625,367)	(3,158,151)	(4,075,107)	(3,560,485)	(3,790,731)	(+165,364)	(-284,376)	(+230,246)		
INDIAN EDUCATION										
Grants to Local Educational Agencies	95,331	95,331	100,057	95,331	100,057	+4,726	---	+4,726	D	
Federal Programs:										
Special Programs for Indian Children	19,399	19,399	19,884	19,399	19,884	+485	---	+485	D	
National Activities	3,960	3,953	4,059	3,960	4,059	+99	---	+99	D	
Subtotal, Federal Programs	23,359	23,352	23,943	23,359	23,943	+584	---	+584		
Total, Indian Education	118,690	118,683	124,000	118,690	124,000	+5,310	---	+5,310		

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT									
Troops-to-Teachers	14,645	14,645	14,645	14,645	14,645	---	---	---	D
Transition to Teaching	44,484	44,482	44,484	44,484	44,484	---	---	---	D
Writing instruction	21,533	---	23,533	24,000	24,000	+2,467	+467	---	D
Teaching of Traditional American History	119,790	50,000	119,790	120,000	120,000	+210	+210	---	D
School Leadership	14,731	---	14,731	14,731	14,731	---	---	---	D
Advanced Credentialing	16,695	---	10,695	9,821	9,821	-6,874	-874	---	D
Adjunct Teacher Corps	---	25,000	---	---	---	---	---	---	D
Charter Schools Grants	214,783	214,782	251,394	214,783	214,783	---	-36,611	---	D
Credit Enhancement for Charter School Facilities	36,611	36,611	---	---	---	-36,611	---	---	D
Voluntary Public School Choice	26,278	26,275	26,278	26,278	26,278	---	---	---	D
Magnet Schools Assistance	106,693	106,685	106,693	106,693	106,693	---	---	---	D
Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE)	158,508	58,108	205,402	218,699	262,917	+104,409	+57,515	+44,218	D
Teacher Incentive Fund, Current funded	200	199,000	99,000	99,000	99,000	+98,800	---	---	D
Ready-to-Learn television	24,255	24,255	24,255	25,255	24,755	+500	+500	-500	D
Congressional Fellowships	1,454	---	1,454	2,500	1,977	+523	+523	-523	D
Advanced Placement	37,026	122,175	50,000	42,000	46,000	+8,974	-4,000	+4,000	D
Total, Innovation and Improvement	837,686	922,018	992,354	962,889	1,010,084	+172,398	+17,730	+47,195	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate		
SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION										
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities: State Grants, forward funded	346,500	100,000	346,500	300,000	300,000	-46,500	-46,500	---	D	FF
National Programs	141,112	200,000	141,112	139,112	140,112	-1,000	-1,000	+1,000	D	
Supplemental (P.L. 110-28) (emergency)	8,594	---	---	---	---	-8,594	---	---	D	
Alcohol Abuse Reduction	32,409	---	32,409	33,000	33,000	+591	+591	---	D	
Mentoring Programs	48,814	---	48,814	50,000	49,407	+593	+593	-593	D	
Character education	24,248	24,248	24,248	25,000	24,248	---	---	-752	D	
Elementary and Secondary School Counseling	34,650	---	61,500	40,000	50,750	+16,100	-10,750	+10,750	D	
Carol M. White Physical Education Program	72,674	---	72,674	80,000	78,000	+5,326	+5,326	-2,000	D	
Civic Education	29,111	---	33,318	30,000	33,318	+4,207	---	+3,318	D	
Total, Safe Schools and Citizenship Education	738,112	324,248	760,575	697,112	708,835	-29,277	-51,740	+11,723		
Current Year	(738,112)	(324,248)	(760,575)	(697,112)	(708,835)	(-29,277)	(-51,740)	(+11,723)		
Subtotal, Forward funded	(346,500)	(100,000)	(346,500)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(-46,500)	(-46,500)	---		
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION										
Current funded	43,485	43,603	50,350	43,603	46,977	+3,492	-3,373	+3,374	D	
Forward funded	625,522	627,216	724,264	627,216	675,740	+50,218	-48,524	+48,524	D	FF
Total, English Language Acquisition	669,007	670,819	774,614	670,819	722,717	+53,710	-51,897	+51,898		

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate		
SPECIAL EDUCATION										
State Grants:										
Grants to States Part B current year	5,358,761	4,276,741	4,700,443	5,315,800	4,637,443	-721,318	-63,000	-678,357	D	FF
Part B advance from prior year	(5,424,200)	(5,424,200)	(5,424,200)	(5,424,200)	(5,424,200)	---	---	---	NA	
Grants to States Part B (FY 2009)	5,424,200	6,215,200	6,641,982	5,924,200	6,654,982	+1,230,782	+13,000	+730,782	D	
Subtotal, Grants to States, program level	10,782,961	10,491,941	11,342,425	11,240,000	11,292,425	+509,464	-50,000	+52,425		
Preschool Grants	380,751	380,751	380,751	380,751	380,751	---	---	---	D	FF
Grants for Infants and Families	436,400	423,067	436,400	450,000	443,200	+6,800	+6,800	-6,800	D	FF
Subtotal, State grants, program level	11,600,112	11,295,759	12,159,576	12,070,751	12,116,376	+516,264	-43,200	+45,625		
IDEA National Activities (current funded):										
State personnel development	---	---	---	46,000	23,000	+23,000	+23,000	-23,000	D	
Technical Assistance and Dissemination	48,903	48,902	48,903	48,903	48,903	---	---	---	D	
Deaf-blindness teacher training	---	---	2,000	---	---	---	-2,000	---	D	FF
Personnel Preparation	89,720	89,719	89,720	89,720	89,720	---	---	---	D	
Parent Information Centers	25,704	25,704	25,704	27,000	27,000	+1,296	+1,296	---	D	
Technology and Media Services	38,428	25,063	36,928	40,000	40,000	+1,572	+3,072	---	D	
Subtotal, IDEA special programs	202,755	189,388	203,255	251,623	228,623	+25,868	+25,368	-23,000		

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Special Olympics Education programs	---	---	---	8,000	13,000	+13,000	+13,000	+5,000	
Total, Special education	11,802,867	11,485,147	12,362,831	12,330,374	12,357,999	+555,132	-4,832	+27,625	
Current Year	(6,378,667)	(5,269,947)	(5,720,849)	(6,406,174)	(5,703,017)	(-675,650)	(-17,832)	(-703,157)	
FY 2009	(5,424,200)	(6,215,200)	(6,641,982)	(5,924,200)	(6,654,982)	(+1,230,782)	(+13,000)	(+730,782)	
Subtotal, Forward funded	(6,175,912)	(5,080,559)	(5,519,594)	(6,146,551)	(5,461,394)	(-714,518)	(-58,200)	(-685,157)	
REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH									
Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants	2,837,160	2,874,043	2,874,043	2,874,043	2,874,043	+36,883	---	---	M
Client Assistance State grants	11,782	11,782	11,782	11,782	11,782	---	---	---	D
Training	38,438	38,438	38,438	38,438	38,438	---	---	---	D
Demonstration and training programs	6,511	6,840	7,061	10,490	10,418	+3,907	+3,357	-72	D
Migrant and seasonal farmworkers	2,279	---	2,279	2,279	2,279	---	---	---	D
Recreational programs	2,518	---	2,518	2,518	2,518	---	---	---	D
Protection and advocacy of individual rights (PAIR)	16,489	16,489	16,489	17,489	16,989	+500	+500	-500	D
Projects with industry	19,538	---	19,538	19,538	19,538	---	---	---	D
Supported employment State grants	29,700	---	29,700	29,700	29,700	---	---	---	D
Independent living:									
State grants	22,588	22,588	22,588	22,588	22,588	---	---	---	D
Centers	74,638	74,638	74,638	74,638	74,638	---	---	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Services for older blind individuals	32,895	32,895	32,895	32,895	32,895	...	...	...	D
Subtotal, Independent living	130,121	130,121	130,121	130,121	130,121	...	...	...	
Program Improvement	835	633	633	633	633	-202	...	...	D
Evaluation	1,473	1,973	1,473	1,695	1,584	+111	+111	-111	D
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf/Blind Youth and Adults	8,511	8,011	8,511	9,511	9,011	+500	+500	-500	D D
National Inst. Disability and Rehab. Research (NIDRR)	106,705	106,705	106,705	106,705	107,705	+1,000	+1,000	+1,000	D
Assistive Technology	30,452	26,111	30,452	32,000	31,226	+774	+774	-774	D
Subtotal, Discretionary programs	405,352	347,103	405,700	412,899	411,942	+6,590	+6,242	-957	
Total, Rehabilitation services	3,242,512	3,221,146	3,279,743	3,286,942	3,285,985	+43,473	+6,242	-957	
SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES									
AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND	17,573	17,573	17,573	22,000	22,000	+4,427	+4,427	...	D
NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF (NTID):									
Operations	56,141	55,349	59,052	57,295	59,052	+2,911	...	+1,757	D
Construction	...	913	1,705	1,705	1,705	+1,705	...	...	D
Total, NTID	56,141	56,262	60,757	59,000	60,757	+4,616	...	+1,757	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY:									
Operations	106,998	106,398	109,952	110,400	115,400	+8,402	+5,448	+5,000	D
Evaluation	---	600	---	600	---	---	---	-600	
Total, Gallaudet	106,998	106,998	109,952	111,000	115,400	+8,402	+5,448	+4,400	
Total, Special Institutions for Persons with Disabilities	180,712	180,833	188,282	192,000	198,157	+17,445	+9,875	+6,157	
CAREER AND ADULT EDUCATION									
Career Education:									
Basic State Grants/Secondary & Technical Education State Grants, current funded	390,553	600,000	415,553	390,553	415,111	+24,558	-442	+24,558	D FF
Advance from prior year	(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	---	---	---	NA
FY 2009	791,000	---	791,000	791,000	791,000	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Basic State Grants, program level	1,181,553	600,000	1,206,553	1,181,553	1,206,111	+24,558	-442	+24,558	
Tech-Prep Education State Grants	104,753	---	104,753	104,753	104,753	---	---	---	D FF
National Programs	10,000	10,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	-2,000	---	---	D FF
Tribally Controlled Postsec Voc/Tech Institutions	---	7,366	8,000	---	---	---	-8,000	---	D
Subtotal, Vocational Education	1,296,306	617,366	1,327,306	1,294,306	1,318,864	+22,558	-8,442	+24,558	
Adult Education:									
State Grants/Adult basic and literacy education: State Grants, current funded	563,975	564,074	588,975	564,074	576,525	+12,550	-12,450	+12,451	D FF

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate		
National Programs:										
National Leadership Activities	9,005	9,096	7,000	7,000	7,000	-2,005	---	---	D	FF
National Institute for Literacy	6,583	6,638	6,638	6,638	6,638	+55	---	---	D	FF
Subtotal, National programs	15,588	15,734	13,638	13,638	13,638	-1,950	---	---		
Subtotal, Adult education	579,563	579,808	602,613	577,712	590,163	+10,600	-12,450	+12,451		
Smaller Learning Communities, current funded	4,677	---	---	---	4,077	-600	+4,077	+4,077	D	
Smaller Learning Communities, forward funded	88,854	---	93,531	---	77,455	-11,399	-16,076	+77,455	D	FF
State Grants for Incarcerated Youth Offenders 2/	22,770	---	22,770	22,770	22,770	---	---	---	D	FF
Total, Career and adult education	1,992,170	1,197,174	2,046,220	1,894,788	2,013,329	+21,159	-32,891	+118,541		
Current Year	(1,201,170)	(1,197,174)	(1,255,220)	(1,103,788)	(1,222,329)	(+21,159)	(-32,891)	(+118,541)		
FY 2009	(791,000)	---	(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	---	---	---		
Subtotal, forward funded	(1,196,493)	(1,189,808)	(1,247,220)	(1,103,788)	(1,218,252)	(+21,759)	(-28,968)	(+114,464)		
STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE										
Pell Grants -- maximum grant (NA)	(4,310)	(4,050)	(4,700)	(4,310)	(4,435)	(+125)	(-265)	(+125)	NA	
Pell Grants	13,660,711	13,414,000	15,583,000	14,487,000	14,498,000	+837,289	-1,085,000	+11,000	D	
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants	770,933	---	770,933	770,933	770,933	---	---	---	D	
Federal Work Study	980,354	980,492	980,492	980,492	980,492	+138	---	---	D	
Federal Perkins loan cancellations	65,471	---	65,471	65,471	65,471	---	---	---	D	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
LEAP program	64,987	---	64,987	64,987	64,987	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, discretionary programs	15,542,456	14,394,492	17,464,883	16,368,883	16,379,883	+837,427	-1,085,000	+11,000	
Total, Student Financial Assistance	15,542,456	14,394,492	17,464,883	16,368,883	16,379,883	+837,427	-1,085,000	+11,000	
STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION 3/	718,450	708,216	708,216	708,216	708,216	-10,234	---	---	D
Rescission (P.L. 110-28)	-500	---	---	---	---	+500	---	---	D
Total, Student aid administration	717,950	708,216	708,216	708,216	708,216	-9,734	---	---	
HIGHER EDUCATION									
Aid for Institutional Development:									
Strengthening Institutions	79,535	79,535	79,535	79,535	79,535	---	---	---	D
Hispanic Serving Institutions	94,914	94,911	99,500	94,914	97,207	+2,293	-2,293	+2,293	D
Strengthening Historically Black Colleges (HBCUs)	238,095	238,095	349,500	238,095	243,798	+5,703	-105,702	+5,703	D
Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions	57,915	57,915	82,915	57,915	57,915	---	-25,000	---	D D
Strengthening Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions	11,785	---	11,785	12,500	12,143	+358	+358	-357	D D
Strengthening Tribal Colleges	23,570	18,570	24,475	24,475	24,475	+905	---	---	D
Subtotal, Aid for Institutional development	505,814	489,026	647,710	507,434	515,073	+9,259	-132,637	+7,639	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
International Education and Foreign Language:									
Domestic Programs	91,541	91,541	100,341	91,541	95,390	+3,849	-4,951	+3,849	D
Overseas Programs	12,610	12,610	13,610	12,610	13,610	+1,000	---	+1,000	D
Institute for International Public Policy	1,600	1,600	1,700	1,600	1,700	+100	---	+100	D
Subtotal, International Education & Foreign Lang	105,751	105,751	115,651	105,751	110,700	+4,949	-4,951	+4,949	
Fund for the Improvement of Postsec. Ed. (FIPSE)	21,989	21,988	63,264	81,844	126,256	+104,267	+62,992	+44,412	D
Minority Science and Engineering Improvement	8,730	8,730	8,730	8,730	8,730	---	---	---	D
Tribally Controlled Postsec Voc/Tech Institutions	7,366	---	---	8,000	8,000	+634	+8,000	---	D
Federal TRIO Programs	828,178	828,178	868,178	858,178	858,178	+30,000	-10,000	---	D
GEAR UP	303,423	303,423	323,423	313,423	318,423	+15,000	-5,000	+5,000	D
Byrd Honors Scholarships	40,590	---	40,590	41,000	41,000	+410	+410	---	D
Javits Fellowships	9,699	9,797	9,699	9,699	9,699	---	---	---	D
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need	30,067	30,064	30,067	30,067	30,067	---	---	---	D
Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants	59,895	---	40,000	28,521	34,261	-25,634	-5,739	+5,740	D
BA Degrees in STEM & Critical Foreign Languages	---	---	---	6,000	3,000	+3,000	+3,000	-3,000	D
MA Degrees in STEM & Critical Foreign Languages	---	---	---	4,000	2,000	+2,000	+2,000	-2,000	D
Child Care Access Means Parents in School	15,810	15,810	17,810	15,810	16,810	+1,000	-1,000	+1,000	D
Advancing America thru foreign language partnerships	---	24,000	---	12,000	---	---	---	-12,000	D
Demonstration in Disabilities / Higher Education	6,875	---	6,875	6,875	6,875	---	---	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Underground Railroad Program	1,980	---	---	2,000	2,000	+20	+2,000	---	D
GPRA data/HEA program evaluation	970	970	620	970	620	-350	---	-350	D
B.J. Stupak Olympic Scholarships	970	---	970	---	970	---	---	+970	D
Thurgood Marshall Legal education opportunities	2,946	---	2,946	---	2,946	---	---	+2,946	D
Total, Higher education	1,951,053	1,837,737	2,176,533	2,040,302	2,095,608	+144,555	-80,925	+55,306	
HOWARD UNIVERSITY									
Academic Program	204,405	204,405	204,405	204,405	204,405	---	---	---	D
Endowment Program	3,526	---	3,526	3,526	3,526	---	---	---	D
Howard University Hospital	29,461	29,461	29,461	29,461	29,461	---	---	---	D
Total, Howard University	237,392	233,866	237,392	237,392	237,392	---	---	---	
COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES LOANS(CHAFL)	571	481	481	481	481	-90	---	---	D
HBCU CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM -- Federal Admin	209	188	188	188	188	-21	---	---	D
INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES									
Research, development and dissemination	162,552	162,535	157,552	182,552	162,535	-17	+4,983	-20,017	D
Statistics	90,022	119,022	96,022	95,022	95,522	+5,500	-500	+500	D
Regional Educational Laboratories	65,470	65,464	65,470	68,000	66,735	+1,265	+1,265	-1,265	D
Research in special education	71,840	71,829	71,840	71,840	71,840	---	---	---	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Special education studies and evaluations	9,900	9,628	9,900	9,628	9,628	-272	-272	---	D
Statewide data systems	24,552	49,152	37,508	58,000	49,152	+24,600	+11,644	-8,848	D
Assessment:									
National Assessment	88,095	110,595	91,095	98,747	99,866	+11,771	+8,771	+1,119	D
National Assessment Governing Board	5,054	6,037	5,716	6,037	6,037	+983	+321	---	D
Subtotal, Assessment	93,149	116,632	96,811	104,784	105,903	+12,754	+9,092	+1,119	
Total, IES	517,485	594,262	535,103	589,826	561,315	+43,830	+26,212	-28,51[illegible]	
DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT									
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION									
Salaries and Expenses	416,487	429,631	391,487	429,631	417,698	+1,211	+26,211	-11,933	D
Undistributed reduction	---	---	-175,000	-12,000	---	---	+175,000	+12,000	D
Building Modernization	2,100	17,303	3,000	3,000	3,000	+900	---	---	D
Total, Program administration	418,587	446,934	219,487	420,631	420,698	+2,111	+201,211	+67	
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS	91,205	93,771	93,771	93,771	93,771	+2,566	---	---	D
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL	50,266	53,239	53,239	54,239	53,239	+2,973	---	-1,000	D
Total, Departmental management	560,058	593,944	366,497	568,641	567,708	+7,650	+201,211	-933	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate
HURRICANE EDUCATION RECOVERY								
Aid for Elementary and Secondary Education, Supplemental (P.L. 110-28) (emergency):								
Recruitment, retention, and compensation of personnel	30,000	---	---	---	---	-30,000	---	---
Aid for Institutions of Higher Education, Supplemental (P.L. 110-28) (emergency)	30,000	---	---	---	---	-30,000	---	---
Total, Hurricane Education Recovery	60,000	---	---	---	---	-60,000	---	---
Total, Title III, Department of Education	60,378,454	59,098,720	64,959,851	62,982,299	63,577,124	+3,198,670	-1,382,727	+594,825
Current Year	(45,344,953)	(44,065,219)	(47,955,651)	(45,964,798)	(46,559,924)	(+1,214,971)	(-1,395,727)	(+595,126)
Emergency appropriations	(68,594)	---	---	---	---	(-68,594)	---	---
FY 2009	(15,033,501)	(15,033,501)	(17,004,200)	(17,017,501)	(17,017,200)	(+1,983,699)	(+13,000)	(-301)

Title III Footnotes:
1/ Funding for Striving readers was first forward funded in the FY 2006 conference agreement.
2/ Previously funded under Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools.
3/ In prior years, $600M was included as mandatory.

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate
TITLE IV - RELATED AGENCIES								
COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED	4,652	4,994	4,994	4,994	4,994	+342	---	---

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE									
OPERATING EXPENSES									
Domestic Volunteer Service Programs:									
Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)	95,468	89,734	95,468	95,468	95,468	---	---	---	D
VISTA cost-share revolving fund	3,500	---	---	---	---	-3,500	---	---	D
National Senior Volunteer Corps:									
Foster Grandparents Program	110,937	97,550	110,937	110,937	110,937	---	---	---	D
Senior Companion Program	46,964	41,299	46,964	46,964	46,964	---	---	---	D
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	59,685	65,643	59,685	59,685	59,685	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Senior Volunteers	217,586	204,492	217,586	217,586	217,586	---	---	---	
Subtotal, Domestic Volunteer Service Programs	316,554	294,226	313,054	313,054	313,054	-3,500	---	---	
National and Community Service Programs:									
National service trust	117,720	122,521	122,521	117,720	126,121	+8,401	+3,600	+8,401	D
AmeriCorps grants	264,825	255,625	255,625	275,775	261,371	-3,454	+5,746	-14,404	D
Innovation, assistance, and other activities	29,771	12,697	13,000	10,550	19,229	-10,542	+6,229	+8,679	D
Evaluation	3,960	3,960	3,960	3,960	3,960	---	---	---	D
National Civilian Community Corps	26,789	11,620	11,620	31,789	24,205	-2,584	+12,585	-7,584	D
Learn and Serve America: K-12 and Higher Ed	37,125	32,099	37,125	39,125	38,125	+1,000	+1,000	-1,000	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
State Commission Administrative Grants	12,516	12,000	12,000	12,516	12,000	-516	---	-516	D
Points of Light Foundation	---	8,900	---	---	---	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, National & Community Service Programs	492,706	459,422	455,851	491,435	485,011	-7,695	+29,160	-6,424	
Total, Operating expenses	809,260	753,648	768,905	804,489	798,065	-11,195	+29,160	-6,424	
Salaries and expenses	70,324	69,520	68,964	69,520	68,964	-1,360	---	-556	
Office of the Inspector General	4,963	5,512	5,512	6,900	6,900	+1,937	+1,388	---	
Total, Corp. for National and Community Service	884,547	828,680	843,381	880,909	873,929	-10,618	+30,548	-6,980	
CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING:									
FY 2010 (current) with FY 2009 comparable	400,000	---	420,000	420,000	420,000	+20,000	---	---	D
FY 2009 advance with FY 2008 comparable (NA)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, FY 2009 program level	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	---	---	---	
FY 2008 advance with FY 2007 comparable (NA)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)	---	---	---	NA
Rescission of FY 2008 funds (NA)	---	(-50,000)	---	---	---	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, FY 2008 program level	400,000	350,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	---	---	---	
Digitalization program, current funded	29,700	---	29,700	29,700	29,700	---	---	---	D
Previous appropriated funds (NA)	---	(30,600)	---	---	---	---	---	---	NA

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Interconnection, current funded	34,650	---	26,750	26,750	26,750	-7,900	---	---	D
Previous appropriated funds (NA)	---	(26,750)	---	---	---	---	---	---	NA
Subtotal, FY 2008 appropriation	64,350	---	56,450	56,450	56,450	-7,900	---	---	
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE	42,849	43,800	44,450	44,450	44,450	+1,601	---	---	D
FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION	7,778	8,096	8,096	8,096	8,096	+318	---	---	D
INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES	247,205	271,246	264,812	265,680	277,131	+29,926	+12,319	+11,451	D
MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION	12,066	10,748	10,748	10,748	10,748	-1,318	---	---	TF
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFO SCIENCE	989	---	---	400	400	-589	+400	---	D
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY	3,426	3,113	3,113	3,113	3,113	-313	---	---	D
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD	251,507	256,238	257,488	256,988	256,988	+5,481	-500	---	D
NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD	11,596	12,242	12,992	12,992	12,992	+1,396	---	---	D
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION	10,471	10,696	10,696	10,696	10,696	+225	---	---	D
RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD									
Dual Benefits Payments Account	88,000	79,000	79,000	79,000	79,000	-9,000	---	---	D
Less Income Tax Receipts on Dual Benefits	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, Dual Benefits	82,000	73,000	73,000	73,000	73,000	-9,000	---	---	
Federal Payment to the RR Retirement Account	150	150	150	150	150	---	---	---	*

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
Limitation on Administration	103,694	103,518	103,694	103,694	103,694	---	---	---	TF
Inspector General	7,173	7,606	7,606	8,000	7,803	+630	+197	-197	TF
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION									
Payments to Social Security Trust Funds	20,470	28,140	28,140	28,140	28,140	+7,670	---	---	M
SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME									
Federal benefit payments	37,204,000	40,675,000	40,675,000	40,675,000	40,675,000	+3,471,000	---	---	M
Beneficiary services	---	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	+36,000	---	---	M
Research and demonstration	27,000	27,000	27,000	28,000	27,000	---	---	-1,000	M
Administration	2,950,169	2,983,000	3,020,525	3,076,500	3,086,000	+135,831	+65,475	+9,500	D
Subtotal, SSI program level	40,181,169	43,721,000	43,758,525	43,815,500	43,824,000	+3,642,831	+65,475	+8,500	
Less funds advanced in prior year	-11,110,000	-16,810,000	-16,810,000	-16,810,000	-16,810,000	-5,700,000	---	---	M
Subtotal, regular SSI current year	29,071,169	26,911,000	26,948,525	27,005,500	27,014,000	-2,057,169	+65,475	+8,500	
Total, SSI, current request	29,071,169	26,911,000	26,948,525	27,005,500	27,014,000	-2,057,169	+65,475	+8,500	
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2009	16,810,000	14,800,000	14,800,000	14,800,000	14,800,000	-2,010,000	---	---	M
Total, SSI program	45,881,169	41,711,000	41,748,525	41,805,500	41,814,000	-4,067,169	+65,475	+8,500	

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate	
LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES									
OASDI Trust Funds	4,598,834	4,698,292	4,760,767	4,852,492	4,870,292	+271,458	+109,525	+17,800	TF
HI/SMI Trust Funds	1,626,570	1,679,661	1,679,661	1,706,961	1,679,661	+53,091	---	-27,300	TF
Social Security Advisory Board	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---	---	TF
SSI	2,950,169	2,868,000	2,905,525	2,961,500	2,971,000	+20,831	+65,475	+9,500	D
Subtotal, regular LAE	9,177,573	9,247,953	9,347,953	9,522,953	9,522,953	+345,380	+175,000	---	
Additional CDR Funding:									
OASDI Trust Funds	---	98,000	98,000	98,000	98,000	+98,000	---	---	TF
SSI	---	115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000	+115,000	---	---	TF
Subtotal, additional CDR funding	---	213,000	213,000	213,000	213,000	+213,000	---	---	
User Fees:									
SSI User Fee activities	117,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	+18,000	---	---	D
SSPA User Fee Activities	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---	---	D
Subtotal, User fees	118,000	136,000	136,000	136,000	136,000	+18,000	---	---	
Total, Limitation on Administrative Expenses	9,295,573	9,596,953	9,696,953	9,871,953	9,871,953	+576,380	+175,000	---	
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL									
Federal Funds	25,902	27,000	27,000	28,000	27,000	+1,098	---	-1,000	D

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate	
Trust Funds	66,149	68,047	68,047	68,047	68,047	+1,898	...	...	TF
Total, Office of the Inspector General	92,051	95,047	95,047	96,047	95,047	+2,996	...	-1,000	
Adjustment: Trust fund transfers from general revenues	-2,950,169	-2,983,000	-3,020,525	-3,076,500	-3,086,000	-135,831	-65,475	-9,500	TF
Total, Social Security Administration	52,339,094	48,448,140	48,548,140	48,725,140	48,723,140	-3,615,954	+175,000	-2,000	
Federal funds	46,045,541	41,902,140	41,939,665	41,997,640	42,005,140	-4,040,401	+65,475	+7,500	
Current year	(29,235,541)	(27,102,140)	(27,139,665)	(27,197,640)	(27,205,140)	(-2,030,401)	(+65,475)	(+7,500)	
New advances, 1st quarter	(16,810,000)	(14,800,000)	(14,800,000)	(14,800,000)	(14,800,000)	(-2,010,000)	...	...	
Trust funds	6,293,553	6,546,000	6,608,475	6,727,500	6,718,000	+424,447	+109,525	-9,500	
Total, Title IV, Related Agencies	54,473,547	50,082,267	50,669,810	50,885,500	50,887,774	-3,585,773	+217,964	+2,274	
Federal Funds	48,057,061	43,414,395	43,939,287	44,035,558	44,047,529	-4,009,532	+108,242	+11,971	
Current Year	(30,847,061)	(28,614,395)	(28,719,287)	(28,815,558)	(28,827,529)	(-2,019,532)	(+108,242)	(+11,971)	
FY 2009 Advance	(16,810,000)	(14,800,000)	(14,800,000)	(14,800,000)	(14,800,000)	(-2,010,000)	...	...	
FY 2010 Advance	(400,000)	...	(420,000)	(420,000)	(420,000)	(+20,000)	...	...	
Trust Funds	6,416,486	6,667,872	6,730,523	6,849,942	6,840,245	+423,759	+109,722	-9,697	

Title IV Footnotes:
1/ Carryover funding available from PL 108-173

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate
RECAP								
Mandatory, total in bill	409,271,907	455,448,526	455,665,526	455,649,526	455,648,526	+46,376,619	-17,000	-1,000
Less advances for subsequent years	-84,945,617	-84,930,669	-84,930,669	-84,930,669	-84,930,669	+14,948	---	---
Plus advances provided in prior years	76,897,825	84,945,617	84,945,617	84,945,617	84,945,617	+8,047,792	---	---
Total, mandatory, current year	401,224,115	455,463,474	455,680,474	455,664,474	455,663,474	+54,439,359	-17,000	-1,000
Discretionary, total in bill	145,262,591	141,710,017	154,209,203	152,311,485	153,295,378	+8,032,787	-913,825	+983,893
Less advances for subsequent years	-19,285,301	-18,885,301	-21,276,000	-21,289,301	-21,289,000	-2,003,699	-13,000	+301
Plus advances provided in prior years	19,285,301	19,285,301	19,285,301	19,285,301	19,285,301	---	---	---
Subtotal, Discretionary, current year	145,262,591	142,110,017	152,218,504	150,307,485	151,291,679	+6,029,088	-926,825	+984,194
Scorekeeping adjustments:								
SSI User Fee Collection	-117,000	-135,000	-135,000	-135,000	-135,000	-18,000	---	---
Adjustment to balance to CBO (technical)	2,000	---	---	---	---	-2,000	---	---
Adjustment to balance to CBO's ATB pay (technical)	6,401	---	---	---	---	-6,401	---	---
Vaccines for children amendment	---	---	2,000	---	---	---	-2,000	---
Average Weekly Insured Unemployment (AWIU) Conting	---	45,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Health professions student loan (rescission)	---	-100,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Health Center Loan Guarantee Program (rescission)	---	-5,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Social services block grant reduction (rescission)	---	-500,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Voc rehabilitation reduction (rescission)	---	-36,883	---	---	---	---	---	---
Academic Competiveness & SMART grants (rescission)	---	---	---	---	-525,000	-525,000	-525,000	-525,000

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs FY 2008 House	Conference vs FY 2008 Senate
Pell grants	---	---	---	---	525,000	+525,000	+525,000	+525,000
Excess H-1B Fee Revenue (rescission)	---	-50,000	-70,000	-70,000	-102,000	-102,000	-32,000	-32,000
National skills standards board (rescission)	---	-44	-44	-44	-44	-44	---	---
TES prior year balances (rescission)	---	-335,000	-335,000	---	-245,000	-245,000	+90,000	-245,000
Department of Labor (P.L. 110-28) (Rescission of emergency funds)	-8,594	---	---	---	---	+8,594	---	---
EFAST2 filing system (DOL) (P.L. 110-28)	---	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	+1,000	---	---
Domestic nursing enhancement account	---	---	---	-8,000	---	---	---	+8,000
2006 Bulk monovalent annual flu vaccine purchase (rescission)	-29,680	-29,680	---	---	---	+29,680	---	---
Medicare eligible accruals (permanent, indefinite)	36,288	37,365	37,365	37,365	37,365	+1,077	---	---
CMS Survey and Certification User Fee	---	-35,000	---	-35,000	---	---	---	+35,000
CPB (FY 2008 Rescission)	---	-50,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Across the board travel expenses reduction	---	---	---	-12,500	---	---	---	+12,500
Across the board consulting services reduction	---	---	---	-19,000	---	---	---	+19,000
Physician quality incentive payment reduction	---	---	---	-150,000	-150,000	-150,000	-150,000	---
Reallocation of FY02 carryover from PL107-117(HHS)	-16,120	---	---	---	---	+16,120	---	---
Across the board administrative expenses reduction	---	---	---	-59,300	---	---	---	+59,300
Training and employment services (leg. proposal)	---	745,000	---	---	---	---	---	---

LABOR-HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES-EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Comparable	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. FY 2007 Comparable	Conference vs. FY 2008 House	Conference vs. FY 2008 Senate
State unemployment insurance and employment service operations (leg. proposal)	---	-61,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unemployment trust fund (leg. proposal)	---	-685,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Less emergency appropriations	-519,000	---	---	---	---	+519,000	---	---
Total, discretionary	144,616,886	140,915,775	151,718,825	149,857,006	150,698,000	+6,081,114	-1,020,825	+840,994
Adjustment to balance with 2007 enacted	-92,138	---	---	---	---	+92,138	---	---
Total, discretionary (FY 2007 enacted)	144,524,748	140,915,775	151,718,825	149,857,006	150,698,000	+6,173,252	-1,020,825	+840,994
Grand total, current year (incl FY 2007 comparable)	545,841,001	596,379,249	607,399,299	605,521,480	606,361,474	+60,520,473	-1,037,825	+839,994
Grand total, current year (incl FY 2007 enacted)	545,748,863	596,379,249	607,399,299	605,521,480	606,361,474	+60,612,611	-1,037,825	+839,994

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2008 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2007 amount, the 2008 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2008 follow:

[In thousands of dollars]

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007	$554,534,498
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2008	597,158,543
House bill, fiscal year 2008	609,874,729
Senate bill, fiscal year 2008	607,961,011
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2008	608,943,904
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007	+54,409,406
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2008	+11,785,361
House bill, fiscal year 2008	−930,825
Senate bill, fiscal year 2008	+982,893

DIVISION B—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

This joint statement describes the effect of the conference agreement relative to the versions of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (H.R. 2642) as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. References to amounts or language proposed by the House of Representatives or the Senate refer to amounts and language in the House or Senate passed versions of H.R. 2642 or in the accompanying committee reports (House Report 110–186 and Senate Report 110–85).

The Senate amendment to the text deleted the entire House bill after the enacting clause and inserted the Senate bill. The conference agreement includes a revised bill.

Matters Addressed by Only One Committee.—The language and allocations set forth in House Report 110–186 and Senate Report 110–85 should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the conference report and statement of the managers. Report language included by the House, which is not changed by the report of the Senate or the conference, and Senate report language, which is not changed by the conference is approved by the committee of conference. The statement of the managers, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where the House or the Senate have directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both Houses of Congress.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

''Grow the Force''.—The conferees note that the President, in the fiscal year 2008 budget submission to Congress, did not identify individual projects associated with the Administration's $2,820,898,000 ''Grow the Force'' initiative, instead requesting lump sum funding for the initiative. Detailed information on individual projects was not provided by the Army and Marine Corps until weeks after the budget submission. The conferees provide full funding for this initiative, by project, and have identified the ''Grow the Force'' projects in the table at the back of the statement of the managers. The conferees remind the Department that the ''Grow the Force'' projects for which the President requested lump sum funding are part of the regular military construction program and are therefore subject to the same notification and reprogramming requirements that apply to all military construction appropriations.

Construction Inflation.—The conferees are concerned by the continuing impact of high inflation rates for construction material prices and labor costs. These high rates have made it increasingly difficult for the services and Defense agencies to execute their military construction and family housing construction programs in a timely manner without scope reductions, project cancellations, and reprogramming requests. Given the enormous volume of construction to be completed over the next five years due to BRAC, global rebasing, end-strength increases for the Army and Marine Corps, and numerous smaller initiatives, realistic budgeting for construction inflation is necessary if the quality of life and quality of service for military personnel and their families are to be maintained at a high level. The conferees are dismayed by the failure of the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Defense to incorporate realistic inflation estimates in the budget submissions, even though the consequences of this failure are predictable. The conferees support and encourage current efforts to more accurately account for regional variations in construction inflation; however, the conferees also believe that such efforts will be of limited value if the overall inflation figure used by the Administration to build the military construction program is unrealistically low. The conferees direct the Department of Defense to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the baseline construction inflation rate incorporated in the fiscal year 2009 military construction and family housing budget request, as well as a justification for that rate, no later than seven days following the submission of that request to Congress.

Integrated Construction Plans for the ''Grow the Force,'' Global Basing, and Base Realignment and Closure Initiatives.—The conferees remain concerned about the ability of the Department of Defense to effectively coordinate and integrate the significant construction demands of the ''Grow the Force'' initiative with the equally daunting construction programs associated with the Department's global rebasing plan and the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure program, particularly within the short timeframe allotted for the completion of each of these initiatives. The conferees agree that the Secretary of Defense shall submit a separate report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by January 31, 2008, identifying the installations at which there is any overlap of military construction and/or family housing construction among any or all of the three initiatives. In addition to a detailed list of the projects by installation, the report should include the projected timeline for completing each of the identified projects and the projected timeline for the movement of military personnel associated with the initiatives into the affected installations.

Government Accountability Office (GAO) Review of Global Defense Posture Report.—The conferees agree that the GAO review of the status of the Defense Department's Global Defense Posture should be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than April 15, 2008.

Failure to Comply With Report Deadlines.—The conferees note the Department of Defense's failure to comply with deadlines for several reports directed by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. These deadlines have passed without the reports being delivered, or even notice from the Department as to why it has been unable to meet the deadlines. Some of these reports are merely collections of data that are readily available. The conferees find this delay unacceptable. These reports are directed to ensure proper congressional oversight and to inform congressional decisions on the Department's budget requests. The conferees direct the Department to submit all reports directed by House Report 110–186 and Senate Report 110–85 that are currently overdue, or an explanation of why these reports have not been delivered along with the expected date of delivery, no later than seven days after the enactment of this Act. The conferees direct the Department and the services to meet future reporting deadlines. If future deadlines are not met, the Department or service shall submit an explanation for the failure to deliver and the expected date of delivery no later than seven days after the deadline.

Incrementally Funded Projects.—The conferees note that the Administration requested several large military construction projects that can be incrementally funded, but were instead submitted as large single-year requests, in accordance with a directive from the Office of Management and Budget to the Department of Defense to severely restrict the use of incremental funding for military construction. The Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress have previously notified the Administration that they reserve the prerogative to provide incremental funding where appropriate, in accordance with authorizing legislation. The conferees continue to believe that military construction projects should be fully funded or separated into stand-alone phases when practical. In some cases, however, incremental funding makes fiscal and programmatic sense. The conferees have therefore agreed that the following projects will be incrementally funded: Fuel Storage Facilities, Point Loma, California; Southern Command Headquarters, Miami, Florida; Submarine Drive-in Magnetic Silencing Facility, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; SOF Operations Facility, Dam Neck Annex, Virginia; Kilo Wharf, Naval Base Guam; and Brigade Operations Support Facility and Brigade Barracks/Community Facility, Vicenza, Italy.

Guam Master Plan.—The conferees agree that the massive construction program planned to expand the presence of the U.S. military on Guam presents a major challenge to the Department of Defense, and requires a well-planned execution strategy. However, the conferees are concerned that the Senate provision requiring the Secretary of Defense to submit a master plan for Guam by December 29, 2007, does not give the Department adequate time to complete the plan, particularly in view of the ongoing environmental assessments being conducted on Guam. The conferees do not concur with the Senate position and instead direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than September 15, 2008, a report on the Department's planning efforts for Guam. The report should identify in detail the size and makeup of the U.S. military forces to be located on Guam, the number of dependents expected to accompany those forces, and the infrastructure required to support the troops and their families. The report should also outline the Department's plan to accomplish the projected level of construction associated with the build-up, within the constrained construction capacity of Guam, and the infrastructure required to

support the anticipated increase in the construction workforce. The Department is further directed to provide an updated funding plan for both the military and family housing construction, and the associated Defense education and Defense logistics infrastructure needed, and a status report on the availability and funding mechanism of the $6.1 billion that the Government of Japan has agreed to contribute.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $3,950,383,000 for Military Construction, Army, instead of $4,070,959,000 as proposed by the House and $3,928,149,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement provides $321,983,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support instead of $481,468,000 as proposed by the House and $317,149,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement rescinds $8,690,000 from funds previously appropriated to this account due to bid savings as follows:

Public Law/location	Project title	Conference agreement
PL 110–5 (FY 2007); TX: Fort Hood	Combined Arms Collective Training Facility	−8,690,000
Total		−8,690,000

Aviation Maintenance Hangar, Phase I, Fort Rucker, Alabama.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,513,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Chapel Center, Fort Campbell, Kentucky.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $450,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Component Rebuild Shop, Anniston Depot, Alabama.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $800,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Emergency Services Center, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $288,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Medical Parking Garage, Fort Bliss, Texas.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,000,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Regional Training Institute, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $500,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Sapper Leader Course General Instruction Building, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $360,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Training Support Center, Phase I, Fort Eustis, Virginia.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $594,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $2,220,784,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, instead of $2,125,138,000 as proposed by the House and $2,168,315,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement provides $113,017,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services instead of $110,167,000 as proposed by the House and $115,258,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement rescinds $10,557,000 from funds previously appropriated to this account due to bid savings and unexecuted construction as follows:

Public Law/location	Project title	Conference agreement
PL 108–132 (FY 2004):		
AL: Barin OLF	Clear Zone Land Acquisition	−2,420,000
NC: Camp Lejeune	Consolidated Armories	−3,442,000
Subtotal, PL 108–132		−5,862,000
PL 108–324 (FY 2005):		
NC: Washington County	Outlying Landing Field	−2,069,000
PL 110–5 (FY 2007):		
NC: Washington County	Outlying Landing Field	−2,626,000
Total		−10,557,000

Bachelor Quarters Addition, Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $750,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Dry Dock #3 Waterfront Support Facility, Portsmouth NSY, Maine.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,200,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Fitness Center, Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $900,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $1,159,747,000 for Military Construction, Air Force, instead of $927,428,000 as proposed by the House and $1,048,518,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement provides $43,721,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services instead of $51,587,000 as proposed by the House and $64,958,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement rescinds $10,470,000 from funds previously appropriated to this account due to bid savings as follows:

Public Law/location	Project title	Conference agreement
PL 108–324 (FY 2005):		
Greenland Thule AB	Dormitory	−5,319,000
PL 110–5 (FY 2007):		
VA: Langley AFB	DCGS Operations Facility	−5,151,000
Total		−10,470,000

Joint Security Forces Building, Lackland AFB, Texas.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $900,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Logistics Readiness Center, 366th Wing, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,593,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Multi-Purpose Education Facility, Little Rock AFB, Arkansas.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $882,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Runway Paving, Dyess AFB, Texas.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,710,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Security Forces Operations Building, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $640,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Taxiway, Randolph AFB, Texas.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $554,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $1,609,596,000 for Military Construction, Defense-Wide, instead of $1,806,928,000 as proposed by the House and $1,758,755,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, the conference agreement provides $155,569,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services instead of $154,728,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement provides $70,000,000 for the Energy Conservation Investment Program as proposed by the House, instead of $85,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement also provides $5,000,000 for contingency construction, instead of $10,000,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement rescinds $10,192,000 from funds previously appropriated to this account as follows:

Public Law/location	Project title	Conference agreement
PL 110–5 (FY 2007):		
Kwajalein Atoll	Launch Control Facility Upgrades	−7,592,000
Worldwide Unspecified	Contingency Construction	−2,600,000
Total		−10,192,000

Of the funds rescinded from Public Law 110–5, the conference agreement rescinds $7,592,000 from a Missile Defense Agency (MDA) project on Kwajalein Atoll and directs MDA to fund this project using its research, development, testing and evaluation construction authority. The conference agreement also rescinds $2,600,000 from contingency construction in Public Law 110–5. The fiscal year 2007 National Defense Authorization Act authorized a project to replace a fuel truck loading facility on Wake Island. The Department of Defense opted not to execute this project, shifting the funds to the contingency construction sub-account. A cancellation notice for the Wake Island project was not submitted until October 16, 2007 even though Pacific Air Forces had decided to place the island in caretaker status in March 2007. The conferees remind the Department that timely notification of project cancellations is mandatory in accordance with 10 U.S.C. 2853.

SOF C–130 Fuel Cell and Corrosion Control Hangars, Cannon AFB, New Mexico.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $855,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

SOF CV–22 Simulator Facility, Cannon AFB, New Mexico.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $711,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Wilford Hall Medical Center, Ambulatory Care Center, Lackland AFB, Texas.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $130,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The conference agreement appropriates $536,656,000 for Military Construction, Army National Guard, instead of $439,291,000 as proposed by the House and $478,836,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Add/Alter Readiness Center, Hamilton, Alabama.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,164,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Armed Forces Reserve Center/Security Forces Facility, Klamath Falls, Oregon.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,452,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Combined Support Maintenance Facility, Camp Smith, New York.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $2,727,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Combined Support Maintenance Shop, Camp Lincoln, Illinois.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $666,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Field Maintenance Shop, Arden Hills, Minnesota.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,366,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Joint Forces Headquarters, New Castle County Air National Guard Base, Delaware.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,020,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Joint Forces Headquarters and Emergency Operations Center, Arden Hills Army Training Site, Minnesota.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $3,536,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center, Cabot, Arkansas.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $840,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center, Dundalk, Maryland.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $829,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center, Ethan Allen Range, Vermont.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $792,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center, Miles City, Montana.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $906,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center, Tacoma, Washington.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $152,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center, The Dalles, Oregon.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $960,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center, Tullahoma, Tennessee.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $264,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Readiness Center Rehabilitation, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $263,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Training Facility, Phase V, Camp Gruber, Oklahoma.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $2,705,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

United States Property and Fiscal Office, North Kingstown, Rhode Island.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $810,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The conference agreement appropriates $287,537,000 for Military Construction, Air National Guard, instead of $95,517,000 as proposed by the House and $228,995,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Replace Squadron Operations and Relocate Security Perimeter, McGhee Tyson Airport, Tennessee.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $1,120,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY REVERVE

The conference agreement appropriates $148,133,000 for Military Construction, Army Reserve, instead of $154,684,000 as proposed by the House and $138,424,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Army Reserve Center, Letterkenny Army Depot, Pennsylvania.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $675,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Tactical Training Base, Phase I, Fort Dix, New Jersey.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $531,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

The conference agreement appropriates $64,430,000 for Military Construction, Navy Reserve, instead of $69,150,000 as proposed by the House and $59,150,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Marine Corps Reserve Center, Windy Hill, Georgia.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $310,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $28,359,000 for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve, instead of $39,628,000 as proposed by the House and $27,559,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement rescinds $3,069,000 from funds previously appropriated to this account due to a cancelled project as follows:

Public Law/location	Project title	Conference agreement
PL 109–114 (FY 2006):		
AK: Elmendorf AFB	C–17 Convert Hangar for AFRC Group HQ	−3,069,000
Total		−3,069,000

Joint Deployment Processing Facility, March ARB, California.—Of the funds provided for planning and design in this account, the conferees direct that $972,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

Visiting Quarters, Phase I, Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania.—Of the funds provided for planning and design

in this account, the conferees direct that $828,000 be made available for the design of this facility.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

The conference agreement appropriates $201,400,000 for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

Missile Defense.—The conferees do not agree to a Senate provision requiring prior approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before NATO Security Investment Program (NSIP) funds can be obligated for the construction of missile defense facilities in Poland or the Czech Republic. Instead, the conferees require that the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress be notified in writing 21 days in advance of the obligation or expenditure of NSIP funds for missile defense studies, planning and design, or other activities related to the construction of missile defense facilities in Poland or the Czech Republic.

FAMILY HOUSING OVERVIEW

Incorporation of Additional Information Into Semi-Annual Reports on Family Housing Privatization.—The conferees direct the Department of Defense to include data on the maintenance of family housing units and the contributions of housing privatization entities to the recapitalization accounts of each ongoing family housing privatization project in each future semi-annual progress report on the privatization program.

Transfer of Funds Between Family Housing Construction and Operation and Maintenance Sub-Accounts.—The conferees direct the services and Defense agencies to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 30 days of a transfer of funds between sub-accounts within the family housing construction and family housing operation and maintenance accounts, if such transfer is in excess of 10 percent of the funds appropriated to the sub-account to which the funds are being transferred. Notifications to the Committees shall indicate the sub-accounts and amounts that are being used to source the transfer.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $424,400,000 for Family Housing Construction, Army, instead of $419,400,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The conference agreement rescinds $4,559,000 from funds previously appropriated to this account due to cancelled or reduced projects as follows:

Public law/location	Project title	Conference agreement
PL 110–5 (FY 2007):		
AR: Pine Bluff	Replacement Construction	−500,000
AR: Pine Bluff	Improvements	−4,059,000
Total		−4,559,000

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

The conference agreement appropriates $731,920,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army, instead of $742,920,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The conference agreement appropriates $293,129,000 for Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps, instead of $298,329,000 as proposed by the House and $288,329,000 as proposed by the Senate.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The conference agreement appropriates $371,404,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $327,747,000 for Family Housing Construction, Air Force, instead of $362,747,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement includes a general rescission of $15,000,000 from funds provided to this account by Public Law 108–132, due to savings generated by privatization.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

The conference agreement appropriates $688,335,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

The conference agreement appropriates $48,848,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

The conference agreement appropriates $500,000 for the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The conference agreement appropriates $104,176,000 for Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide as proposed by the Senate, instead of $86,176,000 as proposed by the House.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT 1990

The conference agreement appropriates $295,689,000 for the Department of Defense Base Closure Account 1990, instead of $270,689,000 as proposed by the House and $320,689,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement includes an increase of $75,000,000 above the budget request, of which $25,000,000 is provided for the Army and $50,000,000 is provided for the Navy. The conferees direct the Army and Navy to submit an expenditure plan for the additional funds provided no later than 30 days following the enactment of this Act. The conferees further direct the services to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 14 days prior to obligating an amount for a site or closure package that exceeds or reduces the amount identified for that site or closure package in the fiscal year 2008 budget submission (plus additional funds as identified by the expenditure plan) by 20 percent or $2,000,000, whichever is less. This direction shall not apply to sites or closure packages for which the requested amount is less than $5,000,000.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT 2005

The conference agreement appropriates $8,040,401,000 for the Department of Defense Base Closure Account 2005, instead of $8,174,315,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The decrease from the request is a general reduction. The funds requested for this account, which are appropriated by lump sum, are allocated among 189 BRAC projects earmarked for funding by the President for fiscal year 2008. The requested projects and related planning and design total $6,419,748,000. Additional funding provided in this account is for environmental, operations and maintenance, personnel, and related programs associated with the BRAC process. A detailed listing of the individual projects earmarked for funding by the President is provided in Senate report 110–85, and a list of the President's earmarks by BRAC closure package is provided in House report 110–186.

The conferees note that it is the practice of the Committees to not add congressional earmarks for BRAC construction because of the complicated and inter-related nature of the BRAC construction program. The conferees reaffirm this policy, and have included no congressionally directed earmarks in the BRAC 2005 account.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The conference agreement includes section 101 as proposed by both the House and the Senate limiting the use of funds under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract.

The conference agreement includes section 102 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing the use of construction funds in this title for hire of passenger motor vehicles.

The conference agreement includes section 103 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing the use of construction funds in this title for advances to the Federal Highway Administration for the construction of access roads.

The conference agreement includes section 104 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting construction of new bases in the United States without a specific appropriation.

The conference agreement includes section 105 as proposed by both the House and the Senate limiting the use of funds for the purchase of land or land easements that exceed 100 percent of the value.

The conference agreement includes section 106 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the use of funds, except funds appropriated in this title for that purpose, for family housing.

The conference agreement includes section 107 as proposed by both the House and the Senate limiting the use of minor construction funds to transfer or relocate activities.

The conference agreement includes section 108 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the procurement of steel unless American producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been allowed to compete.

The conference agreement includes section 109 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the use of construction and family housing funds available to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

The conference agreement includes section 110 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the use of funds to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification.

The conference agreement includes section 111 as proposed by the House establishing a

preference for American architectural and engineering services for overseas projects. The Senate bill included a similar provision, but exempted countries that have increased their defense spending by at least three percent in calendar year 2005.

The conference agreement includes section 112 as proposed by both the House and the Senate establishing a preference for American contractors in certain locations.

The conference agreement includes section 113 as proposed by the House requiring congressional notification of military exercises where construction costs exceed $100,000. The Senate bill included a similar provision, but increased the threshold to $750,000.

The conference agreement includes section 114 as proposed by both the House and the Senate limiting obligations in the last two months of the fiscal year.

The conference agreement includes section 115 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing funds appropriated in prior years for new projects authorized during the current session of Congress.

The conference agreement includes section 116 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing the use of lapsed or expired funds to pay the cost of supervision for any project being completed with lapsed funds.

The conference agreement includes section 117 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing military construction funds to be available for five years.

The conference agreement modifies section 118 requiring an annual report on actions taken to encourage other nations to assume a greater share of the common defense burden to include a classified report option, if necessary.

The conference agreement includes section 119 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing the transfer of proceeds between BRAC accounts.

The conference agreement includes section 120 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing the transfer of funds from Family Housing Construction accounts to the Family Housing Improvement Fund.

The conference agreement includes section 121 as proposed by both the House and the Senate requiring congressional notification prior to issuing a solicitation for a contract with the private sector for family housing.

The conference agreement includes section 122 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing transfers to the Homeowners Assistance Fund.

The conference agreement includes section 123 as proposed by the House limiting the source of operation and maintenance funds for flag and general officer quarters. The Senate bill included a similar provision, but also allowed the use of gift funds.

The conference agreement includes section 124 as proposed by the House to require the Department of Defense to respond to a question or inquiry, in writing, within 21 days of the request. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 125 as proposed by both the House and the Senate extending the availability of funds in the Ford Island Improvement Fund.

The conference agreement includes section 126 as proposed by both the House and the Senate placing limitations on the expenditure of funds for projects impacted by BRAC 2005.

The conference agreement includes section 127 as proposed by the House allowing the transfer of expired funds to the Foreign Currency Fluctuation, Construction, Defense account. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 128 as proposed by the House prohibiting the use of funds for any activity related to the construction of an Outlying Landing Field in Washington County, North Carolina. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the House (Sec. 121) limiting the obligation of funds for Partnership for Peace programs. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate (Sec. 126) related to reprogramming and notification requirements of ''Grow the Force'' projects. The House bill contained no similar provision. The issue is addressed elsewhere in the statement of the managers.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Veterans Rights and Feedback.—The conferees are encouraged by the progress the Department has made in providing veterans with the opportunity to offer feedback and obtain assistance through the Internet and the use of toll-free telephone numbers. The conferees agree there are additional measures the Department should take to enhance these programs and to ensure that the Secretary, the Under Secretary for Health, the Under Secretary for Benefits, and the Office of Inspector General are kept informed of the feedback that is provided. The conference agreement includes sufficient funding to ensure the Department is able to provide a clearly marked, direct link that allows veterans to seek assistance and provide feedback on the Veterans Affairs Internet home page; provide a separate toll-free telephone number for the Veterans Health Administration and for the Veterans Benefits Administration that allows a veteran to check on his or her eligibility, seek assistance in obtaining services and/or resolving difficulties, and provide feedback; and provide the Secretary, the Under Secretary for Health, the Under Secretary for Benefits, and the Office of Inspector General with a report that informs them of the types of issues that are being addressed through these systems so that they may more easily identify evolving problems and take early corrective action. The Secretary is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by February 1, 2008, on the actions that have been taken to implement this direction. Further, the Under Secretary for Health is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by March 3, 2008, on the actions that have been taken to ensure that patient advocate contact information, including a telephone number, is clearly posted in all clinics, on all inpatient wards, and at the entrance of every Veterans Health Administration facility.

Services for Women Veterans.—The conferees agree more can be done by the Department to refine its programs, services and outreach efforts in order to inform women veterans of their eligibility status and improve their access to services. While the conference agreement does not retain the provision proposed by the House under General Operating Expenses, the conference agreement includes sufficient funds for the operation of both the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans and the Center for Women Veterans. Additionally, the conferees direct the Department to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by February 1, 2008, on the actions that have been taken to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans 2006 Report. The conferees further direct the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by September 1, 2008, an assessment of the adequacy of mental health services provided by the Departments of Veterans Affairs to women veterans.

Reprogrammings.—The conferees would like to emphasize that reprogrammings permitted by this Act are to be transmitted to Congress in a timely manner.

Quarterly Financial Report.—The quarterly financial report required by this Act shall contain, at a minimum, both the planned and actual expenditure rates, unobligated balances, potential financial shortfalls, any transfers between major accounts (medical services, medical administration, and medical facilities), and status of any equipment or non-recurring maintenance funds—including whether they have been used to pay for operating expenses. In addition, the service portion of the report will contain, at a minimum, the time required for new patients to get their first appointment, the time required for established patients to get their next appointment, and the number of unique veterans and patients being served. Each report should address data for the system total and for each VISN. Further, the conferees direct that the Department include progress reports on the revision of the International Classification of Diseases—9th Revision (ICD–9) codes with respect to Traumatic Brain Injury.

Contracting Out.—The conferees note that the competition requirement provided in this Act already applies to the Department of Veterans Affairs. For any function performed by more than ten employees, the Department, like other agencies covered by this competition requirement, must conduct a public-private competition, involving both a Most Efficient Organization plan and a Minimum Cost Differential, before that function can be converted to contractor performance. Unless specifically excluded, the Department of Veterans Affairs would be held to any successor public-private competition requirements included in legislation, as well as 38 U.S.C. 8110(a)(5).

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $41,236,322,000 for Compensation and Pensions as proposed by both the House and the Senate. Of the amount provided, not more than $28,583,000 is to be transferred to General Operating Expenses and Medical Administration for reimbursement of necessary expenses in implementing provisions of title 38.

READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

The conference agreement appropriates $3,300,289,000 for Readjustment Benefits as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

The conference agreement appropriates $41,250,000 for Veterans Insurance and Indemnities as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement appropriates such sums as may be necessary for costs associated with direct and guaranteed loans for the Veterans Housing Benefit Program Fund Program Account as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The agreement limits obligations for direct loans to not more than $500,000 and provides that $154,562,000 shall be available for administrative expenses. The conference agreement does not include a transfer provision as proposed by the House.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $71,000 for the cost of direct loans from the

Vocational Rehabilitation Loans Program Account as proposed by both the House and the Senate, plus $311,000 to be transferred to and merged with General Operating Expenses. The conference agreement provides for a direct loan limitation of $3,287,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement appropriates $628,000 for administrative expenses of the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program Account as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The conference agreement does not include a transfer provision or loan limitation as proposed by the House.

GUARANTEED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOANS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides up to $750,000 of the funds available in General Operating Expenses and Medical Administration to carry out the Guaranteed Transitional Housing Loans for Homeless Veterans Program Account as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund.—The conferees have included bill language to allow a minimum of $15,000,000, to be transferred to the Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund to facilitate collaboration between the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. The conferees agree the most important area for collaboration and investment between these departments is to ensure a seamless transition for our veterans. While the conferees do not intend to preclude the use of this fund for any joint project, the conferees strongly urge that priority for funding be given to the implementation of recommendations of the Report on the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors, July 2007. The conferees further urge the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to seek every opportunity to partner to improve the continuity of care for our veterans through joint clinics; joint Centers of Excellence for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI); joint research and/or treatment; and the development of joint clinical practice guidelines for polytrauma injury, traumatic brain injury (to include diagnostics), blast injury, mental health/PTSD, burn, and amputee patients based on evidence based medicine.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).—Current data make it difficult for the Department to provide budget information on TBI as a Select Program. The conferees are encouraged to learn the Department is working with the National Center for Health Statistics and the Department of Defense to refine current International Classification of Diseases-9th Revision (ICD–9) codes to better reflect the TBI patient population within the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. The conferees direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to include an update of progress on the revision of the ICD–9 codes for TBI within the quarterly reports provided to Congress during fiscal year 2008. The conferees also direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to include TBI as a Select Program within the Medical Services account in the fiscal year 2009 budget submission and all future budget submissions thereafter.

Level I Polytrauma Centers and Centers of Excellence on Mental Health and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).—The conferees agree that every effort must be made to ensure that the Level I polytrauma centers and the Centers of Excellence on Mental Health and PTSD are resourced to provide the very best in medical care to our veterans who have suffered multiple trauma injuries or require mental health services. The conference agreement has increased funding within the Veterans Health Administration accounts to ensure that the current Level I polytrauma centers and the Centers of Excellence on Mental Health and PTSD will be fully staffed and operational in fiscal year 2008.

Credentialing and Privileging in Rural Health Care Facilities.—The conferees are concerned about potential quality of care issues that may exist in rural VA medical facilities, including the qualifications of medical professionals. The conferees direct the Government Accountability Office to assess the standards that are being followed in rural VA hospitals, including the consistency with which VA standards are being applied across urban and rural facilities.

MEDICAL SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement appropriates $29,104,220,000 for Medical Services, instead of $29,031,400,000 as proposed by the House and $28,979,220,000 as proposed by the Senate. Additionally, the Senate had proposed an additional $125,000,000 in section 230 of the administrative provisions.

Of the amount provided, $1,350,000,000 is available for obligation until September 30, 2009 as proposed by the Senate, instead of $1,100,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees also agree that the Department shall spend not less than $2,900,000,000 for specialty mental health services as proposed by the House and not less than $130,000,000 for the homeless grants and per diem program.

The conference agreement includes a net increase of $1,936,549,000 above the budget request in order to address shortfalls anticipated in the Department's projection of health care demand and to address the Department's failure to adjust the beneficiary travel reimbursement rate despite consistently rising gasoline prices. The conference agreement includes a 5.5 percent increase for workload and a 4.45 percent increase for inflation which the conferees believe is necessary to ensure that sufficient funding is available to maintain services at their current level. The agreement also includes an additional $125,000,000 to increase the beneficiary travel reimbursement mileage rate to 28.5 cents per mile; an additional $70,000,000 for substance abuse services; an additional $12,500,000 for expanded outpatient services for the blind; an additional $15,000,000 for Vet Centers; and provides sufficient funding to allow for additional personnel for the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program to address any increase in the number of vouchers offered and directs the Department to increase the number of case workers as necessary to accommodate the increase in vouchers.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse.—The conferees are concerned mental health and substance abuse services were not sufficiently addressed within the fiscal year 2008 budget submission which includes a reduction in the number of inpatient beds for psychiatric care and an anticipated increase of less than one percent for substance abuse services. The conferees believe these projections are unrealistic and have increased funding within the Medical Services account in order to increase access to substance abuse services; ensure that adequate inpatient psychiatric care is maintained; and to allow the Department to pursue all opportunities to improve access to mental health services for all veterans. To this end, the Department is directed to re-examine the policy for a reduction in psychiatric inpatient care, taking into account the needs of returning Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) veterans and the recommendations of OIG Report: Implementing VHA's Mental Health Strategic Plan Initiatives for Suicide Prevention, May 10, 2007, and is further directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by February 29, 2008, the findings of this review and what additional resources have been utilized to ensure that adequate inpatient care is available. Further, the conferees direct the Department not to reduce the number of inpatient psychiatric beds at any facility that currently has a waiting list. Additionally, the Department is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by February 1, 2008, on its plan to better utilize all opportunities to improve access to mental health services for all veterans. This report should include, but not be limited to, the Department's plan to better utilize the services of the Community Mental Health Centers; implementation of peer training programs; additional fee-basis access to local mental health providers; mobile Vet Centers; and the development of Internet based services like the Network of Care for Mental Health recommended in the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health.

HIV/AIDS Among Veterans.—The conferees concur with the Senate's recommendations on the VA health care system's HIV testing policy guidelines and direct the Department to submit a progress report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by January 30, 2008.

Access to Medical Care in Remote Rural Areas.—The conferees direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than six months after the date of the enactment of this Act, a description of: the unique challenges and costs faced by veterans in remote rural areas of contiguous and non-contiguous States when obtaining medical services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the need to improve access to locally administered care for veterans who reside in remote rural areas. The report should also identify the need to fund alternative sources of medical services in areas where facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs are not accessible to veterans without leaving such areas; and in cases in which receipt of medical services by a veteran in a facility of the Department requires transportation of such veteran by air due to geographic and infrastructural constraints. The report should also contain an assessment of the potential for increasing local access to medical services for veterans in remote rural areas of contiguous and non-contiguous States through strategic partnerships with other government and local private health care providers.

MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement appropriates $3,517,000,000 for Medical Administration, instead of $3,510,600,000 as proposed by the House and $3,642,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Office of Rural Health.—The conferees agree the Office of Rural Health is vital to ensuring that equal access to health care is provided to all of our returning Reserve and National Guard veterans. While the conferees do not earmark a specific amount for the office, the conferees have provided sufficient funding within Medical Administration to ensure a robust Office of Rural Health. The conferees strongly encourage the Department to make full use of this office and direct the Secretary to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the actions that have been taken to improve access to health in rural areas by February 1, 2008.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

The conference agreement appropriates $4,100,000,000 for Medical Facilities as proposed by the House, instead of $4,092,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement also includes language allowing $350,000,000 of the funds to be available until September 30, 2009, as proposed by the Senate, instead of $250,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement further specifies that $325,000,000 for non-recurring maintenance shall be allocated in a manner not subject to the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation model, instead of $300,000,000 as proposed by the House and $350,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees are in agreement that the funding provided above the budget request shall be used to address both facility condition assessment deficiencies and other essential requirements.

Non-Recurring Maintenance.—The conferees remain concerned that the Department is not adequately addressing specific issues regarding obligation of non-recurring maintenance (NRM) funds raised in a May 16, 2007, GAO report. The conferees fully expect that by fiscal year 2009 the Department will be obligating not more than twenty percent of its annual allocation of NRM funds in the last two months of the fiscal year. By May 16, 2008, the Department shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report outlining these management objectives and a business plan to reach that goal.

Community Based Outpatient Clinics.—The conferees direct the Department to provide the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress with a report on the actual number of Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) opened in fiscal year 2007 and the planned CBOC activations in fiscal year 2008. In addition, the conferees further direct the Department to examine the need for, and report on the feasibility of and/or plans for clinics in the following locations: El Centro, California; rural Colorado; Brandon, Florida; Statesboro, Georgia; Belleville, Illinois; Moline, Illinois; Whiteside County, Illinois; Plymouth, Massachusetts; Dover-Foxcroft, Maine; Houlton, Maine; Lewiston-Auburn, Maine; Plattsburg, New York; Riverhead, New York; Southeastern Pennsylvania; Port Angeles, Washington; Wenatchee, Washington; Green Bay, Wisconsin; and Lynchburg, Virginia.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

The conference agreement appropriates $480,000,000 for Medical and Prosthetic Research as proposed by the House, instead of $500,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement appropriates $195,000,000 for the National Cemetery Administration, instead of $170,000,000 as proposed by the House and $217,709,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the amount provided, $20,000,000 is available until September 30, 2009, instead of $7,800,000 as proposed by the House and $25,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The amount provided includes $900,000 from the Information Technology Systems account which was erroneously transferred during the recent reorganization of information technology programs.

The conferees have provided $28,191,000 in additional funding for the National Cemetery Administration to correct gravesite deficiencies at VA's national cemeteries, including those identified in the 2002 Millennium Act report to Congress. These repairs include gravesite renovation projects to replace turf, repair sunken graves, and raise, realign and clean headstones.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

The conference agreement appropriates $1,605,000,000 for General Operating Expenses, instead of $1,598,500,000 as proposed by the House and $1,612,031,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement provides not less than $1,327,001,000 for the Veterans Benefits Administration, instead of $1,324,957,000 as proposed by the House and $1,329,044,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the amount provided, $75,000,000 is available for obligation until September 30, 2009, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The agreement also provides for a limitation on the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for use in operation by the Veterans Benefits Administration in Manila, Philippines.

The conference agreement does not include language as proposed by the House, which would have provided $2,000,000 for the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. This issue is addressed in the Departmental overview section of this statement of the managers.

Funding Increases.—The conferees agree to provide an increase of $133,163,000 for General Operating Expenses when compared to the President's budget request. The conferees agree to provide $124,219,000 for the hiring of additional claims processors. Based upon data provided by the Department to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress in response to reporting requirements included in the report accompanying Public Law 110–28, the cost per new hire will enable the Department to hire more than 1,800 new claims processors with the funding provided. In addition, the conferees have provided $2,000,000 for the leasing of office space to house these new employees. As the Department experiences an increase in the number of claims being filed, as well as an increase in the number of appeals, both the Board of Veterans Appeals and the Office of General Counsel will require additional personnel to handle these appeals. Therefore, the conferees have provided an increase of $3,724,000 for the Board of Veterans Appeals and $3,220,000 for the Office of General Counsel.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

The conference agreement appropriates $1,966,465,000 for Information Technology Systems, instead of $1,859,217,000 as proposed by the House and $1,898,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement directs the Department to submit an expenditure plan to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 30 days of enactment as proposed by the House, instead of 60 days of enactment as proposed by the Senate.

The amount provided includes a reduction of $1,100,000 which has been transferred to the Office of Inspector General. The conferees have included an increase of $39,683,000 for computers and other information technology needs associated with the increase in claims processors for the Veterans Benefits Administration and for increased staff in other offices related to claims processing. Additionally, the conferees agree to provide $8,000,000 for an insurance card buffer system and $8,000,000 for the Veterans Health Administration Chief Logistics Office information technology support. Both of these program shortfalls were identified by the Department subsequent to completion of the House and Senate action on their respective appropriations bills. The conferees have also included $10,200,000 for the information technology costs associated with activation of new community based outpatient clinics, an expense that was underfunded in the budget submission.

On September 6, 2007, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs informed the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of his intention to reorganize the information technology development functions within the Department of Veterans Affairs. The budget request for Information Technology Systems included a consolidation of all payroll-associated costs for operations and maintenance under the Information Technology account. The conference agreement reflects this consolidation; however, the conferees direct the VA to track payroll and non-pay costs separately in future budget submissions. In addition, to further the Department's consolidation objective, the conferees have agreed to include an increase of $42,465,000 to preclude the need to transfer funds from the General Operating Expenses, Medical Services, Medical Facilities, and Medical and Prosthetic Research accounts.

The conferees are in agreement that the Department should take all steps necessary to ensure that the entire information technology reorganization has no negative impact on providing vital services to veterans, nor should it impede the ability of health care providers and researchers in carrying out their duties.

Electronic Medical Record.—The conferees direct the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to issue a joint report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress (subcommittees on Defense and Military Construction/Veterans Affairs) by April 1, 2008, detailing the actions being taken by each Department to achieve an interoperable electronic medical record (EMR) system. The report should include, but not be limited to, a detailed spending plan for the use of funding provided in the Joint Incentive Fund as well as identify all other ongoing and planned projects and programs within each Department addressing interoperability, including funding provided. The report should clearly identify the Departments' goals for interoperability and how these projects and programs will address those goals.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The conference agreement appropriates $80,500,000 for the Office of Inspector General, instead of $76,500,000 as proposed by the House and $88,700,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the amount provided, $5,000,000 is available for obligation until September 30, 2009, instead of $3,630,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement includes an additional $7,901,000 above the budget request for the Office of Inspector General. The additional funding includes $1,100,000 for information technology systems unique to the Office of Inspector General, as well as additional funding for new positions so that the Inspector General can expand and improve its independent oversight in critical areas, including transitional health care for veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and Department of Veterans Affairs information technology programs.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

The conference agreement appropriates $1,069,100,000 for Construction, Major Projects, instead of $1,410,800,000 as proposed by the House and $727,400,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes a provision proposed by the House which places a limitation on the use of funds related to 18 facilities on the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services list requiring further study. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conferees are aware that the Department's budget request of $40,285,000 for the Advanced Planning Fund will not be sufficient to address projects on the Department's 5-Year Capital Plan for fiscal years 2009 through 2012. Therefore, the conferees have included an additional $9,200,000 in funding to begin the preliminary planning

process to address identified construction needs.

Additionally, the conferees agree to provide $322,500,000 for allocation to previously appropriated major construction projects, including necessary cost adjustments. The Department is directed to provide the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress with a detailed list of how these funds will be allocated, within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

New Orleans Veterans Medical Center.—The conferees direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than October 1 and April 1 of each year, on the current status of the reconstruction of the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. Each report shall include the status of any ongoing environmental assessments, the status of any current construction, and an assessment of the adequacy of funding necessary to complete the reconstruction. If reconstruction of the Medical Center is subject to any major delay, the report shall include a description of each such delay, an explanation for each such delay, and a description of actions being taken or planned to address the delay. Additionally, within 60 days of enactment of this Act, the Department shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress as to whether the New Orleans Medical Center should be designated as a Level I polytrauma rehabilitation center or a polytrauma network site.

The conference agreement includes the following items ($000):

Veterans Health Administration:	
Pittsburgh, PA	$40,000
Denver, CO	61,300
Orlando, FL	35,000
Las Vegas, NV	341,400
Syracuse, NY	23,800
Lee County, FL	9,890
Advance Planning Fund	49,485
Asbestos Abatement	3,000
BRAC Land Acquisition	5,000
Claims Analyses	2,000
Facility Security	21,325
Hazardous Waste Abatement	2,000
Judgment Fund	30,000
Previously appropriated projects/cost adjustments	322,500
Reprogram prior years funds	−45,000
Total Veterans Health Admin.	901,700
National Cemetery Administration:	
Columbia/Greenville, SC area	19,200
Sarasota, FL area	27,800
Jacksonville, FL area	22,400
Southeastern, PA	29,600
Birmingham, AL area	18,500
Bakersfield, CA area	19,500
Ft. Sam Houston, TX	29,400
Advance Planning Fund	1,000
Total, National Cemetery Admin.	167,400
Total, Major Construction	1,069,100

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

The conference agreement appropriates $630,535,000 for Construction, Minor Projects, instead of $615,000,000 as proposed by the House and $751,398,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the House, which would have established reprogramming procedures for this account. Of the amount provided, the conferees agree that not less than $75,000,000 shall be used for gravesite expansion and infrastructure improvements for the National Cemetery Administration and not less than $8,000,000 shall be for minor construction for the Veterans Benefits Administration. In addition, the conferees agree that the Department should begin an effort to modernize and upgrade research facilities. The conferees are in agreement that the Department shall submit an expenditure plan to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress which specifies how the Department intends to execute the funding provided by this agreement.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

The conference agreement appropriates $165,000,000 for Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities as proposed by the House, instead of $250,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES

The conference agreement appropriates $39,500,000 for Grants for Construction of State Veterans Cemeteries, instead of $37,000,000 as proposed by the House and $100,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes section 201 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for transfers among various mandatory accounts. This provision is not extended beyond this Act as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes section 202 as proposed by the Senate allowing for the transfer of funds among the three medical accounts for the purpose of perfecting the restructuring of the Veterans Health Administration accounts. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 203 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the use of salaries and expenses funds to be used for other authorized purposes.

The conference agreement includes section 204 as proposed by both the House and the Senate restricting the use of funds for the acquisition of land.

The conference agreement includes section 205 as proposed by both the House and the Senate limiting the use of funds in the Medical Services account to only entitled beneficiaries or unless reimbursement is made to the Department.

The conference agreement includes section 206 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the use of certain mandatory appropriations accounts for payment of prior year accrued obligations for those accounts.

The conference agreement includes section 207 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the use of appropriations available in this title to pay prior year obligations.

The conference agreement includes section 208 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing funds for the administration of the National Service Life Insurance Fund, the Veterans' Special Life Insurance Fund, and the United States Government Life Insurance Fund.

The conference agreement includes section 209 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the proceeds from enhanced-use leases to be obligated in the year in which the proceeds are received.

The conference agreement includes section 210 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the use of funds in this title for salaries and other administrative expenses to be used to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication.

The conference agreement includes section 211 as proposed by both the House and the Senate limiting the use of funds for any lease with an estimated annual rental of more than $300,000 unless approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

The conference agreement includes section 212 as proposed by both the House and the Senate requiring the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to collect third-party payer information for persons treated for non-service connected disability.

The conference agreement includes section 213 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the use of enhanced-use leasing revenues for Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects.

The conference agreement includes section 214 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the use of Medical Services funds to be used for recreational facilities and funeral expenses.

The conference agreement includes section 215 as proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for funds deposited into the Medical Care Collections Fund to be transferred to the Medical Services account.

The conference agreement includes section 216 as proposed by both the House and the Senate which allows Alaskan veterans to use medical facilities of the Indian Health Service or tribal organizations at no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs or the Indian Health Service.

The conference agreement includes section 217 as proposed by both the House and the Senate providing for the transfer of funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund to the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts and makes those funds available until expended.

The conference agreement includes section 218 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the expenditure of funds to replace the current system by which VISNs select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

The conference agreement includes section 219 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the use of funds on any policy prohibiting the use of outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans.

The conference agreement includes section 220 as proposed by both the House and the Senate requiring the Secretary to submit quarterly reports on the financial status and service level status of the Veterans Health Administration. The conference agreement does not include additional reporting requirements as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes section 221 as proposed by the Senate allowing for the transfer of funds from various accounts to the Information Technology Systems account to complete the restructuring of this appropriations account. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 222 as proposed by both the House and the Senate providing for transfer of funds among projects within the Information Technology Systems account.

The conference agreement includes section 223 as proposed by the House allowing for the transfer of any prior year balances and/or credits in the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors account to the Compensation and Pensions account.

The conference agreement includes section 224 as proposed by the Senate prohibiting the

disposal of the land at the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 225 as proposed by the Senate maintaining funding for Gulf War Illness Research at levels not less than those made available in fiscal year 2007. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 226 as proposed by the Senate directing the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to establish and maintain on the OIG Internet homepage a mechanism to allow for the anonymous reporting of fraud, waste and abuse. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes a modified section 227 as proposed by the Senate authorizing the transfer of not more than $5,000,000 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for a Graduate Psychology Education Program which directly benefits veterans. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 228 as proposed by the Senate prohibiting any funds to be used to contract out any function performed by more than ten employees without a fair competition process. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 229 as proposed by the Senate authorizing the lease of a major medical facility. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 230 rescinding funding from the Medical Services account in Public Law 110–28 and reappropriating the funding to Construction, Major Projects to enable the Department to move forward with direction included in the emergency supplemental conference report.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate (section 221) which would have allowed for the transfer of funds from the General Operating Expenses, National Cemetery Administration, and Office of Inspector General accounts to the Medical Services account.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the House (section 222) which would have required the Department to notify and receive Congressional approval prior to transferring funds in excess of $1,000,000 between minor construction projects.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate (section 224) which would have provided additional direction on the obligation of non-recurring maintenance. This issue is instead addressed under the Medical Facilities section of this statement of the managers.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate (section 229) which would have required a report on the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. This issue is instead addressed elsewhere in this statement of the managers.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate (section 230) which would have increased the Medical Services account by $125,000,000 and reduced the Medical Administration account by $125,000,000 for the Veterans Beneficiary Travel program. This issue is addressed under the Medical Services section of this statement of the managers.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate (section 231) which would have required a report on access to medical services for veterans in rural areas. The issue is instead addressed elsewhere in this statement of the managers.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate (section 232) which would have prohibited rounding down the dollar amounts to the next whole dollar for benefit payments.

The conference agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate (section 234) which would have named a clinic in Alpena, Michigan.

TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement appropriates $44,600,000 for Salaries and Expenses, instead of $43,470,000 as proposed by the House and $45,600,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees agree that the increase above the budget request shall be used for capital improvements and infrastructure modernization. The conferees agree with the direction of the Senate that the Commission submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress by February 29, 2008, detailing funding required to correct maintenance and infrastructure deficiencies at all cemeteries and memorials for which the Commission is responsible.

In fiscal year 2006, the Commission contracted for a study on ground erosion surrounding the World War II Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument in France. The conferees direct the Commission to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress outlining the conclusions of the ground erosion study and the steps the Commission will take to implement any study recommendations.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

The conference agreement appropriates $11,000,000 for the Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement appropriates $22,717,000 for the Salaries and Expenses account, instead of $21,397,000 as proposed by the House and $24,217,000 as proposed by the Senate. The amount provided includes $1,210,000 for the pro bono program, instead of $1,300,000 as proposed by the House and $1,120,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees have agreed to provide additional resources for the Court in recognition of the probability that the Court's workload will increase as the Department of Veterans Affairs experiences a significant increase in disability claims being processed. The increase in funding will provide the Court with sufficient resources to hire two additional magistrate judges, three staff attorneys and clerical staff.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement appropriates $31,230,000 for Salaries and Expenses, instead of $30,592,000 as proposed by the House and $31,865,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes a provision as proposed by the Senate which will allow funds to be provided to Arlington County, Virginia for expenses related to the relocation of the federally owned water main at Arlington National Cemetery. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conferees agree that the increase of $4,338,000 above the budget request shall be used for the realignment of government-issued headstones, the construction of a heavy equipment storage facility, and costs not included in the budget request associated with the relocation of utilities at Arlington National Cemetery.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

TRUST FUNDS

The conference agreement appropriates $55,724,000 for the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conferees maintain an interest in how the principles of the Green House approach can be incorporated into the new AFRH Gulfport campus while meeting construction milestones, fully restoring services and providing pre-Katrina number of resident spaces. The conferees direct the AFRH to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than March 1, 2008, detailing the planned on-site services and how the agency could implement the principles of the Green House approach on the Gulfport campus.

GENERAL FUND PAYMENT

The conference agreement appropriates $800,000 as a General Fund Payment to the Armed Forces Retirement Home as proposed by the House, instead of $5,900,000 as proposed by the Senate. The funding is to be used for a study of funding sources for the Trust Fund to determine the long-term viability of the Trust Fund and the potential need for a recurring General Fund Payment to the Trust Fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The conference agreement does not include an administrative provision as proposed by the Senate (Sec. 301) which would have prohibited the American Battle Monuments Commission from making a payment to the Capital Security Cost Sharing program.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The conference agreement includes section 401 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the obligation of funds in the Act beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided.

The conference agreement includes section 402 as proposed by both the House and the Senate requiring pay raises to be absorbed within the levels appropriated in the Act.

The conference agreement includes section 403 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the use of the funds in this Act for programs, projects or activities not in compliance with Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

The conference agreement includes section 404 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the use of funds in the Act to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress.

The conference agreement includes section 405 as proposed by the Senate encouraging all Departments to expand their use of ''E-Commerce''. The House bill contained a similar provision, but was more directive.

The conference agreement includes section 406 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the transfer of funds to any instrumentality of the United States Government without authority from an appropriations Act.

The conference agreement includes section 407 as proposed by both the House and the Senate specifying the congressional committees that are to receive all reports and notifications.

The conference agreement includes section 408 as proposed by the House directing the Congressional Budget Office to submit a report that projects the annual appropriations necessary for the Department of Veterans Affairs to continue providing health care to veterans. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes section 409 as proposed by both the House and the Senate prohibiting the use of funds in the Act for any action that is related to or promotes the expansion of the boundaries or size of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado.

The conference agreement includes section 410 as proposed by the Senate allowing the City of Aurora, Colorado to convey land to the United States to be used by the Department of Veterans Affairs for construction of a veterans' medical facility. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the House (section 409) which would have prohibited the use of funds in this Act to purchase light bulbs unless they have the ''ENERGY STAR'' designation. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate (section 408) which would have required the Government Accountability Office to assess mental health care services for female servicemembers and veterans. This issue is addressed elsewhere in this statement of the managers. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision, as proposed by the Senate (section 409) which would have prohibited the use of funds in the Act to enter into a contract or award a grant in an amount greater than $5,000,000 unless the contractor or grantee certifies in writing that certain Federal requirements have been met. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate (section 411) which would have appropriated $100,000,000, designated as an emergency requirement, for security and related costs associated with the Democratic National Convention and the Republican National Convention. The House bill contained no similar provision.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
ALABAMA		
ARMY		
ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT		
INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	26,000	26,000
REDSTONE ARSENAL		
CHILD CARE CENTER	---	2,000
SYSTEMS SOFTWARE ENGINEERING ANNEX	---	20,000
NAVY		
EVERGREEN		
NAVAL OUTLYING LANDING FACILITY EVERGREEN RUNWAY EXTENSION	9,560	9,560
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
SPRINGVILLE		
READINESS CENTER, ADDITION/ALTERATION (ARMY DIVISION REDESIGN STUDY)	3,300	3,300
ALASKA		
ARMY		
FORT RICHARDSON		
BARRACKS(GROW THE FORCE)	36,000	36,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES(GROW THE FORCE)	42,000	42,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES(GROW THE FORCE)	14,800	14,800
FORT WAINWRIGHT		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	20,000	20,000
COMPANY OPERATIONS FACILITY	14,000	14,000
RAILHEAD OPERATIONS FACILITY, PHASE I	---	8,900
REPLACE SUBSTATION/UPGRADE ELECTRIC	60,000	60,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	11,600	11,600
AIR FORCE		
ELMENDORF AFB		
F-22 7 BAY AIRCRAFT SHELTER	21,400	21,400
F-22 FIGHTER TOWN EAST INFRASTRUCTURE PHASE 2	7,100	7,100
F-22 JET ENGINE INSPECTION & MAINT	13,800	13,800
F-22 TAXIWAY, TAXILANE & ARM/DE-ARM PAD	27,880	27,880
JOINT PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION CENTER	---	13,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
KENAI		
ADD/ALT READINESS CENTER	---	1,400
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
ELMENDORF AFB		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON FACILITY	4,550	4,550
GROUP HEADQUARTERS	10,400	10,400
ARIZONA		
ARMY		
FORT HUACHUCA		
AIT TRAINEE COMPLEX (GROW THE FORCE)	105,000	105,000
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONAL BUILDING (GROW THE FORCE)	13,600	13,600
EFFLUENT REUSE SYSTEM	11,000	11,000
NAVY		
YUMA		
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS	22,980	22,980
TOWWAY G	10,740	10,740
AIR FORCE		
DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB		
COMBAT SEARCH AND RESCUE EC130 MAINTENANCE HANGAR/ AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT	11,200	11,200
LUKE AFB		
REPAIR AIRFIELD PAVEMENTS, PHASE I	---	5,500
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FLORENCE		
FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP	---	10,870
MARANA		
FIRE STATION (SILVER BELL ARMY HELIPORT)	---	1,964

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
ARKANSAS		
AIR FORCE		
LITTLE ROCK AIR FORCE BASE		
MULTI-PURPOSE EDUCATION FACILITY	---	9,800
RUNWAY REPAIR	---	9,800
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP ROBINSON		
AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT	5,500	5,500
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CENTER/GED PLUS TRAINING COMPLEX (GROW THE FORCE)	18,423	18,423
URBAN ASSAULT COURSE	---	1,900
CALIFORNIA		
ARMY		
FORT IRWIN		
MILITARY OPERATIONS URBAN TERRAIN, PHASE 2	18,500	18,500
TRAINING LAND IMPROVEMENTS	5,500	5,500
PRESIDIO MONTEREY		
GENERAL INSTRUCTION BUILDING	28,000	28,000
NAVY		
CAMP PENDLETON		
1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP ARMORY (GROW THE FORCE)	8,150	8,150
1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP AND BATTALION OPERATIONS CENTER (GROW THE FORCE)	22,220	22,220
1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP OPERATIONS CENTER (GROW THE FORCE)	18,160	18,160
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS-WOUNDED WARRIOR BATTALION (GROW THE FORCES)	25,940	25,940
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS - CHAPPO	29,050	29,050
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS - HEADQUARTERS	31,980	31,980
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS - MARGARITA	26,530	26,530
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS/ELECTRONICS SHOP (GROW THE FORCE)	16,840	16,840
FORCE INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS CENTER-HEADQUARTERS AREA (GROW THE FORCE)	24,990	24,990
HANGAR ADDITIONS	4,400	4,400
INFANTRY SQUAD BATTLE COURSE	18,090	---
INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE, AND RECONNAISANCE CAMP - INTEL BATTALION	17,980	17,980
MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND SUPPORTING FACILITIES	17,730	17,730
PHYSICAL FITNESS CENTER	8,510	8,510
TACTICAL SUPPORT VAN PADS EXPANSION	6,050	6,050
TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS	5,830	5,830
MIRAMAR		
HANGAR MODIFICATION (GROW THE FORCE)	26,760	26,760
MONTEREY		
GLOBAL WEATHER OPERATIONS CENTER	---	9,780
SAN DIEGO		
MAGNETIC SILENCING FACILITY MODIFICATION	14,590	14,590
MAIN GATE (GATE 6) IMPROVEMENTS	---	3,000
PIER 5002 SUB FENDER INSTALLATION	9,040	9,040
TWENTYNINE PALMS		
ARMORY (GROW THE FORCE)	5,920	5,920
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS AND PARKING STRUCTURE	34,329	34,329
LANDFILL (GROW THE FORCE)	13,560	13,560
MOUT-FACILITY (PHASE 3)(GROW THE FORCE)	21,390	21,390
MULTI-BATTALION OPERATIONS CENTER (GROW THE FORCE)	33,770	33,770
MULTI-BATTALION OPERATIONS CENTER (GROW THE FORCE)	33,650	33,650
AIR FORCE		
EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE		
MAIN BASE RUNWAY PHASE 3	35,000	35,000
MAIN BASE RUNWAY PHASE 4	---	8,500
TRAVIS AFB		
C-17 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	4,600	4,600
C-17 SOUTHWEST LANDING ZONE	22,000	22,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
GLOBAL SUPPORT SQUADRON FACILITY	---	10,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP PENDLETON		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION FACILITY	5,950	5,950
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES PARALOFT/BOAT/DIVE LOCKER	5,770	5,770
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SUPPLY FACILITY	8,310	8,310
CORONADO		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SPECIAL BOAT TEAM OPERATIONS FACILITY	12,000	12,000
POINT LOMA ANNEX		
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE FACILITIES, INCR 1	140,000	55,700
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP ROBERTS		
INFANTRY PLATOON BATTLE COURSE	2,850	2,850
SACRAMENTO ARMY DEPOT		
READINESS CENTER	21,000	21,000
ARMY RESERVE		
B.T. COLLINS USARC (SACRAMENTO)		
HIGH TECH RTS MAINTENANCE FACILITY	---	6,874
FORT HUNTER LIGGETT		
CONVOY LIVE FIRE RANGE	2,534	2,534
RANGE CONTROL FACILITY	4,501	4,501
GARDEN GROVE		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER	25,440	25,440
NAVY RESERVE		
MIRAMAR		
RESERVE CENTER ADDITIONS	5,580	5,580
COLORADO		
ARMY		
FORT CARSON		
BARRACKS(GROW THE FORCE)	53,000	53,000
DEFENSE ACCESS ROAD	9,300	8,300
HOSPITAL ADDITION & DENTAL CLINIC (GROW THE FORCE)	18,000	18,000
INDOOR RANGE	4,900	4,900
UNIT OPERATION FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	59,000	59,000
UNIT OPERATION FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	13,000	13,000
AIR FORCE		
FORT CARSON		
AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS SQUADRON COMPLEX	13,500	13,500
SCHRIEVER AFB		
AIR AND SPACE INTEGRATION FACILITY	24,500	24,500
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY		
UPGRADE ACADEMIC FACILITY PHASE IVB	15,000	15,000
CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE		
PUEBLO ARMY DEPOT		
AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION FACILITY PH IX	35,159	35,159
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BUCKLEY AFB		
REPLACE SQUADRON OPERATIONS	---	7,300
CONNECTICUT		
NAVY		
NEW LONDON SUBMARINE BASE		
SUBMARINE LEARNING FACILITY	---	9,260
WATERFRONT OPERATIONS SMALL CRAFT FACILITY	---	11,900
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
NIANTIC		
READINESS CENTER (ARMY DIVISION REDESIGN STUDY)	13,600	13,600
DELAWARE		
ARMY		
DOVER AFB		

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
JOINT PERSONAL EFFECTS DEPOT	17,500	17,500
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
NEW CASTLE COUNTY AIR GUARD BASE		
C-130 MAINTENANCE HANGER, PHASE I	---	10,800
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
AIR FORCE		
BOLLING AFB		
COMMUNICATION SWITCH FACILITY	2,500	2,500
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BOLLING AFB		
INSTALL BACKUP WATER SYSTEM	1,012	1,012
FLORIDA		
ARMY		
CAMP RUDDER (EGLIN AFB)		
DINING FACILITY	---	1,500
EGLIN AFB		
OPERATIONS COMPLEX, PHASE 2	66,000	---
MIAMI DORAL		
SOUTHERN COMMAND HEADQUARTERS FACILITY, INCR 1	237,000	100,000
NAVY		
BLOUNT ISLAND		
MAIN GATE IMPROVEMENTS - BLOUNT ISLAND	7,570	7,570
SLIPWAY BARRIER	---	2,670
CAPE CANAVERAL AIR FORCE STATION		
ENGINEERING SERVICES FACILITY	---	9,900
PANAMA CITY		
LITTORAL WARFARE SYSTEMS FACILITY	13,870	13,870
PENSACOLA		
FIRE STATION (CORRY STATION)	---	3,140
AIR FORCE		
EGLIN AFB		
CONSTRUCT SEAWALLS SANTA ROSA ISLAND RANGE COMPLEX	35,000	35,000
F-35 ADD/ALTER 53RD JOINT REPROGRAMMING FACILITY	8,300	8,300
F-35 INTEGRATED TRAINING CENTER	39,000	39,000
F-35 SQUADRON OPERATIONS/AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT/HANGAR	27,000	27,000
REPAIR ROADS SANTA ROSA ISLAND RANGE COMPLEX	49,000	49,000
MACDILL AFB		
ALTER CENTRAL COMMAND HEADQUARTERS	57,000	57,000
EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL FACILITY	---	3,500
MACDILL CENTCOM JOINT INTELLIGENCE CENTER	25,000	25,000
PATRICK AFB		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	11,854	11,854
TYNDALL AFB		
1ST AIR FORCE HQ FACILITY	---	8,400
FITNESS CENTER	19,014	19,014
REPAIR AIRFIELD	25,100	25,100
DEFENSE-WIDE		
HURLBURT FIELD		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES MAINTENANCE STORAGE FACILITY	4,711	4,711
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES OPERATIONS FACILITY	5,500	5,500
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SQUADRON OPERATIONS ADDITION	4,000	4,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES COMBAT WEATHER OPERATIONS FACILITY	14,900	14,900
KEY WEST		
REPLACE FUEL PUMP HOUSE	1,874	1,874
MACDILL AFB		
CLINIC REPLACEMENT, INCREMENT II	41,400	41,400
PHARMACARE ADDITION/ALTERATION	5,000	5,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES 501-D BUILDING ADDITION PHASE 2	12,200	12,200
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES ACQUISITION CENTER	35,500	35,500

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP BLANDING		
RTI PHASE III - JOINT OPS CENTER TRAINING FACILITY	---	15,524
JACKSONVILLE		
ARMY AVIATION SUPPORT FACILITY ADDITION/ALTERATION	12,200	12,200
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
JACKSONVILLE IAP		
REPLACE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY	---	6,000
GEORGIA		
ARMY		
FORT BENNING		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	---	3,700
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	5,800	5,800
RECEPTION STATION, PHASE 1	51,000	51,000
SIMULATIONS TRAINING FACILITY	56,000	56,000
TRAINEE BARRACKS COMPLEX	73,000	73,000
FORT STEWART		
BARRACKS COMPLEX	36,000	36,000
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	25,000	25,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX-HEADQUARTERS	26,000	26,000
FIRE STATION (GROW THE FORCE)	5,500	5,500
UNIT OPERTATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	15,000	15,000
HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD		
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	16,000	16,000
NAVY		
ALBANY MCLB		
COMBAT VEHICLE WAREHOUSE	---	9,980
AIR FORCE		
MOODY AFB		
COMMERCIAL ACCESS GATE	---	7,500
ROBINS AFB		
AIRCRAFT COMPONENT REPAIR FACILITY	14,700	14,700
SURVIVAL RECOVERY CENTER & COMMAND POST	---	5,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
AUGUSTA		
REGIONAL SECURITY OPERATION CENTER INCREMENT III	100,000	100,000
FORT BENNING		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES BATTALION COMPLEX	21,000	21,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES HEADQUARTERS BUILDING ADDITION	5,000	5,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES TACTICAL EQUIPMENT SHOP	9,000	9,000
HUNTER AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATION		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SUPPORT COMPANY FACILITY	13,800	13,800
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
SAVANNAH AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
TROOP DORMS	---	9,000
HAWAII		
ARMY		
FORT SHAFTER		
BARRACKS COMPLEX	31,000	31,000
KAHUKU		
TACTICAL VEHICLE WASH FACILITY	---	10,200
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS		
BARRACKS COMPLEX	43,000	43,000
BARRACKS COMPLEX	45,000	45,000
WHEELER AFB		
BARRACKS COMPLEX	51,000	51,000
NAVY		
KANEOHE BAY		
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS	37,961	37,961
PEARL HARBOR		
DRY DOCK SHIP SUPPORT SERVICES	---	30,200
SUB DRIVE-IN MAGNETIC SILENCING FACILITY, INCR 1	99,860	49,860
WAHIAWA		

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
COMMUNICATION CENTER	65,410	65,410
AIR FORCE		
HICKAM AFB		
C-17 PARKING RAMP	15,471	15,471
DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND SYSTEM INTELLIGENCE SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	16,500	16,500
DEFENSE-WIDE		
HICKAM AFB		
REPLACE HYDRANT FUELS SYSTEM	11,900	11,900
KUNIA		
REGIONAL SECURITY OPERATION CENTER INCREMENT III	136,318	136,318
IDAHO		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
GOWEN FIELD		
TRAINING AREA RAILHEAD	---	7,615
ORCHARD TRAINING AREA		
URBAN ASSAULT COURSE	1,700	1,700
ILLINOIS		
ARMY		
ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL		
COMBINED FIRE/POLICE FACILITY	---	3,350
NAVY		
GREAT LAKES		
RECRUIT TRAINING COMMAND INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE, GREAT LAKES INCREMENT 3	16,650	16,650
SMALL ARMS MARKSMANSHIP TRAINER	10,221	10,221
AIR FORCE		
SCOTT AFB		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	---	8,200
SECURITY FORCES OPERATIONS FACILITY	16,700	16,700
DEFENSE-WIDE		
GREAT LAKES		
FEDERAL HEALTHCARE FACILITY	99,000	99,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ST CLAIR COUNTY		
READINESS CENTER (ARMY DIVISION REDESIGN STUDY)	8,100	8,100
INDIANA		
NAVY		
CRANE NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER		
SECURED ELECTRONIC WARFARE SYSTEMS ENGINEERING FACILITY	---	12,000
SPECIAL WEAPONS ASSESSMENT FACILITY	---	11,800
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
MUSCATATUCK		
SECURITY FENCE	---	4,996
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
HULMAN REGIONAL AIRPORT		
DIGITAL GROUND STATION BEDDOWN	7,700	7,700
IOWA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP DODGE		
MAIN ENTRANCE	---	1,500
IOWA CITY		
READINESS CENTER	---	13,186
KANSAS		
ARMY		
FORT LEAVENWORTH		
BARRACKS COMPLEX	55,000	55,000
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	12,800	12,800
CHAPEL COMPLEX, PHASE I	---	11,600
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	23,000	23,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
FORT RILEY		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	50,000	50,000
CHILD DEVELOPEMENT CENTER (GROW THE FORCE)	8,500	8,500
DIGITAL MULTIPURPOSE RANGE COMPLEX	28,000	28,000
HEALTH & DENTAL CLINIC (GROW THE FORCE)	8,800	8,800
MILITARY WORKING DOG FACILITY	---	1,900
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	43,000	43,000
AIR FORCE		
FORT RILEY		
AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS SQUADRON COMPLEX	12,515	12,515
MCCONNELL AFB		
MXG CONSOLIDATION AND FORWARD LOGISTICS CENTER	---	6,300
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
SMOKY HILL AIR NATIONAL GUARD RANGE		
AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS SQUADRON BEDDOWN	---	9,000
KENTUCKY		
ARMY		
FORT CAMPBELL		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	27,000	27,000
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (AGES 0-5)	---	8,600
INDOOR RANGE	5,000	5,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	24,000	24,000
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	49,000	49,000
FORT KNOX		
CANTONMENT AREA ROADS, PAVED	6,700	6,700
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT CAMPBELL		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES BATTALION OPERATIONS COMPLEX	35,000	35,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES GROUP SUPPORT BATTALION COMPLEX	18,500	18,500
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
LONDON		
READINESS CENTER, PHASE II	---	2,427
CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE WIDE		
BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT		
AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION FACILITY PH VIII	51,017	51,017
AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION FACILITY PH VIII	---	18,000
LOUISIANA		
ARMY		
FORT POLK		
4TH BRIGADE 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION HEADQUARTERS FACILITY	---	9,800
CHILD CARE CENTER	---	6,100
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP BEAUREGARD		
UPGRADE AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS SQUADRON FACILITY	1,800	1,800
MAINE		
NAVY		
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD		
CONSOLIDATED EMERGENCY CONTROL CENTER	---	9,700
MARYLAND		
ARMY		
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND		
AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION FACILITY	---	12,200
NAVY		
INDIAN HEAD		
ADVANCED ENERGETICS RESEARCH LAB	---	9,450
PATUXENT RIVER		
AIRCRAFT PROTOTYPE FACILITY PHASE 1	17,990	17,990
E-2 ADVANCED HAWKEYE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TESTING, AND EVALUATION FACILITY	13,650	13,650

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
JOINT PRECISION APPROACH AND LANDING SYSTEM ADDITION TO BUILDING 2110/2122	6,720	6,720
SUITLAND		
NATIONAL MARITIME INTEL CENTER INCREMENT II	52,069	52,069
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT DETRICK		
US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES STAGE I, INC II	150,000	150,000
FORT MEADE		
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY - WASHINGTON OPS1 SOUTH STAIR TOWER	4,000	4,000
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY - WASHINGTON POWER, SPACE, AND COOLING UTILITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PH2	7,901	7,901
MASSACHUSETTS		
AIR FORCE		
HANSCOM AFB		
RENOVATE ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT FACILITY B1102C	---	12,800
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BARNES ANGB		
FIRE CRASH/RESCUE STATION	---	7,300
OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE		
DIGITAL GROUND STATION INITIAL OPERATING CAPACITY BEDDOWN	1,800	1,800
MICHIGAN		
ARMY		
DETROIT ARSENAL		
GROUND SYSTEMS POWER AND ENERGY LABORATORY	---	18,500
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
LANSING		
US PROPERTY AND FISCAL OFFICE AND READINESS CENTER RENOVATION	---	4,239
CAMP GRAYLING		
INFANTRY PLATOON BATTLE COURSE W/ CONVOY LIVE FIRE RANGE	---	2,450
NAVY RESERVE		
SELFRIDGE		
RESERVE TRAINING CENTER	4,030	4,030
MINNESOTA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP RIPLEY		
COMBINED ARMS COLLECTIVE TRAINING FACILITY	4,850	4,850
COMBINED ARMS COLLECTIVE TRAINING FACILITY, PH2	---	12,600
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
DULUTH		
REPLACE STORAGE FACILITIES	---	1,500
MISSISSIPPI		
NAVY		
MERIDIAN NAVAL AIR STATION		
FIRE STATION	---	6,770
AIR FORCE		
COLUMBUS AFB		
MISSION SUPPORT COMPLEX PHASE II	---	9,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
JOHN C. STENNIS SPACE CENTER		
SOF RIVERINE AND COMBATANT CRAFT OPERATIONS FACILITY	---	10,200
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP SHELBY		
LIVE FIRE SHOOT HOUSE/URBAN ASSAULT COURSE	---	4,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
KEY FIELD		
ASOS/ATCS TRAINING CENTER	---	6,100

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
MISSOURI		
ARMY		
FORT LEONARD WOOD		
AUTOMATED MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE (GROW THE FORCE)	4,150	4,150
AUTOMATED PISTOL RANGE (GROW THE FORCE)	2,700	2,700
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	26,000	26,000
CHAPEL	---	10,400
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	---	7,000
DINING FACILITY-BASIC COMBAT TRAINING COMPLEX (GROW THE FORCE)	22,000	22,000
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	3,800	3,800
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	4,000	4,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	56,000	56,000
AIR FORCE		
WHITEMAN AFB		
CONSOLIDATE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER	---	11,400
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
WHITEMAN AFB		
ARMY AVIATION SUPPORT FACILITY	30,000	30,000
MONTANA		
AIR FORCE		
MALMSTROM AFB		
CONSTRUCT COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER	---	7,000
ARMY RESERVE		
BUTTE		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/LAND	7,629	7,629
NEBRASKA		
AIR FORCE		
OFFUTT AFB		
ADD/ALTER INTELLIGENCE SQUADRON FACILITY	16,952	16,952
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
LINCOLN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT		
ADD/ALTER SECURITY FORCES COMMUNICATIONS COMPLEX	---	8,900
NEVADA		
ARMY		
HAWTHORNE ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT		
GROUND WATER TREATMENT PLANT	11,800	11,800
WABUSKA RAILROAD LINE SPUR	---	1,400
NAVY		
FALLON NAVAL AIR STATION		
RANGE IMPROVEMENTS B-20	---	11,460
AIR FORCE		
NELLIS AFB		
JOINT TERMINAL AIR CONTROL VIRTUAL TRAINING FACILITY	---	4,950
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
RENO		
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE COMPLEX	---	5,200
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PEASE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE		
WING HEADQUARTERS OPERATIONS AND TRAINING FACILITY	---	8,900
NEW JERSEY		
ARMY		
PICATINNY ARSENAL		
ARMAMENT INTEGRATION FACILITY	---	9,900
NAVY		
LAKEHURST NAVAL AIR ENGINEERING STATION		
JOINT INSTALLATION ROAD IMPROVEMENT	---	4,100

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
ATLANTIC CITY		
ASOS BEDDOWN	---	9,800
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT DIX		
COMBINED MAINTENANCE FACILITY	17,000	17,000
TACTICAL TRAINING BASE, PHASE I	---	5,900
NEW MEXICO		
ARMY		
WHITE SANDS MISSLE RANGE		
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	71,000	71,000
AIR FORCE		
CANNON AFB		
ADD/ALTER HANGAR 09 FOR C-130	1,688	1,688
KIRTLAND AFB		
PJ/CRO LOGISTICS BUILDING	---	3,700
PJ/CRO RESCUE AND RECOVERY TRAINING CENTER	---	11,400
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CANNON AFB		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES FLIGHT SIMULATOR FACILITY	7,500	7,500
KIRTLAND AFB		
REPLACE FUEL UNLOAD FACILITY	1,800	1,800
NEW YORK		
ARMY		
FORT DRUM		
AUTOMATED QUALIFICATION TRAINING RANGE	---	9,600
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	61,000	61,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX MAINTENANCE FACILITY	44,000	44,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX-BARRACKS/OPERATIONS	40,000	40,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX-COMPANY OPERATIONS	55,000	55,000
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	---	10,600
INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES	12,000	12,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	41,000	41,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	38,000	38,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT DRUM		
MEDICAL CLINIC ADDITION/ALTERATION	41,000	41,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
GABRESKI ANG BASE, WESTHAMPTON		
PARARESCUE FACILITY PH 1	---	8,400
GRIFFISS NEADS		
NEADS SUPPORT FACILITY, PHASE II	---	6,600
HANCOCK FIELD		
UPGRADE BASE FACILITIES	---	5,100
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT DRUM		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER	15,923	15,923
NORTH CAROLINA		
ARMY		
FORT BRAGG		
BARRACKS COMPLEX, INCREMENT 3	47,400	47,400
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	73,000	73,000
BLOOD DONOR CENTER	---	4,800
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (AGES 6-10)	---	8,700
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES FACILITY	---	2,900
INDOOR RANGE	4,800	4,800
STUDENT BARRACKS	51,000	51,000
UNIT MAINTENANCE FACILITY (GROW THE FORCE)	88,000	88,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	54,000	54,000
NAVY		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION FACILITY	16,460	16,460

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS - 4TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE	29,970	29,970
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS - FRENCH CREEK	27,800	27,800
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS- WOUNDED WARRIOR BATTALION (GROW THE FORCE)	27,270	27,270
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, MIDWAY PARK	---	14,200
FIELD MEDICAL SERVICE SCHOOL	8,080	8,080
LANDFILL CELL (GROW THE FORCE)	14,170	14,170
MAIN GATE PHYSICAL SECURITY UPGRADE (GROW THE FORCE)	7,920	7,920
MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND COMMUNITY SUPPORT FACILITIES	9,170	9,170
MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND FITNESS CENTER/ TRAINING TANK	14,480	14,480
MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND SUPPORT FACILITY	21,720	21,720
MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND TRAINING FACILITIES	12,590	12,590
MILITARY OPERATIONS ON UNEVEN TERRAIN ENHANCEMENTS	14,120	14,120
MULTI-PURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE- G10 (GROW THE FORCE)	17,250	17,250
PHYSICAL SECURITY UPGRADES- PINEY GREEN (GROW THE FORCE)	6,660	6,660
WASTEWATER SYSTEM MODIFICATION (GROW THE FORCE)	7,070	7,070
CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION		
HANGER RENOVATION & FACILITY UPGRADES F/A18E/F	16,500	16,500
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE	12,110	12,110
NEW RIVER		
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS	22,530	22,530
HANGAR ADDITION (PHASE 2)	17,330	17,330
JET ENGINE TEST CELL	14,570	14,570
MAIN GATE SECURITY UPGRADE	---	4,270
NAVAL OUTLYING LANDING FACILITY WASHINGTON COUNTY		
OUTLYING LANDING FIELD FACS & LAND ACQUISITION	10,060	---
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
DELALIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - CONSTRUCT GYMNASIUM	2,014	2,014
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION FACILITY	6,910	6,910
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES EQUIPMENT FACILITY	10,800	10,800
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SUPPLY & PRE-DEPLOYMENT FACILITY	10,500	10,500
FORT BRAGG		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES HEADQUARTERS AND MOTOR POOL COMPLEX	39,250	39,250
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES OPERATIONS/INTELLIGENCE ADDITION	8,000	8,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ASHEVILLE		
FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP	---	3,733
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
CHARLOTTE (STANLY COUNTY AP)		
235TH ATC SQUADRON FACILITY	---	4,000
NORTH DAKOTA		
AIR FORCE		
GRAND FORKS AFB		
CONTROL TOWER/RAPCON	---	13,000
MINOT AFB		
DORMITORY (144 ROOM)	18,200	18,200
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP GRAFTON		
REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE PHASE 1 (GROW THE FORCE)	33,416	33,416
OHIO		
DEFENSE-WIDE		

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
COLUMBUS		
DECENTRALIZE HEAT PLANT	4,000	4,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP PERRY		
BASE ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & CLASSROOM FACILITY.	---	1,500
NEWTON FALLS		
TRAINING BUILDING ALTERATION (RAVENNA)	---	1,500
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
RICKENBACKER ANGB		
SECURITY FORCES COMPLEX	---	7,600
NAVY RESERVE		
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB		
RESERVE TRAINING CENTER	10,277	10,277
OKLAHOMA		
ARMY		
FORT SILL		
FIRE AND MOVEMENT RANGE	---	1,300
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	2,900	2,900
MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE	---	3,300
AIR FORCE		
ALTUS AFB		
C-17 SHEET METAL COMPOSITE SHOP	2,000	2,000
TINKER AFB		
CONSOLIDATED FUEL OVERHAUL REPAIR & TEST FACILITY.	34,600	34,600
VANCE AFB		
FUEL SYSTEM MAINTENANCE HANGAR	---	7,700
OREGON		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ONTARIO		
READINESS CENTER	11,000	11,000
NAVY RESERVE		
PORTLAND		
OPERATIONAL FACILITIES MOBILE INSHORE UNDERSEA WARFARE UNIT 110/INSHORE BOAT UNIT 13	1,900	1,900
PENNSYLVANIA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT NEW CUMBERLAND		
REPLACE CENTRAL HEAT PLANT	21,000	21,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CARLISLE		
READINESS CENTER (STRYKER BRIGADE COMPANY TEAM (SBCT))	7,800	7,800
EAST FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP		
READINESS CENTER (SBCT)	8,300	8,300
FORT INDIANTOWN GAP		
AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT UPGRADE (SBCT)	9,500	9,500
GETTYSBURG		
READINESS CENTER (SBCT)	6,300	6,300
GRATERFORD		
FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP (SBCT)	7,300	7,300
HANOVER		
READINESS CENTER, ADDITION/ALTERATION (SBCT)	5,500	5,500
HAZELTON		
READINESS CENTER ADDITION/ALTERATION (SBCT)	5,600	5,600
HOLIDAYSBURG		
READINESS CENTER (SBCT)	9,400	9,400
HUNTINGDON		
READINESS CENTER (SBCT)	7,500	7,500
KUTZTOWN		
READINESS CENTER, ADDITION/ALTERATION (SBCT)	6,800	6,800
LEBANON		
READINESS CENTER, ADDITION/ALTERATION (SBCT)	7,800	7,800
PHILADELPHIA		

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP, ADDITION/ALTERATION (SBCT)	3,650	3,650
READINESS CENTER, ALTERATION (SBCT)	10,000	10,000
WAYNESBURG		
READINESS CENTER	---	9,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT INDIANTOWN GAP		
AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS SQUADRON	6,400	6,400
OPERATIONS AND TRAINING FACILITY	---	6,300
HARRISBURG		
EXPAND AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON/RELOCATE TAXIWAY	---	1,000
RHODE ISLAND		
NAVY		
NAVAL STATION NEWPORT		
HAZMAT STORAGE FACILITY	---	3,860
RECONSTRUCT WHARF BETWEEN PIERS 1&2	---	9,900
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
EAST GREENWICH		
READINESS CENTER	8,200	8,200
NORTH KINGSTOWN		
ARMY AVIATION SUPPORT FACILITY	33,000	33,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
QUONSET STATE AIRPORT		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING FACILITY	---	5,000
SOUTH CAROLINA		
ARMY		
FORT JACKSON		
BASIC TRAINING COMPLEX (GROW THE FORCE)	85,000	85,000
NAVY		
BEAUFORT		
FIRE STATION	6,800	6,800
NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL & CHEMICAL TRAINING FACILITY	---	3,500
PARRIS ISLAND		
CONSOLIDATED DINING FACILITY (GROW THE FORCE)	24,430	24,430
MOTOR TRANSPORTATION COMPLEX	5,530	5,530
RECRUIT BARRACKS - 3RD BATTALION (PHASE 1)	25,322	25,322
AIR FORCE		
CHARLESTON AFB		
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	---	11,000
SHAW AFB		
BASE INFRASTRUCTURE	---	9,300
SOUTH DAKOTA		
AIR FORCE		
ELLSWORTH AFB		
BASE CIVIL ENGINEER ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITY	---	16,600
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
JOE FOSS FIELD		
BASE CIVIL ENGINEER MAINTENANCE COMPLEX	---	7,900
RAPID CITY		
JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS	---	900
NAVY RESERVE		
SIOUX FALLS		
JOINT ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER	3,730	3,730
TENNESSEE		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
LOVELL FIELD		
COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING COMPLEX	---	8,200
MCGHEE-TYSON AIRPORT		
MILSTAR BEDDOWN-RELOCATE BASE ACCESS ROAD	3,200	3,200
MEMPHIS IAP		
C-5 FINAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT	6,676	6,676
C-5 GROUND RUN-UP ENCLOSURE	3,200	3,200
C-5 MUNITIONS STORAGE COMPLEX	1,500	1,500

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
TEXAS		
ARMY		
CAMP BULLIS		
URBAN ASSAULT COURSE	1,600	1,600
CORPUS CHRISTI DEPOT		
ROTOR BLADE PROCESSING FACILITY	---	11,200
FORT BLISS		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	11,400	11,400
CHILD YOUTH SERVICES CENTER	---	6,500
HEALTH & DENTAL CLINIC (GROW THE FORCE)	16,500	16,500
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	84,000	84,000
FORT HOOD		
CH-47 MAINTENANCE HANGAR	---	18,000
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	---	7,400
BARRACKS COMPLEX	47,000	47,000
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	45,000	45,000
UNITS OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	46,000	46,000
FORT SAM HOUSTON		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	6,600	6,600
BATTLE COMMAND TRAINING CENTER, PHASE 1	1,950	1,950
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	10,600	10,600
RED RIVER ARMY DEPOT		
MANEUVER SYSTEMS SUSTAINMENT CENTER, PHASE 2	9,200	9,200
NAVY		
CORPUS CHRISTI		
AVIATION TRAINER/SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	14,290	14,290
AIR FORCE		
GOODFELLOW AFB		
ADD TO FITNESS CENTER	---	5,800
LACKLAND AFB		
BASIC EXPEDITIONARY AIRMAN SKILL TRAINING PHASE 2	14,000	14,000
LAUGHLIN AFB		
STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER & LIBRARY	---	5,200
RANDOLPH AFB		
TAXIWAY WEST FLIGHTLINE	---	2,950
SHEPPARD AFB		
BASE OPERATIONS RAMP, PHASE 1	---	7,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP BULLIS		
HEALTH CLINIC REPLACEMENT	7,400	7,400
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP BOWIE		
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	1,500	1,500
FORT WOLTERS		
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	2,100	2,100
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
ELLINGTON FIELD		
MULTI-USE AVIATION FIRE STATION	---	7,200
ARMY RESERVE		
ELLINGTON FIELD		
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER BATTLE PROJECTION CENTER (PHASE II)	---	15,000
FORT WORTH		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER	15,076	15,076
NAVY RESERVE		
AUSTIN		
RESERVE TRAINING CENTER	6,490	6,490
FORT WORTH		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT PARKING FACILITY	5,140	5,140
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	4,920	4,920
JOINT CONTROL TOWER	12,454	12,454
JOINT INDOOR TRAINING TANK	---	4,970
UTAH		
AIR FORCE		

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
HILL AFB		
AIRCRAFT POWER SYSTEMS REPAIR FACILITY	8,399	8,399
CONSOLIDATED 388TH MUNITIONS FLIGHT ADMINISTRATIVE/MAINTENANCE FACILITY	---	9,200
HYDRAULIC FLIGHT CONTROL FACILITY	8,400	8,400
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
NORTH SALT LAKE		
READINESS CENTER	12,200	12,200
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
HILL AFB		
WING SUPPORT FACILITY	3,200	3,200
VERMONT		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
ETHAN ALLEN RANGE, JERICHO		
MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE	---	1,996
NORTHFIELD		
BILLETING, REGIONAL & READINESS TECHNOLOGY CENTER	---	1,500
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BURLINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT		
BASE SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS	---	6,600
VIRGINIA		
ARMY		
FORT BELVOIR		
DEFENSE ACCESS ROAD PHASE 3	13,000	13,000
FORT EUSTIS		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	32,000	32,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	43,000	43,000
FORT LEE	---	---
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	6,900	6,900
UNIT CHAPEL	---	5,900
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	9,800	9,800
FORT MYER		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	12,400	12,400
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	8,400	8,400
NAVY		
CHESAPEAKE		
MOBILE USER OBJECTIVE SYSTEM INSTALLATION	8,450	8,450
DAHLGREN NSWC		
ELECTROMAGNETIC LAUNCH RDTE FACILITY	---	10,000
NORFOLK		
E2/C2 AIRCREW TRAINING FACILITY	11,510	11,510
JOINT FORCES COMMAND, HEADQUARTERS, BUILDING ONE	---	14,200
MH-60S HANGER & AIRFIELD IMPROVEMENTS	53,850	53,850
QUANTICO		
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS - MARINE SECURITY GUARD BATTALION HEADQUARTERS	18,839	18,839
STUDENT QUARTERS - THE BASIC SCHOOL (PHASE 2)	26,680	26,680
WARFARE PROGRAMS SUPPORT CENTER (GROW THE FORCE)	5,000	5,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DAM NECK		
PARACHUTE DRYING FACILITY	---	5,300
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES OPERATIONAL TRAINING FACILITY	14,000	14,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES OPERATIONS FACILITY, INCR 1	94,500	47,250
FORT BELVOIR		
ENTRANCE GATE SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS	5,000	5,000
LITTLE CREEK		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES HEADQUARTERS FACILITY	51,000	---
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SEAL TEAM OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT FACILITY	34,000	34,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SPECIAL BOAT TEAM OPERATIONS FACILITY	14,000	14,000
NORFOLK		

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL PREVENTIVE MEDICINE UNIT 2 REPLACEMENT	6,450	6,450
PENTAGON		
PENTAGON RESERVATION ELECTRICAL UPGRADES	18,531	---
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
FORT PICKETT		
COMBAT PISTOL QUALIFICATION COURSE	1,050	1,050
REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE PHASE 1 (GROW THE FORCE)	25,161	25,161
WINCHESTER		
FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP	---	3,113
NAVY RESERVE		
QUANTICO		
RESERVE CENTER ADDITIONS	2,410	2,410
WASHINGTON		
ARMY		
FORT LEWIS		
BARRACKS (GROW THE FORCE)	32,000	32,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX, INCREMENT 2	102,000	102,000
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, CLARKMOOR	---	10,600
FUELING FACILITY	---	3,300
INDOOR RANGE	5,000	5,000
RAILROAD YARD UPGRADE (GROW THE FORCE)	14,600	14,600
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	62,000	62,000
UNIT OPERATIONS FACILITIES (GROW THE FORCE)	51,000	51,000
YAKIMA		
DIGITAL MULTIPURPOSE RANGE COMPLEX	29,000	29,000
NAVY		
BANGOR		
LIMITED AREA PRODUCTION & STORAGE COMPLEX INCREMENT IV	39,750	39,750
BREMERTON		
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS HOMEPORT ASHORE INCREMENT II	47,240	47,240
NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT CARRIER MAINTENANCE PIER REPLACEMENT	91,070	91,070
MISSILE ASSEMBLY BUILDING 3	28,690	28,690
KITSAP NB		
OCEAN ENGINEERING SUPPORT FACILITY	---	6,130
NAVAL STATION EVERETT		
FLEET REGION READINESS CENTER	---	10,940
WHIDBEY ISLAND		
EA-18G FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS	23,910	23,910
INDOOR AIRCRAFT WASHRACK	---	10,610
AIR FORCE		
FAIRCHILD AFB		
PHYSIOLOGICAL TRAINING FACILITY	---	6,200
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT LEWIS		
MEDICAL/DENTAL CLINIC	21,000	21,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES BATTALION OPERATIONS COMPLEX	47,000	47,000
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES SUPPORT BATTALION COMPLEX	30,000	30,000
WEST VIRGINIA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP DAWSON		
MODIFIED RECORD FIRE RANGE	4,500	4,500
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING	---	4,900
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA REGIONAL AIRPORT - SHEPHERD FIELD		
C-5 FINAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE	5,176	5,176
C-5 FUEL CELL MAINTENANCE HANGAR AND SHOPS	26,000	26,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
C-5 PARKING APRON, PHASE 2	---	12,000
C-5 SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY	7,600	7,600
YEAGER ANG BASE		
REPLACE AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR	---	17,300
WISCONSIN		
ARMY RESERVE		
ELLSWORTH		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/LAND	9,100	9,100
FORT MCCOY		
REGIONAL MEDICAL TRAINING FACILITY	8,523	8,523
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
TRUAX FIELD MADISON		
ADD/ALTER FIRE CRASH/RESCUE STATION	---	7,000
WYOMING		
AIR FORCE		
F. E. WARREN AFB		
RENOVATE HISTORIC DORMITORIES	14,600	14,600
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
CAMP GUERNSEY		
QUALIFICATION TRAINING RANGE	2,650	2,650
AFGHANISTAN		
ARMY		
BAGRAM		
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING	13,800	13,800
BAHRAIN ISLAND		
NAVY		
BAHRAIN		
WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PHASE 1	35,500	35,500
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BAHRAIN		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES OPERATIONS FACILITY	19,000	19,000
BELGIUM		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CASTEAU		
BRUSSELS AMERCIAN SCHOOL ADDITION	5,992	5,992
BULGARIA		
ARMY		
NEVO SELO FORWARD OPERATING SITE		
BASE CAMP	61,000	61,000
DIEGO GARCIA		
NAVY		
DIEGO GARCIA		
SEWAGE LAGOON, AIR OPERATIONS	7,150	7,150
DJIBOUTI		
NAVY		
CAMP LEMONIER		
FULL LENGTH TAXIWAY	15,490	15,490
FUEL FARM	4,000	4,000
WESTERN TAXIWAY	2,900	2,900
GERMANY		
ARMY		
GRAFENWOEHR		
BRIGADE COMPLEX-MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS	34,000	34,000
BRIGADE COMPLEX-MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS	28,000	28,000
AIR FORCE		
RAMSTEIN AIR BASE		
DORMITORY - 128 ROOM	14,949	14,949

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
FIRE TRAINING FACILITY	3,000	3,000
JOINT MOBILITY PROCESSING CENTER	24,000	24,000
SMALL DIAMETER BOMB FACILITIES PHASE 2	6,260	6,260
DEFENSE-WIDE		
RAMSTEIN AIR BASE		
RAMSTEIN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ADDITION	5,393	5,393
SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE		
MEDICAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT	30,100	30,100
WEISBADEN		
H.H. ARNOLD HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION	15,379	15,379
HAINERBER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/WEIS MIDDLE SCHOOL ADDITION	5,093	5,093
GUAM		
NAVY		
NAVAL BASE GUAM		
FITNESS CENTER GUAM	45,250	45,250
HARDEN BASE ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS	59,420	59,420
KILO WHARF EXTENSION, INCREMENT I	101,828	50,916
POTABLE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PHASE 1	31,450	31,450
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REPAIRS & UPGRADE	40,870	40,870
AIR FORCE		
ANDERSEN AFB		
TECHNICAL TRAINING FACILITY	---	5,816
UPGRADE NORTHWEST FIELD INFRASTRUCTURE	10,000	10,000
HONDURAS		
ARMY		
SOTO CANO		
DINING FACILITY	2,550	2,550
ITALY		
ARMY		
VICENZA		
BRIGADE COMPLEX-BARRACKS/COMMUNITY FACILITY, INCR 1	86,000	22,500
BRIGADE COMPLEX-OPERATIONS SUPPORT FACILITY, INCR 1	87,000	23,500
JAPAN		
NAVY		
YOKOSUKA		
WHARF UPGRADES (INCREMENTED)	8,750	8,750
KOREA		
ARMY		
CAMP HUMPHREYS		
BARRACKS COMPLEX	22,000	22,000
BARRACKS COMPLEX	35,000	35,000
QATAR		
AIR FORCE		
AL UDEID		
MULTI AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR	22,300	22,300
DEFENSE-WIDE		
AL UDEID		
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES AIR OPERATIONS CENTER	8,332	8,332
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES AIRCRAFT PARKING RAMP	18,515	18,515
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES OPERATIONS COMPLEX	18,908	18,908
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES STORAGE FACILITY	3,590	3,590
SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY	3,507	3,507
ROMANIA		
ARMY		
ROMANIA		

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
BASE CAMP, PHASE 2	12,600	12,600
SPAIN		
AIR FORCE		
MORON		
TACTICAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM DORM (400 ROOM)	1,800	1,800
UNITED KINGDOM		
AIR FORCE		
MENWITH HILL STATION		
ADD/ALTER OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL FACILITY	31,000	31,000
POWER AVAILABILITY & INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS	10,000	10,000
ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH		
F-15C SQUAD OPERATIONS/AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT	15,500	15,500
SMALL DIAMETER BOMB - STORAGE IGLOO	1,800	1,800
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM	201,400	201,400
WORLDWIDE CLASSIFIED		
AIR FORCE		
SPECIAL EVALUATION PROGRAM	4,051	2,439
SPECIAL EVALUATION PROGRAM	9,889	9,889
CLASSIFIED MILCON PROJECT	1,500	1,500
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLASSIFIED MILCON PROJECT	1,887	1,887
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
ARMY		
HOST NATION SUPPORT	23,000	23,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	23,000	23,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN	75,468	66,504
PLANNING AND DESIGN (GROW THE FORCE)	232,479	232,479
RESCISSION (P.L. 110-5)	---	-8,690
NAVY		
WHARF UTILITIES UPGRADE	8,900	8,900
HOST NATION INFRASTRUCTURE	2,700	2,700
PLANNING AND DESIGN	88,375	91,225
MARINE CORPS PLANNING AND DESIGN (GROW THE FORCE)	21,792	21,792
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	10,000	10,000
RESCISSION (P.L. 108-132)	---	-5,862
RESCISSION (P.L. 108-324)	---	-2,069
RESCISSION (P.L. 110-5)	---	-2,626
AIR FORCE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	51,587	43,721
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	15,000	15,000
RESCISSION (P.L. 108-324)	---	-5,319
RESCISSION (P.L. 110-5)	---	-5,151
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CONTINGENCY CONSTRUCTION	10,000	5,000
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM	70,000	70,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN		
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION	3,400	3,400
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY	26,749	26,749
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	19,679	20,390
TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY	69,000	69,130
UNDISTRIBUTED	35,900	35,900
SUBTOTAL, PLANNING AND DESIGN	154,728	155,569
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY	4,100	4,100

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION	666	666
THE JOINT STAFF	8,753	8,753
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	3,693	3,693
TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY	3,499	3,499
UNDISTRIBUTED	3,000	3,000
SUBTOTAL, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	23,711	23,711
DEFENSE-WIDE		
RESCISSION (P.L. 110-5)	---	-10,192
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	26,841	47,293
PLANNING AND DESIGN (GROW THE FORCE)	17,000	17,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	8,700	8,700
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	7,965	9,085
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	6,500	6,500
ARMY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	10,958	11,633
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	3,000	3,000
NAVY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	2,219	2,529
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN	3,500	5,300
MINOR CONSTRUCTION	4,909	4,909
RESCISSION (P.L. 109-114)	---	-3,069
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY		
UTAH		
DUGWAY PROVING GROUND (REPLACEMENT PHASE 1)	---	5,000
GERMANY		
ANSBACH (URLAS TRAINING AREA)	52,000	52,000
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS	365,400	99,400
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS (GROW THE FORCE)	---	266,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN	2,000	2,000
RESCISSION (P.L. 110-5)	---	-4,559
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	419,400	419,841
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	145,366	145,366
SERVICES ACCOUNT	29,500	29,500
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	64,864	64,864
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	1,128	1,128
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	31,940	31,940
LEASING	217,129	217,129
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	215,585	215,585
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	37,408	37,408
GENERAL REDUCTION	---	-11,000
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	742,920	731,920
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS		
GUAM		
NB GUAM - OLD APRA PHASE II (73 UNITS)	57,167	47,167
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS	237,990	162,990
TWENTYNINE PALMS		
INSTALL AIR CONDITIONING, VISTA DEL SOL	---	4,800
USMC FAMILY HOUSING (GROW THE FORCE)	---	75,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN	3,172	3,172

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	298,329	293,129
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	41,802	41,802
SERVICES ACCOUNT	13,155	13,155
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	59,422	59,422
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	640	640
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	14,962	14,962
LEASING	141,757	141,757
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY	70,678	70,678
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	28,988	28,988
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	371,404	371,404

FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE

GERMANY		
RAMSTEIN (117 UNITS)	56,275	56,275
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS	294,262	259,262
PLANNING AND DESIGN	12,210	12,210
RESCISSION (P.L. 108-132)	---	-15,000
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	362,747	312,747
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT	100,176	100,176
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT	56,736	56,736
SERVICES ACCOUNT	20,673	20,673
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT	43,472	43,472
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	1,960	1,960
LEASING	114,394	114,394
MAINTENANCE	298,465	298,465
DEBT ACCOUNT	1	1
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS	52,458	52,458
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	688,335	688,335

FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE-WIDE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT (NSA)	7	7
OPERATIONS ACCOUNT (NSA)	27	27
LEASING (NSA)	10,534	10,534
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY (NSA)	70	70
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT (DIA)	4,274	4,274
LEASING (DIA)	32,662	32,662
UTILITIES ACCOUNT (DLA)	445	445
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT (DLA)	104	104
SERVICES ACCOUNT (DLA)	49	49
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT (DLA)	410	410
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY (DLA)	266	266
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	48,848	48,848

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	CONFERENCE AGREEMENT
DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND	500	500
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE		
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT, 1990	220,689	295,689
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACCOUNT, 2005	8,174,315	8,040,401
GRAND TOTAL	21,165,182	21,471,037

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XXI, CL. 9 (HOUSE) AND WITH RULE XLIV (SENATE)

The following list is submitted in compliance with clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, which require publication of a list of congressionally directed spending items (Senate), congressional earmarks (House), limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits included in the conference report, or in the joint statement of the managers accompanying the conference report, including the name of each Senator, House Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who submitted a request to the Committee of jurisdiction for each item so identified. Congressionally directed spending items (as defined in the Senate rule) and congressional earmarks (as defined in the House rule) in this division of the conference report or joint statement of the managers are listed below. Neither the conference report nor the statement of the managers contains any limited tax benefits or limited tariff benefits as defined in the applicable House and Senate rules.

The following list is also submitted in compliance with House Resolution 491, which requires a listing of congressional earmarks in the conference report or joint statement of the managers that were not committed to the committee of conference by either House, not in a report on a bill committed to conference, and not in a Senate committee report on a companion measure. All items on the following list technically meet that definition, because this division deals with legislation that was not committed to this committee of conference. Items on the following list have been marked with an asterisk if they were not in either the House or Senate version of the fiscal year 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations bill or the accompanying Committee reports.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Army	Alabama	Anniston Army Depot	Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant	$26,000	The President/Mr. Rogers, M. (AL)/Mr. Sessions/Mr. Shelby
*Army	Alabama	Anniston Army Depot	Component Rebuild Shop	800	Mr. Rogers, M. (AL)
Army NG	Alabama	Springville	Readiness Center, Add/Alt (ADRS)	3,300	The President/Mr. Sessions/Mr. Shelby
*Army NG	Alabama	Hamilton	Add/Alt Readiness Center	1,164	Mr. Aderholt/Mr. Davis, A.
Navy	Alabama	Evergreen	NOLF Evergreen Runway Extension	9,560	The President/Mr. Sessions/Mr. Shelby
Army	Alabama	Redstone Arsenal	Systems Software Engineering Annex, Phase II	20,000	Mr. Shelby/Mr. Sessions
*Army	Alabama	Redstone Arsenal	Child Care Center	2,000	Mr. Cramer
*Army	Alabama	Fort Rucker	Aviation Maintenance Hangar, Phase I	1,513	Mr. Everett
Air Force	Alaska	Elmendorf	F-22 Jet Engine Inspection & Maintenance	13,800	The President
Air Force	Alaska	Elmendorf	F-22 7 Bay A/C Shelter	21,400	The President
Air Force	Alaska	Elmendorf	F-22 Fighter Town East Infrastructure, Phase II	7,100	The President
Air Force	Alaska	Elmendorf	F-22 Taxiway, Taxilane & Arm/De-Arm Pad	27,880	The President
Air Force	Alaska	Elmendorf	Joint Professional Military Education Center	13,000	Mr. Stevens
Air Force Res	Alaska	Elmendorf	Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Facility	4,550	The President
Air Force Res	Alaska	Elmendorf	Group Headquarters	10,400	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Richardson	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	42,000	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Richardson	Barracks (Grow the Force)	36,000	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Richardson	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	14,800	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Wainwright	Replace Substation/Upgrade Electric	60,000	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Wainwright	Company Operations Facility	14,000	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Wainwright	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	11,600	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Wainwright	Barracks (Grow the Force)	20,000	The President
Army	Alaska	Fort Wainwright	Railhead Operations Facility	8,900	Mr. Stevens
Army NG	Alaska	Kenai	Add/Alt Readiness Center	1,400	Mr. Stevens
Air Force	Arizona	Davis-Monthan AFB	CSAR EC130 Maintenance Hangar/AMU	11,200	The President
Army	Arizona	Fort Huachuca	Effluent Reuse System	11,000	The President
Army	Arizona	Fort Huachuca	General Instructional Building (Grow the Force)	13,600	The President
Army	Arizona	Fort Huachuca	AIT Trainee Complex (Grow the Force)	105,000	The President
Navy	Arizona	Yuma	BEQ	22,980	The President
Navy	Arizona	Yuma	Towway G	10,740	The President
*Air Force	Arizona	Luke AFB	Repair Airfield Pavements, Phase I	5,500	Mr. Franks/Mr. Pastor/Mr. Kyl
*Army NG	Arizona	Marana	Fire Station, Silverbell Army Heliport	1,964	Ms. Giffords
Army NG	Arizona	Florence	Field Maintenance Shop	10,870	Mr. Kyl/Mr. Franks/Mr. Mitchell/Mr. Renzi
Army NG	Arkansas	Camp Robinson	Ammunition Supply Point	5,500	The President/Mrs. Lincoln/Mr. Pryor
Army NG	Arkansas	Camp Robinson	Professional Education Center/GED Plus Training Complex (Grow the Force)	18,423	The President/Mrs. Lincoln/Mr. Pryor
*Army NG	Arkansas	Camp Robinson	Urban Assault Course	1,900	Mr. Berry/Mr. Snyder/Mrs. Lincoln/Mr. Pryor
Air Force	Arkansas	Little Rock AFB	Runway Repair	9,800	Mrs. Lincoln/Mr. Pryor
*Air Force	Arkansas	Little Rock AFB	Multi-Purpose Education Facility	9,800	Mr. Snyder/Mr. Berry/Mrs. Lincoln/Mr. Pryor
*Army NG	Arkansas	Cabot	Readiness Center	840	Mr. Berry
*Air Force	Arkansas	Little Rock AFB	Multi-Purpose Education Facility (Design)	882	Mr. Berry/Mr. Snyder/Mrs. Lincoln/Mr. Pryor

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Air Force	California	Edwards AFB	Main Base Runway, Phase III	35,000	The President/Mr. McCarthy, K.
Air Force	California	Travis AFB	C-17 Road Improvements	4,600	The President
Air Force	California	Travis AFB	C-17 Southwest Landing Zone	22,000	The President
*Air Force	California	Travis AFB	Global Support Squadron Facility	10,800	Ms. Tauscher
Army	California	Fort Irwin	Military Operations Urban Terrain, Phase II	18,500	The President
Army	California	Fort Irwin	Training Land Improvements	5,500	The President
Army	California	Presidio Monterey	General Instruction Building	28,000	The President
Army NG	California	Camp Roberts	Infantry Platoon Battle Course	2,850	The President
Army NG	California	Sacramento Army Depot	Readiness Center	21,000	The President
Defense-Wide	California	Camp Pendleton	SOF Supply Facility	8,310	The President
Defense-Wide	California	Camp Pendleton	SOF Paraloft/Boat/Dive Locker	5,770	The President
Defense-Wide	California	Camp Pendleton	SOF Academic Instruction Facility	5,950	The President
Defense-Wide	California	Coronado	SOF Special Boat Team Operations Facility	12,000	The President
Defense-Wide	California	Point Loma Annex	Replace Fuel Storage Facilities, Incr 1	55,700	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	Physical Fitness Center	8,510	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	BEQ - Chappo	29,050	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	ISR Camp - Intel Battalion	17,980	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	MARSOC Supporting Facilities	17,730	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	BEQ - Headquarters	31,980	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	Traffic Improvements	5,830	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	Tactical Support Van Pads Expansion	6,050	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	Hangar Additions	4,400	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	BEQ - Margarita	26,530	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	Force Intelligence Operations Center - Headquarters Area (Grow the Force)	24,990	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	Consolidated Communications/Electronics Shop (Grow the Force)	16,840	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	1st Marine Logistics Group Operations Center (Grow the Force)	18,160	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	1st Marine Logistics Group Armory (Grow the Force)	8,150	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	1st Marine Logistics Group Group and Battalion Ops Center (Grow the Force)	22,220	The President
Navy	California	Camp Pendleton	BEQ - Wounded Warrior Battalion (Grow the Force)	25,940	The President
Navy	California	San Diego	Pier 5002 Submarine Fender Installation	9,040	The President
Navy	California	San Diego	Magnetic Silencing Facility Modification	14,590	The President
Navy	California	Twentynine Palms	BEQ and Parking Structure	34,329	The President
Navy	California	Twentynine Palms	Multi-Battalion Operations Center (Grow the Force)	33,770	The President
Navy	California	Twentynine Palms	Multi-Battalion Operations Center (Grow the Force)	33,650	The President
Navy	California	Twentynine Palms	Armory (Grow the Force)	5,920	The President
Navy	California	Twentynine Palms	Landfill (Grow the Force)	13,560	The President
Navy	California	Twentynine Palms	MOUT Facility, Phase III (Grow the Force)	21,390	The President
*Navy FH	California	Twentynine Palms	Air Conditioning, Vista Del Sol	4,800	Mr. Lewis, Jerry
Navy	California	Miramar	Hangar Modification (Grow the Force)	26,760	The President
Navy Reserve	California	Miramar	Reserve Center Additions	5,580	The President

Army	California	Fort Hunter Liggett	Convoy Live Fire Range	2,534	The President
Army	California	Fort Hunter Liggett	Range Control Facility	4,501	The President
Army	California	Garden Grove	Army Reserve Center	25,440	The President
*Air Force Res	California	March ARB	Joint Deployment Processing Facility	972	Mr. Calvert
*Navy	California	San Diego	Main Gate (Gate 6) Improvements	3,000	Mrs. Davis, S.
*Army	California	B.T. Collins USARC	High Tech RTS Maintenance Facility	6,874	Mrs. Matsui
*Air Force	California	Edwards AFB	Main Base Runway Phase 4	8,500	Mr. McCarthy, K./Mr. McKeon
*Navy	California	Monterey NSA	DOD Global Weather Operations Center	9,780	Mr. Farr
Air Force	Colorado	Fort Carson	Air Support Operations Squadron Complex	13,500	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Air Force	Colorado	Schriever AFB	Air and Space Integration Facility	24,500	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Air Force	Colorado	Air Force Academy	Upgrade Academic Facility, Phase IVB	15,000	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Army	Colorado	Fort Carson	Indoor Range	4,900	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Army	Colorado	Fort Carson	Defense Access Road	8,300	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Army	Colorado	Fort Carson	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	59,000	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Army	Colorado	Fort Carson	Barracks (Grow the Force)	53,000	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Army	Colorado	Fort Carson	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	13,000	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Army	Colorado	Fort Carson	Hospital Addition & Dental Clinic (Grow the Force)	18,000	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Chem Demil	Colorado	Pueblo Depot	Ammunition Demilitarization Facility, Phase IX	35,159	The President/Mr. Allard/Mr. Ken Salazar
Air NG	Colorado	Buckley AFB	Replace Squadron Operations	7,300	Mr. Allard/Ms. DeGette/Mr. Lamborn/Ms. Musgrave/Mr. Perlmutter/Mr. Salazar, J./Mr. Ken Salazar/Mr. Tancredo/Mr Udall, M.
Army NG	Connecticut	Niantic	Readiness Center (ADRS)	13,600	The President/Mr. Dodd/Mr. Lieberman
Navy	Connecticut	New London Submarine Base	Waterfront Operations Small Crafts Facility	11,900	Mr. Dodd/Mr. Courtney
*Navy	Connecticut	New London Submarine Base	Submarine Learning Center	9,260	Mr. Courtney
Army	Delaware	Dover AFB	Joint Personal Effects Depot	17,500	The President/Mr. Biden/Mr. Carper
Air NG	Delaware	New Castle County Air Guard Base	C-130 Maintenance Hangar, Phase I	10,800	Mr. Biden/Mr. Carper/Mr. Castle
Army NG	Delaware	New Castle County Air Guard Base	Joint Forces HQ	1,020	Mr. Biden/Mr. Carper/Mr. Castle
Air Force	District of Columbia	Bolling AFB	Communication Switch Facility	2,500	The President
Defense-Wide	District of Columbia	Bolling AFB	Install Backup Water System	1,012	The President
Air Force	Florida	Eglin AFB	F–35 ADAL 53RD Joint Reprogramming Facility	8,300	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	Eglin AFB	Construct Seawalls Santa Rosa Island Range Complex	35,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	Eglin AFB	Repair Roads Santa Rosa Island Range Complex	49,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	Eglin AFB	F–35 Integrated Training Center	39,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	Eglin AFB	F–35 Squadron OPS/AMU/Hangar	27,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	MacDill AFB	CENTCOM Joint Intell Center	25,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	MacDill AFB	Alter CENTCOM Headquarters	57,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	Patrick AFB	Child Development Center	11,854	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	Tyndall AFB	Fitness Center	19,014	The President/Mr. Boyd/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Air Force	Florida	Tyndall AFB	Repair Airfield	25,100	The President/Mr. Boyd/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Army	Florida	Camp Rudder, Eglin AFB	Dining Facility	1,500	Mr. Bill Nelson
Army	Florida	Miami Doral	SOUTHCOM Headquarters Facility, Incr 1	100,000	The President/Mr. Diaz-Balart, L./Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Army NG	Florida	Jacksonville IAP	Aviation Support Facility Add/Alt	12,200	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	Hurlburt Field	SOF Maintenance Storage Facility	4,711	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	Hurlburt Field	SOF Operations Facility	5,500	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	Hurlburt Field	SOF Combat Weather Operations Facility	14,900	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	Hurlburt Field	SOF Squadron Operations Addition	4,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Defense-Wide	Florida	Key West	Replace Fuel Pump House	1,874	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	MacDill AFB	Pharmacare Add/Alt	5,000	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	MacDill AFB	Clinic Replacement, Increment III	41,400	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	MacDill AFB	SOF Acquisition Center	35,500	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Defense-Wide	Florida	MacDill AFB	SOF 501–D Building Addition, Phase II	12,200	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Navy	Florida	Blount Island	Main Gate Improvements	7,570	The President//Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Navy	Florida	Panama City	Littoral Warfare Systems Facility	13,870	The President/Mr. Boyd/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Navy	Florida	Cape Canaveral Air Force Station	Engineering Services Facility	9,900	Mr. Bill Nelson
*Navy	Florida	Pensacola NAS	Fire Station, Corry Station	3,140	Mr. Miller, J./Mr. Martinez
*Air Force	Florida	MacDill AFB	EOD Facility	3,500	Ms. Castor
*Navy	Florida	Blount Island	Slipway Barrier	2,670	Mr. Crenshaw
*Air NG	Florida	Jacksonville IAP	Replace Communications Facility, 125th Fighter Wing	6,000	Mr. Crenshaw/Mr. Boyd/Mr. Stearns/Mr. Young, B.
*Army NG	Florida	Camp Blanding	Regional Training Institute Phase III—Joint Ops Center Training Facility	15,524	Mr. Young, B./Ms. Brown, C/Mr. Stearns/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
*Air Force	Florida	Tyndall AFB	1st Air Force Forces Facility HQ	8,400	Mr. Boyd
Air Force	Georgia	Robins AFB	Aircraft Component Repair Facility	14,700	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Benning	Reception Station, Phase I	51,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Benning	Trainee Barracks Complex	73,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Benning	Modified Record Fire Range	5,800	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Benning	Simulations Training Facility	56,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Stewart	Barracks Complex	36,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Stewart	Brigade Complex Headquarters	26,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Stewart	Fire Station (Grow the Force)	5,500	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Stewart	Barracks (Grow the Force)	25,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Fort Stewart	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	15,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Army	Georgia	Hunter Army Airfield	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	16,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Defense-Wide	Georgia	Augusta	Regional Security Operation Center, Increment III	100,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Defense-Wide	Georgia	Fort Benning	SOF Battalion Complex	21,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Defense-Wide	Georgia	Fort Benning	SOF Headquarters Building Addition	5,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Defense-Wide	Georgia	Fort Benning	SOF Tactical Equipment Shop	9,000	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Defense-Wide	Georgia	Hunter	SOF Support Company Facility	13,800	The President/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
Air NG	Georgia	Savannah Air National Guard	Troop Dorms	9,000	Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson/Mr. Barrow/Mr. Bishop, S./Mr. Kingston
*Navy	Georgia	Albany, Marine Corps Logistics Base	Warehouse-Combat Vehicle	9,980	Mr. Bishop, S./Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
*Air Force	Georgia	Robins Air Force Base	Survival Recovery Center & Command Post	5,000	Mr. Marshall/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
*Air Force	Georgia	Moody Air Force Base	Commercial Access Gate	7,500	Mr. Kingston/Mr. Chambliss/Mr. Isakson
*Army	Georgia	Fort Benning	Child Development Center	3,700	House Committee on Appropriations
*Navy Reserve	Georgia	Windy Hill	Marine Corps Reserve Center	310	Mr. Gingrey
Air Force	Hawaii	Hickam AFB	DCGS Intelligence Squadron Operations Facility	16,500	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Air Force	Hawaii	Hickam AFB	C-17 Parking Ramp	15,471	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Army	Hawaii	Fort Shafter	Barracks Complex	31,000	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Army	Hawaii	Schofield Barracks	Barracks Complex	43,000	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye

Army	Hawaii	Schofield Barracks	Barracks Complex	45,000	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Army	Hawaii	Wheeler AFB	Barracks Complex	51,000	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Defense-Wide	Hawaii	Hickam AFB	Replace Hydrant Fuels System	11,900	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Defense-Wide	Hawaii	Kunia	Regional Security Operation Center, Increment III	136,318	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Navy	Hawaii	Kaneohe Bay	Bachelor Enlisted Quarters	37,961	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Navy	Hawaii	Pearl Harbor	Submarine Drive-In Magnetic Silencing Facility, Incr 1	49,860	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Navy	Hawaii	Wahiawa	Communication Center	65,410	The President/Mr. Akaka/Mr. Inouye
Navy	Hawaii	Pearl Harbor	Dry Dock Ship Support Services	30,200	Mr. Inouye/Mr. Akaka
*Army	Hawaii	Kahuku Training Area	Tactical Vehicle Wash Facility	10,200	Mr. Abercrombie
Army NG	Idaho	Orchard Training Area	Urban Assault Course	1,700	The President/Mr. Craig/Mr. Crapo
Army NG	Idaho	Gowen Field	Training Area Railhead	7,615	Mr. Craig/Mr. Crapo/Mr. Simpson
*Air Force	Idaho	Mountain Home AFB	Logistics Readiness Center	1,593	Mr. Simpson/Mr. Craig/Mr. Crapo
Air Force	Illinois	Scott AFB	Security Forces Operations Facility	16,700	The President/Mr. Costello/Mr. Durbin
Army NG	Illinois	St. Clair County	Readiness Center (ADRS)	8,100	The President/Mr. Costello/Mr. Durbin
Defense-Wide	Illinois	Great Lakes	Healthcare Faciltiy	99,000	The President/Mr. Durbin
Navy	Illinois	Great Lakes	RTC Infrastructure Upgrade, Increment III	16,650	The President/Mr. Durbin
Navy	Illinois	Great Lakes	Small Arms Marksmanship Trainer	10,221	The President/Mr. Durbin
Air Force	Illinois	Scott Air Force Base	Child Development Center	8,200	Mr. Durbin/Mr. Costello/Mr. Shimkus
Army	Illinois	Rock Island Arsenal	Combined Fire/Police Facility	3,350	Mr. Durbin/Mr. Obama/Mr. Braley/Mr. Hare
Air NG	Indiana	Hulman Regional Airpt	Digital Ground Station (DGS) Beddown	7,700	The President/Mr. Bayh/Mr. Lugar
*Army NG	Indiana	Camp Lincoln	Combined Support Maintenance Shop	666	Mr. LaHood
Navy	Indiana	Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center	Secured Electronic Warfare Systems Engineering Facility	12,000	Mr. Bayh/Mr. Lugar/Mr. Ellsworth
*Navy	Indiana	Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center	Special Weapons Assessment Facility	11,800	Mr. Ellsworth/Mr. Bayh
*Army NG	Indiana	Muscatatuck	Urban Training Center Security Fence	4,996	Mr. Hill/Mr. Visclosky/Mr. Lugar
Army NG	Iowa	Iowa City	Iowa City Readiness Center	13,186	Mr. Harkin/Mr. Grassley/Mr. Latham
*Army NG	Iowa	Camp Dodge	Main Entrance	1,500	Mr. Boswell/Mr. Harkin/Mr. Grassley
Air Force	Kansas	Fort Riley	Air Support Operations Squadron Complex	12,515	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts/Mr. Tiahrt
Army	Kansas	Fort Leavenworth	Barracks Complex	55,000	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts/Mr. Tiahrt
Army	Kansas	Fort Leavenworth	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	23,000	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts
Army	Kansas	Fort Leavenworth	Barracks (Grow the Force)	12,800	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts
Army	Kansas	Fort Riley	Digital Multipurpose Range Complex	28,000	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts/Mr. Tiahrt
Army	Kansas	Fort Riley	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	43,000	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts
Army	Kansas	Fort Riley	Barracks (Grow the Force)	50,000	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts
Army	Kansas	Fort Riley	Child Development Center (Grow the Force)	8,500	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts
Army	Kansas	Fort Riley	Health & Dental Clinic (Grow the Force)	8,800	The President/Mr. Brownback/Mr. Roberts
Air NG	Kansas	Smoky Hill Air National Guard Range	ASOS Beddown	9,000	Mr. Brownback
*Air Force	Kansas	McConnell Air Force Base	MXG Consolidation and Forward Logistics Center	6,300	Mr. Tiahrt/Mr. Brownback
*Army	Kansas	Fort Riley	Military Working Dog Facility	1,900	Ms. Boyda/Mr. Brownback
*Army	Kansas	Fort Leavenworth	Chapel Complex Phase I	11,600	Ms. Boyda
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	Indoor Range	5,000	The President/Mr. McConnell
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	Vehicle Maintenance Complex	49,000	The President/Mr. McConnell
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	24,000	The President/Mr. McConnell
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	Barracks (Grow the Force)	27,000	The President/Mr. McConnell
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	Chapel Center	450	Mr. McConnell//Ms. Blackburn/Mr. Tanner/Mr. Wamp/Mr. Whitfield

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Army	Kentucky	Fort Knox	Cantonment Area Roads	6,700	The President/Mr. McConnell
Defense-Wide	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	SOF Battalion Operations Complex	35,000	The President/Mr. McConnell
Defense-Wide	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	SOF Group Support Battalion Complex	18,500	The President/Mr. McConnell
*Army NG	Kentucky	London	Readiness Center Phase II - Joint Support Operations	2,427	Mr. Rogers, H.
*Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	Child Development Center (Ages 0-5)	8,600	House Committee on Appropriations/Mr. McConnell
Chem Demil	Kentucky	Blue Grass	Ammunition Demilitarization Faciltiy, Phase VIII	51,017	The President/Mr. McConnell
Chem Demil	Kentucky	Blue Grass	Ammunition Demilitarization Faciltiy, Phase VIII	18,000	Mr. McConnell
Air NG	Louisiana	Camp Beauregard	Upgrade ASOS Facility	1,800	The President/Ms. Landrieu/Mr. Vitter
Army	Louisiana	Ft. Polk	4th Brigade 10th Mountain Division Headquarters	9,800	Ms. Landrieu/Mr. Vitter/Mr. Jindal/Mr. McCrery
Army	Louisiana	Ft. Polk	Child Care Facility	6,100	Ms. Landrieu/Mr. Vitter/Mr. McCrery
Navy	Maine	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	Consolidated Emergency Control Center	9,700	Ms. Collins
*Navy	Maine	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	Dry Dock #3 Waterfront Support Facility	1,200	Mr. Allen/Ms. Shea-Porter/Ms. Collins/Ms. Snowe/Mr. Sununu
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Fort Detrick	USAMRIID Stage I, Increment II	150,000	The President/Mr. Cardin/Ms. Mikulski
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Fort Meade	NSAW PSC Utility Management System, Phase II	7,901	The President/Mr. Cardin/Ms. Mikulski
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Fort Meade	NSAW OPS1 South Stair Tower	4,000	The President/Mr. Cardin/Ms. Mikulski
Navy	Maryland	Patuxent River	Aircraft Prototype Facility, Phase I	17,990	The President/Mr. Cardin/Mr. Hoyer/Ms. Mikulski
Navy	Maryland	Patuxent River	E-2 Advanced Hawkeye RDT&E Facility	13,650	The President/Mr. Cardin/Mr. Hoyer/Ms. Mikulski
Navy	Maryland	Patuxent River	JPALS Addition to Building 2110/2122	6,720	The President/Mr. Cardin/Mr. Hoyer/Ms. Mikulski
Navy	Maryland	Suitland	National Maritime Intelligence Center, Increment II	52,069	The President/Mr. Cardin/Ms. Mikulski
Army	Maryland	Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD	Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility	12,200	Ms. Mikulski/Mr. Cardin/Mr. Ruppersberger
*Navy	Maryland	NWSC, Indian Head Division	Advanced Energetics Research Lab Complex (Phase I)	9,450	Mr. Hoyer/Mr. Cardin
*Army NG	Maryland	Dundalk	Readiness Center	829	Mr. Ruppersberger
Air NG	Massachusetts	Otis ANGB	Digital Ground Station (DGS) IOC Beddown	1,800	The President/Mr. Edward Kennedy/Mr. Kerry
Air Force	Massachusetts	Hanscom AFB	Renovate Acquisition Management Facility—B1102C	12,800	Mr. Edward Kennedy
*Air NG	Massachusetts	Barnes ANGB	Fire Crash/Rescue Station	7,300	Mr. Olver
Navy Reserve	Michigan	Selfridge	Reserve Training Center	4,030	The President/Mr. Carl Levin/Ms. Stabenow
Army	Michigan	Detroit Arsenal	Ground Systems Power and Energy Laboratory	18,500	Mr. Carl Levin/Ms. Stabenow
Army NG	Michigan	Lansing, MI	US Property and Fiscal Office and Readiness Center Renovation	4,239	Mr. Conyers/Mr. Knollenberg/Mr. Carl Levin/Mr. Rogers, M. (MI)/Ms. Stabenow/Mr. Stupak
Army NG	Michigan	Camp Grayling	IPBC with Convoy Live Fire Range	2,450	Mr. Carl Levin/Ms. Stabenow
Army NG	Minnesota	Camp Ripley	Combined Arms Collective Training Facility	4,850	The President/Mr. Coleman/Ms. Klobuchar
*Army NG	Minnesota	Camp Ripley	Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF) Phase II	12,600	Mr. Oberstar/Mr. Coleman/Ms. Klobuchar
*Army NG	Minnesota	Arden Hills	Field Maintenance Shop	1,366	Mr. Walz
Army NG	Minnesota	Arden Hills	Joint Forces HQ and Emergency Operations Center	3,536	Ms. Klobuchar/Ms. McCollum
*Air NG	Minnesota	Duluth 148th FW Base	Wing Storage Facility	1,500	Mr. Oberstar/Ms. Klobuchar/Mr. Coleman
Navy	Mississippi	NAS Meridian	Fire Station	6,770	Mr. Cochran/Mr. Lott/Mr. Pickering
Defense-Wide	Mississippi	John C. Stennis Space Center	SOF Riverine and Combatant Craft Operations Facility	10,200	Mr. Cochran/Mr. Lott
*Air Force	Mississippi	Columbus AFB	Mission Support Complex Phase II	9,800	Mr. Wicker/Mr. Lott
Army NG	Mississippi	Camp Shelby	Live Fire Shoot House/Urban Assault Course	4,000	Mr. Cochran/Mr. Lott/Mr. Taylor
*Air NG	Mississippi	Key Field	ASOS/ATCS Training Center	6,100	Mr. Wicker/Mr. Pickering
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Modified Record Fire Range	3,800	The President

Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Modified Record Fire Range	4,000	The President
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Automated Multipurpose Machine Gun Range (Grow the Force)	4,150	The President
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Automated Pistol Range (Grow the Force)	2,700	The President
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	56,000	The President
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Barracks (Grow the Force)	26,000	The President
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Dining Facility—Basic Combat Trng Complex (Grow the Force)	22,000	The President
Army NG	Missouri	Whiteman AFB	Aviation Support Facility	30,000	The President
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Child Development Center (Ages 6-10)	7,000	Mr. Bond/Ms. Emerson
*Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Chapel	10,400	Mr. Skelton
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Regional Training Institute	500	Mr. Bond
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	Sapper Leader Course General Instruction Building	360	Mr. Bond
*Air Force	Missouri	Whiteman AFB	Consolidated Communications Center	11,400	Mr. Skelton
Army	Montana	Butte	Army Reserve Center/Land	7,629	The President/Mr. Baucus/Mr. Tester
Air Force	Montana	Malmstrom Air Force Base, MT	Construct Community Activity Center	7,000	Mr. Baucus/Mr. Tester
*Army NG	Montana	Miles City	Readiness Center	906	Mr. Rehberg
Air Force	Nebraska	Offutt AFB	ADAL Intelligence Squadron Facility	16,952	The President/Mr. Hagel/Mr. Ben Nelson
Air NG	Nebraska	Lincoln Municipal Airport	Add/Alter Security Forces Commo Complex	8,900	Mr. Ben Nelson/Mr. Hagel/Mr. Fortenberry
Army	Nevada	Hawthorne Army Ammunition Plant	Ground Water Treatment Plant	11,800	The President/Mr. Ensign/Mr. Heller/Mr. Reid
Army	Nevada	Hawthorne Army Ammunition Plant	Wabuska Railroad Line Spur	1,400	Mr. Reid/Mr. Heller
Air NG	Nevada	Nevada Air National Guard, Reno	Vehicle Maintenance Complex	5,200	Mr. Reid/Mr. Ensign
Air Force	Nevada	Nellis Air Force Base	Joint Terminal Air Control Virtual Training Facility	4,950	Mr. Reid/Mr. Ensign
Navy	Nevada	Fallon Naval Air Station	Range Improvements B-20	11,460	Mr. Reid/Mr. Ensign
Air NG	New Hampshire	Pease Air National Guard Base	Wing HQ Operations and Training Facility	8,900	Mr. Gregg/Mr. Sununu/Mr. Hodes/Ms. Shea-Porter
Army	New Jersey	Fort Dix	Combined Maintenance Facility	17,000	The President/Mr. Lautenberg/Mr. Menendez
*Air NG	New Jersey	177th Fighter Wing, Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic City	Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS)	9,800	Mr. LoBiondo/Mr. Rothman/Mr. Lautenberg/Mr. Menendez
*Army Reserve	New Jersey	Fort Dix	Tactical Training Base Phase I	5,900	Mr. Saxton/Mr. Rothman/Mr. Lautenberg/Mr. Menendez
Army Reserve	New Jersey	Fort Dix	Tactical Training Base Phase I (Design)	531	Mr. Lautenberg//Mr. Saxton/Mr. Rothman
Navy	New Jersey	Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station	Joint Installation Road Improvement	4,100	Mr. Lautenberg/Mr. Menendez/Mr. Rothman
*Army	New Jersey	Picatinny Arsenal	Armament Integration Facility	9,900	Mr. Frelinghuysen/Mr. Lautenberg/Mr. Menendez
Air Force	New Mexico	Cannon AFB	ADAL Hangar 09 for C-130	1,688	The President/Mr. Bingaman/Mr. Domenici/Mr. Udall, T.
Defense-Wide	New Mexico	Cannon AFB	SOF C-130 Fuel Cell & Corrosion Control Hangars	855	Mr. Domenici/Mr. Bingaman/Mr. Udall, T.
Defense-Wide	New Mexico	Cannon AFB	SOF Flight Simulator Facility	7,500	The President/Mr. Bingaman/Mr. Domenici/Mr. Udall, T.
*Defense-Wide	New Mexico	Cannon AFB	SOF CV-22 Simulator Facility	711	Mr. Udall, T.
Defense-Wide	New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	Replace Fuel Unload Facility	1,800	The President/Mr. Bingaman/Mr. Domenici
Army	New Mexico	White Sands Missile Range	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	71,000	The President/Mr. Bingaman/Mr. Domenici
Air Force	New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	PJ/CRO Rescue & Recovery Training Center	11,400	Mr. Domenici/Mr. Bingaman/Ms. Wilson, H.
*Air Force	New Mexico	Kirtland AFB	PJ/CRO Logistics Building	3,700	Ms. Wilson, H.
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Infrastructure Upgrades	12,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Brigade Complex Company Operations	55,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Brigade Complex Barracks Operations	40,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Brigade Complex Maintenance Facility	44,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	41,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	38,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Barracks (Grow the Force)	61,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Defense-Wide	New York	Fort Drum	Medical Clinic Add/Alt	41,000	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
Army	New York	Fort Drum	Army Reserve Center	15,923	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer
*Army NG	New York	Camp Smith	Combined Support Maintenance Facility	2,727	Mr. Hall, J.
*Air NG	New York	Griffiss Northeast Air Defense (NEADS) ANG Base	Construct New Northeast Air Defense Sector Support Facility	6,600	Mr. Arcuri/Mr. Schumer/Mrs. Clinton
Air NG	New York	ANG Base, Gabreski Airport	Construct Part One of the Pararescue Facility	8,400	Mr. Schumer/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Ackerman/Mr. Bishop, T./Ms. Gillibrand/Mr. Israel/Mr. King, P./Ms. McCarthy, C.
*Army	New York	Fort Drum	Automated Qualification Training Range	9,600	Mr. McHugh/Mr. Schumer/Mrs. Clinton
*Air NG	New York	Hancock Field	Upgrade Base Facilities	5,100	Mr. Walsh/Mr. Schumer/Mrs. Clinton
*Army	New York	Fort Drum	Child Development Center	10,600	House Committee on Appropriations
Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Barracks Complex, Increment III	47,400	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Indoor Range	4,800	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Student Barracks	51,000	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Barracks (Grow the Force)	73,000	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Unit Maintenance Facility (Grow the Force)	88,000	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	54,000	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	SOF Supply and Pre-deployment Facility	10,500	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	SOF Academic Instruction Facility	6,910	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	SOF Equipment Facility	10,800	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Delalio ES - Construct Gymnasium	2,014	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	SOF Operations/Intell Addition	8,000	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	SOF Headquarter and Motor Pool Complex	39,250	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	BEQ - French Creek	27,800	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Field Medical Service School	8,080	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	MOUT Enhancements	14,120	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	MARSOC Support Facility	21,720	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	MARSOC Training Facilities	12,590	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	MARSOC Fitness Center/Training Tank	14,480	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	MARSOC Community Support Facilities	9,170	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Academic Instruction Facility	16,460	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	BEQ - 4TH MEB	29,970	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range - G10 (Grow the Force)	17,250	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Landfill Cell (Grow the Force)	14,170	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Wastewater System Modification (Grow the Force)	7,070	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Main Gate Physical Security Upgrades (Grow the Force)	7,920	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Physical Security Upgrades - Piney Green (Grow the Force)	6,660	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	BEQ - Wounded Warrior Battalion (Grow the Force)	27,270	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Cherry Point MC Air Sta	UAV Operations/Maintenance	12,110	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	Cherry Point MC Air Sta	Hangar Renovation and Facility Upgrades F/A18E/F	16,500	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	New River	BEQ	22,530	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	New River	Hangar Addition, Phase II	17,330	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole
Navy	North Carolina	New River	Jet Engine Test Cell	14,570	The President/Mr. Burr/Mrs. Dole

*Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Child Development Center	8,700	House Committee on Appropriations/Mr. Burr
*Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Community Emergency Services Center	2,900	Mr. McIntyre/Mr. Hayes/Mrs. Dole
*Navy	North Carolina	MCAS New River	Main Gate Security Upgrades	4,270	Mr. Jones, W./Mr. Burr/Mrs.Dole
Army	North Carolina	Fort Bragg	Blood Donor Center	4,800	Mrs. Dole/Mr. McIntyre
*Army NG	North Carolina	Asheville	Field Maintenance Shop	3,733	Mr. Shuler/Mrs. Dole
*Air NG	North Carolina	Stanly County Airport (Charlotte)	Air Traffic Control Facility	4,000	Mr. Hayes/Mr. Burr/Mrs.Dole
*Navy	North Carolina	Camp Lejeune	Child Development Center (P1096)	14,200	House Committee on Appropriations
Air Force	North Dakota	Minot AFB	Dormitory	18,200	The President/Mr. Conrad/Mr. Dorgan
Army NG	North Dakota	Camp Grafton	Regional Training Institute Phase 1 (Grow the Force)	33,416	The President/Mr. Conrad/Mr. Dorgan
Air Force	North Dakota	Grand Forks Air Force Base	Control Tower/RAPCON	13,000	Mr. Dorgan/Mr. Conrad
*Air Force	Ohio	Wright-Patterson AFB	Security Forces Operations Facility	640	Mr. Turner/Mr. Voinovich
Defense-Wide	Ohio	Columbus AFB	Decentralize Heat Plant	4,000	The President/Mr. Sherrod Brown/Mr. Hobson
Navy Reserve	Ohio	Wright-Patterson AFB	Reserve Training Center	10,277	The President/Mr. Sherrod Brown/Mr. Hobson
*Air NG	Ohio	Rickenbacker ANGB	Security Forces Complex/Communications Building	7,600	Mr. Hobson/Mr. Voinovich
*Army NG	Ohio	Camp Perry	Base Engineering, Operations & Classroom Facility	1,500	Ms. Kaptur
*Army NG	Ohio	Newton Falls	Training Building (#813) Alteration, Ravenna Training & Logistics Site	1,500	Mr. Ryan, T.
Air Force	Oklahoma	Altus AFB	C-17 Sheet Metal Composite Shop	2,000	The President/Mr. Inhofe
Air Force	Oklahoma	Tinker AFB	Consolidated Fuel O/H Repair and Test Facility	34,600	The President/Mr. Inhofe
Army	Oklahoma	Fort Sill	Modified Record Fire Range	2,900	The President/Mr. Inhofe
Air Force	Oklahoma	Vance AFB	Fuels System Maintenance Hangar	7,700	Mr. Inhofe/Mr. Lucas
Army	Oklahoma	Fort Sill	Multipurpose Machine Gun Range	3,300	Mr. Inhofe
*Army	Oklahoma	Fort Sill	Fire and Movement Range	1,300	Mr. Cole
*Army NG	Oklahoma	Camp Gruber	Training Facility Phase V	2,705	Mr. Boren
Army NG	Oregon	Ontario	Readiness Center	11,000	The President/Mr. Blumenauer/Mr. Gordon Smith/Mr. Wyden
Army NG	Oregon	Klamath Falls	Armed Forces Reserve Center/Security Forces Facility	1,452	Mr. Gordon Smith/Mr. Wyden//Mr. Blumenauer
Army NG	Oregon	The Dalles	Readiness Center	960	Mr. Wyden/Mr. Gordon Smith
Navy Reserve	Oregon	Portland	Operational Facilities MIUW 110/IBU 13	1,900	The President/Mr. Gordon Smith/Mr. Wyden
Air NG	Pennsylvania	Fort Indiantown Gap	Air Support Ops Squadron (ASOS) Beddown	6,400	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Carlisle	Readiness Center (SBCT)	7,800	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	East Fallowfield Township	Readiness Center (SBCT)	8,300	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Fort Indiantown Gap	Ammunition Supply Point Upgrade (SBCT)	9,500	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Gettysburg	Readiness Center (SBCT)	6,300	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Graterford	Field Maintenance Shop (SBCT)	7,300	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Hanover	Readiness Center Add/Alt (SBCT)	5,500	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Hazelton	Readiness Center Add/Alt (SBCT)	5,600	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Holidaysburg	Readiness Center (SBCT)	9,400	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Huntingdon	Readiness Center (SBCT)	7,500	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Kutztown	Readiness Center Add/Alt (SBCT)	6,800	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Lebanon	Readiness Center Add/Alt (SBCT)	7,800	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	Field Maintenance Shop, Add/Alt (SBCT)	3,650	The President
Army NG	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	Readiness Center Alteration (SBCT)	10,000	The President
Defense-Wide	Pennsylvania	Distribution Depot New Cumberland	Replace Central Heat Plant	21,000	The President
Air NG	Pennsylvania	Fort Indiantown Gap, PA	Operations & Training Facility	6,300	Mr. Specter/Mr. Casey/Mr. Holden
*Army NG	Pennsylvania	Waynesburg	Readiness Center	9,000	Mr. Murtha

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
*Army NG	Pennsylvania	Wilkes-Barre	Readiness Center Rehabilitation	263	Mr. Carney
Army Reserve	Pennsylvania	Letterkenny Army Depot	Army Reserve Center	675	Mr. Specter/Mr. Casey/Mr. Shuster
*Air NG	Pennsylvania	Harrisburg	Expand Aircraft Parking Apron/Relocate Taxiway	1,000	Mr. Holden
Air Reserve	Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh ARS, Coraopolis	Visiting Quarters Phase I	828	Mr. Specter/Mr. Casey/Mr. Doyle
Army NG	Rhode Island	East Greenwich	Readiness Center	8,200	The President/Mr. Langevin/Mr. Reed
Army NG	Rhode Island	N. Kingstown	Aviation Support Facility	33,000	The President/Mr. Langevin/Mr. Reed
Army NG	Rhode Island	N. Kingstown	US Property and Fiscal Office	810	Mr. Reed
Air NG	Rhode Island	Quonset State Airport	Special Operations Training Facility	5,000	Mr. Reed
Navy	Rhode Island	NS Newport	Reconstruct Wharf between Piers 1 & 2	9,900	Mr. Reed
*Navy	Rhode Island	NS Newport	HAZMAT Storage Facility	3,860	Mr. Kennedy, P.
Navy	Rhode Island	NS Newport	Bachelor Quarters Addition	750	Mr. Reed
*Navy	Rhode Island	NS Newport	Fitness Center	900	Mr. Kennedy, P.
Army	South Carolina	Fort Jackson	Basic Training Complex (Grow the Force)	85,000	The President/Mr. Graham
Navy	South Carolina	Beaufort	Fire Station	6,800	The President/Mr. Graham
Navy	South Carolina	Parris Island	Recruit Barracks - 3rd Battalion, Phase I	25,322	The President/Mr. Graham
Navy	South Carolina	Parris Island	Motor Transportation Complex	5,530	The President/Mr. Graham
Navy	South Carolina	Parris Island	Consolidated Dining Facility (Grow the Force)	24,430	The President/Mr. Graham
AF Milcon	South Carolina	Charleston Air Force Base	Child Development Center	11,000	Mr. Graham/Mr. Brown, H.
*Navy	South Carolina	Marine Corp Air Station, Beaufort	Nuclear/Biological/Chemical Facility	3,500	Mr. Wilson, J./Mr. Graham
*Air Force	South Carolina	Shaw AFB	Base Infrastructure	9,300	Mr. Spratt
Navy Reserve	South Dakota	Sioux Falls	Joint Armed Forces Reserve Center	3,730	The President/Mr. Johnson/Mr. Thune
Air NG	South Dakota	Joe Foss Field, SD National Guard	Base Civil Engineer Maintenance Complex	7,900	Mr. Johnson/Mr. Thune/Ms. Herseth Sandlin
Air NG	South Dakota	Rapid City	Joint Forces Headquarters	900	Mr. Johnson
Air Force	South Dakota	Ellsworth AFB, SD	Base Civil Engineer Administrative Facility	16,600	Mr. Johnson/Mr. Thune/Ms. Herseth Sandlin
Air NG	Tennessee	McGhee-Tyson Airport	MILSTAR Beddown-Relocate Base Access Road	3,200	The President/Mr. Alexander/Mr. Corker
Air NG	Tennessee	Memphis IAP	C-5 Ground Run-Up Enclosure	3,200	The President/Mr. Alexander/Mr. Corker
Air NG	Tennessee	Memphis IAP	C-5 Final Infrastructure Support	6,676	The President/Mr. Alexander/Mr. Corker
Air NG	Tennessee	Memphis IAP	C-5 Munitions Storage Complex	1,500	The President/Mr. Alexander/Mr. Corker
*Air NG	Tennessee	Lovell Field	Communications Training Complex	8,200	Mr. Wamp
Air NG	Tennessee	McGhee-Tyson Airport	Replace Squadron Operations & Relocate Security Perimeter	1,120	Mr. Alexander/Mr. Corker
Army NG	Tennessee	Tullahoma	Readiness Center	264	Mr. Alexander/Mr. Corker/Mr. Davis, L.
Air Force	Texas	Lackland AFB	Basic Expeditionary Airman Skill Training, Phase II	14,000	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Camp Bullis	Urban Assault Course	1,600	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Bliss	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	84,000	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Bliss	Barracks (Grow the Force)	11,400	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Bliss	Health & Dental Clinic (Grow the Force)	16,500	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Hood	Barracks Complex	47,000	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mr. Edwards/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Hood	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	46,000	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mr. Edwards/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Hood	Barracks (Grow the Force)	45,000	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mr. Edwards/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Sam Houston	Battle Command Training Center, Phase I	1,950	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison/Mr. Smith, L.

Army	Texas	Fort Sam Houston	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	10,600	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Sam Houston	Barracks (Grow the Force)	6,600	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Red River Army Depot	Maneuver Systems Sustainment Center, Phase II	9,200	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army NG	Texas	Camp Bowie	Modified Record Fire Range	1,500	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army NG	Texas	Fort Wolters	Modified Record Fire Range	2,100	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Defense-Wide	Texas	Camp Bullis	Health Clinic Replacement	7,400	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Navy	Texas	Corpus Christi	Aviation Trainer/Squadron Operations Facility	14,290	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Navy Reserve	Texas	Austin	Reserve Training Center	6,490	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Navy Reserve	Texas	Fort Worth	Child Development Center	4,920	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Navy Reserve	Texas	Fort Worth	Aircraft Maintenance Parking Faciilty	5,140	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Navy Reserve	Texas	Fort Worth	Joint Control Tower	12,454	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Fort Worth	Army Reserve Center	15,076	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison
Army	Texas	Ellington Field	Armed Forces Reserve Center/Battle Projection Center (Phase II)	15,000	Mrs. Hutchison/Mr. Cornyn
Army	Texas	Fort Hood	Child Development Center	7,400	Mrs. Hutchison/Mr. Cornyn
*Army	Texas	*Corpus Christi	Rotoblade Processing Facility	11,200	Mr. Ortiz
*Air Force	Texas	*Sheppard AFB	Base Operations Ramp, Phase I	7,000	Mr. Thornberry
*Air NG	Texas	*Ellington Field	Multi-Use Aviation Fire Station	7,200	Mr. Lampson
*Army	Texas	*Fort Hood	CH-47 Maintenance Hangar	18,000	Mr. Edwards/Mr. Carter
*Navy Reserve	Texas	*Fort Worth NAS JRB	Joint Indoor Training Tank	4,970	Ms. Granger
*Army	Texas	*Fort Bliss	Child Youth Services Center	6,500	House Committee on Appropriations
*Army	Texas	Fort Bliss	Medical Parking Garage	1,000	Mr. Reyes
*Air Force	Texas	*Goodfellow AFB	Addition to Fitness Center	5,800	Mr. Conaway
*Air Force	Texas	*Laughlin AFB	Student Activity Center & Library	5,200	Mr. Rodriguez
*Air Force	Texas	*Randolph AFB	Taxiway West Flightline	2,950	Mr. Cuellar/Mrs. Hutchison/Mr. Cornyn
Air Force	Texas	Randolph AFB	Taxiway	554	Mrs. Hutchison/Mr. Cornyn/Mr. Cuellar
Air Force	Texas	Dyess AFB	Runway Paving	1,710	Mrs. Hutchison/Mr. Cornyn/Mr. Neugebauer
Air Force	Texas	Lackland AFB	Joint Security Forces Building	900	Mrs. Hutchison/Mr. Cornyn/Mr. Gonzalez
*Defense-Wide	Texas	Lackland AFB	Wilford Hall Medical Center, Ambulatory Care Center	130	Mr. Gonzalez
Air Force	Utah	Hill AFB	Aircraft Power Systems Repair Facility	8,399	The President/Mr. Bennett/Mr. Hatch
Air Force	Utah	Hill AFB	Hydraulic Flight Control Facility	8,400	The President/Mr. Bennett/Mr. Hatch
Air Force Res	Utah	Hill AFB	Wing Support Facility	3,200	The President/Mr. Bennett/Mr. Hatch
Army NG	Utah	North Salt Lake	Readiness Center	12,200	The President/Mr. Bennett/Mr. Hatch
Air Force	Utah	Hill Air Force Base	Consolidated 388th Munitions Flight Administrative/Maintenance Facility	9,200	Mr. Bennett/Mr. Hatch/Mr. Bishop, R.
*Army FH	Utah	*Dugway Proving Ground	Replacement Construction, Phase I	5,000	Mr. Bishop, R.
Air NG	Vermont	Burlington International Airport	Base Security Improvements	6,600	Mr. Leahy/Mr. Sanders
Army NG	Vermont	Fort Ethan Allen	Multipurpose Machine Gun Range	1,996	Mr. Leahy/Mr. Sanders
Army NG	Vermont	Northfield	Billeting, Regional & Readiness Technology Center	1,500	Mr. Leahy
*Army NG	Vermont	Ethan Allen Range	Readiness Center	792	Mr. Welch
Army	Virginia	Fort Belvoir	Defense Access Road, Phase III	13,000	The President/Mr. Davis, T./Mr. Moran/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
*Army	Virginia	Fort Belvoir	Emergency Services Center	288	Mr. Moran/Mr. Davis, T.
Army	Virginia	Fort Eustis	Barracks (Grow the Force)	32,000	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Army	Virginia	Fort Eustis	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	43,000	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
*Army	Virginia	Fort Eustis	Training Support Center, Phase I	594	Mr. Scott, R.
Army	Virginia	Fort Lee	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	9,800	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Army	Virginia	Fort Lee	Barracks (Grow the Force)	6,900	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Army	Virginia	Fort Myer	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	8,400	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Army	Virginia	Fort Myer	Barracks (Grow the Force)	12,400	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Army NG	Virginia	Fort Pickett	Combat Pistol Qualification Course	1,050	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Army NG	Virginia	Fort Pickett	Regional Training Institute Phase 1 (Grow the Force)	25,161	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Dam Neck	SOF Operational Training Facility	14,000	The President/Ms. Drake/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Dam Neck	SOF Operations Facility, Incr 1	47,250	The President/Ms. Drake/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Fort Belvoir	Entrance Gate Security Enhancements	5,000	The President/Mr. Davis, T./Mr. Moran/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Little Creek	SOF Special Boat Team Operations Facility	14,000	The President/Ms. Drake/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Little Creek	SOF Seal Team Operations and Support Facility	34,000	The President/Ms. Drake/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Norfolk	Environmental Preventive Medicine Unit 2 Replacement	6,450	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy	Virginia	Chesapeake	Mobile User Objective System Installation	8,450	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy	Virginia	Norfolk	E2/C2 Aircrew Training Facility	11,510	The President/Ms. Drake/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy	Virginia	Norfolk	MH-60S Hangar and Airfield Improvements	53,850	The President/Ms. Drake/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy	Virginia	Quantico	Student Quarters, Phase II	26,680	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy	Virginia	Quantico	BEQ—MSGBN Headquarters	18,839	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy	Virginia	Quantico	Warfare Programs Support Center (Grow the Force)	5,000	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy Reserve	Virginia	Quantico	Reserve Center Addition	2,410	The President/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
*Navy	Virginia	NSWC Dahlgren	Electromagnetic Launch RDT&E Facility	10,000	Ms. Davis, Jo Ann/Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb
Navy	Virginia	Norfolk	JFCOM Headquarters, Building One	14,200	Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb/Ms. Drake
Army NG	Virginia	Winchester	Field Maintenance Shop	3,113	Mr. Warner/Mr. Webb/Mr. Wolf
*Army	Virginia	Ft. Lee	Unit Chapel	5,900	Mr. Forbes
*Defense-Wide	Virginia	Dam Neck	Parachute Drying Facility	5,300	Ms. Drake
Army	Washington	Fort Lewis	Indoor Range	5,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Army	Washington	Fort Lewis	Brigade Complex, Increment II	102,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Army	Washington	Fort Lewis	Railroad Yard Upgrade (Grow the Force)	14,600	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Army	Washington	Fort Lewis	Barracks (Grow the Force)	32,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Army	Washington	Fort Lewis	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	62,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Army	Washington	Fort Lewis	Unit Operations Facilities (Grow the Force)	51,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Army	Washington	Yakima	Digital Multipurpose Range Compex	29,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Defense-Wide	Washington	Fort Lewis	Medical/Dental Clinic	21,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Defense-Wide	Washington	Fort Lewis	SOF Support Battalion Complex	30,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Defense-Wide	Washington	Fort Lewis	SOF Battalion Operations Complex	47,000	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Navy	Washington	Bangor	Limited Area Production & Storage Complex, Incr IV	39,750	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Navy	Washington	Bremerton	BEQ Homeport Ashore, Increment II	47,240	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Navy	Washington	Bremerton	CVN Maintenance Pier Replacement	91,070	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Navy	Washington	Bremerton	Missile Assembly Building 3	28,690	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Navy	Washington	Whidbey Island	EA-18G Facility Improvements	23,910	The President/Ms. Cantwell/Mrs. Murray
Navy	Washington	Naval Station Everett	Fleet Region Readiness Center	10,940	Mrs. Murray/Mr. Larsen
*Air Force	Washington	Fairchild AFB	Physiological Training Facility	6,200	Ms. McMorris Rodgers

*Army	Washington	Ft. Lewis	Fueling Facility	3,300	Mr. Smith, A.
*Navy	Washington	NAS Whidbey Island	Indoor Aircraft Washrack	10,610	Mr. Larsen
*Army	Washington	Ft. Lewis	Child Development Center	10,600	House Committee on Appropriations
*Navy	Washington	Kitsap NB	Ocean Engineering Support Facility	6,130	Mr. Dicks
*Army NG	Washington	Tacoma	Readiness Center	152	Mr. Smith, A./Mr. Dicks
Air NG	West Virginia	Shepherd Field	C-5 Fuel Cell Maintenance Hangar and Shops	26,000	The President/Mr. Byrd
Air NG	West Virginia	Shepherd Field	C-5 Final Infrastructure Upgrade	5,176	The President/Mr. Byrd
Air NG	West Virginia	Shepherd Field	C-5 Squadron Operations Facility	7,600	The President/Mr. Byrd
Army NG	West Virginia	Camp Dawson	Modified Record Fire Range	4,500	The President/Mr. Byrd
*Army NG	West Virginia	Camp Dawson	Multi Purpose Building	4,900	Mr. Mollohan
Air NG	West Virginia	Shepherd Field	C-5 Parking Apron, Phase 2	12,000	Mr. Byrd
Air NG	West Virginia	Yeager ANG Base	Replace Aircraft Maintenance Hangar	17,300	Mr. Byrd
Army	Wisconsin	Ellsworth	Army Reserve Center/Land	9,100	The President/Mr. Kohl
Army	Wisconsin	Fort McCoy	Regional Medical Training Facility	8,523	The President/Mr. Kohl
Air NG	Wisconsin	Truax Field, Madison WI	Add to and Alter Fire Crash Rescue Station	7,000	Mr. Kohl
Air Force	Wyoming	F. E. Warren AFB	Rennovate Historic Dormitories	14,600	The President/Mr. Barrasso/Mr. Enzi
Army NG	Wyoming	Camp Guernsey	Qualification Training Range	2,650	The President/Mr. Barrasso/Mr. Enzi
Army	Afghanistan	Bagram	Administrative Building	13,800	The President
Defense-Wide	Bahrain	Bahrain NSA	SOF Operations Facility	19,000	The President
Navy	Bahrain	Bahrain NSA	Waterfront Development, Phase I	35,500	The President
Defense-Wide	Belgium	Casteu	Brussels American School Addition	5,992	The President
Army	Bulgaria	Nevo Selo Fos	Base Camp	61,000	The President
Navy	Diego Garcia	Diego Garcia	Sewage Lagoon, Air Operations	7,150	The President
Navy	Djibouti	Camp Lemonier	Fuel Farm	4,000	The President
Navy	Djibouti	Camp Lemonier	Western Taxiway	2,900	The President
Navy	Djibouti	Camp Lemonier	Full Length Taxiway	15,490	The President
Air Force	Germany	Ramstein AB	Small Diameter Bomb Facilities, Phase II	6,260	The President
Air Force	Germany	Ramstein AB	Joint Mobility Processing Center	24,000	The President
Air Force	Germany	Ramstein AB	Dormitory	14,949	The President
Air Force	Germany	Ramstein AB	Fire Training Facility	3,000	The President
Army	Germany	Grafenwoehr	Brigade Complex Maintenance/Operations	34,000	The President
Army	Germany	Grafenwoehr	Brigade Complex Maintenance/Operations	28,000	The President
Defense-Wide	Germany	Ramstein AB	Intermediate School Addition	5,393	The President
Defense-Wide	Germany	Spangdahlem AB	Medical Clinic Replacement	30,100	The President
Defense-Wide	Germany	Weisbaden	Hainerber ES/MS Addition	5,093	The President
Defense-Wide	Germany	Weisbaden	H.H. Arnold HS Addition	15,379	The President
Air Force FH	Germany	Ramstein AB	Replace Family Housing	56,275	The President
Army FH	Germany	Ansbach	Family Housing Replacement	52,000	The President
Air Force	Guam	Andersen AFB	Upgrade NW Field Infrastructure	10,000	The President
Navy FH	Guam	Guam NB	Replace Old Apra, Ph II	57,167	The President
Navy	Guam	Guam NB	Kilo Wharf Expansion, Incr 1	50,916	The President
Navy	Guam	Guam NB	Harden Base Electrical Systems	59,420	The President
Navy	Guam	Guam NB	Wastewater Treatment Plant Repairs & Upgrade	40,870	The President
Navy	Guam	Guam NB	Fitness Center	45,250	The President

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Account	State	Location	Project Title	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Navy	Guam	Guam NB	Potable Water Distribution System, Phase I	31,450	The President
*Air Force	Guam	Andersen AFB	Technical Training Facility	5,816	Ms. Bordallo
Army	Honduras	Soto Cano	Dining Facility	2,550	The President
Army	Italy	Vicenza	Brigade Complex Operations Support Facility, Incr 1	23,500	The President
Army	Italy	Vicenza	Brigade Complex Barracks/Community Facilities, Incr 1	22,500	The President
Navy	Japan	Yokosuka	Wharf Upgrades	8,750	The President
Army	Korea	Camp Humphreys	Barracks Complex	22,000	The President
Army	Korea	Camp Humphreys	Barracks Complex	35,000	The President
Air Force	Qatar	Al Udeid	Multi A/C Maintenance Hangar	22,300	The President
Defense-Wide	Qatar	Al Udeid	SOF Operations Complex	18,908	The President
Defense-Wide	Qatar	Al Udeid	SOF Aircraft Parking Ramp	18,515	The President
Defense-Wide	Qatar	Al Udeid	SOF Vehicle Maintenance Facility	3,507	The President
Defense-Wide	Qatar	Al Udeid	SOF Storage Facility	3,590	The President
Defense-Wide	Qatar	Al Udeid	SOF Air Operations Center	8,332	The President
Army	Romania	MK Air Base	Base Camp, Phase II	12,600	The President
Air Force	Spain	Moron	Leadership Program Dormitory	1,800	The President
Air Force	United Kingdom	Menwith Hill Station	Power Availability & Infrastructure Improvements	10,000	The President
Air Force	United Kingdom	Menwith Hill Station	ADAL Operations and Technical Facility	31,000	The President
Air Force	United Kingdom	Lakenheath	Small Diameter Bomb Storage Igloo	1,800	The President
Air Force	United Kingdom	Lakenheath	F-15C Squadron Operations/AMU	15,500	The President

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Construction, Major Projects	Amount (in thousands)	Member
Pittsburgh, PA	$40,000	The President/Mr. Casey/Mr. Specter
Denver, CO	61,300	The President/Mr. Allard/Ms. DeGette/Mr. Lamborn/Ms. Musgrave/Mr. Perlmutter/Mr. Ken Salazar/Mr. John Salazar/Mr. Tancredo/Mr. Udall, M
Orlando, FL	35,000	The President/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson/ Mr. Weldon
Las Vegas, NV	341,400	The President/Ms. Berkley/Mr. Ensign/Mr. Reid
Syracuse, NY	23,800	The President/Mrs. Clinton/Mr. Schumer/Mr. Walsh
Lee County, FL	9,900	The President/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Columbia/Greenville, SC-area	19,200	The President/Mr. Graham
Sarasota, FL-area	27,800	The President/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Jacksonville, FL-area	22,400	The President/Mr. Martinez/Mr. Bill Nelson
Southeastern, PA	29,600	The President/Mr. Casey/Mr. Specter
Birmingham, AL-area	18,500	The President/Mr. Sessions/Mr. Shelby
Bakersfield, CA-area	19,500	The President/Ms. Boxer/Mrs. Feinstein
Ft. Sam Houston, TX	29,400	The President/Mr. Cornyn/Mrs. Hutchison

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2008 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2007 amount, the 2008 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2008 follow:

[In thousands of dollars]

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007	$97,630,909
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2008	105,231,766
House bill, fiscal year 2008	109,231,766
Senate bill, fiscal year 2008	109,332,250
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2008	109,232,250
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007	+11,601,341
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2008	+4,000,484
House bill, fiscal year 2008	+484
Senate bill, fiscal year 2008	−100,000

DAVID R. OBEY,
NITA M. LOWEY,
ROSA L. DELAURO,
JESSE L. JACKSON,
PATRICK J. KENNEDY,
LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD,
BARBARA LEE,
TOM UDALL,
MICHAEL M. HONDA,
BETTY MCCOLLUM,
TIM RYAN,
JOHN P. MURTHA,
CHET EDWARDS,
Managers on the Part of the House.

TOM HARKIN,
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
HERB KOHL,
PATTY MURRAY,
MARY LANDRIEU,
RICHARD J. DURBIN,
JACK REED,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
ARLEN SPECTER,
THAD COCHRAN,
LARRY CRAIG,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
(Only if the Milcon/VA conference report is separated from the LHHS conference report),
TED STEVENS
(Only if the Milcon/VA conference report is separated from the LHHS conference report),
RICHARD SHELBY,
PETE DOMENICI,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a few thoughts as regarding the importance of National Bible Week as well. It has been thrilling to hear my colleagues from both sides of the aisle refer to the importance of Scripture, and especially encouraging to hear the distinguished Representative from Illinois (Mr. RUSH), who represents the district I was born in. I appreciate the sincerity of your message this evening.

As a pastor in a previous life myself, I can unequivocally say that the Bible has deeply influenced my life every day in every way. Sadly, I haven't followed it every day in every way. But when it has been followed, it has influenced to the good.

The Bible is the best selling book of all time. It is a book that has touched countless numbers of lives. Along with being the main influence, many decisions have been made of by the billion, most importantly and most personally, my life and my faith in my Savior.

In 1940, a group of business and professional leaders got together and founded the nonprofit, independent, educational National Bible Association. Their goal was to encourage Americans to read the Bible in every sector of society, regardless of religious or political distinction. Every year since 1941, the National Bible Association has sponsored National Bible Week as a time to remind us of the importance of the Bible in our daily life.

Our Nation's traditions lie in the principles set out in the Bible. In 1951, an amazing book was published by the National Education Association and it was entitled, ''The American Citizens Handbook.'' The book's author and publisher said that ''This volume should be in every home library and on every teacher's desk. It may well be used as a text or reference book in the schools,'' and it was.

In fact, in that book, it had a grade-by-grade chart that included the following:

Second graders were to memorize the Lord's prayer: ''Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.''

Third graders were to memorize Psalm 23: ''The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.''

Seventh graders were to memorize the Beatitudes: ''Blessed are the poor in spirit, the merciful, the hungry in spirit.''

Ninth graders were to memorize Psalm 1, that beautiful Psalm that says, ''Happy is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law he meditates day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth fruit in his season. His fruit shall not wither.''

Those are principles that were put forth in this book. High school seniors were to memorize the entire chapter of Romans 12, which begins by saying, ''I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God.''

Those were patterned after the Founders of our country. Fifty-two of the 55 signers of the Declaration of Independence were deeply committed Christians, and the other three believed in a God who personally intervened in the lives of mankind. The same Continental Congress formed the American Bible Society, of all things, and purchased 20,000 copies of Scripture for the people of the Nation.

Patrick Henry's famous ''give me liberty or give me death'' speech actually

came at the end of this statement, where he said, ''An appeal to arms and the God of hosts is all that is left us. But we shall not fight our battle alone. There is a just God that presides over the destinies of nations. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone. Is life so dear or peace so sweet to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, almighty God.'' Patrick Henry understood the power and the content of Scripture.

Jonathan Whitherspoon, who was a minister and signed the Declaration of Independence, said ''A republic, once equally poised, must either preserve its virtue or lose its liberty.'' Jonathan Whitherspoon knew that that virtue came from the Holy Scriptures, the Bible.

This Chamber and all the institutions of this great Republic are surrounded by images and phrases from Scripture. In this very Chamber is a portrait of Moses, the first lawgiver. The Supreme Court also holds several images of Moses. The south frieze prominently displays Moses holding Ten Commandments. In the Library of Congress stands a large statue of Moses alongside a statue of the Apostle Paul. The Great Reading Room of the Library is filled with Scriptures.

So today, to be able to stand here in the Halls of Congress and to call attention to the impact of Biblical authority, what a great opportunity that is. I thank the God of Scripture for that opportunity, and I thank my colleagues for bringing this to the floor tonight.

TAKING CARE OF AMERICA'S VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it has been a great comfort to listen to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle talk about National Bible Week. The Bible can bring great comfort to all of us, especially in time of need. And when I look at the legislation that we have been trying to pass and legislation that is coming forward, I hope we can all remember the words of the Bible and take care of each other and not the almighty dollar.

Mr. Speaker, next week is November 11th. We remember those who answered the call when America needed them most. Honoring our veterans reminds us that our freedoms come at a cost and with liberty comes responsibility. Congress has a responsibility to take care of the men and women who are serving and who have served. This year we passed legislation to increase the VA budget by $6.7 billion above last year's level. This is the largest single increase in veterans funding in the history of the VA. This increase will help better serve the health care needs of our veterans, both young and old, by providing over 1,000 new VA caseworkers to reduce the unacceptable delays in receiving their benefits.

Our young veterans are coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan with new injuries. We have seen a dramatic rise in traumatic brain injuries due to IEDs and roadside bombs. As of January, over 2,000 of our brave men and women have been diagnosed with TBI. These veterans need a high level of intensive care when they return from battle.

I understand the issues our soldiers who come home with TBI face. That is why I worked with Defense Subcommittee Chairman MURTHA to include language in the Department of Defense authorization that sets aside funding and support for TBI treatment.

We are in a new century and the members of our Armed Forces, our veterans and their loved ones, need a new GI Bill. A new GI Bill should increase funding for veterans' medical care; employment assistance for our homeless veterans throughout this country; increased pay for our active duty members, so they can actually have a family life; expand current benefits under the current Montgomery GI Bill.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of H.R. 2702, the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act. This legislation provides education assistance for our young veterans returning home from the war under the Montgomery GI Bill.

In addition to increased funding for a new GI Bill, there needs to be other substantive changes made to veterans care. There should be a guaranteed funding stream for veterans health care. Access to health care should improve and there should be increased funding for special VA programs such as posttraumatic stress disorder treatment, homelessness, long-term care.

We must also address the problem called concurrent receipt. Currently other Federal retirees get both disability and retirement pay. But we deny our veterans this privilege because of an outdated law.

Congress must authorize full payment of both retirement pay and disability compensation to more than hundreds of thousands of disabled veterans and military retirees.

What we need to do is keep the promises we made to our veterans. I am hoping Congress in the coming days, months, and years will take care of these promises. We owe this to the American people. We owe it to our young people that sign up to fight the wars that we are fighting. If we don't keep our promises, why should our young people join to keep this country secure?

I salute our veterans, thank them for their service, and say God bless America.

2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ADERHOLT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SALI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SALI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the greatest, most influential book known to man, the Holy Bible. November 18 through 25 is National Bible Week, and it fittingly coincides with Thanksgiving.

The Bible teaches us that we have very much to be thankful for. And although we ought to remind one another of this truth at all times, I am glad there is a time set aside for remembering our blessings.

The Holy Bible teaches that we are all created by God in His image. And as such, each individual has a certain dignity that should be respected. One John 4:7–11 is one of my favorite passages of scripture. It says: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Elsewhere, in Matthew 16:24, Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. I particularly like this verse because, coupled with the first passage from 1 John, it reminds me that I am to love God first, others second and myself third. How different would our personal interactions be if we took this to heart and sought to love others in the way that the Bible encourages us to?

It is a lesson worth learning, to love one another. In a city that oftentimes seems so bitterly divided, glimpses of true peace and genuine care seem so rare.

Holy Scripture, which served as guiding light for so many of our Founding Fathers, can also illuminate a path for us today. In spite of all of our differences, there are many things that we have in common: we have a common creator, a common desire to serve our country and a common inherent worth by virtue of being creations of the Almighty. As we go about our daily business, I think it would behoove us to remember that the Good Book teaches to love one another because we have been loved by God.

In all of the many chapters of my life, the Bible has served as a source of great wisdom, comfort and insight. Whether as a husband, a child, a father, a lawyer, or legislator, I have purposed to rely on the word of God to give direction in times of doubt. I applaud the efforts of my friends here in the people's House and around the country to recognize what is truly a treasure. I hope and pray that each Member of

this House, their staff and all of our fellow citizens take time in the upcoming weeks to not only reflect on the great truth found in the Bible, but also to count our blessings and to give thanks.

On a personal note, I am quite sure that my third grade teacher, Mrs. McClain, prayed for my salvation when I was young. I believe my seventh grade reading teacher, Mrs. Cantrell, prayed for me, as did my high school band teacher, Mr. Jim Henry. They joined a long list of relatives, my sister, Annette; my brother, Joe; my great, great grandfather, John Henry Fortson, pastor of the Fishing Creek Baptist Church in Washington, Georgia, for over 40 years. He prayed for the salvation of his children and grandchildren to seven generations.

I reconfirm tonight that their prayers were fruitful. Jesus is my friend and I am a student of his word, the Bible. I understand His work on the cross as the sole means of my salvation because the Bible has taught me so.

Yes, Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tell me so. May all those who prayed for me so diligently reflect in Thanksgiving this year that God has heard their prayers for me, and I will thank the God of the Bible for their prayers which resulted in my salvation according to the plan that He set out in the Bible.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF ETHIOPIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the passage of H. Res. 550, congratulating the people of Ethiopia on the second millennium of Ethiopia. I introduced this resolution, along with my colleague and fellow member of the Congressional Ethiopian American Caucus, Congressman DONALD PAYNE.

Ethiopia's calendar is based on the Orthodox Tewahedo calendar which is derived from the Julian calendar. The West follows the Gregorian calendar. On September 11 of this year, Ethiopians around the world celebrated a new millennium according to their official calendar.

H. Res. 550 demonstrates congressional support for the Ethiopian American community, and I plan to use the attention surrounding the millennium to highlight priority issues, including political reconciliation and peace in the Horn of Africa.

True reconciliation includes the speedy release of political prisoners and granting members of opposition parties the right to participate in a democratic society. Peace in that part of the word will have to involve a final demarcation and implementation of the border between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

In the spirit of new beginnings, it is my hope that the Ethiopian Government and members of the political opposition take every necessary step toward true reconciliation. It is my hope that Eritrea and Ethiopia will come to a peaceful and fair resolution and finally be able to work together to encourage stability in the region.

Members of the Congressional Ethiopian American Caucus are eager to use the millennium as an opportunity to bring national attention to Ethiopia, the original homes of hundred of thousands of Ethiopian Americans. Ethiopia is a symbol of freedom. It is a country with rich history and culture. Ethiopians made important contributions for the freedom of many African countries and fought courageously to defend its own.

This resolution pays tribute to the many sacrifices made by Ethiopians over the centuries. In the wake of a tumultuous period in Ethiopian history, it was important for me to do more to increase visibility around this country that has meant so much to an important, but largely overlooked, minority constituency.

We want to do more to show our appreciation to the Ethiopian American community for all that they continue to contribute to our society and, more importantly, to support their efforts to bring national attention to the issues that matter to them.

Ethiopian Americans make up the second largest African immigrant community in the United States, with U.S.-Ethiopian relations initiated in 1903. Recognizing Ethiopia's role in the formation of a Pan-African movement and defeating colonial rule are key points in the resolution, and a significant aspect of Ethiopian identity.

The resolution also recognizes the efforts of all those who organized the millennium celebrations. The African Union has already declared the Ethiopia Millennium as the African Millennium and acknowledges the critical role Ethiopia plays in keeping peace on the continent. I thank my colleagues for passing H. Res. 550, and I look forward to the Senate vote.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank both of my colleagues for organizing this time tonight in recognition of National Bible Week.

My own experience with the Bible began when I was an 18-year-old freshman at the University of Kansas in 1973. I was approached by some people who asked me if I knew what was in the Bible. I said I knew what it was all about. But then I had to admit I had never read it for myself. The only honest thing I could do at that point was to read the Bible for myself.

When I read the Gospel of John, I ended up discovering a personal relationship with Jesus Christ who became my Lord and Savior. In that gospel He says: I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but through Me.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know where in their spiritual journey people may be who are listening tonight, but I do know this: It is better to read the Bible for oneself and not just to take someone else's word for what is in it. For me, it made all of the difference in the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

''NO'' ON PERU

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this week the new Congress, the Democratic Congress, will consider its first bilateral trade agreement during this session: the Bush-negotiated free trade agreement with Peru. This week, this Democratic Congress has an opportunity, an opportunity to prove that we are different from previous Congresses. We have an opportunity to demonstrate we have heard from America's voters who are fed up with job losses, trade deficits, and race-to-the-bottom wages for our middle class.

The American people expect us to reflect their concerns. Yet this bill is merely another godchild of NAFTA.

What is the public telling us? In a March 2007 poll by the Wall Street Journal/NBC before the recent scandals involving tainted food and toy imports, 54 percent of Democratic voters said free trade agreements have hurt the United States compared with 21 percent who said they have helped.

Then the Wall Street Journal in an October 4 front-page article stated that by a poll they had done, by a nearly 2 to 1 margin, Republican voters believe free trade is bad for the U.S. economy, a shift in opinion that mirrors Democratic views and suggests trade deals could face high hurdles under a new President.

And then a Democratic pollster found that 67 percent, two-thirds, of Americans believe unfair trade agreements are making it harder for Americans to keep good jobs. Thus, defeating the

Peru free trade agreement isn't just about politics. It is about what Democrats stand for in terms of policy.

Why should we defeat this bill? We should defeat the free trade agreement that the Bush administration negotiated on behalf of Peru first to protect America's farmers and America's workers. With a $3 billion trade deficit with Peru already, we have lost knit-wear jobs, we have lost agricultural jobs in onions and asparagus, and the list grows longer. We will only lose more jobs as we did with NAFTA unless you fix the innards of the agreements to stem the outsourcing in the first place.

We should defeat the Peru trade agreement to stand up for the 3 million soon-to-be displaced Peruvian small farmers who will fall victim to the flood of cheap South American imports that will come from adjoining countries because there are no readjustment provisions in the measure, just as there were no readjustment provisions under NAFTA and 2 million Mexican farmers got displaced, many of them fleeing to our country. Where are those 3 million Peruvian farmers supposed to go with no transition provisions in the agreement?

We should defeat the Peru agreement because it does not contain support ''Buy America'' policies in it. We should defeat the Peru trade agreement because we know the Bush administration cannot be trusted to enforce it. They haven't balanced any trade agreement. There are no accounts that are positive in these trade agreements that have been signed. In fact, this country this year will rack up close to a $1 trillion trade deficit with the world. The American people are saying stop, fix what is wrong before you do anything more.

Why would we adopt an agreement that will ruin the rain forest and put indigenous peoples at risk? Why would we do that to the Third World when we see demonstrations against the United States already all over Latin America. Wouldn't you think we would stand up for safe foods and safe imports? We know salmonella and other tainted foods are coming our way from Peru because so much of the seafood comes in here. Why don't we fix the inspection procedures before we adopt another free trade agreement that is not free in the end?

Why won't we adopt trade agreements that would ensure that Peruvians will still have access to medicines they need, despite the demands of a large pharmaceutical company? Why don't we stand up for the average person in these agreements?

Why would we support an agreement that is going to cause such hollowing out of Peruvian agriculture that they're going to have to displace that production with increasing coca production and illegal drugs? Why would we support an agreement like that?

We have to stop the perpetuation of the NAFTA model that leaves poverty and imbalance in its wake while failing to fulfill any promises of benefits to the middle class in either country.

Mr. Speaker, the New Direction Congress must take a new direction on trade, and I urge my colleagues to reject the Bush NAFTA expansion to Peru and support a new trade model that puts the peoples of the Americas first.

□ 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CELEBRATING NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, 21 years ago in the fall of 1986, I found myself sitting on the couch in my medical office in rural south Georgia.

My wife, Nickie, and I had been married a year and we were struggling. I had been through several broken marriages, several episodes of broken relationships and financial problems because I had been living for myself. I'd been living a prideful, sinful, self-centered lifestyle.

And as I sat there trying to figure out what life was all about, I looked at the table beside the couch upon which I sat, and there was a Gideon Bible sitting there, Mr. Speaker. And as I looked at that, I remembered a few weeks before I was watching a professional football game, and as the cameras panned the crowd, there was a banner hanging over a railing up in the stands. And the big banner was there. The gentleman had this big rainbow-type of hair wig on, and the banner said John 3:16. At that time, it piqued my interest. I asked my wife, Nickie, what John 3:16 said, and she didn't know. She wasn't raised in a religious household either. We didn't even have a Bible in our home to find out.

As I sat there in my office that fall trying to figure out life, I picked up the Bible that was on the table beside the couch, and I opened it up and I read John 3:16: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever shall believe in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

I remembered just a few weeks before sitting on a dock and telling my wife that I didn't believe there was any afterlife, that I did not believe that there was a God, that I did not believe that we had anything beyond this life besides just how people remembered us or through our own kids.

But when I read John 3:16 that day, as a scientist, as a medical doctor, my heart was pricked, and I just prayed out and openly and said, God, if you're real, I want you to come into my life; I want you to show me that you're real. And as a scientist, I had to have proof, and God really came into my life and He has changed my life.

He's given me a stability in life that comes from no other source than having the Lord Jesus Christ as one's own personal Lord and Savior, and I accepted Him that day in November of 1986. My wife was saved independently just a few months after that.

She and I have been married 22 years now. We have a relationship that can come from no other source, from being based in God's inherent word and have learned over the years that the Holy Bible is true, it's literal, and it's God's direction to us. I call it the manufacturer's handbook. It directs every aspect of life.

God ordained three social entities. He ordained the family, He ordained the church, and He ordained government. Romans 13:1 is very clear about that. The Bible gives us instructions on how to live our lives, every aspect of our lives. Each one of those social entities God's given its area of responsibility, its area of authority.

And unfortunately, in our Nation, because of this mistaken idea that we're supposed to have a separation of church and State, the family and the church have abdicated a lot of its duties over to government. But, Mr. Speaker, what we're doing in our society is not according to God's instructions.

In my home, I have two sets of machines, both washer and dryer. One set of machines washes and dries my clothes; the other machine washes and dries my dishes. Mr. Speaker, if we take our dishes and try to wash them in our clothes washers, we're going to have problems.

And that's what we're doing in our society today, Mr. Speaker, is we're trying to do things against God's inherent word. We're trying to live our lives according to what seems right in the eyes of man, but the scripture is very clear about that.

In Proverbs, we read that there is a way that seems right now as a man but its path is the way of death, and it's going to be the death of freedom. It's going to be the death of our society. It's going to be the death of our Republic unless we turn back to what our Founding Fathers very firmly believed.

Mr. Speaker, I believe in the Constitution as James Madison and company meant it to be. I carry a copy in my pocket. We've left this document, the great Constitution, as James Madison meant it as how we run our government, how we run our lives publicly.

During this time when we're celebrating National Bible Appreciation Week, I call on my colleagues to read the Bible, to read the Constitution, read what our Founding Fathers who were Bible-believing Christians believed, that every aspect of life should follow the dictates of God's inherent Word.

That's what I believe in. That's what we all should believe in, and I just praise the Lord Jesus Christ who came into my life that November day. And He saved my life for all of eternity, and I'm living an eternal life today, and He's given me a stability.

Our country is founded on those principles. Our Constitution's written on those principles that God gives us in His Word.

So I rise today to support Him first and foremost and support the Bible as the basis of our Nation. I look forward to serving the Lord Jesus Christ.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PERU FTA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Peru free trade agreement. I can't figure out why Congress is taking up this agreement now, especially when the Bush administration has had such a bad track record of enforcing any of our trade agreements.

President Bush has given little or nothing to our workers these last few years other than a pink slip. So why give them another vehicle for job losses?

Last week, the House passed a trade adjustment assistance overhaul bill. This legislation would provide our workers much-needed relief, but we wouldn't need more trade adjustment assistance legislation if we had better trade agreements.

Even before the TAA bill passed the House, we heard that the President would veto it. So what would the House Democrats be doing by taking up the Peru free trade agreement without a TAA bill?

And just last week we heard from the House leadership that there will be no China currency manipulation bill this year either. So let's review what we are getting out of our new trade deal: no additional relief for our workers, no China currency manipulation bill, no value added tax bill, no enforcement of existing trade policy.

This is what we do get. We get another NAFTA-style trade deal. What do workers get? The same old direction on trade.

The biggest supporter of the agreement is big multinational corporations. As a matter of fact, the President will be meeting with them tomorrow to get them to lobby for the passage of the Peru trade deal. It's the large multinational companies who seek to profit off the backs of working men and women in our country.

The Bush administration claims that the agreement will improve labor standards in Peru, and in the very next breath, Tom Donohue, who's president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, states that he is ''encouraged by assurances that the labor provisions cannot be read to require compliance with ILO Conventions.''

These multinational companies like Peru, they love these free trade agreements because it's not enforceable.

While some may think that there has been progress made on the environment and labor provisions by the Peru FTA, all you need to do is look at who's supporting these trade deals. Not one union supports this trade deal, not one union, environmental, consumer, small business, faith, family farm group supports the modified Bush Peru NAFTA-style trade deal.

Even the leaders of major Peruvian labor organizations oppose this agreement. They urge Congress to vote ''no,'' claiming that it will weaken labor standards, encourage illegal immigration to the United States, and increase rates of drug trafficking as well.

By voting ''no'' to the Peru FTA, you're asking for a new direction on trade. I ask my colleagues to join me and vote ''no'' on the Peru free trade deal. It's a bad deal for America. It's a bad deal for Peru. It's the same old, same old NAFTA-style trade deal that we're dealing with.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join the many people who have come to the floor tonight to talk about National Bible Week.

My earliest memories are of Mom reading the Bible to us six children. We grew up basically in the oil field, in the very low income strata of the oil field. My dad was a roustabout. My parents gave us those values of faith, family and freedom from the earliest age. And when my wife observes the truism that she read recently of the hand that rocks the cradle steadies the Nation, it applies in my particular life.

I've been a Christian from an early age, and so it was about 10 years ago that my wife observed that, you know, we profess to be Christians but we don't necessarily read the Bible every day, we don't have a discipline, and we began at that point to do that.

Now, my daughter says it best, that what we find written in the words in the Bible give context. They give us a way to perceive. It's a perception that we gain.

I would like to share a couple of things that stay with me constantly. One is in Micah, Micah, the sixth chapter, where the question comes up rhetorically, when we have done wrong, what should we do? And the writer asks: With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with 10,000 rivers of oil? Shall I offer my first born for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? And then we get the answer from the writer.

He has showed you a man that is good and what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

This kind of a verse calms me down when things are urgent, when things are chaotic, and when I'm out of step.

Another significant verse is in Psalms 11. When, again, we have fears, the Psalms 11 addresses that. It's actually written by David, and he asks: How can you say to me flee like a bird to your mountain, for, look, the wicked bend their bows. They set their arrows against the strings to shoot from the shadows at the upright and heart.

And the significant question then comes: When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?

The answer is given almost immediately: The Lord is in his holy temple, for the Lord is righteous, he loves justice. Upright men will see his face.

Again, we are not so consumed by the fears of the moment, by the perils of the circumstance.

We have a bipartisan group; it's called the Congressional Prayer Caucus. I was one of the people who helped found that group. We meet every Monday night in the context that we meet under to pray for the Nation comes from Second Chronicles 7:14: If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will I forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Now, these words are spoken to those people who believe. It's not necessarily an instruction to those who don't share the belief, but simply a truism.

Today one of the deepest pleasures that I get is doing the same thing Mom did with me. I see my two grandchildren, Preston and Olivia, and were able to read the Bible with them in the mornings. They both are intent, listening, one 6, one 3. My daughter trains them daily. Again, I am remembering, the hand that rocks the cradle steadies the Nation.

I give thanks for those people who are dedicated to a belief system. I appreciate my belief system. I know there are others that other people rely on. But, for me, this Christian belief, this belief in Jesus Christ has been what has saved me.

□ 2030

WAR IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, a couple of weeks ago, Thomas Friedman wrote an op ed in the New York Times titled, ''Remember Iraq.''

In the article, Mr. Friedman laments that in the last couple of months ''the air has gone out of the Iraq debate.'' Mr. Friedman, unfortunately, seems to be correct. We haven't been talking about Iraq as much lately.

The media is partly to blame for this, but the consumers of the media take some responsibility as well. Without new sensational stories to run, war coverage becomes monotonous, and we can be desensitized to the depictions of war. But it is the media's ethical responsibility to focus on the issues that matter the most rather than what sells the most papers and boosts ratings.

When reports of the terrible toll of the Iraq war fall off the front page and disappear from nightly TV coverage, it can be easier to put the sacrifices our men and women in uniform are making in Iraq out of one's mind. It can be easy to forget the suffering of the Iraq people, whose lives continue to be plagued by violence. The enormous costs of the war don't seem as real when they are not thrust in our faces every day.

But it is also the ethical responsibility of this Congress to continue to debate an issue as important as the war. We are partly to blame for letting the air out of the Iraq debate as well.

In the absence of the required number of votes needed to override an inevitable Bush veto on any Iraq-related legislation, we in Congress must do a better job of challenging the administration's false rhetoric about the Iraq war. While the war in Iraq is disappearing from the newspapers, problems in Pakistan, Turkey and Iran are sure getting a lot of attention.

Why aren't we making the connection between the problems in these countries with the problems we have created in Iraq? An enduring foreign military presence will destabilize any region. An enormous endless American military presence in the heart of the Middle East is a recipe for disaster.

We in Congress need to do more to educate our constituents of the incredible costs of this misguided war in Iraq and the danger it presents to the peace and security of the entire region.

The Middle East is a house of cards, and we are shaking the table. It is no accident that since we began our misguided war in Iraq, we have seen more problems among Iraq's neighbors. Turkey is a very important ally to the United States, and the threat of a Turkish invasion into the Kurdish region of Iraq is a real problem for us. The last thing we need is another front opening in an already unmanageable war.

We must also discuss the connection between the President's so-called war on terror, with the problems we are watching unfold in Pakistan. We must not forget that the al Qaeda forces, who might long ago have been defeated if we hadn't been distracted in Iraq, have invaded northern Pakistan and hundreds of Pakistani soldiers have been killed. Most experts agree that Osama bin Laden is probably hiding in that region in northern Pakistan.

Meanwhile, General Musharraf has imposed a state of emergency through Pakistan dissolving the courts and suspending the constitution. Thousands of angry lawyers in Lahore and other cities Monday have taken to the streets to protest the embattled Pakistani President. Pictures in our newspapers of the lawyers being beaten and arrested by the police are ominous warnings of further trouble to come.

This is worrisome when it happens in any country, but down right terrifying when it happens in a country that possesses nuclear weapons. It is difficult for anyone to say exactly how this connects to our failed war in Iraq, but it surely isn't helping.

The point is that President Bush's irresponsible policy in the Middle East has destabilized the entire region. He has created a ticking time bomb. Rather than trying to defuse the situation with the diplomatic surge, Bush's answer was a military surge and to ratchet up the rhetoric against those who dare oppose him.

We must make it clear every single day that it is because we care so strongly about the safety of our country, the wellness of our military and the help of those who serve, that we demand an end to the war in Iraq. As Mr. Friedman pointed out, when we, as a country, allowed the debate over Iraq to fizzle, we are not merely procrastinating and delaying the eventual confrontation. We are committing negligence.

The daily cost of the war is staggering and cannot be ignored. For every day the war in Iraq continues, more American lives are lost, more Iraqis are killed, more of our tax dollars are spent, and political reconciliation in Iraq becomes less and less likely as the vital struggle for power continues to rage. Perhaps the most important measure of progress, the stability of the region, seems to be slipping further and further out of balance.

Countless proposals have been offered to change the course of this President's war in Iraq. There is no shortage of good ideas on how, when, and why we need to end the war in Iraq. I am of the opinion that we must end the war in Iraq as soon as possible and only provide funding to bring our troops home safely and quickly.

Others in the Democratic Caucus offer different answers but remain committed to the ultimate goal of ending the war. We demand a new direction. Let's bring our troops home to their families as soon as possible and refocus this country's resources on the issues that matter the most to the American people. It's time to end the war in Iraq.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HARE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HARE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUBPRIME MORTGAGE CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor this evening feeling compelled to speak on an issue that has had an adverse and devastating impact in my district and many districts across this Nation. The phenomenon known as subprime lending, which has grown so rapidly over the past decade or so, has made it possible for many New Yorkers with modest incomes and poor credit histories to purchase homes.

The question is, at what cost? The Federal Government has found that subprime loans made up 32 percent of all mortgages in New York City last year, which is up from 28 percent in 2005.

However, an estimated 364,433 subprime loans remain outstanding. As a result, as we stand here tonight, Brooklyn has 4,864 homes facing foreclosure.

When certain unscrupulous lenders aggressively and deceptively convince vulnerable borrowers seeking relief in their pursuit of the American Dream to accept unfair and abusive loan terms, many of these same borrowers have, unfortunately, lost their homes, leaving them displaced, penniless, and bankrupt.

Today, mortgage finance programs in the subprime lending industry are growing more severe, with soaring loan default even diminishing home prices. These defaults have depreciated about $71 billion in housing wealth. I must tell you this evening that this crisis will and is currently affecting State economies.

It has been estimated that there will be 1.3 million foreclosures from mid-2007 through 2009 in subprime mortgages, resulting in an estimated loss of $102.4 million in property taxes.

Also, it has been reported that the subprime mortgage crisis will cost States $917 million in lost property revenue through the end of 2009 and more than $103 billion in lost property values, including $9.5 billion for New York.

What is alarming to me is that there have been reports which have found that embedded within this American crisis there appears to be real racial disparities when it comes to subprime lending. For example, one report stated that blacks and Hispanics are 30 percent more likely than whites to be charged with higher interest rates. Additionally, in New York, blacks are five times and Hispanics almost four times more likely to pay higher interest rates for homes.

Even in East Flatbush, Brooklyn, which is located in my district, an astounding 44 percent of blacks and Hispanics earning between $40,000 and $50,000 received their loans from subprime lenders. We must make a conscious and focused effort to address the subprime lending crisis in predominantly black and Hispanic neighborhoods in New York City and across the Nation.

What is so ironic about this issue of the subprime mortgage crisis is that as a former New York City council member, my colleagues and I saw this crisis arise as representatives of the municipality. We even passed legislation, anti-predatory lending legislation, yet the legislation went nowhere due to the threat of litigation by the financial services sector. Now the crisis is upon us. Hundreds of thousands of Americans across this country are facing this crisis.

I am supporting and will champion any and all measures that ensure that all borrowers, especially those living in underserved communities, are no longer hurt by the recent events and tactics occurring in the mortgage market.

It is our responsibility, and in the public interest, to make certain that we eliminate predatory practices that have the potential to financially harm mortgage consumers living in America.

If we do not, I believe that we will generate an environment where predatory lenders will continue to actively sell high-cost, high-risk mortgages in many communities, including underserved communities, making the American Dream of all Americans an American nightmare.

□ 2045

FORECLOSURES ARE ALL ACROSS THE NATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, listening to my colleague from New York, Representative CLARKE, it reinforced for me how important it is to deal seriously with the whole question of subprime lending and how vast foreclosures are all across the Nation.

I, like others, have been working with the coalition in my community, and many of them have come up with excellent ideas about what to do. But rather than just massaging the problem, than coming up with solutions, one solution that was put on the table the other day that I liked was the idea that rather than foreclosing on individuals who cannot pay the mortgages, why not rent the property to them and let them continue to live in it paying rent? Who knows, the time may very well come when they can go back to paying the mortgage.

Their lives never would have been disrupted. Plus we're finding that foreclosed properties oftentimes end up being lose-lose situations; that is, it's a loss for the lender as well as a loss for the homeowner, because in many neighborhoods, once a foreclosure occurs and people move out, the houses are boarded up, and of course, vandals prey upon them, destroy everything that was in it.

And so I simply wanted to appreciate all of those individuals who are part of the coalition of community groups and organizations with whom I've been working. And I join with others across the Nation to say to our government that we must correct the subprime lending process. But we also must do something that will aid those individuals who find themselves in tough situations right now.

So I join with Representative CLARKE.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material thereon on the subject of my Special Order tonight, which is the Second Chance Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus and our Chair, CAROLYN CHEEKS KILPATRICK, I'm pleased to anchor this Congressional Black Caucus message hour today.

Let me commend all of the original cosponsors on this piece of legislation; the lead sponsor, DANNY DAVIS, who's joining me this evening in this Special Order; cosponsors STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, JOHN CONYERS, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, BOBBY SCOTT, HANK JOHNSON, BARBARA LEE, MAXINE WATERS, and the list goes on. The majority of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus are signatories to this very, very important piece of legislation.

The purpose of the Second Chance Act is to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help States and communities to better address the growing population of prisoners returning to communities. The bill will focus on four areas: jobs, housing, substance abuse, mental health treatment and families.

Nearly two-thirds of released State prisoners are expected to be arrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within 3 years of their release. Such high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year and wasted taxpayer dollars, which can be averted through improved prisoner re-entry efforts.

The Second Chance Act of 2007 allocates $360 million towards a variety of re-entry programs. One of the main components of the bill is the funding of demonstration projects that will provide ex-offenders with a coordinated continuum of housing, education, health, employment, and mentoring services. This broad array of services will provide stability and make the transition for ex-offenders easier, in turn, reducing recidivism.

I sat here this evening, Mr. Speaker, and enjoyed the speeches by many of my colleagues talking about National Bible Month. I am so pleased that they chose that subject matter, and I hope that the many Members that spoke this evening about the Bible and where it specifically says ''when I was in prison you visited me,'' they will remember that their good talk and great conversation about the Bible apply to ex-offenders and that they will support the Second Chance Act.

It gives me great pleasure at this time to yield to my colleague and good friend, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Thank you very much, Madam Chair, and the convener of this Special Order. Let me thank the chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, recognize that 43 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, 42 Members in the House, represent a basic conscience that has to craft for America the next steps.

I want to thank my good friend, Congressman DANNY DAVIS. He has been persistent in recognizing that there has to be a second chance. And I'm glad to join my colleague and my champion, my fellow champion of human rights, BARBARA LEE.

Let me also thank Congressman JOHN CONYERS, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee; the subcommittee Chair, BOBBY SCOTT. We worked very hard on this legislation as it was crafted by the authors and the staff to make sure this legislation started to move.

Congresswoman TUBBS JONES, I'm very glad that you raised the question of National Bible Week. As I listened to my colleagues give extremely personal stories of their life, let me say, as someone who represents an inner-city district and has spent much of her political life as much as her personal life in churches, as a Seventh-day Adventist, we are committed to the teachings of the Old and New Testament.

But in many different faith communities, I recognize that the Bible is one vessel, one language that speaks to the language of the Good Samaritan. Many other religious documents speak to it, but it speaks about taking care of our fellow brothers and sisters. And it's a story that I love, on the road to Jericho, on the road that addresses the question of helping others. That is what the Second Chance bill is all about.

And I just want to cite that it is designed to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help State and local governments better address the growing population of ex-offenders returning to their communities. I see them every day in my community.

The bill focuses on four areas: development and support of programs that provide alternatives to incarceration, expansion of the availability of substance abuse treatment, strengthening families, and the expansion of comprehensive re-entry services. And we held a series of hearings.

But as we talked about National Bible Week upcoming, this is a wonderful partnership between faith organizations for people to show their faith and helping people restore their lives.

I come from the State of Texas. In Texas, there are now 101,916 adults on parole, and there are 430,312 adults on probation; almost a congressional district.

At the same time you, we have a number of individuals by race. We see that out of that in Texas there are 40,000, almost, African Americans who are on parole and some 25,000 Hispanics. This speaks to the crisis nature of what we are facing.

And so I rise today to plead with my colleagues that one, the Second Chance bill must move through this House. In the Senate we understand that we are now prepared possibly for a final conclusion for this to get to the President's desk.

But I speak from the heart when I talk about the importance of the second chance. Unfortunately, Jena Six and that situation, it has become a symbol for not giving young people a second chance. For the altercation that occurred, a school yard fight, it resulted in an indictment that resulted in adult time.

In the State of Texas, we are notorious for what we do for our young people; therefore, creating adults who will ultimately be incarcerated, and those will be on parole. And so, it is important that we understand the crucialness, if you will, of this particular bill.

Let me just cite headlines that I'd like to submit for the RECORD, because it relates to the criminal justice system in the State of Texas that really is upside down and, frankly, needs a complete overhaul, because what it says is more youth are tried as adults in Harris County than any other county, and really probably any other State. So we're beginning to move youth into the process of needing a second chance.

And what I'm suggesting, Mr. Speaker, is that more and more the young people are going into the criminal justice system, and there is a definite need for a second chance, because when these individuals come out, they are still young. They're still able to be saved. But we have nothing but an empty hole, a pit that they fall back into and they wind up being on the sea of recidivism.

And it says here that 67.5 percent of the prisoners were arrested for a new offense, almost exclusively a felony or a serious misdemeanor. This is what happens.

And so, more youth are tried as adults in Harris County. It means that, rather than having justice, we're concerned about ''just us,'' and so the criminal justice system has no sympathy.

In addition, we find that the youngest inmates, this is in Texas again, my county, tend to serve longer terms in juvenile prison, making them the kind of targets, or not targets, but kind of recipients, or those who would need the second chance, because they are laying the groundwork for going into the adult system.

I will include these articles for the RECORD that I'm now speaking to.

[From the Bureau of Justice Statistics, June 2002]

RECIDIVISM OF PRISONERS RELEASED IN 1994

(By Patrick A. Langan, Ph.D., David J. Levin, Ph.D.)

This study of the rearrest, reconviction, and reincarceration of prisoners tracked 272,111 former inmates for 3 years after their release in 1994. The 272,111—representing two-thirds of all prisoners released in the United States that year—were discharged from prisons in 15 States:

Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Virginia.

FOUR MEASURES OF RECIDIVISM

The study uses four measures of recidivism: rearrest, reconviction, resentence to prison, and return to prison with or without a new sentence. Except where expressly stated otherwise, all four study measures of recidivism—refer to the 3-year period following the prisoner's release in 1994; include both ''in-State'' and ''out-of-State'' recidivism.

''In-State'' recidivism refers to new offenses committed within the State that released the prisoner. ''Out-of-State'' recidivism refers to new offenses in States other than the one where the prisoner served time.

CBC FOUNDATION

[Second Chance and Probation/Parole Analysis]

State	Representatives	Adults on parole (2005)	Adults on probation (2005)
California	Lee, Waters, Watson	111,743	388,260
Texas	Green, Jackson-Lee, Johnson	101,916	430,312
Pennsylvania	Fattah	75,732	167,561
New York	Clarke, Meeks, Rangel, Towns	53,533	119,025
Illinois	Davis, Jackson Jr., Obama, Rush	34,576	143,136
Louisiana	Jefferson	24,072	38,308
Georgia	Bishop, Johnson, Lewis, Scott	22,851	422,848
Michigan	Conyers, Kilpatrick	19,978	178,609
Ohio	Tubbs Jones	19,512	239,036
Missouri	Clay, Cleaver	18,374	53,614
Wisconsin	Moore	15,505	55,175
Maryland	Cummings, Wynn	14,271	75,593
New Jersey	Payne	13,874	139,610
Indiana	Carson	7,295	121,014
Alabama	Davis	7,252	38,995
Florida	Brown, Hastings, Meek	4,785	277,831
Virginia	Scott	4,499	45,589
Minnesota	Ellison	3,966	117,073
South Carolina	Clyburn	3,155	39,349
North Carolina	Butterfield, Watt	3,101	111,626
Mississippi	Thompson	1,970	23,864

District of Columbia, Holmes Norton, Data Unavailable.
Virgin Islands, Christian-Christensen, Data Unavailable.

State	Parole population, 2/31/2005	White	Black/African American	Hispanic or Latino	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific islander	Two or more races	Unknown or not reported
New Jersey	13,874	2,906	6,679	2,563	19	25	53	0	1,629
New York	53,533	8,770	24,467	18,739	225	312	0	0	1,020
Pennsylvania [a]	75,678	39,517	28,271	6,022	62	295	3	56	1,452
Illinois [b]	34,576	10,124	20,386	3,923	30	90	**	**	23
Michigan	19,978	9,170	10,209	309	132	38	0	0	120
Minnesota	3,966	2,350	996	319	201	0	0	0	100
Missouri	18,374	12,246	5,665	356	55	37	0	0	15
Ohio [b]	19,512	9,717	9,580	156	39	20	0	0	0
Wisconsin [a]	15,505	6,983	6,712	1,209	432	122	**	**	47
Alabama [b]	7,252	2,503	4,670	32	2	8	0	2	35
Florida	4,785	1,940	2,725	105	5	0	0	**	10
Georgia	22,851	7,979	14,872	**	**	**	**	**	0

State	Parole population, 2/31/2005	White	Black/African American	Hispanic or Latino	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific islander	Two or more races	Unknown or not reported
Louisiana	24,072	8,519	15,432	4	4	2	**	**	111
Maryland	14,271	3,617	10,602	**	13	17	**	**	22
Mississippi	1,970	847	1,104	11	4	2	0	0	2
North Carolina	3,101	1,096	1,801	126	50	9	1	**	18
South Carolina	3,155	1,029	2,081	20	8	1	0	**	16
Texas	101,916	34,561	39,718	26,920	70	163	0	0	484
Virginia [b]	4,499	2,144	2,243	0	2	0	0	0	110
California	111,743	34,535	27,825	44,135	897	1,018	193	0	3,140

* Not known.
[a] See Explanatory notes for more detail.
[b] Some or all detailed data are estimated for race.

And then, of course, there is this short of years but long in lockup. This is a statement that talks about 13-year-olds who have 5 years, 6 years, 7 years, not because they are sentenced to that amount, but because they go into the juvenile system for 2 months, and because the handlers, the custodians, the jailers pile on more time, more time.

So what point am I making?

The point that I'm making is that we are assured that, with the ongoing cycle of young people going into the criminal justice system, that they then go into the adult system, and then we have this giant sinking hole.

The second chance is to save youngsters and adults from themselves, and to provide this safety net that provides jobs and training and also a social system that allows them to not be part of almost 70 percent recidivism.

Let me quickly just say that I was very pleased to have an amendment included into this legislation that particularly focused on some additional needs that we would have and that this bill also takes into account mental health concerns. This bill is a must.

My voice is gone, but my strength and my desire is here. If we are biblically grounded in this country, if we believe that there is value to religion and faith in the Bible and the Koran and many other documents that exude faith, then we should emphasize the charity of the Good Samaritan. That finds its way into the Jewish faith, the Christian faith and Muslim faith and any faith that is here. There is the concept of the Good Samaritan. That's what the Second Chance bill is.

And as I close, let me indicate that I am still working on this criminal justice system. It is a broken system. I believe that if you do the crime, you should pay the time. But where is the mercy on what the time is and how you rehabilitate people? That's why I'm offering legislation, the Good Time Early Release Bill that we hope will see hearings that will allow nonviolent prisoners to be released on their own recognizance and to allow them to get into this system. It is not a parole. It is good time early release, because these are Federal prisoners who are in the Federal system who are not subjected to parole and a limited probation.

So I'm looking forward to that location tagging this legislation, because if this passes, then those who will be released will have the safety net that is so very important.

It dismays me, Congresswoman TUBBS JONES, to see our young people, as you've been a prosecutor and I've been a judge, you've been a judge, to see them go into this system with no hope. I wish they were not in the system at all. But as they go into the system and then they become institutionalized as adults, then we need to have the second chance legislation that owns on up to the fact that we are, in fact, our brothers' and sisters' keepers, we are Good Samaritans, and we must find a way to save the lives of those who have paid their time and have come out to help their families.

With that, I ask us to really get this moving, and I thank you for your leadership.

I thank Congresswoman LEE for her yielding and Congressman DAVIS and all those that we've worked with for moving this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank my dear friend, Mr. DANNY DAVIS of Illinois, for organizing this special order on the very important subject addressing the prison warehousing crisis in this country. H.R. 1593, The Second Chance Act, a bill of which I am an original co-sponsor, addresses the very serious concerns about the compromised state of warehousing prisoners.

Earlier this year the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, of which I am a member, held hearings to address the state of certain conditions within the United States prison system. In one of those hearings, my colleagues and I considered the merits of The Second Chance Act, and my amendment which I offered in the last Congress was included in the base bill this year.

The Second Chance Act is designed to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help state and local governments better address the growing population of ex-offenders returning their communities. The bill focuses on four areas: Development and support of programs that provide alternatives to incarceration, expansion of the availability of substance abuse treatment, strengthening families and the expansion of comprehensive re-entry services. The Subcommittee has held a series of hearings on issues relating to re-entry of prisoners and this legislation dating back to the 108th Congress. Our most recent hearing, on March 20, 2007, focused on re-entry best practices and the continuing need for Federal support of re-entry program development.

Nearly two-thirds of released state prisoners are expected to be re-arrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within 3 years of their release. Such high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year and wasted taxpayer dollars, which can be averted through improved prisoner reentry efforts.

The "Second Chance Act of 2007" allocates $360 million towards a variety of reentry programs. One of the main components of the bill is the funding of demonstration projects that would provide ex-offenders with a coordinated continuum of housing, education, health, employment, and mentoring services. This broad array of services would provide stability and make the transition for ex-offenders easier, in turn reducing recidivism.

I also sponsored H.R. 261, the Federal Prison Bureau Nonviolent Offender Relief Act of 2007 which I introduced earlier this year. H.R. 261 directs the Bureau of Prisons, pursuant to a good time policy, to release a prisoner who has served one half or more of his or her term of imprisonment if that prisoner: (1) Has attained age 45; (2) has never been convicted of a crime of violence; and (3) has not engaged in any violation, involving violent conduct, of institutional disciplinary regulations.

H.R. 261, would address the problem of warehousing in the Nation's federal correction facilities non-violent offenders over the age of 45 who have served more than half of their sentences and pose no future danger to society. As I stated during the markup of H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act of 2007, I strongly believe that in affording older offenders a second chance to turn around their lives and contribute to society, that ex-offenders not be too old to take full advantage of a second chance to redeem themselves in the eyes of their families, friends, and communities. I believe setting an eligibility age of 45 rather than 60 will better achieve the goal we all share.

I am also concerned about the rehabilitation and treatment of juvenile offenders in my home state of Texas as it appears that the administrators of TYC have neglected their duties. The April 10, 2007 "Dallas Morning News", reported that "two former Texas Youth Commission administrators were indicted on charges that they sexually abused teenage inmates at the state juvenile prison in Pyote". The same article also cited the 2005 investigative report by Texas Rangers' Sgt. Burzynski which found that the two indicted TYC administrators, Brookins and Hernandez, had repeatedly molested inmates in the Pyote prison. The report is cited as saying that Mr. Brookins, who during some periods was the top official, had shown sex toys and pornography in his office, while Mr. Hernandez molested inmates in classrooms and closets.

I hope that all of my colleagues would join me in supporting the Second Chance Act as well as my H.R. 261, the Federal Prison Bureau Nonviolent Offender Relief Act of 2007. It is time to make a change.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Prisoner reentry is not a democratic issue. It's not

a Republican issue. It is a commonsense issue. The facts are clear. Meaningful re-entry programs significantly diminish the chances that ex-offenders will return to prison.

It gives me great pleasure at this time to yield to my colleague and good friend, another leader on this issue, the Congresswoman from the great State of California, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE.

Ms. LEE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you Congresswoman TUBBS JONES for once again organizing these very important message hours. Again, your experience as a judge, as a prosecutor, as a mother of a young African American brilliant young man understands very clearly why this legislation is so important.

□ 2100

You have seen lives shattered and you have done your best in so many ways to make sure that efforts such as the Second Chance Act gets passed. So thank you again for your leadership and for everything that you are doing.

And to Congressman DANNY DAVIS, let me just say I am so excited that finally we will get a chance to vote on this very important bill. You have been the lone voice in the wilderness and have been working on this for so many years. We all must begin to recognize the unique needs of those formerly incarcerated individuals on the path to reentry, and I can think of no one who has led in this effort such as yourself, Congressman DAVIS. So thank you again and congratulations.

Today our prisons and our jails are filled to the roof, mostly with nonviolent drug offenders at enormous cost to the taxpayers. The politics of locking people up, very easy. Though not enough lawmakers have given really much thought to the hard part, and that is the fact that more than 95 percent, 95 percent of those who are locked up will return at some point home with little or no preparation to succeed and no support to keep them out of jail.

The reality is recidivism rates continue to rise, with nearly 70 percent of those released from incarceration returning to prison within 3 years. Without arming them with the necessary tools for survival, we are condemning them to repeat their past mistakes. This does nothing to reduce crime, nor does it do anything to provide for safer communities.

Today we can truly change the landscape of reentry programs. We must make rehabilitation a reality, not just an abstract proposal. By providing all formerly incarcerated individuals with greater access to education, jobs, health care, drug treatment, we will reduce recidivism rates across the board.

Mr. Speaker, the fact is, and just let me say with regard to my district alone, over 14,000 formerly incarcerated persons return to my congressional district every year. In my home State of California, over 500,000 adults, 500,000 adults are on parole or probation, primarily African American and Latino men. Moreover, California spends about $7,200, just a drop in the bucket, every year on each student but pays over $25,000 a year for each prisoner. Governor Schwarzenegger has increased the prison budget by more than $5 billion. That's more than $1 billion a year since he took office. This is not the way to go. And in California, unfortunately, and we have worked very hard to do this and still haven't quite made it, rehabilitation is still not a part of California's prison reform effort.

So what we are doing here by helping with the Second Chance Act and getting this passed provides for comprehensive reentry programs that are really critical not only to my State but to the entire country.

Up to 60 percent of formerly incarcerated individuals are unemployed a year after release, and up to 30 percent go directly to homeless shelters upon their release. The incidents of drug use among ex-offenders is over 80 percent. Now, that's twice the rate of the United States population. It is more than clear that something needs to be done.

Following the lead of our colleague from Illinois, Congressman DAVIS, just this past weekend, and I wanted to mention this because Congressman DAVIS was with at our first record remedy Clean Slate Summit 3 years ago to help those who qualify to legally clean up their record so that they can gain access to employment, education, housing, and civic opportunities. Since this first clinic in April of 2005, and I believe Congressman CLYBURN was there and Congressman WATT and they witnessed this, there were 900 to 1,000 individuals, primarily African American men, who came to learn about how to clear up their records.

Well, I am very proud to say that now we have cleared approximately 3,600 records. We worked to coordinate these efforts of community groups like the East Bay Community Law Center and All of Us Or None of Us, which is a phenomenal organization, headed by Dorsey Nunn, whom Congressman DAVIS knows, who has chapters all over the country, and they are certainly leading the way in our community. Also with great elected leaders like Mayor Dellums and Assembly member Sandre Swanson, Supervisor Carson, many of our judges and the District Attorney's office.

And it is only through this very comprehensive and cooperative approach that we can successfully assist those who are so often completely cut off from their communities. And this is only a small example of what we can do within a very narrowly defined law. But it is truly all about us or none of us.

We have a vested interest, a vested interest, in making sure that people reenter our communities successfully. Help with cleaning their records provides an opportunity for formerly incarcerated individuals to get a job, to go back to school, or to find a place to live. This bill is so important to all of these efforts.

Also I want to thank Congressman DAVIS and Congresswoman TUBBS JONES for helping us deal with this one issue that, again, is so important but oftentimes goes below the radar, and that is allowing ex-offenders who have paid their debt to society to be allowed access to food stamps. Many don't even know that there is a lifetime ban, lifetime ban, on applying for food stamps for those who have been convicted of drug felonies. We say let them eat. I mean, you know, let them eat. Two hundred dollars, and you are turned out into a community with nothing and can't even get food stamps. This is a shame and disgrace.

Again, so many examples of laws that need to be changed, that need to be changed. But this moment we have now to help pass a bill to help formerly incarcerated individuals receive this second chance is so, so important.

Let me remind us of what Booker T. Washington once said. He said: ''Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life but by the obstacles which he or she has overcome.'' We must end this cycle of injustice that is perpetrated by a system that continues to punish people long after they have paid their debts to society. No one condones criminal activity; but I tell you once one serves their time, they should be able to feed their family and move on with their lives.

In closing, like Congresswomen TUBBS JONES and JACKSON-LEE indicated, as I listened to those speaking tonight in honor of National Bible Week and as one who deeply believes in the wisdom and direction of the Bible, to love one another, I do hope that these statements which we heard tonight weren't just a bunch of rhetoric. I hope that all of those lifting up the teachings of the Bible tonight vote for this bill, H.R. 1593, and all of the legislation sponsored by members of the Congressional Black Caucus, which continues to be the conscience of the Congress. Our bills, many bills that we see come to this floor truly reflect the command of the Bible to take care of the least of these. So tonight and this week we have a chance to do just that.

And I want to thank Congresswoman CAROLYN KILPATRICK, our great Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus for making sure that we come to the floor and have this opportunity to let the country know what the Congressional Black Caucus stands for and what we are doing for the least of these.

Thank you Congresswoman TUBBS JONES again for yielding.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. I yield to the gentleman from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Congressional Black Caucus on this incredibly

important message hour. I wandered in and we should all be here. This is tremendous.

And, Representative DAVIS, thanks for your leadership, along with your colleagues in doing this. This is tremendous to listen to you. And you are the conscience of America, let alone the Congress. You are doing a great job.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I have been waiting 30 years for Congress to enact meaningful reentry legislation, as I have been deeply involved in prison reentry programs since my days as a municipal court judge, common plea judge, and county prosecutor in Cleveland. While prosecutor, I helped to establish the Pretrial Diversion program, as well as the Municipal Drug Court program. And I am so happy to be able to say that it's my understanding that the drug court program in Cleveland is going to move from the municipal court to expand to the common pleas court so it is county-wide. Both programs, I'm proud to say, still exist and continue to help ex-offenders move on with their lives and become productive citizens.

The State of Ohio has one of the largest populations of ex-offenders reentering the community, with about 24,000 ex-offenders returning to their respective communities annually. Of those ex-offenders, about 6,000 will return to Cuyahoga County, my county, and almost 5,000 will reenter in the City of Cleveland. Statewide about 40 percent of ex-offenders will return to prison. In Cuyahoga County about 41 percent will return. Such high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year and wasted taxpayer dollars.

Today I am proud to stand with my colleague DANNY DAVIS as an original cosponsor of the Second Chance Act of 2007. This legislation is forward-thinking. It provides opportunities for all the Members of Congress who sincerely believe in helping their brother or their sister in times of need to support this legislation.

It gives me great pleasure to yield to the lead sponsor of the Second Chance Act, DANNY DAVIS of Illinois, and say to him, DANNY, thank you for your leadership on this issue. I'm proud to join with you around the work that we have been doing on behalf of ex-offenders across the Nation.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

First of all, I want to commend our leader of the Congressional Black Caucus, the gentlewoman from Detroit, Michigan, who engages us in such a way that we are able to do a number of different things as she provides opportunity for different individuals to display leadership. And so having Representative STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES convene each Monday a Special Order, an hour, where the Congressional Black Caucus members come and discuss issues, I tell you it is a pleasure for me to be here with my Delta sister from Cleveland, Ohio, a distinguished jurist, having been a defense attorney, a judge, a prosecutor, legislator, who understands this issue from every angle, any way that you look at it. Individuals who are being defended, individuals who have gone into the system, having to pass judgment, in a sense, and having to bring charges. It is just a pleasure to be here and to commend you because you do this every week, every Monday night. I mean, I was struggling to get here because my plane had some difficulty, but I am so delighted that I made it.

And to have the opportunity to work with individuals like Representative BARBARA LEE, listening to BARBARA with all of the things that are going on in the Oakland community, the neighborhood, it almost makes you dizzy.

□ 2115

But the interesting thing about it is that you know that it's real because you get the opportunity to see it. I mean, just imagine that number of individuals that you all have helped clear their records so that they can get a job, so that they can go to work, so that they can have a chance. And to know that that's only one of the issues, because you're leading internationally in creating awareness about the AIDS pandemic, generating resources and money, bringing to the forefront health issues that people kind of forget about.

Barbara, it is just a pleasure and an honor to have the opportunity to serve in the same body with you at the same time and to be inspired and motivated by the work that you do and by the spirit that you have and the energy. I mean, Members of the caucus trying to keep up with you and SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, with your energy levels, I mean, it's almost impossible. You can't do it. And so, you know, you just do the best that you can and follow along and follow suit. Because it has been a combination of all this work that has raised this issue to the point where I'm holding in my hand 17 pages of paper that the Chicago Tribune did last week on this issue, beginning last Sunday with a front page story, and then following through Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. And the first story was three pages.

You know, the Chicago Tribune is a big newspaper, and they highlighted the work of the North Lawndale Employment Network that has a project where they're teaching ex-offenders how to make honey and how to tend to bees. And they've actually developed a business. And these individuals are able now to actually go to work every day, earn a living. Some of them have already been able to max out of that program, go into other areas and get jobs, as people have seen what they do. And so, we are making progress.

But even so, the progress that we're making is awfully small compared to what is needed. And I thought it was just so important what you said about Booker Washington in terms of looking at where people have been and where they've come from. And so when we look at the history of this country and we recognize the travail, the difficulty that some population groups have had, that African Americans have experienced, and now we're trying to make sure that these individuals who have fallen off the path, who have succumbed in some ways to the difficulties of living in a tough environment, who are trying to find their way back, every day I come into contact with a story of somebody who is on the way up, on the way back, who found a way to get themselves a job.

I agree with all of my colleagues who have talked about this being National Bible Week. And I was thinking, as I listened, that we all get awards and we all get plaques and we all get things given to us. And the greatest thing that I have ever had given to me was something called the Gutenburg Award, which came from the Chicago Bible Society, which is a group of theologians and Bible scholars who analyze work. And on the basis of one's work and whether or not the work that they're doing is in keeping with the principles of the Bible, they give awards.

And so, when we talk about redemption and the need to redeem, there are more than 650,000 individuals who come out of jail and prison every year in the United States of America and they need to be redeemed. And so, if you want to be redeemed, you don't have to just go down by the Jordan Stream, you can go to some of the community programs that exist. You can help make sure that we provide resources so that those individuals who come home from jail and prison have some place to go, so that they have somebody to help them. Because if they get help, the chances of them recidivating are much less than if they don't.

The statistics show that 67 percent of the individuals who don't get help are more than likely going to do what we call ''re-offend'' within a 3-year period of time. More than 50 percent of them will be reincarcerated. But the recidivism rate goes down contingent upon the amount of help that they get. Some programs has it down as low as 18–20 percent. Well, that's just doing a great job. And I would hope that before the week is over, and we're expecting certainly before we adjourn, that the United States Congress is going to see the wisdom of reclaiming lives, of helping put people back on the employment rolls so that they can pay taxes.

You know, I would much rather help a person pay taxes. There is an old saying that if you give a man a fish, he can eat for a day, but if you teach him how to fish, he can eat for a lifetime. And so, if we help the individuals learn how to re-enter and function, then they're going to help further develop our Nation.

So, I just thank you so much for your leadership and the great work that

you've done on this issue and how you tie in the Ways and Means functions with the needs of these individuals. And we talk about, you know, people can't get food stamps.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. And if the gentlemen would yield, that legislation prohibits offenders who have drug convictions from getting student loans. So if they wanted to go back to school and change their lives, we've got legislation that prohibits them from having the opportunity to go back to college.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Well, there are so many barriers, when you sit and look at it, and you wonder, for example, the person who wants to go to college can't get a Pell Grant. And many of the individuals who are incarcerated are young individuals who got caught up maybe in a place where they were smoking cocaine or they may have gotten picked up and had some controlled substance on them. And now they're out of school, they can't get a Pell Grant. And fortunately, we're beginning to seriously look at that. And fortunately the Supreme Court is looking seriously at the sentencing disparities that have existed relative to the difference between the sentences that you get for a conviction of having crack cocaine versus powder cocaine.

And I think what we're really saying is that these issues have to be brought to the forefront, and that's why these Special Orders are so important. I've always been told that awareness brings about dissatisfaction, and that the more people learn about the way things are, the more dissatisfied they become. And then if you can take that dissatisfaction and organize it into some action, now you've got a chance for some movement.

And therefore, we want to thank all of those many groups who have been in support of the Second Chance Act, all of that coalition, The Working Group, individuals who work with criminal justice issues, individuals who work with drug courts, individuals who know that there is a better way and a different way, we just have to see that road.

And, you know, the Bible has just so many great experiences. You know, I remember the story of Paul, you know, Saul of Tarsus on his way to persecute the Christians, but something turned him around. He met something and somebody along the road. And from being a prosecutor, he became the greatest advocate for Christianity that we have known, other than Jesus the Christ himself.

And so, we hope that there are people who will change their opinions about what to do with individuals who have fallen off the path. And again, it's just a real pleasure to be here with you and to share this time.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Thank you, Congressman DAVIS. I want to close this hour with just a few comments.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Let me do this before you do. I would like to have this document included in the RECORD, because I think they are such a great indication of how mass media is beginning to understand the issue and beginning to recognize it as a problem. And I would like to include in the RECORD this document from the Chicago Tribune.

[From the Chicago Tribune, Oct. 28, 2007]

THE BEEKEEPERS

(By Louise Kiernan)

The men opened the hive and bees swirled up into the sky like sparks from a fire.

Bees flew through the weedy yard and past the chain-link fence. They flew into the alley, where a woman braced herself against the hood of a police car.

Bees flew toward the gas station, where the calls of hustlers selling drugs sliced the air. And beyond where the men could see them, bees scattered into the vacant lots and back-yard gardens, parks and parking lots of Chicago's West Side, searching, as always, for nectar.

This sunny morning in September 2006 was warm, but a bite to the breeze signaled fall. A boy walked by, dressed in a white shirt and navy pants. School had opened today. It was time for a new start, time for what the people who work at the non-profit agency on this corner in East Garfield Park had decided to call Sweet Beginnings.

The three men standing at the hive were learning how to become beekeepers. None had any experience at this job or, for that matter, much significant work history at all.

Tony Smith, a pug of a man with a broad face, moved with the graceful, contained gestures of someone accustomed to negotiating small spaces. At 30, he had spent half his life in prison.

Hovering uneasily behind him was Shelby Gallion, a 22-year-old former drug dealer. In an oversized T-shirt and jeans that blurred the outlines of his body, his expression unreadable, Shelby looked a little out of focus, as if he might eventually drift out of sight. He lived in a halfway house, still on parole.

Gerald Whitehead, the oldest member of the trio at 49, had been released from jail just a week before, after being cleared of a heroin-possession charge, the most recent stumble in the struggle to turn his life around after decades of violence and addiction. Gerald seemed intimidating, with his heavy-lidded eyes and thrust-out chin, but when he smiled, his face cracked open wide and bright.

The three men and 17 hives in this yard were the makings of a small experiment, an attempt to address one of the most stubborn and destructive problems in Chicago and other cities around the country: what to do with the hundreds of thousands of people released each year from prison.

Over the last three decades, harsher penalties for drug crimes and stricter sentencing laws have helped fuel explosive growth in the nation's prison population and, inevitably, in the number of inmates returning to society. In Chicago alone, roughly 20,000 ex-offenders come home each year.

Most end up in neighborhoods like this one, where unemployment is high, opportunity scant and the temptation of drugs and crime rarely more than a corner away. They don't stay long. More than half the state's prisoners find themselves back behind bars within three years of their release.

Finding work can reduce someone's chances of returning to prison. Although getting a job with a criminal record is difficult, checking the conviction box on an application poses only one hurdle. Many former inmates face other problems, from poor education and little understanding of workplace rules to drug addiction or a lack of stable housing. And behaviors that help people thrive on the job—teamwork, communication—are often the opposite of those that ensure survival in prison.

For five years, the North Lawndale Employment Network, or NLEN, had helped ex-offenders find employment. With Sweet Beginnings, the agency decided to create its own jobs, in its own neighborhood, where people could learn how to work and build an employment history before they moved on. The idea attracted the attention of major philanthropies and companies, among them the MacArthur Foundation, Boeing Co. and Ben & Jerry's, each of which donated expertise or money to the effort.

Now, what may have once seemed like little more than a quirky venture—using former prisoners to produce honey in the ghetto—stood on the verge of transforming itself into a high-profile business.

Whether it would succeed depended in part upon the three men in the yard. The men measured success in starker terms. Failing, they feared, meant going back to the streets, going back to prison or getting killed.

During the coming year, through the bees' final foraging in fall, the threat of winter, promise of spring and richness of summer, the men and the enterprise of Sweet Beginnings would attempt nothing less than their own reinvention.

This morning's lesson was about survival. John Hansen, the beekeeper training the workers, showed them how to tilt the hives to get a sense of how much honey they contained. A heavy hive meant the bees had stored enough to make it through the winter. A lighter hive would need help.

The hives, with their unevenly stacked wooden boxes, called supers, looked like tipsy filing cabinets scattered among the clumps of goldenrod, Queen Anne's lace and clover.

The men moved among them, gently leaning each hive back and opening the lid to peer inside.

An elderly woman stopped at the fence. ''What ya'll got in there? Bees?'' she asked.

''Yep,'' John answered, still bent over a hive.

''Oh, Lord, think I better get back.''

After a minute or two, Shelby disappeared inside the building. John continued to make his way around the yard, Gerald and Tony in tow.

''Look at that,'' John cried out at Hive No. 2, lifting a frame thick with honey, each cell a stud of gold. At Hive No. 6, bees crowded the entrance, but the supers felt suspiciously light.

When they finished, John delivered his verdict.

''I think,'' he said, ''we can bring them through the winter.''

Second Chances

''To make a prairie it takes a clover and one bee,—
One clover, and a bee,
And revery.''—Emily Dickinson

In this pocket of the West Side, the past may fade or burn or erode almost to dust, but it persists. It holds on.

Like the Star of David that adorns the front of the Independence Boulevard Seventh Day Adventist Church, a remnant from the time when Chicago's Jews lived and worshiped in the neighborhood. Or the cracked patches of concrete in the overgrown lot at 1550 S. Hamlin Ave., where Martin Luther King Jr. lived for a short time in a rundown apartment to protest the way Chicago's blacks were housed.

Or, in the conference room at the North Lawndale Employment Network, the blotch of greenish ink on Tony Smith's right forearm, visible as he took notes in a narrow,

slanting script. It had been a tattoo of a cobra until he removed what he could with lemon juice and a sewing needle.

The cobra is a symbol of the Mickey Cobras street gang, as is the ''MC'' inked on Tony's left shoulder. Police records say Tony belonged to this gang. He won't say much about that or anything else in his past.

What he will say is this: ''I was a naive, snotty-nosed street kid who didn't care about himself or other people.''

His first arrest came at age 9, for disorderly conduct. By the time he turned 13 he had been convicted in an attempted murder and was, according to a police officer who knew him, one of the most violent and feared gang members in the Cabrini-Green public housing complex. He marked his 16th birthday awaiting trial for beating three men with a gun and torturing two of them with a heated ice-chopper. That crime earned Tony a 30-year prison sentence.

He emerged almost 15 years later, having never used a cell phone or filled out a job application. When he talked about what he wanted to see for the first time with his own eyes, he named—after Navy Pier and Millennium Park—a Jet Ski.

Across the conference table, Shelby idly twirled one of the braids near his ear. Shelby's past was his shoes. The butterscotch Timberland boots imprinted with tiny hexagons or the candy-bright Bathing Ape sneakers. New shoes, like his new watch and new cell phone, the leather ''Scarface'' cell phone case—all accessories of the lifestyle he said he wanted to leave behind.

He began selling drugs about the time he started high school, and by his senior year, the money and all it bought had easily trumped education. Then came two stints in prison and, during the second one, nights spent lying on his cot, wondering what would become of his two young daughters.

That was why he had come to Sweet Beginnings. But he still thought about the old life. It took him a week at the agency to earn what he could have made in a matter of hours on the street.

And Gerald, standing at the kitchen window, staring out at the hives?

Gerald's past was the hovel of a building across the alley, where he had snorted $10 bags of heroin. And his grandmother's house three blocks away, where he had stayed as a child and sexually assaulted a young woman as an adult. The bar around the corner where he once got shot on his birthday. His past was the man crossing the street he knew from Narcotics Anonymous and the cap-shadowed teenager who walked in the door of the North Lawndale Employment Network and addressed him as ''Brother Bone.''

Gerald's past was everywhere.

His earliest memory was of being bitten by a dog. He bit the dog back.

Gerald wasn't sure whether he remembered this incident because it happened or remembered it because he was told it happened. It didn't matter. He became that story: the boy who would bite back.

He grew up with two older brothers and 10 younger sisters, a mother who worked as a live-in nurse and a father who was, as he put it, ''kind of missing in action.''

Gerald struggled in school. He never learned how to read or write well. The other children made fun of him. By 6th grade, he had basically stopped going.

''I started out making a career,'' he said. ''Whatever I could steal to make a hustle.''

At the same time, he joined the Unknown Vice Lords. In the gang, he could force respect from all the people who had once belittled him. He moved up to become an ''elite,'' a top-ranking gang member and close associate of onetime Vice Lords kingpin Willie Lloyd.

From the age of 20, Gerald bounced in and out of prison, spending more time inside than out: armed robbery, home invasion, criminal sexual assault, burglary, aggravated battery, drug possession.

He was 43 before he decided he couldn't do the time anymore. He has his conversion story. One night in prison, he broke down. Was this all his life would ever be? Had God put him here for nothing more? He wanted to die.

Then, in his cell, he sensed the spirit of his late grandmother, who always gave him a meal when he was hungry and a bed when he was homeless, and he felt at peace.

He could try to change.

It proved difficult. He lost a job working in maintenance at a nursing home after a background check revealed his criminal record, he said. There was an arrest for domestic battery. He was using drugs too, crack and then heroin. He became a dope fiend, a hype.

That went on for years, until his mother persuaded him to check into a residential drug treatment program, where he stayed for five months. Not long after he got out, in the spring of 2006, he stopped by the fence at NLEN on his way to sell loose cigarettes at the gas station nearby. He knew the agency; the month before, he had gone through its four-week job-training program for ex-offenders.

A couple of men were setting up hives. Gerald asked if he could watch. Then he asked if he could help. He stepped into the yard and began handling the hives, as though, one of the men observed, he had been beekeeping all his life.

At first, Gerald worked for free. He did whatever needed to be done: fixing the lawn mower, pulling weeds, picking up the trash that blew in from the alley. It was somewhere to go every day. Soon, the agency began to pay him, $7.25 an hour.

Every day was a fight. Stay straight, go to work. Failing would be as easy as stumbling off the curb into the street.

''It's a wrassle trying to do good,'' Gerald said one afternoon. ''You always got evil whispering in your ear.''

He felt comfortable around the bees. He liked them. If you didn't know bees, he thought, they might scare you. But once you knew them, you came to respect them.

Gerald understood bees.

Finding sweetness

The building that housed the North Lawndale Employment Network, near the corner of West Flournoy Street and South Independence Boulevard, had once been a duplex and still felt like someone's home.

Walk in and you might find a worker bouncing a toddler on her knee while she interviewed the child's mother or an old woman grumbling about delays on the Pulaski bus.

Most days, the center hummed with people who came for one of the agency's job-training programs, a computer class or to get help writing a resume. Amid the bustle, the Sweet Beginnings employees set up beekeeping class at whatever table happened to be free and began to learn about bees.

They learned there are three types of honeybees: the worker bee, which is female; the drone, which is male; and the queen bee, which mates with the drones and lays the colony's eggs.

They learned that a worker bee lives for about six weeks. They learned that it takes the nectar from 5 million flowers to make 1 pint of honey. They learned that pollen mixed with nectar is called bee bread.

During these lessons, Tony took notes on a yellow legal pad. Gerald tilted his chair back or leaned forward, head propped on his arms, always restless. Shelby occasionally cleaned his nails with a public transit card.

Their teacher, John Hansen, was 76 and white and jangled the change in his pocket. He had begun keeping bees 31 years before, after he saw a sign someone had posted on a bulletin board at the suburban publishing company where he worked, offering to sell two hives. He went on to become president of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association, and in his retirement, he still kept bees, sold honey and ran a small business managing hives and removing bees from people's homes.

Of everything John taught the men about bees, they found nothing as interesting or amusing as what they learned about drones.

When drones hatch, the worker bees help them out of their brood cells while the worker bees must emerge on their own. Drones that mate with the queen on what is euphemistically called the ''nuptial flight'' die because the act rips their sexual organs from their bodies. When winter approaches, worker bees drive the drones from the hive, to certain death.

One morning, Tony walked in with his heavily underlined copy of ''Beekeeping in the Midwest,'' the book they were assigned to read.

''It said male drones are like human males,'' Tony told John. ''They don't do no work. I kid you not, that's what they said.'' The book doesn't compare men and bees; that was Tony's analysis.

In the beginning, the men's hands-on instruction mostly involved learning how to care for the hives and prepare them for winter. While they worked, they used a smoker, a metal can with attached bellows, to blow smoke into the hives to distract the bees. The smoke causes the bees to act as though their hive is on fire, and they eat honey to fortify themselves to flee, ignoring intruders.

Honey bees usually sting only if they feel threatened. Tony had never been stung, so John plucked a bee from a hive and stung him with it to make sure he wasn't allergic to the venom. Gerald hardly seemed to notice stings or care beyond issuing the occasional epithet. Shelby seemed the most leery, often hanging back while the others worked. But when Tony asked if the bees scared him, Shelby denied it.

In the early fall, the men learned how to extract honey, to harvest it from the frames where bees build the combs.

Because the Sweet Beginnings hives didn't contain enough honey to spare, John brought in eight frames from his own apiary. The frames, stacked in the kitchen of the resource center, looked a little like wood-frame screens, except that, instead of wire grids, the panels held hundreds of hexagons filled with honey.

As the men crowded around a large metal tank, a lone bee banged against the kitchen window.

''Do we have to actually do it?'' Tony asked.

''Yeah, you guys are going to do it,'' John replied.

To extract honey, a beekeeper uses a knife to cut open the wax caps that seal the individual cells of honey in the frame. Then, the frames are placed in an extractor, which spins them to release the honey. The honey drips down the walls of the extractor and exits through a tap.

Slowly and delicately, Shelby slid the knife against the frame. Wax curled off in strips. A slight scent, sweet and floral, filled the kitchen.

''Just swipe it,'' Tony advised.

''Let it ride even and flat,'' Gerald said.

''You're doing fine,'' John said. ''Just watch your fingers.''

Tony and Gerald each took a turn. The knife, as it drew across the wax, made the

thick, wet smack of a cartoon kiss. Sunlight warmed the honey in the frames to the color of amber, glowing against the black shadow of the blade.

''That honey look good, don't it?'' Tony asked.

As the extractor spun, the air began to smell sweeter and sweeter. Thin streams ran down the inside of the tank. Minutes passed. A nickel-sized dollop of honey pooled on the filter atop the white bucket under the tap.

''There's the first drop,'' John said.

While the extractor whirred, the men went outside to check on the bees. Brenda Palms Barber, the exuberant black woman who served as the North Lawndale Employment Network's chief executive officer, joined them.

''I want to see how the babies are doing,'' she called out, standing at the hives, perfectly at ease in her gray suit while the others wore jackets with netted hoods.

More than two years before, Brenda had come up with the idea for Sweet Beginnings when she decided that the employment network needed to do more than help people find jobs; it needed to create them.

She considered a landscaping business or delivery service but worried that customers might be reluctant to allow ex-offenders in their homes. A friend suggested a honey co-op.

Brenda knew nothing about honey, but the idea intrigued her. She liked it even better when she learned that some people consider urban honey more flavorful than its rural counterpart because the bees can gather nectar from more varied flowers within a shorter distance. Imagine creating sweetness out of the asphalt and hardship of the West Side.

The agency launched Sweet Beginnings in the spring of 2004 with a grant from the Illinois Department of Corrections. Two years later, after parting ways with the original group of beekeepers working with the agency, the program started over with fresh bees and a new idea.

The bees came from Wisconsin, picked up and delivered by NLEN's chief operating officer, who had to roll down the windows of his Jeep Cherokee on the way back because the 30,000 bees generated so much heat and noise.

The new idea came from a business plan created by volunteers at Boeing, the chairwoman of the board of Ben & Jerry's and others. It called for Sweet Beginnings to shift its focus from selling honey to selling honey-based products such as lotion and lip balm. They hoped the move would increase profits and, with the expansion into manufacturing, packaging and marketing, the job prospects of its workers.

When Brenda and the beekeepers returned to the kitchen, about 4 inches of honey stood in the 5-gallon bucket.

She passed out plastic spoons and everyone dipped in to taste.

''Yum,'' she said. ''It's really, really good.''

She continued to talk, in a stream of words as smooth and unbroken as the honey pouring into the bucket. She talked about biscuits and business competition and hosting a honey cook-off and social purpose and making lip balm.

When she was almost done, she said, ''That's some of the stuff we're thinking.'' Then she paused and said something else, slowly, as if the idea had just struck her.

''Our demographic,'' she said, ''is the opposite of the people working on it.''

Under suspicion

''There is a Thief Amongst Us!'' the signs announced.

''IS IT YOU!''

One sign was posted above the sink in the kitchen of the resource center. Another was taped to the bathroom door. More hung on the walls next to inspirational quotes from Eleanor Roosevelt and Gail Sheehy.

The signs went up in late September, after someone stole the agency's digital camera from a cabinet in the downstairs conference room. It was only the second theft in the two years since NLEN had moved into the building, and it hurt.

The agency prided itself on being the kind of place where visitors wandered back to the kitchen to help themselves to coffee and bought candy for school fundraisers by dropping a dollar on a desktop.

No doors barred the offices; no cameras peered down from the ceilings. The clients who came here already felt as though the world treated them like criminals; the people who helped them didn't want to do the same.

That trust disappeared with the discovery of a dented cabinet door.

Brenda felt betrayed. She didn't like thieves. She could find a job for a murderer before she could find one for a thief. Stealing was a crime of opportunity, and every time a thief saw something to steal, he had to decide not to steal it.

If the signs shouted the crime, other conversations in the building occurred in whispers.

Who would know the camera was kept in the basement conference room, in the cabinet with the VCR? The beekeepers, who watched videos for their classes. And Gerald? Well, he had been an addict, and everyone knows that hypes steal.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. I want to highlight, if I might, just a couple of programs in the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, that have been successful in community re-entry.

I have served on the board of the Community Re-Entry Program under the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries for some 25 years. I remember with great glee Rev. Dick Searing, who has gone on to shine down upon us as we continue his work, as well as Charles See, who is the executive director, and a lot of the members that were on the board. We were able, through Community Re-Entry, to do a number of things, and one of those was to develop care teams, and the care teams were made of ex-offenders. And we developed these care teams such that at one point in time they were literally serving as caretakers or workers for senior citizens staying in public housing.

One of the senior citizens actually said that she viewed the, we called them ''care team members,'' and they wore red jackets, and she stated how she felt about them. And she said, ''They're not criminals. They're just like my sons. And they've been taking care of me.''

The care teams were paid employees of Community Re-Entry. They received a full-time benefit package, including vacation, health insurance and pension that was fully vested after 1 year. The recidivism rate for our care team members was less than 5 percent.

We also had a program under Community Re-Entry called Friend to Friend. The Friend to Friend program recruited, trained and coordinated volunteers to visit men and women in prison. Male volunteers are matched with men at Lorain Correctional and Grafton Prison located in Lorain County Ohio, and females were matched with women at the Pre-Release Center in Cleveland. The purpose of the program is to reduce socialization of people who are incarcerated and help them prepare for re-entry into the community. Because one of the dilemmas is that sometimes the penal institution is so far away from the family background, that they have a family home that they have no way of going to visit. Also, it is said that an inmate in prison is more likely to successfully re-enter if he has a support base around him when he or she returns home.

Another wonderful program that we had was we started a catering service that was run by ex-offenders who prepared boxed lunches, and we were able to serve many of the downtown businesses who did box lunches. We also had a painting company, and we were able to paint many of the different houses across the county.

What I would really just want to say in concluding this is that this is a unique opportunity for this Congress to step up and support a program that truly has been successful across the country. Community entry means that we will say to ex-offenders in this Nation, if you have done your time, then you have paid your commitment to the United States, the State of Ohio, whatever State you come from, and we now want to help you come back to be a productive citizen in the United States of America; paying taxes, raising families, paying child support, and really helping to make our community a better place.

I am so pleased to have an opportunity, and I said, I've been waiting 30 years for the Federal Congress to come back and do what they need to do with regard to community re-entry.

I thank all of my colleagues and friends for the opportunity. And I'm going to say it one more time, if we are truly going to celebrate the Bible, and my grandfather was a minister, I'm a student of the Bible, and I can name Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, and go down the list, but I will say to you, the best thing that we can do is to take care of one another.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Second Chance Act, and I thank Mr. Davis for introducing this important piece of legislation.

In America we have more than 2 million people in prison. Of these, over 600,000 are released each year. Very few of these individuals are prepared to return to their communities or receive support services to ease their transition.

These ex-offenders face serious impediments in obtaining employment, and often have serious mental or physical ailments that remain unaddressed. Today, approximately half of all black men are jobless. Amongst ex-offenders this number is even higher.

There is a revolving door of ex-offenders into many of our neighborhoods. With few opportunities, two-thirds of all ex-offenders are arrested for new crimes within a few years of their release. We must give these individuals the opportunity to become productive citizens.

The Second Chance Act will go a long way towards this goal by providing transitional assistance to ex-offenders reentering their communities. By focusing on the major impediments that face ex-offenders, the Second Chance Act seeks to reduce recidivism and give those reentering society a new opportunity to turn their lives around. This legislation addresses the need for jobs, housing, and substance abuse/mental health treatment, and it works to reunite families and provide the appropriate training and rehabilitation for these individuals.

This bill will increase public safety and give millions of ex-offenders a chance to be positive productive citizens. I strongly urge my colleagues' support.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3043, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. WELCH of Vermont (during Special Order of Mrs. JONES of Ohio), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–427) on the resolution (H. Res. 794) providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

□ 2130

WORKFORCE CAROLINA

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Workforce Carolina on its 20th anniversary of doing business in North Carolina. Workforce Carolina is a woman-owned business services company founded by Teresa Lewis that serves seven counties in the Fifth District of North Carolina. It assists employers throughout North Carolina's Triad region with job placement, employment screening, payroll and skills assessments. This company has been a growing part of the local economy and each year employs upwards of 3,000 people through its two offices in Mt. Airy and Elkin, North Carolina. In fact, it is the fifth largest employer in Surry County, North Carolina.

This year, Workforce Carolina was named one of the best places to work by the Triad Business Journal. The business journal also recognized Workforce Carolina as one of the fastest growing companies in the Triad in 2006.

I want to congratulate this fine company for its 20 years of services to its community and its commitment to excellence in the workplace. I wish all the good people at Workforce Carolina many more years of successful business.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a book that has changed the course of history and left its mark on every level of our society. The Bible has been a God-given source of guidance for humanity for thousands of years and was a wellspring of wisdom and truth for the Founders of our Nation. As we approach National Bible Week, which is traditionally celebrated during the week of Thanksgiving, it is important to pause and reflect on how this Good Book has shaped the world, changed countless millions of lives, and brought humankind to a better understanding of our God and of our place in the world.

The Bible is a deep repository of fundamental and universal truth that has stood as a guide post for the generations. It teaches us how we ought to relate to our Creator and how to love our fellow human beings. During times of turmoil, confusion and strife, I can think of no more important source of guidance than the wisdom of this unchanging and inspired book.

The Bible offers us hope when circumstances are dire. The Bible is a source of strength when our human frailty brings us low, and when we are surrounded by darkness, as the psalmist wrote, the Bible ''is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.'' In all of its transcendent wisdom, the Bible does not fail to connect to our human condition. It kindles our joy and beckons us to know God regardless of our place in life.

Throughout my life, I have drawn on the words of the Bible to lead me and inform my moral compass. The Bible is an unshakeable pillar of truth that provides the surest of moral foundations for society's founded on and reliant on its inspired content. The Bible has nourished a dialogue of our Nation's public square and has bolstered the development of a strong moral identity for hundreds of years.

I encourage my fellow Americans to dig deep into the Good Book and discover for themselves what riches God's word has in store for them.

AMERICAN MEDICINE TODAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor tonight to talk a little bit about health care. Of course, we are enmeshed in the great State Children's Health Insurance Program debate here this week, that load having been taken by the Senate at the end of last week, the bill being sent off to the President, we expect a veto, and probably sometime before this week is over, we will, one more time, test whether or not that veto will be overridden or sustained. I suspect the numbers will not have changed from the last time when the veto was sustained. So we are going to continue to have this debate in front of us for some time.

I do want to talk about the State Children's Health Insurance Program in some detail. But I want to put it in context. I want to put it in the context of what is happening in American medicine today, the transformational process that is going on in American medicine today and how those rapid advances in science are being affected by the policies that we craft here in this body and indeed how that has happened several times during the last hundred years, and we may expect it to happen in the future, but why the decisions we make today in this body are so critical for the future of health care in this country not just for next November, not just for a year from now, but for decades into the future.

Mr. Speaker, it is so critical, so critical that we develop a near-term, a mid-term and a long-term plan or strategy when it comes to crafting our health care policy. Sadly, I don't think this House has really been engaged in that process. We have been more fascinated by the political aspects of the fight.

Mr. Speaker, indeed, medicine is at a critical crossroads. This is a time of great transformation within the science. Down one of these pathways is a whole new genre of personalized care, changes in information technology, changes in the study of the human genome, changes in protein science, changes in imaging, the speed of information transfer; and indeed a time of rapid learning all serve to increase value for the patient.

Late last week at a conference downtown, Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni, the head of the National Institutes of Health put it in terms of the four Ps. He described a type of medicine in the future which will be predictive, personalized, preemptive, and participatory.

Now, Mr. Speaker, down the other path leads to the continued expansion of the reach and grasp of the Federal Government. Could this path equate to increased value for the patient? Well, the answer might be yes, but history has not been kind to that experience so far for this type of trajectory. The trend tends to become process driven, intensely process driven to a greater and greater degree rather than creating a true patient-centered environment.

Medical care, in fact, could be rationed in some of the most insidious ways that medical care can be rationed, and that is in the treatment room itself. That is by not paying for the care, not paying for the imaging, not paying for the physician services,

having the physician not be there for the patient in the treatment room. That is the type of rationing that we may be talking about.

It becomes all about the transaction, very little attention being paid to delivering value for the patient. And, Mr. Speaker, no secret about it, I am a physician. I practiced for 25 years back in my home State of Texas. I will tell you, this is also injurious to providers. It is injurious to doctors. And that, in turn, increases an already existing problem with the physician workforce and aggravates an already existing supply-and-demand inequity. This, in turn, creates a further imbalance between workforce required versus workforce produced.

Prices are then set administratively rather than by the marketplace, and this disconnect heightens the insensitivity to market demands, and indeed, we end up with a system much as we see today where physicians are anesthetized as to the true cost of delivering the care that they deliver, and, in turn, the patient is unaware of the cost of the care that they receive. And this becomes a true hindrance to the transformational process itself. Again, the process becomes entirely transactional, and this hinders, or reverses, the transformational process.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like for us to consider three events, or three epics in the last hundred years where health care policy and changes in science kind of came together to alter, fundamentally alter, the way medicine is practiced and alter it forever into the future.

The first time would be early in the last century, 1910 to 1920, where significant advances in medicine including new discoveries related to immunizations, advances in public hygiene, discoveries of anesthesia and modern blood banking weren't too far removed from that era, but they did occur a little bit earlier. That was such a far cry from the way medicine had been practiced up even into the late part of the 19th century. Back then, the order of the day was burning, bleeding, and blistering; and those were accepted as scientifically proven ways to deliver value or to deliver care for the patient. So there was a rapid change in the science that was going on, and there also occurred that intersection of a sudden change in public policy that, again, altered the direction of medical care forever after then.

In fact, now the policy that was developed we pretty much regard as a State function. And it is ultimately a change in State policy. It did originate at the Federal level with the commissioning of what became known as the Flexner Commission, which subsequently delivered the Flexner Report. This report, delivered to Congress in 1910, characterized the uneven structure of medical schools across the country. Indeed, the variability of medical schools was truly startling. As a consequence of the Flexner Report, there was a standardization of medical school curricula at a time when the science was, indeed, rapidly advancing. This set the stage for the transformation of medicine literally out of the Dark Ages into the illumination of the 21st century.

Then let's skip forward several decades, Mr. Speaker, to the 1940s. And again we see vast changes occurring. Penicillin had been discovered a little bit before that. Back in 1928, Sir Alexander Fleming, we all know Sir Alexander Fleming, there is a big statue erected to him by the bullfighters because he obviously changed the way bullfighting injuries could be treated, but penicillin was discovered in 1928. It was really little more than a laboratory curiosity at first, this substance produced by a mold that would inhibit the growth of bacteria on an agar plate in a Petri dish, but only small amounts could be produced, and it was fairly labor intensive and extremely expensive. So it is a compound that showed great promise, but there really was no way amenable for treating large numbers of patients so its social impact was really quite, quite muted.

But then came the discovery of new fermentation techniques in this country in the 1940s. Suddenly, penicillin moved from a laboratory curiosity to a compound that was readily available, readily available in the clinics and dispensaries across the country, readily available and the price subsequently came down significantly. This new life-saving antibiotic was even available to treat our soldiers who were wounded during the invasion and the landing in Normandy in 1944. For the first time battlefield medicine had a way of combating infected wounds which obviously had a significant impact on saving life and limb.

Now, a similar story could be told about cortisone. It had been discovered prior to the 1940s, but the production of cortisone was very labor intensive. In fact, you had to derive it from the adrenal glands of oxen so it required someone going down to the slaughterhouse and collecting these glands and then doing whatever extractive process that was required to pull the cortisone out. So you can imagine that there just wasn't a lot of cortisone available and what was available was pretty expensive to produce.

But a bright young scientist name Percy Julian, and parenthetically, Mr. Speaker, we honored Dr. Julian here in this House in the last Congress, an African American scientist of great renown and turned out to be responsible for a great number of discoveries in the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. And it was appropriate that this House honored his memory.

But Percy Julian discovered a way of producing cortisone in large amounts using precursors that he derived from a plant product, from soybeans. Thus, again, a medicine which had heretofore been only a laboratory curiosity or a research oddity became readily available, became readily available in large supply, and the price fell to within reach of the average patient.

So in the 1940s, we see the near-simultaneous introduction of large-scale quantities of an anti-infective agent, penicillin, and an anti-inflammatory agent, cortisone; and that was to forever alter the landscape of medicine.

□ 2145

But, at the same time, we saw the intersection, again, of a major policy change and how that policy change has affected and has impacted the practice of medicine now for decades into the future. In some ways, in many ways, Mr. Speaker, that change in policy, that social change that occurred in medicine at that time had just as profound an effect as the scientific advances of the 1940s. Of course, during the 1940s we were a country at war. The Second World War was raging. Because a lot of the workforce was tied up in fighting that war, there weren't many people left to do the manufacturing work in this country, but it was work that was required because, after all, they were producing for the war effort.

So, employers wanted to keep their employees working, they wanted to keep them happy, they wanted to keep them healthy, but the President issued wage and price controls so employers were not able to pay higher and higher wages. The President did this with all good reasons, to prevent an inflationary spiral from getting out of control. With wage and price controls on, employers looked around: Well, how are we going to improve things for our employees so they will want to stay here working for us and won't go off looking for work in some other location? They hit upon the idea of providing benefits to their employees, both health insurance benefits and retirement benefits.

Well, there was a lot of controversy over whether or not that violated the spirit and the context of the wage and price controls. So they did what all good people do; they went to court and eventually it worked its way up to the Supreme Court. In 1944, the Supreme Court ruled that indeed these health benefits that were being provided to employees could be provided without violating the spirit and the intent of the wage and price controls. Moreover, that these benefits could be supplied to the patient with pre-tax dollars; that is, they were not a taxed benefit given to the employee.

So, simultaneously, we had the era of employer-derived health insurance ushered in, which has proved to be exceedingly popular and endures to the present time. Although it has experienced some problems recently, it is still a very popular way for people to obtain their health insurance coverage. Also, near simultaneously, we began the time of the uneven tax treatment between employer-provided insurance as opposed to individually owned or individually provided insurance, which is paid for with after-tax dollars.

So then, Mr. Speaker, we fast-forward to 1965. Again, there were vast changes occurring in the science and medicine. At that time, new antipsychotic medicines were introduced, and for the first time the mentally ill could be treated with medication as opposed to simply restraining someone or holding someone in an incarcerated environment. So it truly changed the landscape of medicine in the mid-1960s.

Also, at that time you had the introduction of antidepressant medications. Although the antidepressants have undergone many, many changes since that time, for the first time medication was available to treat a condition of depression, and this opened up whole new worlds for treatment of patients in the 1960s.

Newer antibiotics were introduced to fight more aggressive infections. There was the beginning of the understanding that biochemistry played in the development of coronary artery disease, why high cholesterol had an impact and was important in the subsequent development of coronary artery disease. And, Mr. Speaker, conditions like malignant hypertension, which had claimed President Franklin Roosevelt the generation before, now saw newer medications that were available to treat this malady, medications that had not been previously available.

But, Mr. Speaker, again, there was that intersection of public policy which combined with rapid changes in the scientific arena to forever alter the landscape of the practice of medicine. In 1965 we saw the introduction of a program that we now know as Medicare, and then subsequently the Medicaid system was introduced in the years that followed. Now, for the first time, for the first time the Federal Government had an established role in paying for health care. Again, the medical world was forever altered.

Mr. Speaker, now in the present time we find ourselves in a highly political year. Health care is foremost in a lot of people's minds, particularly those that seek to lead the country via the office of the Presidency. The next administration is likely to be under significant pressure for the expansion of the Federal role in delivery of health care. Indeed, we see evidence of that now with the debate that is occurring over the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Before we get to the State Children's Health Insurance Program, Mr. Speaker, history tells us that policy makers will, we will put the emphasis on the transactional and the administrative aspects of health care reform and we'll ignore the transformational process as it is occurring all around us.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is helpful to consider what is the unit of production of this vast American medical machine that is all around us. In its simplest terms, the unit of production is the interaction that occurs between the doctor and the patient in the treatment room. That is the widget. That is what the American medical system produces.

So all of our focus, all of our focus should be directed at driving up or delivering value at the level of the doctor-patient interaction. But all too often, all too often, our attention is diverted into other things. This, in turn, degrades the doctor-patient interaction.

Now, at the health fair's 25th anniversary symposium downtown last Thursday, Dr. Mark McClelland, former Director of the Food and Drug Administration, former Director of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, started off his talk with: We want to know what works best at the lowest cost for each patient. In a nutshell, that is what personalized medicine is all about.

Right now we don't know. We don't know. But that concept defines a whole new era of the type of medicine that will be practiced in the latter part of our lifetimes, and indeed in our children's lifetimes and certainly in our children's children's lifetimes. That's the type of medicine that we will be practicing. Short-term gains in affordability, unfortunately, could lead to long-term stifling of patient access and interfering with the supply-demand relationship that occurs and exists in the medical marketplace. Certainly accountability may suffer with the subsequent reduction in quality because, quite frankly, the best and the brightest may self-exclude themselves from the medical workforce. Thus, we could have a situation where care is delivered by those who do not represent the best and brightest physicians or perhaps physician extenders or other paramedical personnel, and the overall quality of medical care to what, arguably, is the most challenging group of patients, our seniors, that might be further eroded.

Advancements in medicine might be placed in peril. Indeed, it is some of the tension in the current system, that hybrid system that is part public and part private. It is partly the tension that exists in that system that is a dynamic for change. Not all the change is good, but generally, generally it moves in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I'd ask us to consider for a moment the dilemma of health information technology. When I first came to Congress in 2003, the Department of Health and Human Services said it's going to develop a platform for the establishment of a national information technology effort. In fact, please, Congress, don't do anything right now because we are going to do this. We are going to establish this platform. We are going to get it right, and industry will follow what we do. Unfortunately, that reality has yet to be delivered.

Now, there are some bright spots. There is advanced informational technology within the Veterans Administration, but it lacks the interoperability with the system used by the Department of Defense, and this lack of interoperability may well have been the root cause for some of the problems encountered by our soldiers on medical hold at Walter Reed Hospital. Let me just give you an example of that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, of course The Washington Post broke the story, I believe, in January of this year about some of the treatment being received by some of our soldiers at Walter Reed Hospital. So, like many Members of Congress, within a week I took a trip out to Walter Reed Hospital, and indeed the physical characteristics of Building 18, the building in question, were deplorable, and the building was appropriately decommissioned and those soldiers were moved into more reasonable accommodations actually inside the campus of the Walter Reed Medical Center.

Building 18 was outside the garrison, it was outside the actual confines of the campus of the Medical Center, and, as a consequence, that made it desirable for some individuals. But the reality was the building itself was just not up to standards, not up to code, and realistically our soldiers on medical hold should not have been there.

What happens too, Mr. Speaker, is soldiers on medical hold, they are trying to decide if the injuries that they are there for which they are being treated are serious enough that they will now be discharged from the military and their care will transition over to the Veterans Administration system so it will be more of a disability-type of assessment that they undergo, or are their injuries such that they can in fact rejoin their unit. The individuals in that situation are placed on what is called medical hold, and there were facilities outside the garrison at Walter Reed Hospital to house those individuals on medical hold.

Now, here is a picture of Master Sergeant Blades, who took me around and showed me the rooms in Building 18 that were the point of some contention. But Master Sergeant Blades told me when I was there that the real problem he and his men were encountering, yes, the accommodations were crummy, but the real tragedy was the work that went into preparation of this medical record, the Department of Defense medical record, in getting it ready to send over to the Veterans Administration to perhaps make the case for the disability, make the case for what the disability allowances should be, what the disability payments should be, what care could be available at the VA hospital.

He said that he would spend hours and hours and hours preparing his medical chart, highlighting things with a yellow highlighter. This large chart in front of him, it looks about the size of the Washington, DC phone book, would then go sit on a desk for 2 weeks and then be lost and he would have to start all over again.

I said, well, wait a minute. I thought the VA system had this new fancy computer equipment and that this should no longer be a speaker. But as it turns out, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Defense can't speak to the computers in the VA system, and, as a consequence, it depends entirely on a hand-prepared record, and you see Master Sergeant Blades there preparing it as we visited that day at Walter Reed Hospital.

Here in Congress, the legislative process dealing with health information technology is completely stalled. We had a chance to act last year in the last Congress. The bills we were considering were to provide either grants or buying equipment outright for medical practices. But in the end, we couldn't get our work done, and the current legislative attempts that we see this year seem even more desperate and futile from those of last year. We have gone from bad to worse.

Considerable expense could be borne by individuals in private practice, physicians in private practice, trying to purchase or upgrade equipment. These informational systems and costs and learning of the operating of these new systems are significant barriers to entry.

Relaxation or moderation of what are known as the Stark laws could allow for hospitals and doctors to be cooperative and involve themselves in the investment in this type of technology. But barriers to entry for physicians are that the equipment is expensive. And in addition to the initial cost and the cost of maintenance and the cost of software and the cost of software upgrades, there is a problem: If there is no established criteria for interoperability, how is a guy out in private practice or a lady out in private practice who goes and buys a computer system from a vendor, how are they to know that they are making the correct purchase at all?

Now, that is the public sector. That is the government working on this. Remember one of the things I first said, the change of the speed of delivery of information is one of the things that is going to transform medicine. We are kind of stuck here and have been stuck here for 4 or 5 years.

What is happening on the private sector? Consider the experience of Aetna Insurance Company. A single company employing 34,000 individuals and has 15 percent of its workforce involved with information administration and maintenance. In fact, according to their CEO, if the Aetna Information and Technology Department was a standalone company, it would be one of the largest software development firms in the United States of America.

They have developed a Web-based electronic health record, not an electronic medical record controlled by the doctor, but a Web-based electronic health record that is controlled by the patient, the access is controlled by the patient, and that is available then to a patient anywhere in the country where they have computer access.

So, if they are traveling and they have got a medical condition that is under pretty tight control and good control at home and they have a problem, that information can be handed over to the treating physician in an emergency room at a distant location, because all that information is going to be available to them up on the Web. And when that patient returns home and returns to their doctor at home, the information derived, the testing done by that doctor in the different location, will be available to the patient when they return to their home for care.

□ 2200

Mr. Speaker, I have to tell you, I haven't always been a big believer in things like computerized medical records. Sometimes they are hard to learn. There is a learning curve associated with them. It takes some time to get up to speed with them. No one is interested in paying for the time it takes to get up to speed.

But in January 2006, taking my second trip down to the City of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina came through there, all of the water came in, this is the basement of Charity Hospital. The water has been removed. You can't see in the picture, but there was still water about ankle deep. This is just one of hundreds of rows of charts as you might imagine a hospital of that size might contain.

This black here, they haven't been burned, this is mold growing on the medical records. This vault now is a hazmat site. Someone wanting to review a record for a patient would have to take extraordinary precautions not to inhale the spores from the mold when they opened the record. These records are unusable and unavailable and no one knows what has been lost here. There might be someone's leukemia, childhood asthma; those records are lost forever. This changed my mind on the concept of having an electronic medical record or, as Aetna has developed, an electronic health record that is owned and controlled by the patient and is Web-based.

Mr. Speaker, I ask which system now, remember my fundamental criteria: Do we deliver value to the doctor-patient interaction in the treatment room? Which system is delivering value to the doctor-patient interaction in the treatment room right now? Is that what we are doing at Health and Human Services, where we are trying to get things up and running, develop a national platform and one of these days we are going to roll this out? Or in the Halls of Congress, we are going to craft legislation if we can get the pieces right. But watch out, the unintended consequences of that legislation may turn around and bite you when you try to practice medicine a few years in the future.

Or the experience at Aetna U.S. Health Care. You have one system that is mired in entrenched bureaucratic wrangling, and the other one providing real data for real patients and advancing their health. Which system is making the maximum capital investment at the same time demanding accountability to deliver value for its covered individuals? Which system continues to hamper the growth and development of the technology that everyone acknowledges is necessary to bring medicine into the next generation?

I talked about a short-term, midterm and long-term strategy. That long-term strategy is the explosion in health infomatics that is going to bring us the type of personalized care we want in the future.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the American medical system takes a fair amount of criticism from around the world. I want to bring to the attention of this House the Washington Post and the Wall Street Journal today, two stories in two different newspapers today talking about some things that are happening when you export American medicine, American know-how, American technology half the way around the world.

From the ''World in Brief'' section under the heading of Afghanistan: ''Six years after the Taliban's ouster, medical care in Afghanistan has improved such that nearly 90,000 children who would have died before the age of 5 in 2001 will survive this year.'' That's thanks to the efforts of the United States Agency for International Development that has brought modern American medical technology to the country of Afghanistan. They still have a long ways to go, but I thought I would share that with the House.

Another story from the Wall Street Journal about how we export American technical medical know-how to other countries. This is actually in the ''Marketplace'' section of today's Wall Street Journal. The title is: ''Health care building booms in the Persian Gulf.'' It says that the region's families are recruiting brand-name U.S. medical institutions and private investors with plans over the next 20 years to more than quadruple the estimated $12 billion spent annually on health care. They are essentially trying to duplicate Harvard Medical School and its residency programs at the Massachusetts General Hospital in the City of Dubai.

As I stated previously, we are at a transformational time in medicine. There are changes occurring on many fronts. At the same time, we have the intersection of changes in public policy which can vastly affect the practice of medicine for years, decades into the future.

Mr. Speaker, there is a risk here. If health care policies are based on political expediency, and if they are not patient-centered, there is a risk of continuing to be beholden to the special interests and not empowering patients. There is a risk of delivering for the status quo and not delivering for the future.

Indeed, the transactional could triumph over the transformational. Prevention of this scenario will require development of, certainly with physician leaders within the house of medicine, they have to be engaged for their patients and not for the enduring bureaucracies or special interests. We do have some relatively new products that have emerged on the scene in the last several years. Health savings accounts and their precursors, medical savings accounts, are just a little over 10 years old, and they show some significant promise by putting purchasing power back in the hands of the patient and rekindling that doctor-patient relationship that has been so many times stifled by the current system.

Improvements to the health savings accounts could include methods for paying for preventive care and adding new coverage to include disease management for chronic conditions. In other words, move health savings accounts from the type of patient that is only going to purchase one because they don't think they will get ever get sick, to the type of patient who knows they have a medical condition but they want the power over their medical condition, and a medical savings account is a way to do that in an affordability fashion and still retain power over their illness.

Mr. Speaker, we should encourage new thinking by third-party payers. At some companies that is going on already. It could help move borders for affordability. A business that provides a premium reduction for individuals who engage in preventive practices and periodic screenings would represent a reasonable way to deliver increased affordability. It is a way of delivering value for the patient.

If the legislators and Federal agency personnel have the vision and discipline to focus on the long term, we may yet see delivery on the promise of the pending transformation in American medicine.

Mr. Speaker, former Speaker of this House, Newt Gingrich, in his book on transformation, I think his second principle of transformation where he asserts real change requires real change. What does he mean by that? He means in order to affect real change, you have to walk the talk. There has to be a culture and leadership not just embracing of the concept of change, but they have to act on it. They have to live it and breathe it and work it every single day. That is a valid concept, and I think the Speaker is right on the money when he brings that concept up.

But look at it another way. Real change requires real change. There is real change occurring in medicine, whether Congress knows it or not, whether Congress likes it or not, and whether Congress helps it or not. Real change is occurring in American medicine right now. Because of that real change that is occurring in the science part of medicine, real change is required here in this Congress, in the other body as to how we approach our health care policy so, again, we don't let the transactional become the enemy of the transformational.

Mr. Speaker, a short-term, a midterm and a long-term strategy are essential, and we must avoid sacrificing this concept and giving it all up for short-term political gain, which brings us back to the subject of the State Children's Health Insurance Program. When I think of health care policy, I try to put it in the context of what is delivering value for that doctor-patient interaction in the treatment room, not the cost, but what delivers value to that interaction.

What diminishes value? What happens if we have a significant negative effect on the physicians who are providing the care for our pediatric patients? Is there a cost to providers for shifting populations from commercial insurance onto public insurance? Well, I believe there is.

Mr. Speaker, I don't really know why and where insurance companies get the idea it is okay to only partially cover the cost of providing care, but I have a suspicion they get that because that's the way the Federal reimbursement structure works. That is the way it works in Medicare and Medicaid; and if we expand the reach and grasp of the Federal Government in the SCHIP program, I think we will find to the detriment that process is alive and well and subsequently we have the negative effect on the physician workforce.

Mr. Speaker, before I yield to other speakers, let me bring up this slide from the American Enterprise Institute. This points out at successive income levels, and these are rated at the percentage of the Federal poverty level, so here is between 100 and 200 percent of the Federal poverty level. This is about $41,000 to $42,000 a year. Here is between 200 to 300 percent of the Federal poverty level, so that is up to just over $60,000 a year. And 400 percent of poverty would represent a figure of over $80,000 a year.

So in the group between 100 and 200 percent of poverty, and this is the group that SCHIP was originally designed to cover, about half of those children have private coverage. If you move into the 300 percent of Federal poverty limit, they earn up to $60,000 a year, three-quarters of those kids already have health insurance. And nine out of 10 and 95 percent have health insurance. Why do we want to go and take these children who are already covered and bring them back into the SCHIP program? Are we delivering value to the patient? Are we furthering the concept of good patient care?

Mr. Speaker, I would point out that on the floor of this House 2 weeks ago when we had the debate on the new State Children's Health Insurance Program bill that we passed which was exactly like the one that the President vetoed and we sustained, when we were debating the new bill, I asked the chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce to enter into a colloquy with me, and he graciously did. We talked about State income set-asides. If the bill said that the maximum amount available for coverage under the program was 300 percent of the Federal poverty limit, so a little over $60,000, where again three-quarters of those children already have insurance, if that is our upward limit of coverage, were there income exclusions available to the State that could take that upper income level even higher, and I asked specifically about the cost of housing. And indeed within the bill was the language that States could exclude $20,000 of annual income involved in housing. And States could exclude $10,000 of annual income that is there for clothing. And States could exclude $10,000 of annual income that is available for transportation. Mr. Speaker, we are already over $100,000 in annual earnings for a family of four when we talk about this bill that was introduced and passed by this House.

Mr. Speaker, I am just a simple country doctor and there is so much about the budgeting process that I don't understand that I am so grateful that I have been joined by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) who sits on both our Budget Committee and our Committee on Financial Services. I think he is going to provide us all with some valuable insight as to some of the numbers involved in this process.

So I do now want to yield the floor to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding. I thank the gentleman also for bringing this issue once again to the floor. I was in my office earlier this evening when you began your remarks, and I have heard you on the floor on numerous occasions speaking to medical topics.

□ 2215

We appreciate very much your background, the expertise that you bring.

And on that point, I should just say that on my 3-hour trip from New Jersey traveling on good, old reliable, semi-reliable, slow Amtrak, I had the opportunity to read a number of your articles that you have written. I would commend anyone who is listening to us here tonight. I should ask the gentleman, is much of this material I read, one a position paper, another is called Addressing America's Health Care Challenge: A Solution, are these articles by any chance up on your Web site? Can I commend the audience here that listens to us tonight to go to your Web site and look to find these things?

Mr. BURGESS. Yes. You're very kind to point that out, and those writings, as well as several other musings and lamentations are available on my Web site. The bulk of the writing on the Web site is devoted to health policy because obviously that is one of my interests and one of my passions. So

there's a good deal of information available; www.house.gov/burgess will take, scrolling back through the previous stories will give someone an insight as to what's available on the Web site.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I appreciate that, and just a couple of them, Addressing America's Health Care Challenge, with that and what you've talked about here, as I put the expression, you step back for a moment and look at the bigger picture, which is what I'm going to talk about in a moment. So I think this is a good one.

Another one is the cure to the physician crisis, and I'm not going to get into it here. This article gets into it pretty well to say, you can do all that you want to do when it comes to the issue of health insurance, but if we don't have enough docs out there such as yourself and other docs out there, physicians that are out there taking care of the patients, it's not going to mean anything.

When I'm back in my district and I tour my hospitals, what is one of the first complaints or concerns that I have, and I bet it's the first complaints and concerns that you hear from your hospitals, is a shortage of nurses. And whether it's long-term care facilities, hospitals or clinics, they say we just can't get enough visiting nurses, we just can't get enough trained nurses as well.

If we don't get that aspect of the problem solved, everything else that you and I and the rest of Congress talks here tonight and in the future will mean nothing because we're not getting the providers to the patients.

So, again, I just wanted to start where I should probably end, and I think I will in a little bit, thank you for your work in this area.

Where you left off and some of the points you were touching about goes along this line, and that is, that you have to look at some of the bigger picture.

In my office, I was looking at some data, and one of them is on data from the World Health Organization, and I think this is interesting. Again, regardless of what we do on health insurance and regardless of what we do in the government, whether it's in the Federal level, the State level or anything else, here's what they tell us. Here's what the World Health Organization tells us. That if Americans, and I guess the world community as well, but Americans in particular, would address three areas, smoking, eating disorders and eating, what your diet is, and exercise, if you address those in a logical coherent manner, presumably after consultation with your physician, 80 percent, an amazing number when I read it, 80 percent of Type 2 diabetes could be addressed and resolved. Eighty percent of heart disease could be resolved. Forty percent of cancer issues could be resolved.

Nothing about buying insurance. Nothing about spending more money. Matter of fact, you'd probably end up spending less money if you ate right and didn't go to McDonald's as much as I do. Those three areas.

The one on diabetes, I just had the opportunity in the last week to 10 days to have folks from that organization come and speak to me back in the district, and they pointed out a statistic. Approximately a little less than one-third of the dollars that we spend on Medicare goes to diabetes or diabetes-related injuries or other illnesses that are related to it.

So can you imagine, if we were able to resolve that issue, how we would be able to address our health care costs in this country. Costs being one factor, but obviously, the bigger factor is improving the quality of life.

So you're right on the target when you say how do we improve the health quality of individuals in this country first and foremost; and secondly, how do you do that through a proper physician relationship.

As I come to the floor this night, and I always make reference to this mark, here we are in November, the 11th month of the year, and we have to ask ourselves what has now under the new Democrat leadership wrought when it comes to the issue of health care in this country.

Somebody else pointed out some numbers to me the other day. I think it was this past week. So far the ledger is 106 bills have made its way to the President's desk. Forty-six of those bills have been to do with the naming of post offices and Federal buildings. Forty-four just have to do with Special Orders and special days and the like. That's almost two-thirds. Ninety bills out of 106 of no real major significance, and here we are at the floor tonight I think addressing something that is of major significance, second perhaps only to what our colleague TIM WALBERG and others were talking about as far as their faith issues, and that is the quality of life and the health of the citizens.

This, though, is not a new issue. President Clinton, when he was President of the United States, said that he had an answer to this problem, and it goes in a totally different direction that you were addressing before. His solution was larger Federal Government intrusions into this part of the economy. It's approximately what, one-fifth of the overall spending of the GDP on health care. He wanted it to be even larger and more of a centralized control, government-controlled health care, if you will, socialized health care.

And he told us back at that time how he intended to bring this country, that he realized after HILLARY's failure to address the issue through her secretive meetings that we heard about later on, he said how can we get there. He said we can get there through a centralized, government-run health care system incrementally. First, we'll insure and control the health care for indigent children, then all children and for indigent adults, and then for all adults. So all of us eventually will come under the control of the Federal Government.

That means we were basically putting that very personal, that you referred to before, and you know as well from the doctor side, we all know from the patient side, the placing of doctor-patient relationship under the control of the Federal Government, bureaucrats, faceless, nameless, maybe very nice people and well-intended, but bureaucrats.

I scratch my head to think when people actually advocate such a government control. This is the same Federal Government that we saw handle the Katrina situation and FEMA terribly, loss of life, loss of homes and what have you, that Federal Government. This is the same Federal Government during this past summer when families were trying to go on vacation and asked the Federal Government to do one of its basic functions, issue visas so families could go on family vacations. The government couldn't get the visas out the door. This is the same Federal Government that to this day we're still arguing and debating on this floor how do we close and secure our country's borders so that illegals and terrorists and drug traffickers can't come into this country. That same Federal Government can't control this, but they want to control our health care delivery system.

So he told us how he was going to do it, and one of the charts up that you have, I have a variation of it, but if I could just ask the gentleman from Texas to put that one chart back up with regard to the coverage. It tells us how he was going to do it, and they're now trying to do it through SCHIP.

By very definition, a middle-class entitlement means that you are going to be providing an entitlement, in this case, health care, for people who are making over or at the middle-class level of income and above. Well, we know that the poverty level is, for a family of four is around $42,000. I'm not sure if that's showing that on that chart, for a family of four is around $42,000. We also know that the median or the middle range of income in this country, again for a family of four in this country, is around $48,000.

So, by definition, if you're going to be providing a benefit to people over that level, over $48,000, then you're providing a middle-class entitlement. It's no longer talking about poor children first. I know there was another chart, benefits should go to poor children first. We're no longer talking about the indigent. We're now talking about just about everyone.

A family of four making over 300 percent makes around $62,000. So by definition we're saying, under the proposal that came before the House with regard to SCHIP, we want to provide benefits to a larger group of people, to a middle-class entitlement. And who is going to pay for that is the next question that should come to mind.

Well, the plan that is in place to pay for those various ranges, and without my far glasses it's hard to see them, says that that is going to come out of various sources, but one of the biggest sources will be smokers. And the interesting thing about this is that in order to get enough money to provide for that level of coverage, not just for the indigent anymore, but people above the 200 level of poverty, 300. As you know, in the State of New York they tried to go up to the 400 level of poverty, which means around $84,000 a year. In order to do that, they will have to look to smokers, which is fine on the one hand until you get into the weeds a little bit on this issue. And the Heritage Foundation did a little bit of study and said how many people do we have to actually have start smoking in this country in order to come up with that money, and they found out at the end of the day that we will actually be looking to find 22,000 more smokers in this country in order to fund this program.

Now, you are a physician and you could probably speak ad nauseam that smoking is harmful for your health, and actually it's most harmful probably for little kids more than anybody else. But in order to fund this program for the indigent poor and also for a middle-class entitlement, a government-controlled health care system, they will be looking to say we need 22,000 more children in this country in order to start smoking tomorrow so that we will have funding for this program down the road for the next few years.

It's an absurd situation, and it's even a little more absurd when you think about who actually does smoke in this country. This is a little bit of a sad situation. Lower income individuals smoke to a higher percentage than upper income individuals. And in fact, if you look at the numbers, it's something like this. People who make under $10,000 a year, so very low-income people, pay twice as much in taxes from smoking than people who make over $50,000 a year.

So what are we really saying? We're saying that we need 22,000 more kids to start smoking to pay for this program. And who are those people that are actually going to pay for it? The lowest of the low-income people who are smoking are going to pay the biggest percentage of their income towards this program.

It's an absurd situation to fund it, and it goes back then to the final point, and I'll close and I'll yield back to the gentleman, as I think our time is coming to a close. It's an absurd funding formula to come up with for a government-run program. And unfortunately for the advocates of the program, the money runs out. The money runs out.

You see on our little chart here, starting, if this program, as proposed by the other side of the aisle, Democrat side of the aisle, it would start in 2008, and there's little kids being encouraged to sign up. Indigent children are being encouraged to sign up for this program. I notice this picture does not have the children smoking. So, to be actually correct, we should have the children smoking, because they're encouraging them to smoke in order to pay for this program, but it would only last for 5 years. Then, after the 5 years, the funding is cut off almost entirely, 80 percent. That's why we have the chart go demographically down, and the kids are left hanging, in this case parachuting.

Why this is bad is twofold. One is because we're leading people to believe that we're actually setting up a program that's going to be paid for perpetually for the children. And two, who is this child that's now left jumping off of this cliff here? As your previous chart showed, he may very well have been a child who was already covered by your insurance. And your chart shows 55, 75, 80, 90 percent of the children had insurance prior to this program coming along, but now they were encouraged to join into this program and go into it, give up their prepaid plans under their father's programs, mother's programs, company plans, what have you. Five years from now under this program, it's designed to fail. They will jump off. They will not have anymore government program, and they also will no longer have any private insurance.

So we are setting up a system, encouraging kids to smoke in order to pay for it, and leading them to have to basically fall off the cliff in 5 years without having any health insurance at all.

At the end of the day, and I'll close on this, I commend the gentleman for leading us to look at this issue from a larger perspective, to ask a basic question. It's not so much about health insurance; it's about health care. And it's not so much of whether you have the coverage to provide you with insurance; it's whether or not you're actually going to have a doctor or a nurse out there to provide those services for you. And it's not so much as whether the government is supposedly going to do it, because we know at the end of the day they can't, by the numbers; it's whether or not at the end of the day we can come up with something to actually make sure that the patient is in control with his doctor of the delivery system and that it's the best care in order to provide the services to them, and at the end of the day the quality of life of those individuals as well.

I commend the gentleman from Texas for bringing this to the American public's attention tonight, and I look forward to reading more of his material, as well both on-line and in person.

□ 2230

Mr. BURGESS. One of the points that I probably did not make eloquently enough tonight is that the practicing pediatrician, not the pediatrician in an academic setting, not the pediatrician in a federally qualified health center, but the pediatrician is out there with a mix of different payer groups in his practice or her practice.

The average reimbursement for a child on the SCHIP program is about 30 percent less in my State of Texas than it is for one of the commercial insurances. If we take those children off of commercial insurance and move them to an SCHIP program, we are negatively impacting the bottom line of the pediatrician who is providing the care. We can only do that for so long before they will decide that they have got something else that they might do.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. You make a perfect point. Again, it goes to what we were saying before. It doesn't matter whether you have insurance or not. It matters whether or not there is actually a doctor who will be there to take the insurance.

How many individuals that you know, senior citizens that you know right now that are Medicare or Medicaid, and they went out to find a doctor to treat them for their ailment, and they found out there are no longer doctors in their community who are taking Medicare or Medicaid patients. They had all the great socialized programs, coverage, that they needed. They just didn't have any doctors who would pick it up.

You are explaining the same thing very eloquently. The same thing will happen to these poor indigent children. We lead them down the road to believe that they actually are going to have coverage now, that think that there is going to be a doctor there to take care of them. If their reimbursement rates are anything like they are for Medicaid, there may not be a doctor there to deliver the services.

Mr. BURGESS. One of the things before the time completely leaves us, I just want to draw attention to a recent poll put out by U.S.A. Today that does show that the plurality of Americans, a majority of American citizens, believe that the benefits in the SCHIP program should go to poor children first, and that's not to the children at the upper-income levels that we were showing on the other slide. That is the group of children for which this program was originally intended, that is children whose parents make too much money to qualify for Medicaid, yet not enough money to reliably afford their health insurance.

When this program was first enacted in 1997, by a Republican Congress with a Democratic President when this program was first enacted, that was a group of children that the Congress was trying to help. The concept of poor children first is one that the American people embraced.

In fact, I introduced legislation earlier this year, H.R. 1013, that would have put the children back in SCHIP and removed adults from the program. Now, I am grateful, very grateful that the Democratic majority has now embraced that concept and at least their

latest iteration of the SCHIP reauthorization bill said that there will be no adults on the program within one year of the enactment of the bill.

It's a bittersweet victory because there are so many other aspects of the bill that are flawed that Mr. GARRETT has just alluded to. The funding mechanism absolutely disappears in the fourth year of the program. The funding mechanism itself is based on a belief that there will be an increasing number of smokers in this country, and public policies that I support to decrease the number of smokers and decrease the number of young people who begin this habit.

It makes no sense to be saying we are going to fund this entire program based upon that type of tax and, on the other hand, try to put our maximal effort behind trying to reduce the number of smokers in this country. It is certainly a conflicted mindset that the Democratic majority seems to be propounding here.

One of the other things that I do want to bring up just before we close, another poll from U.S.A. Today that the American people are concerned, are concerned that the program as proposed would pull those children off of private health insurance and put them onto a government plan.

Then as Mr. GARRETT so eloquently pointed out, then the funding dries up, and where are you then? At the same time, if you have driven pediatricians out of practice because of lower reimbursement rates, you have now the trifecta, the triple whammy, where health care for children may be seriously jeopardized in the mid-term or the long-term because of the fact that we are sacrificing for political expediency today.

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an issue that troubles me quite a bit and I think should trouble a lot of the American people. Certainly it should concern Members of Congress.

A resolution was passed this afternoon by voice vote dealing with the alleged involvement and behavior of the President of Iran, therefore, the Government of Iran, in Latin America and supporting, according to this resolution, terrorist activities in Latin America.

Let me briefly read the opening statement of this resolution, the title, if you will: expressing concern relating to the threatening behavior of the Iranian regime and the activities of terrorist organizations sponsored by that regime in Latin America.

Well, just to deal with language itself, we know that when our government calls another government a regime, it is not saying anything positive about it. It is, in fact, confronting it in some way. But I think that as unnoticed as this went by, as I said it was passed on a voice vote, as unnoticed that this went by, this puts us in a situation, the Congress, the American people, our Nation, on a road, on a path to a very dangerous situation in the future, perhaps in the near future.

We all know how concerned the administration is and how concerned some Members of Congress are about the possibility that Iran could be involved in activities that would be hurtful to us. I want to correct that. I think all Members of Congress are concerned about that possibility.

But I think we are also concerned about the fact, many of us, that there seems to be a drumbeat towards war with Iran, a drumbeat that says, basically, some of the same things that were said when we were taken off to war against Iraq. Just about everything that was told to us at that time happened not to be true. History will tell whether, in fact, we were lied to, or whether the information was so bad that the administration had no choice but to pass that on to us thinking that it was correct.

But there are many who feel that we were lied to. Again, history will have to deal with that.

My concern is that this resolution today moves away from just a concern about the behavior of the Government in Iran and begins to suggest that there are neighbors of ours, and, yes, I say neighbors, because that's what the Latin American people are, neighbors of ours, that could be involved in this behavior, behavior which would be dangerous to the United States, behavior which we all should be concerned about, behavior that, perhaps, would lead us to get involved in Latin America in a way that we haven't been involved for a long, long time.

But I think in order to understand where we are with this issue, we also have to have, I think, an understanding of how history repeats itself, how some things that we are hearing now we have heard before. For close to 50 years now, we have had a very strong lobbying effort in this country against a Cuban Government. The so-called anti-Castro lobby has been very strong, and that lobby has been very influential in getting many Members of Congress and Presidents, present and past, to feel that the only path towards changes in Cuba is to continuously attack and confront the Cuban Government. To the dismay of many people, I am sure, and with all due respect to many people, it is no secret that for the most part that lobby, this effort, has come out of anti-Castro groups who, for the most part, live in the State of Florida.

Well, something very interesting has happened in the last few years. As Latin America has elected leftist-leaning leaders, people who propose to put forth a modern-day socialism, as they call it, 21st-century socialism, but people who have been elected and reelected as they have emerged, they have decided that it would not be improper for them as leaders of those countries to have a relationship with the Cuban Government.

Well, that upsets the same people who have been upset with the Cuban Government. The fact that some new governments in Latin America would now be friendly to the Government in Cuba would upset these folks.

Our policy towards Cuba has been heavily influenced by this anti-Castro movement. I can't tell you how many times in the 17 years that I have been in Congress and have tried to change that policy. I have been told by Members of Congress on both sides, Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives, I have been told by them, I agree with you, you are right with this policy having to change.

But I think we have to continue it, and most of them will tell you, because the lobbying effort, out of a couple of communities in this country is so strong, that I really don't want to face that. Right on the House floor they have told me, I don't want to face that, I will just go along with this policy, as outdated as this may be, as inefficient as that may be, because it hasn't changed anything in Cuba, not that we should necessarily be changing things in another country. But now we find that those same folks have now picked new targets.

Chief among those targets, top of the list, is the President of Venezuela, Hugo Chavez, who has over and over again shown his friendship to President Castro of Cuba, and that irritates the folks who support ending Mr. Castro's stay in Cuba. Those folks then have started to say the same things that they have said for years about Mr. Castro.

Now, the fact of life is that the Cuban Government, the system in Cuba, and the system in Venezuela, for instance, are totally different, totally different. But not to those folks who simply would want to get rid of one. They now feel that they have a target which is the President of Venezuela.

That target then, I think, leads us to situations like today, where a resolution presented here speaks of putting together all these groups who have one thing in common. They speak out against our government, they say things we don't like, and who happen to have been visited or received telephone calls or offers of help from Iran.

Now, Communist China, and I use that title, that phrase, that word, so we understand what we are talking about, are involved in the economy of every country in Latin America; but you don't see a resolution on the House floor condemning Communist China for being involved in Latin America.

□ 2245

Why? Because they're a big trading partner of ours. And secondly, let's be

honest, because there is no Chinese American lobby in this country influencing how we behave in Congress. And so we could deal with China every day and they could do whatever they want in their country, and we will never say more than maybe say every so often, behave yourself.

And there are countries in the Middle East who treat their folks in ways that you could spend every day in Congress condemning them, but we won't do that because we have a relationship with them.

But nothing, and I say this with great admiration, nothing is as strong as the anti-Castro lobby, which has made it clear that the leadership in Latin America that is friendly to Mr. Castro must pay a price, and one of the prices you pay is to lump them together as this hate group that is now going to be involved in terrorist activities in Latin America.

We have democratically elected leaders in Latin America that have these friendly relations with the Cuban Government. That doesn't matter to us that these folks were elected and reelected. As long as they are friendly to Cuba, Miami hates them. And as long as Miami hates them, then Congress must hate them too.

So when you hear comments about Chavez, when you hear comments about Evo Morales, the President of Bolivia, when you hear comments about President Correa in Ecuador, understand, when you hear these comments, or about any one of the other left-leaning presidents in Latin America, that you're basically hearing from the same playbook, the comments that you heard about Cuba for all these years.

But please understand something, that you are not hearing direct attacks on those governments; you're still hearing an attack on the Cuban Government. It is just being played out in this new scenario called the other countries in Latin America.

Now, it is true that we have, or they have elected leaders in Latin America that are not happy with the U.S. Government and that words have been strong at times towards us. But some of this rhetoric has a history behind it.

While our country paid a great deal of attention to Asia, Europe and the Middle East, we neglected Latin America. That is a fact. That is not Congressman SERRANO from the Bronx, New York, just making those comments to sound nice at this time of night. That's a fact. We neglected Latin America, and they suffered, and still do, through some very difficult periods.

And during the Cold War, it was really interesting. We would go to Latin America and we would say, General So-and-So, Senor, do you support communism in the Soviet Union or do you support our style of government? And those generals would say, oh, no; we support your style. We would say, great, you're our friend. We'll see you in a couple of years. And meanwhile, they mistreated their folks; they ransacked the country. But it didn't matter to us because they were not for communism. They were not to the left of the political spectrum. They were not for socialism.

During that time, however, we would say something very positive. Every so often we would kind of knock them on the shoulder and say democracy is the most important thing. Nothing is as important as democracy.

Well, you know something? They've tried it all in Latin America. They tried military dictatorships. The people didn't try it. They were the victims of it, and it didn't work. Then they tried regular dictatorships, if there's such a thing different from a military dictatorship. But it didn't work either. The people suffered, but the ones who tried it didn't work. Then they tried something new for Latin America in many cases, new to some countries, new to many countries. They tried democracy. They elected folks. But they elected folks who were very much tied to international corporate interests, who got elected, many in questionable elections, and then neglected the people, neglected the people. And the people found out that they had elected people, they had done everything they were asked to do, and they were getting poorer and poorer every day. So what have they done in the last couple of years? They've elected left-of-center candidates in Chile, in Argentina, in Ecuador, in Bolivia, in Venezuela. And these folks have been, and are, revolutionaries. They, themselves, claim to be revolutionaries, and that, again, we hear that word, that upsets us. We forget that this great system we have here was created through a revolution against the British. But we were the last ones to use that word in a way that we liked it. Now anybody who calls himself a revolutionary we get upset about. But these people are revolutionaries. They're trying something new in Latin America. Embarrassing as it may seem, it is new to many countries in Latin America, this whole notion that the person at the bottom, the person who's been suffering for years, the indigenous people, the darker skinned people, that they would now have an opportunity to have something better.

Now, and this is important what I just mentioned about the fact that in Latin America, the darker skinned folks are beginning to feel that they have a stake in their system.

When Secretary of State Colin Powell, one of the greatest Americans, left the administration at the last, the end of the last term, he came before our Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and I was the ranking member at that time. And he said to us something very important when he was talking about Latin America. He said, the big change in Latin America, and what we Americans need to understand, now he didn't say it was good. He didn't say it was bad. He didn't say it was a problem for us. He just said it was something that was happening in Latin America, that we as Americans have to pay attention to. He said, those folks are beginning to elect people who look like themselves. Now, that's a heck of a statement by a very intelligent man who has a good understanding of the world. I don't know if that upsets some of us, but I think it does upset some folks in this country and throughout the hemisphere, that countries that are composed primarily mostly of indigenous people and people of color have now decided to elect people who look like themself, people who come from them. And when they decide to make changes that are very dramatic and, yes, very revolutionary, we get upset because it doesn't serve the corporate interests of a lot of American corporations.

So Hugo Chavez in Venezuela decides that he's going to revolutionize the way Venezuela behaves. He came to the Bronx. He visited the Bronx. He spoke to us and he said something very interesting. He told us who he was. And you never hear about this in this country. He told us he was a kid, very poor, who didn't have shoes until he was a teenager, walked barefoot, who wanted only one dream in life, to become a major league baseball pitcher. And he was pretty good. But from where he lived, to be seen by major league scouts, he had to go to Caracas. And he was told that the only way to get to Caracas was to join the Army. So he joined the Army. He jokes that it was the worst mistake his country ever made, letting him join the Army, because when he began to travel with the Army he noticed something very interesting of Venezuela. He noticed that people who looked like him were very poor, and other folks who didn't look like him were living in a country with a lot of oil and a lot of money. He also noticed that not all neighborhoods were like his. He thought all of Venezuela was like his neighborhood, and it wasn't. It had serious pockets of serious money. So he began to grow a conscience about that; became a military leader, eventually led him into politics. He got elected. And when he got elected he immediately set out to change the way Venezuela behaves. And the opposition to him knows that. That's why they all admit that he's so popular within his country, by the folks who are at the bottom.

But, you know, I get to watch Spanish television from Latin America on my cable system in the Bronx, and you know, as tough as we are in American politics, some of the stuff you hear about President Chavez from the owners of these stations who open up their morning programming by reminding people that their President has curly hair and is dark skinned, as if that was a sin, but it's such a revolutionary thing that has happened in Latin America that some people still can't get over it. So he's an idiot. He's crazy. He's corrupt.

But even the opposition, at times, in attempting to say something against him, really says dumb things. I wish I had the name of the person, although I wouldn't use it on the House floor, but during the last elections in Venezuela when the polls indicated that President Chavez was at 62 percent of the vote, one of the New York Times reporters, I think it was, asked this leader of the opposition, Why do you think he's so popular? And the gentleman said, and this has to be the dumbest statement ever made by a politician in the history of the world, the gentleman said, You would be popular too if you were always building schools and hospitals for the poor. Well, to that I say, what American teenagers taught us to say, duh. I mean, isn't that the reason why you elect people to take care of those in the society who need help amongst others? Because you don't play class warfare. So they're saying that because he's building hospitals and because he's building schools, he's very popular. Well, yeah, Mr. Opposition. Why didn't you try that when you were in power for the last couple of hundred years to do some of that?

Now, these leaders in Latin America that we attack, it's important to know how they got to that point of being the leaders of these countries. For instance, in this resolution, it says, whereas in January of 2007, the President of Iran made his second visit to Central and South America in 5 months to meet with Hugo Chavez, President of Venezuela, to visit Daniel Ortega, President of Nicaragua, and to attend the inauguration of Rafael Correa, President of Ecuador.

Well, if we're going to be technical about this, the fact is he went there for the President's inauguration, something we all did. I mean, every country in the world sent a representative. I imagine our Ambassador was there. If he wasn't, he should have been there because this was an elected President of Ecuador.

When you make those visits, as our President does, and I commend him for it, you go and you take the time that you're in that country and you visit neighboring countries if you don't get a chance to meet with everybody. That's something you do.

But we attack these people in this resolution that we passed today, this, in my opinion, dangerous resolution, and that's why we're here today. We're here today because Congress passed a resolution today condemning Iran's involvement in Latin America and suggesting that these progressive leftist semi, if you want to call them, socialists in Latin America have a bond going with the President of Iran to create havoc for us and to fund terrorist organizations.

But there's something we forget. Let's look at Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua. He was elected in a free and fair election, recognized by world organizations. As part of the Central American peace plan, Ortega's Sandinista government agreed to internationally monitored democratic elections in 1990.

Now, this guy we don't like submitted himself to elections in 1990 and he lost, and peacefully, after having won a revolution, peacefully turned his government over to Violetta Chamorro, who was the victor, with our support, heavily with our support, because all the arguments in those days about how much money we sent into her campaign.

□ 2300

Now, can you imagine if somebody from another country sent money to one of our Presidential campaigns, another government, what we would do with that candidate in this country? But we do that.

Ortega ran for President in 1996 and lost, ran for democratically provided elections in 2001 and lost. Because he came in second place both times, however, Nicaraguan law gave him a seat in the national assembly where he has served as an opposition leader. Then he ran for President again in 2006 and won. Now, shouldn't that alone make us want to go to Nicaragua or call him up and say, We asked you, we asked everybody in Latin America, to get elected. You ran four times and finally you got elected. Let's at least talk. No? We are on his case. In fact, we are linking him to terrorist organizations in this resolution.

Rafael Correa, President of Ecuador, elected in free and fair elections January 15 of this year. He is a U.S.-trained economist. What does that mean? That he learned what he knows about what he wants to put in practice in Ecuador in American schools. So shouldn't we be applauding that? Shouldn't we be applauding the fact that he got elected democratically? He is Ecuador's eighth President in 10 years. The instability has been horrible. Maybe there could be stability now. We should be supportive of that. He defeated Alvaro Noboa, a wealthy banana magnate, in a run-off election held in 2006. Contrary to our predictions, he got 57 percent of the vote.

Now, the one that we attack the most, of course, is President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela. Well, let's review this for a second. President Chavez has won elections in 1998, in 2000, and in 2006. In other words, he got elected in 1998. He then went out and had his coalition elect delegates to a constitutional convention. Those delegates wrote a new constitution that, and listen to this revolutionary idea, gave power to the poor and to the indigenous people. They changed the constitution to do that, and they put it before the people. The constitution was passed by the people. So I'd say that that is another referendum on Chavez. Then the new constitution said that he had to cut his 6-year term short and run right away. So he ran in 1998; then he had to run again in 2000.

Then in 2006 in between the opposition again with support from outside forces, a lot of them based right in the State of Florida, they held a referendum. He submitted himself to that referendum to be recalled as the President. He wins in 1998. He doesn't finish his full term. He goes again in 2000. But by 2004 they were ready to kick him out, the opposition. They hold a referendum. And he wins it big. The recall, he wins it big. In 1999, as I said, he won a referendum for a new constitution. And in 2005 his coalition of parties won election for the Parliament, for the Congress.

Now, here's the question I have: Didn't we tell Latin American countries to use the democratic process? Isn't that what we always said was the bottom line? Everything else could be negotiable, we said at times. But democracy was the bottom line. Even when we didn't practice it, as I said before, we did say this is what you must do. Now I just read you three examples of people who have used the democratic system to reach their positions. So why are we attacking them continuously on the House floor? Once a month we get a resolution here attacking somebody in Latin America instead of getting close.

Now, what we don't understand is that this whole situation with Latin America's electing people who are left of center is because the people are tired of the poverty, tired of the pain, and they now have leaders who at least in what they have attempted to do up to now indicates that they want to balance off the wealth of those countries. Balance off.

We don't celebrate the fact that Hugo Chavez comes from poverty, reaches the presidency, and has been elected three times himself and his government another five times totaling eight elections since 1998. We don't celebrate the fact that in over close to 500 years, the people of Bolivia, a country mostly made up of indigenous people, what we call Indians, elected for the first time an Indian, Evo Morales. We don't celebrate that.

I felt so good when I saw this man take the oath of the presidency dressed in the native dress of his people. I thought it was a great day. Our comments right away were, what is he going to do with the gas industry? Well, he did what we expected. He told some of the gas companies this is a very poor country. We have a lot of natural resources here. We are going to start sharing some of those profits with the people. Oh, he's a communist. We have got to get rid of him. He's a problem. So now in this resolution we lump him together with the President of Iran. When you do that, you immediately make enemies of the American people and those people.

But you also make a very serious mistake, and this is perhaps the most important thing that we have to pay attention to. When you reject the electoral victories of these folks; when you don't celebrate the fact that people from the lower class, economic class,

that people of darker skin of indigenous people are being elected; when you as the American Government, the greatest and largest government in the world, don't celebrate that and, in fact, spend a lot of time trying to bring them down; when you don't do that, it is natural that you drive them to places where you don't want them to be.

Now, when you are a Member of Congress and you stand up in front of the House and people may watch you on TV, you are supposed to speak as exactly that. My problem, or my strength, is that I so often remind people that I grew up in a public housing project. And in the projects you have certain rules of behavior. And one is that if somebody is trying to do you in and that person is stronger and bigger than you, you go find someone who can help you confront that person. That's a fact of life for survival. Most Members of Congress, most American elected officials don't talk about the rule of the projects because they didn't grow in the projects. I am not saying that makes them worse than me, just different. So I use that as a point of understanding. Again, I grew up in the South Bronx in a public housing project. If you came after me, if you came after my mother, my sister, my cousin, you were my enemy.

Well, when President Chavez came to the U.N., our country was outraged. And I was not happy with what he said. He called President Bush the devil, and that was enough for us to go to war. But let's talk about a little history now. There was a coup attempt on President Chavez by members of the military and members of the elite. All of Latin America, most of Europe, some folks in the Middle East all got up and said you can't do that. You can't do that. That man was elected. He's got to serve his term. What did the United States say? Well, at the White House some folks said publicly he brought it on himself. No, you can't say that, he brought it on himself. You don't bring on a coup against your government.

In Latin America they said that our fingerprints were all over that attempted coup; that if we actually did not participate in it, we gave aid to it through our comments and said it was okay. Now, when I met President Chavez when he came to visit the Bronx, he spoke to us for a couple of hours. He's famous for speaking a couple of hours. He told us about all the things I have mentioned here. But he said when they took him out of the presidential palace, the ''White House,'' if you will, took him up to the mountains, he knew he was going to die. He knew he was going to get killed. And you can imagine what is going through his head because he doesn't know what is happening in Washington. He found out later that what was happening to him and when he thought he was going to get killed, he thought the whole world was outraged.

He found out later that Washington was basically saying we'll figure it out. And we didn't say anything when the guy who took over for him momentarily suspended the Congress, suspended the constitution, and that's when the people reacted to it. Of course, Chavez came back because two things happened. One was the folks from the mountain side, the poor folks, the dark-skin folks, the indigenous people found out and they started running to the city and demanding to have their President back. The people won, the power didn't. But we didn't say anything.

And he tells us that when he goes there, a young soldier, he's sitting in a room and opens the door and he hears the rifle load up and he thinks he's going to get shot right there, and the soldier says, If our President is killed, we will all be killed here. And that did a turnaround where the young soldiers told the older soldiers, We're not going back to those days. This man was elected and he has to serve his term.

Now, let's go back a second to my focal point of growing up in the projects. They tried to kill the man and he came back into power. He thinks a few people were involved in it. He calls our President the devil as a representative of the country that didn't help him during that time. We don't appreciate having our President called the devil. We don't encourage that and we all denounced it. But in the projects if you try to bump me off, the least I am going to call you is the devil. In fact, the ramifications may be even more dangerous. So I think it was really a light comment compared to what he felt was happening to him.

Now, there is another issue here that has been discussed a lot. We all heard about how recently President Chavez closed a TV station in Venezuela, and we were outraged. Nobody likes to do that. But what we were not told here is the history behind that. I'm not suggesting it was a good move. If I had been his adviser, I would have said leave it alone. But do you know who was on in the middle of the attempted coup against President Chavez in the Venezuela equivalent of the White House? The owner of the TV station that lost its license a few months ago. He was there as part of the coup to overthrow this government.

Now, listen to me. I don't support most of the policies of President Bush. But if I heard that CBS, ABC, CNN, anyone tomorrow was involved in a coup against President Bush, I would ask that their license not be renewed because that is not freedom of speech. That is violence against the government.

□ 2315

And you can't treat them any differently than you would treat someone. I would say we have to seriously consider not allowing them to continue in that role because they just attempted to overthrow a government by force.

Also, they refused to televise the coup. And when they did televise, they only televised the opposition; they never televised the people. The country never knew that Chavez was gone because they didn't want the people to know. And when he came back, they didn't know that either, although they had televised part in the middle of the coup because they were supposedly playing cartoons and movies on TV because they didn't want to support the government in any way. That is the truth behind that licensing situation.

Now, what is the danger in what we've done today? Today, we committed the mistake of allowing our emotions on the issue of Cuba to blind us into attacks on Latin American countries, blanket attacks on many countries. And in this resolution we make claims on issues that in no way can be proven.

We're suggesting that Iran is going to fund terrorist organizations in Latin America. These are some of the same folks that told us there were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. How many of us have forgotten those words, ''weapons of mass destruction''? They also told us that Iraq was tied to al Qaeda. They also told us that Iraq helped al Qaeda in the 9/11 attacks. Even the White House has now admitted that most of that, if not all, was not true. So, I can't understand this desire to lump this together with Iran, present bad information, if not outright lies, and begin to move us towards a confrontation with Latin America at the same time we have confrontation with Iran.

But look at some of the silly things that the resolution says. It says, Whereas, at the Iranian Conference on Latin America, Iran announced that it would reopen embassies in Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Uruguay, and send a representative to Bolivia. And what is wrong with that? Don't we want people to talk to each other? Don't we have relations with most of the countries of the world? But when Iran does it, just to reopen relations they had before, re-establish, we get upset. Well, that's an acceptable action for a sovereign state.

Now, I spoke about the various leaders, and I neglected to remind us that the President of Bolivia was elected on December 18, 2005, with a record 85 percent of the Bolivian people voting in the elections. They were deemed by world organizations to be free and fair. He won a convincing victory, getting 54 percent of the vote, compared to 29 percent for his opposition. Although a lot of people were predicting that he would win, no one thought that he could win this big.

Now, here's another part of the resolution. And I leave it to the people watching or listening to this to try to figure out what this means, because I don't know what the crime is here. It says, Whereas, routine civilian airline flights have been established from Tehran, Iran directly into Caracas,

Venezuela, and the Government of Venezuela has been found to be indiscriminate in the issuance of Venezuelan passports and other identifying documents to people coming on those flights. So, they're allowing people to fly directly to them, and they are allowing Iran to fly direct flights. Well, we have direct flights all over the world. What is the issue?

Now, here is the most dangerous one: Whereas, Iran and Hezbollah were involved in the two deadliest terrorist attacks in Argentina, and we all know that this is true, now they claim that Hezbollah is setting up in Latin America with the support of Iran. Well, my God, if that is true, why are we waiting until this particular resolution, which passed in what one could call the quickness of the afternoon without a vote, to bring up such a serious situation? If it's true that Hezbollah is involved in Latin America setting up bases, recruiting people, shouldn't we be outraged and really consider how to address that rather than just as a throw-away line in a resolution? This is so much more of this attempt to link Iran to Latin America.

And let me reach the last few minutes here by telling you why I think this is extremely dangerous.

It is pretty clear around here that we are beating the drum towards war with Iran. That's no longer an alarmed behavior. I'm not trying to alarm people into feeling nervous, but I think most American people are hearing a lot of what they heard before we went to Iraq. And you know that Iraq has been a very, very difficult situation for us, and we don't know when we will be able to get out of Iraq. And now there is this drumbeat, both inside and outside the Congress, throughout the country, but coming from the government, from the White House, coming out of the President's office, coming out of the Vice President's office, that we have to somehow confront Iran. That's a problem all by itself. And it's a horrible problem that we could be discussing here for hours.

But my concern, and my reason for speaking on a resolution today, a resolution which was introduced primarily by Democrats, and I know this is not something we usually do, speak against members of our own party, but we can all be nervous about a situation because on both sides of the aisle people are marching forward to war with Iran.

So, now we link these other countries. What does that mean? Does that mean that we now have an excuse to go and try military action against Bolivia? against Argentina? against Ecuador? against Venezuela? Is it because, indeed, they've earned the right, if you will, of having us react that way, or is it because we're using Iran as an excuse to deal with other things we wanted to deal with in the first place, which is getting at these folks.

And so, I go back to my initial statement, that the same lobby group that has been directing our policy towards Cuba and preventing us from making changes in that policy, that same group has been intelligent enough, enabled enough to now direct our attention towards Latin American leftist leaders because they're friendly to Cuba, and what best way to get at them? To link them to Iran, the ugly country for us right now.

And I'm not suggesting, by the way, that we should not have some concerns, if not serious concerns, about the behavior of Iran. That's not the issue here. I don't want people tomorrow saying, oh, he was defending Iran. No. I'm defending no one. What I'm defending is the right of the Latin American people to make their own democratic choices, if you will, and that we will respect that. But by linking them, I have to ask the question, if we go after Iran, and we just finished saying this afternoon that these Latin American countries are tied into Iran's behavior, aren't we also giving ourselves the opportunity, the reason, the power to go after these countries, too? That's my concern.

Let me conclude by speaking to a subject that I know well. You don't have to live in Latin America to know how Latin Americans feel about the United States or about American people. This may sound like a joke, it may even sound sarcastic, but it is honestly true. All you have to live is in southern Maryland, in northern Virginia, in D.C., in New York, in LA, in Houston, in Dallas, in any city, any suburb in this country that has the growing number of immigrants from Latin America, whether documented or not, they're here for a reason. And if we were discussing immigration, I would tell you that they're here because they like this country. They want to work. They want to feed their families. But that is no different than how people in Latin America feel about us. To link them with a group of folks in the Middle East who have openly said, not all of them, but some, who have openly said that they don't like us, to link them to that is to make two horrible mistakes. One is to have bad information again put forth about a people who actually like us, and also, the worst mistake of all, to drive them into the arms of people we don't like. Because as I told you before, when you pick on someone and you're the toughest guy on the block, that person is going to have to find someone to help them out.

So, instead of reaching out to Latin America, we say to them, you're as bad as the other guy. And we hate the other guy, and we're going to eventually take action against the other guy, so you know what you can expect. And even if that's not our intent, it will only make them think that that is our intent, and they will have to try to drum up new relationships. Because they're not going to give into us, they're not going to leave office and say we'll go back to the days when the general ran the country.

Latin Americans, my friends, can be found in any city, any suburb, any neighborhood. And so many of them have such a close relationship to the people back home that they want to do nothing in this country to jeopardize the ability to continue to deal with their family back home. And their family back home will never allow any behavior in those countries that can hurt us. They need us and we need them.

And so, when you speak to Latin Americans in our communities, you never hear hatred of the United States as you do in some other countries. They are materially poor, yes, suspicious of America's intentions in their hemisphere, yes, but interested in making common cause with Hezbollah and other foreign movements to target American interests? Never. Let me repeat that. They would never team up with a terrorist organization against the United States. They don't have anything against us of that nature. They just don't like our rhetoric and our indifference to them, but they're not going to team up with anybody to hurt us, because most of those countries have so many of their people living here that it would be like attacking another part of your neighborhood. Because to hurt the American interests would almost certainly hurt their own. Money that flows from here to there would be cut off from relatives. Those family ties of people living and working in the United States would be gone.

A broad cultural admiration for the U.S. have knit together places like Caracas, Quito, and New York. One of the ironies of the current immigration debate is how folks often evoke how immigration from Latin America is changing this country. What they forget is how that same phenomenon is changing Latin America, which, despite its general political rejection of this administration, is growing ever closer in its embrace of a Pan-American culture and a Pan-American economy.

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For many thousands of people in Venezuela, Ecuador and Nicaragua, Americans are their cousins, their siblings and their children. They can be our greatest allies in the world if we don't continue to push them into the embrace of hostile regimes with foolish resolutions like this one.

Mr. Speaker, it wasn't easy for me to decide to speak on this today. As I said, this resolution was presented by many Democrats, well-intentioned folks. I just see us going down a dangerous road here, a very dangerous road. If we have a problem with Iran, deal with that problem. Don't link the poor people of Latin America who have nothing against us.

We have tried to export democracy to Latin America, and I think finally it is working. But we don't like the results. We have tried to export capitalism, and in many ways what they do with each other by trading oil for doctors and oil for technology is capitalism at its best. I often joke, but profoundly so, I think,

that we exported baseball to Latin America. I don't have to tell you how well that is doing in Latin America and doing right here. I am a Yankee fan. But just ask the Boston Red Sox how they feel about Latin American ballplayers and Latin American baseball.

So these folks don't dislike us. But they are going to be troubled tomorrow morning when they find out what we did here in Congress today. They are going to be troubled that we are linking them with people we hate and they don't want to be hated by us.

So I hope we can spend some time reviewing this, thinking about it, and perhaps understanding that in our desire to do what is right for us and to protect our great country, this country I love, this country in whose Army I served proudly, this country whose Congress I serve proudly, this country that I would give my life for, that as you love your country, you don't love it different from a child. When that child is not doing the right thing, you have to correct that child. And our country is wrong right now in its desire to treat Latin America with hate and disdain and to make of it something that it is not. They are our neighbors and our friends. We should treat them as such. We should extend our hand to them and tell them, you are our neighbor, you are our friends, you are, in fact, members of this family in more ways than one, and we are members of yours. Let's work together. Let's not show a lack of respect for each other.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of a flight delay.

Mr. CARNEY (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of travel delays.

Ms. GIFFORDS (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of official business.

Mr. ISRAEL (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Mr. KIND (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Mr. MCNULTY (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and through 2 p.m. on November 7.

Mr. PASTOR (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and November 6 on account of business in the district.

Mr. YARMUTH (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. WELLER of Illinois (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. WESTMORELAND (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of illness in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MICHAUD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CLARKE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RUSH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCINTYRE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MICHAUD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HARE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WALBERG) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, November 9 and 12.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and November 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, November 9 and 12.

Mr. FLAKE, for 5 minutes, November 6.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, November 8.

Mr. WALBERG, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ADERHOLT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SALI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LAMBORN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. FOXX, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. Broun of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CLYBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HONDA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PEARCE, for 5 minutes, today.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on November 1, 2007 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 1808. To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, as the ''Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.''

H.R. 2779. To recognize the Navy UDT–SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the official national museum of Navy SEALS and their predecessors.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at 9 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3986. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pesticide Tolerance Nomenclature Changes; Technical Amendments; Correction [EPA-HQ-OPP-2002-0043; FRL-8151-4] received October 30, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3987. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Army, Case Number 03-09, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3988. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Installations and Environment, Department of the Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting Notice of the decision of a public-private competition at the Naval Support Activity in Cutler, ME, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2461; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3989. A letter from the Director, Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense, transmitting Notification of the intent to fund Foreign Comparative Testing Program projects for the Fiscal Year 2008 program, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2350a(g); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3990. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's report on the Availability of Credit to Small Businesses, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 252; to the Committee on Financial Services.

3991. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Indonesia pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

3992. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''The Potential Benefits of Distributed Generation and the Rate-Related Issues That May Impede Its Expansion,'' pursuant to Public Law 109-58, section 1817; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3993. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Michigan; Consumer Products Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-0192; FRL-8486-6] received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3994. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Michigan; Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Abnormal Conditions [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-0631; FRL-8486-4] received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3995. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New York Emission Statement Program [Docket No. EPA-R02-OAR-2007-0368, FRL-8428-5] received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3996. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; North Carolina: State Implementation Plan Revisions [EPA-R04-OAR-2007-0227-200722(a); FRL-8488-5] received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3997. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Delegation of Authority to the States of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska for New Source Performance Standards (NSPS); National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP); and Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) Standards [FRL-8487-5] received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3998. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Plywood and Composite Wood Products [EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0048; FRL-8482-2] (RIN: 2060-AO65) received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3999. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — OHIO: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-8488-6] received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4000. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Modification of Baselines for Gasoline Produced or Imported for Use in Hawaii, Alaska and U.S. Territories [EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0010 FRL-8487-2] (RIN: 2060-AK02) received October 24, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4001. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Colorado; Revised Denver PM10 Maintenance Plan [EPA-R08-OAR-2007-0622; FRL-8490-6] received October 30, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4002. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Revisions to the Nevada State Implementation Plan; Requests for Rescission [EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0590; FRL-8489-4] received October 30, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4003. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Air Quality Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Control of Emissions From Existing Other Solid Waste Incinerator Units; Nevada [EPA-R09-OAR-2007-0916; FRL-8489-6] received October 30, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4004. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District and Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2007-0459; FRL-8487-6] received October 30, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4005. A letter from the Chair, Board of Directors, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, transmitting the semiannual report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period ending March 31, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4006. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4007. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4008. A letter from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4009. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a copy of the Administration's second annual report on Notification and Federal Employee Anti-Discrimination and Retaliation (No FEAR) Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4010. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report entitled ''Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2008,'' pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(2); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4011. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy, Department of the Treasury, transmitting two reports entitled, ''Social Security Reform: The Nature of the Problem'' and ''Social Security Reform: A Framework for Analysis''; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4012. A letter from the Inspector General, Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, transmitting the October 2007 Quarterly Report pursuant to Section 3001(i) of Title III of the 2004 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Defense and for the Reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan (Pub. L. 108-106) as amended by Pub. L. 108-375, Pub. L. 109-102, Pub. L. 109-364, Pub. L. 109-440, and Pub. L. 110-28; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. RANGEL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3688. A bill to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (Rept. 110–421). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Ms. CASTOR: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 793. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3685) to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (Rept. 110–422). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. Recommending that the House of Representatives find Harriet Miers and Joshua Bolten, Chief of Staff, White House, in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with Subpoenas Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary (Rept. 110–423). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. OBEY: Committee of Conference. Conference report on H.R. 3043. A bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–424). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 3495. A bill to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters, a National Resource Center on Children and Disasters, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 110–425). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RANGEL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3997. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide earnings assistance and tax relief to members of the uniformed services, volunteer firefighters, and Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110–426). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 794. Resolution providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–427). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FILNER:

H.R. 4071. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to support disabled veterans by extending military commissary and exchange store privileges to such veterans and their dependents and by authorizing space-available travel on military aircraft for such veterans and their dependents; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BARROW:

H.R. 4072. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTER:

H.R. 4073. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for the issuance of Social Security cards with enhanced security features, to provide that wages earned, and self-employment income derived, by individuals while such individuals were not citizens or nationals of the United States and were illegally in the United States shall not be credited for coverage under the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program under such title, and to provide for the issuance of Social Security cards to illegal aliens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. CARDOZA, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H.R. 4074. A bill to authorize the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4075. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand college access and increase college persistence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 4076. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to increase criminal penalties for the sale or trade of prescription drugs knowingly caused to be adulterated or misbranded, to modify requirements for maintaining records of the chain-of-custody of prescription drugs, to establish recall authority regarding drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 4077. A bill to authorize the interstate traffic of unpasteurized milk and milk products in final package form for human consumption when the milk or milk product originates in a State that allows the sale of unpasteurized milk and milk products in final package form and is destined for another State that allows the sale of unpasteurized milk and milk products in final package form; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 4078. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow elementary and secondary school teachers a credit against income tax for professional development and training expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 4079. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to require that temporary housing units provided to assist disaster victims comply with certain formaldehyde emissions requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. WEINER:

H.R. 4080. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish a separate nonimmigrant classification for fashion models; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WEINER:

H.R. 4081. A bill to prevent tobacco smuggling, to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COOPER (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. LYNCH, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H. Res. 795. A resolution condemning the ongoing violence in the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (''DRC'') and recognizing the threat such violence poses to the overall peace of the Great Lakes region; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WEXLER (for himself, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. WHITFIELD):

H. Res. 796. A resolution condemning the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) for its ongoing terrorist attacks against Turkey and the Turkish people; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

PRIVATE RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FILNER:

H. Res. 797. A resolution referring the bill (H.R. 4038), entitled ''For the relief of Adrian Rodriguez'', to the chief judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a report thereon; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FILNER:

H. Res. 798. A resolution referring the bill (H.R. 4037), entitled ''For the relief of Francisco Rivera and Alfonso Calderon'', to the chief judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a report thereon; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 178: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. CLARKE, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 315: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 471: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 513: Mr. ALTMIRE and Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 549: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 552: Mr. MCHUGH.

H.R. 618: Mr. CAMP of Michigan.

H.R. 627: Mr. MCNULTY.

H.R. 695: Mrs. GILLIBRAND.

H.R. 741: Mr. INSLEE.

H.R. 748: Mr. WALBERG, Mr. NADLER, Mr. FOSSELLA, and Mr. SESTAK.

H.R. 821: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 847: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 854: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 871: Ms. CLARKE and Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 989: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1063: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 1091: Mr. WALSH of New York and Mr. SARBANES.

H.R. 1108: Mr. PASTOR.

H.R. 1110: Mr. WELDON of Florida.

H.R. 1166: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. PAUL.

H.R. 1222: Mr. PRICE of Georgia.

H.R. 1223: Mr. PRICE of Georgia.

H.R. 1275: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1295: Mr. PITTS.

H.R. 1439: Mrs. SCHMIDT.

H.R. 1440: Mr. GORDON.

H.R. 1457: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 1518: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1524: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 1619: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia and Mrs. SCHMIDT.

H.R. 1621: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 1653: Mr. TOWNS and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1687: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 1755: Mr. FARR.

H.R. 1796: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1809: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. JINDAL.

H.R. 1818: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.

H.R. 1898: Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 1919: Mr. CHANDLER.

H.R. 1953: Mr. GORDON and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 1973: Mr. SHAYS.

H.R. 2014: Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 2021: Ms. SOLIS, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. HARE, Mr. GORDON, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. MARKEY.

H.R. 2053: Mr. HALL of New York.

H.R. 2067: Mr. SHUSTER.

H.R. 2091: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. ETHERIDGE, and Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 2138: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 2169: Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 2215: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2267: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 2287: Mr. LOBIONDO and Mr. GORDON.

H.R. 2290: Mr. MCCRERY.

H.R. 2380: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 2407: Mr. FEENEY.

H.R. 2464: Mr. JEFFERSON.

H.R. 2567: Mr. MCCOTTER.

H.R. 2578: Mr. COSTELLO.

H.R. 2580: Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 2601: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.

H.R. 2634: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 2651: Mr. STARK.

H.R. 2666: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 2762: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. KIRK, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. FORBES, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. BOUCHER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. REYES, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. ORTIZ.

H.R. 2807: Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 2883: Mr. SALI.

H.R. 2894: Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 2910: Mr. NADLER, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. HAYES, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. COSTELLO.

H.R. 2915: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 2922: Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. SESTAK.

H.R. 2946: Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 3016: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 3029: Ms. SUTTON.

H.R. 3086: Mr. SMITH of Texas.

H.R. 3098: Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 3119: Mr. OBERSTAR and Ms. HOOLEY.

H.R. 3232: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Ms. HIRONO, and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 3257: Mr. MARKEY and Mr. CARNAHAN.

H.R. 3282: Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 3289: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.

H.R. 3299: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.

H.R. 3309: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 3314: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Ms. HOOLEY.

H.R. 3320: Mr. ACKERMAN and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 3334: Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 3337: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

H.R. 3378: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. ALLEN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 3380: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 3385: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 3397: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 3501: Ms. SLAUGHTER.

H.R. 3533: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SPACE.

H.R. 3543: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 3548: Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee and Ms. SUTTON.

H.R. 3563: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 3585: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 3610: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas and Ms. SUTTON.

H.R. 3622: Mr. BAIRD, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. GORDON.

H.R. 3637: Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Ms. WOOLSEY.

H.R. 3645: Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 3660: Mr. SHUSTER.

H.R. 3679: Mr. JORDAN and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.

H.R. 3689: Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 3691: Mr. ELLSWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. OLVER, and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.

H.R. 3753: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.

H.R. 3774: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 3781: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 3784: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 3793: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. HALL of New York.

H.R. 3834: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. HARE.

H.R. 3837: Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 3852: Mr. ROSS and Mr. TANNER.

H.R. 3861: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia.

H.R. 3865: Ms. BORDALLO and Mr. GOODE.

H.R. 3908: Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 3918: Ms. KILPATRICK and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 3929: Mr. WATT.

H.R. 3934: Mr. CARNAHAN and Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 3960: Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 3966: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. STARK.

H.R. 3979: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 3987: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California and Ms. WOOLSEY.

H.R. 3992: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 4017: Mr. PAUL.

H.R. 4043: Mr. HINOJOSA.

H.R. 4060: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 4063: Mr. ROTHMAN.

H. Con. Res. 81: Mr. PAYNE, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. SHAYS.

H. Con. Res. 126: Mr. SIRES.

H. Con. Res. 162: Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. SPACE, and Ms. BORDALLO.

H. Con. Res. 211: Mr. KELLER.

H. Con. Res. 215: Mr. ALLEN.

H. Con. Res. 218: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H. Con. Res. 224: Mr. KIRK.

H. Con. Res. 235: Mr. SHIMKUS.

H. Con. Res. 237: Mr. MURTHA, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. ENGEL.

H. Con. Res. 240: Mr. PEARCE, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. TERRY, Mr. WAMP, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, and Mr. COURTNEY.

H. Con. Res. 244: Mr. ROSS, Ms. FOXX, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. SPRATT, and Mr. SIMPSON.

H. Res. 111: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. WAMP, and Mr. CANNON.

H. Res. 146: Ms. DELAURO.

H. Res. 163: Mr. STARK.

H. Res. 333: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H. Res. 435: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.

H. Res. 536: Mr. MCINTYRE.

H. Res. 620: Mr. TIERNEY and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

H. Res. 695: Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. PASTOR, and Mr. LOEBSACK.

H. Res. 698: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PETRI, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. LEWIS of California.

H. Res. 700: MR. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.

H. Res. 735: Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. COHEN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.

H. Res. 770: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas and Mr. GILCHREST.

H. Res. 777: Ms. CLARKE, Mrs. MYRICK, and Mr. FORBES.

H. Res. 782: Mr. MACK, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. PORTER, Mr. MATHESON, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. UPTON, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GORDON, Mr. GOODLATTE, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. WU, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HONDA, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. POMEROY, and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H. Res. 784: Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MICA, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. BOEHNER.

H. Res. 785: Mr. MELANCON, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. HARE, and Mr. MARCHANT.

H. Res. 786: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. MICA, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. COBLE, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CANNON, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2007 No. 170

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the State of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we are gratefully aware that You are the giver of every good and perfect gift. We are further aware of our own unworthiness of Your goodness.

As our Senators labor today, make them extensions of Your power in our world. May they arrange their priorities according to Your will and view their challenges from an ethical perspective. Lord, use our lawmakers to bring relief to the suffering and to work for greater peace in our world. Help them to walk in Your way, that You may prolong their days and prosper their work. Give them the wisdom to be worthy of respect, self-controlled, and willing to endure. Sustain them in their challenging moments by renewing their faith in You.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JIM WEBB led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 5, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the State of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WEBB thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 3 p.m. Senators are allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each. Then, at 3 p.m. today, the Senate will proceed to the farm bill. Once the managers offer the substitute amendment, the bill will be up for debate only for the remainder of today's session. That is the previous order that was entered by the Chair. As I previously announced, there will be no rollcall votes today as a result of what we were able to accomplish last week.

On Tuesday, the House is expected to vote on overriding the President's veto of the water resources bill, which is a very bipartisan bill which passed overwhelmingly both in the House and the Senate. I anticipate the Senate will debate that veto message sometime this week, and a vote on overriding could be as early as Wednesday.

I would remind Members that the President of France will address a joint meeting of Congress Wednesday morning at 11 a.m.

Also this week, the Senate has a lot of other work to do. I have had a lengthy conversation, just a few minutes ago, with the Republican leader. He is aware of the many obligations we have, and it is going to be difficult to get our work done this week. We can get it done, but the reason I mention this, I know Veterans Day is coming and people have a very busy schedule Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. I know I do, and I am sure, like everyone else, they also are obligated. But there are certain things we have to finish. We are going to be out of here for the Thanksgiving recess to go back to our States, to our families, but there is work that obligates us to stay until we finish, and we only have this week and next week to do that.

APPROPRIATIONS

This week, we will receive the conference report for the Veterans and Labor, Health, and Education appropriations bill. This legislation was again supported on a bipartisan basis. It provides the greatest funding increase ever to care for our troops and veterans, who have sacrificed so much for our country. It repairs the woeful conditions we have seen at Walter Reed and at other medical centers. It helps reduce the logjam that is keeping thousands of veterans from receiving health care because the VA has been underfunded during the Bush years.

This bill makes critical investments in America's children and substantially increases the Federal financial commitment to medical research for a multitude of diseases, which the Bush budget goes backward on rather than increasing.

This legislation passed the Senate overwhelmingly because they are good priorities for America. Unfortunately, the President has said he is going to veto this bill. That is unfortunate because this is the same President who has underfunded and shortchanged our troops, our veterans, and other domestic priorities here at home. He argues this bill costs too much. Yet, in the same breath, he reported last week that there is $100 billion being spent in

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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Iraq on infrastructure. And only this much of it is still standing. Most of the money has been wasted. What was attempted to be constructed has been destroyed or construction has been so faulty it simply is not usable. The President is wrong.

It appears the Republicans will attempt to separate the VA portion of the bill. I think that is unfortunate. The minority supported the VA bill and the Labor bill overwhelmingly, and it would be a shame to put up roadblocks to their passage. So I urge all my colleagues to reject that effort so we can pass and send this crucial legislation to the President as soon as possible.

THE FARM BILL

The farm bill. Chairman HARKIN, Senator BAUCUS, and Ranking Members CHAMBLISS and GRASSLEY deserve a lot of credit for working among their caucuses to write the bill we are debating this week. In the 24 years I have been in the Congress, first in the House and now in the Senate—actually, 25 years—no farm bill has embodied as much reform as this one. There are some who say this bill doesn't go far enough in the direction of reform. To those critics, it should be clear there will be an opportunity for Senators to offer amendments during debate. Would I personally like more reform? Of course I would. But I would like to focus on the positive and forward-looking elements that lie at the heart of this bill.

This bill saves billions of dollars by reforming existing programs, which allows new investment to expand food and nutrition programs for families, the elderly, and the disabled, as well as an expansion of the fresh fruits and vegetables programs to all 50 States to improve the health and wellness of America's children. It invests more than $4 billion in conservation programs to protect wetlands, grasslands, and working farms. More than 60 percent of this bill is simply nutrition programs.

This bill takes us a step closer to the vital goal of energy independence, with more than $1 billion for programs that are environmentally responsible while growing the farming economy. We import about 70 percent of our oil. We don't import 70 percent of our food. One reason we don't is because we have farm programs that work. Could they be made better? Of course they could be. But this bill does do some extremely important things.

It responds to the urgent need for permanent disaster assistance, which will help farmers respond and recover from future unavoidable disasters. It invests about $2 billion in specialty crops. What are specialty crops? Strawberries, apples, and those programs that are so important to our country, so that it stops us from having to import as much as we would have to if we didn't have these programs. But with weather changes, some of these farmers have had tremendous losses from which they have not been able to recover. It offers a reasonable compromise on country-of-origin labeling, and it improves competition in the livestock industry.

There will be a number of amendments offered during the floor debate. Senators DORGAN and GRASSLEY will offer an amendment on payment limits. Senators LAUTENBERG and LUGAR will offer an alternative farm bill amendment. Senator MCCONNELL and I understand these amendments are important to Members on both sides of the aisle, and we will work together to ensure ample time is given for consideration.

I am confident and hopeful that this process will result in a truly bipartisan bill which will support our agricultural communities, promote a cleaner environment, and grow our economy. But I do say and alert everybody to this fact: We have had a really good legislative session. Once we get to a bill, we have basically offered amendments on most every bill. I think this bill is going to have trouble with that. We have to complete our work by next Friday, so we will make sure the amendments correctly relate to this bill and everybody will have an opportunity to offer those. We will do our very best to see that is the case. But this bill is a tax bill, and there could be a lot of mischievous amendments offered if it were an open amendment process. I think, with it being late in this year's session of Congress, everyone understands we can't do that. We have work we must complete.

The farm bill is a very bipartisan bill. I think we could seek cloture on the bill right now and probably do a pretty good job because it is really a bipartisan bill. I don't want to have to do it now, but I do want everyone to know we are not going to have an open amendment process, and I have explained that to the Republican leader.

PAKISTAN

Mr. President, this weekend we have seen a crisis unfold in Pakistan. It is an ongoing crisis which has become much more difficult. A leader whom the administration considered a partner in the fight against terrorism and extremism has taken steps away from the path of democracy, and he has suspended fundamental human rights in the process. I have had great hope for Pakistan. Senator Daschle and I took a trip to that part of the world right after Musharraf took power, and we were impressed with him. We came back to the United States, and the State Department had told President Clinton he shouldn't go to Pakistan. He was already headed for India. We prevailed upon him to go to Pakistan, and I am glad the President did go to Pakistan. But things haven't worked out the way I would have hoped.

This unfolding crisis must be watched carefully, and we must be prepared to respond to protect our security and our national interests. I hope all sides will show restraint. Musharraf must keep the promise he made when Senator Daschle and I met with him and when he took power almost 8 years ago—to put Pakistan back on a path toward democracy.

I call upon General Musharraf to return to the constitutional rule of law, release the lawyers and other peaceful protestors he has imprisoned, and restore the path to free and fair elections as soon as possible.

This situation is also a reminder of why we must change the course in Iraq. We have been so focused on Iraq that we have had this situation develop in Israel with the Palestinians. I was stunned this morning to hear the Secretary of State on the news say this is our first meeting, the one that is going to take place in Annapolis. That isn't anything she should boast about.

For 7 years, this administration basically ignored the crisis we have had in the Middle East. We have a bad situation in Iran that we have ignored—no diplomacy, only threats of war. We have this intractable civil war in Iraq which is ongoing and now made more complicated as a result of what is going on in northern Iraq with the Kurds. We have not focused on our diplomacy. Look what has happened in Pakistan because we placed all our emphasis on a person rather than on a country. By staying so bogged down in the Iraq civil war, President Bush has made it harder to respond to the Pakistani problem and other challenges throughout the world.

The Iraq war leaves Secretary Rice and other officials responsible for the Middle East and South Asia with no strategic reserve to respond to humanitarian and other crisis situations. We are reminded that, while the administration has been focused on Iraq, it has failed to craft an effective strategy for eliminating what a recent National Intelligence Estimate described as an al-Qaida safe haven in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border regions, and it has failed to catch Osama bin Laden or his No. 2—Zawahiri.

So today I also call upon President Bush to conduct an expedited end-to-end review of his national security strategy as it relates to the war on terror and Pakistan, including a review of U.S. aid to Pakistan and how we are going to get our troops out of Iraq. I hope President Bush will take a good look at the costs and missed opportunities caused by his stay-the-course approach in Iraq and take steps to craft a more effective strategy for addressing the threats and challenges America faces across the globe.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that time for morning business be a full hour.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to a period of morning business until 3:15 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Maryland.

NOMINATION OF MICHAEL MUKASEY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I have the honor of serving on our Judiciary Committee, which is charged with the responsibility of recommending to this full body whether to confirm Judge Mukasey as the next Attorney General of the United States. In that capacity I have had the chance to sit through the confirmation hearings at which Judge Mukasey testified before our committee for 2 days. I chaired the third panel of independent witnesses and had a chance to question national experts in regard to the issues that I think are important and that must be met by our next Attorney General. I had the opportunity to personally meet with Judge Mukasey in my office to go over the priorities of the Department of Justice and how he would try to reverse some of the problems in that Department. I had the chance to specifically ask written questions to the nominee and got responses on those written questions.

I must tell you, first, I do believe Judge Mukasey is an honorable person. He has a distinguished record of public service, and he would represent a refreshing change within the Department of Justice. He has the ability to restore morale and traditional professionalism, particularly among the career attorneys at the Department of Justice.

But one of the critical issues in evaluating who should be our next Attorney General is whether that individual will exercise the independence that is so required by the Attorney General of the United States; in short, whether he will represent the people of our Nation and not just the President of the United States.

We all know the record of the former Attorney General, Alberto Gonzales. We know about how partisan politics interfered with the selection and promotion of career attorneys at the Department of Justice. We all now know the story of the firing of the U.S. attorneys and how it appears that partisan politics in criminal investigations—criminal investigations—may have interfered with the operation of the Department of Justice. So independence is a critically important factor in the next person to be the Attorney General of the United States.

Because of Judge Mukasey's response to the questions relating to waterboarding, I have concern about his independence. Judge Mukasey refused to say that waterboarding is torture. In reply to questions that were asked, he responded that he would use independent judgment as to what constitutes torture. He said he would prosecute anyone who violated our laws. He said, in fact, if his views conflicted with those of the President of the United States in a fundamental way, and if he were unable to reconcile those differences, he would leave the office rather than compromise his views.

Let me read three questions I asked of the Attorney General nominee. I asked: As Attorney General, would you order the Justice Department to prosecute individuals who, under 18 U.S.C 2340 and 2340(a), committed acts of torture?

Judge Mukasey's answer:

> The Department of Justice has an obligation to bring prosecutions to enforce all valid criminal statutes and, as I explained during the hearing, torture is prohibited by federal law.

I then asked the nominee: Do you believe that any ''exceptional circumstances'' exist that would justify torture?

His answer was no.

I then asked: As Attorney General, would you authorize the use of torture in any circumstance?

Once again, his answer was no.

I cannot understand why Judge Mukasey will not tell us clearly that waterboarding is illegal under our laws. The fact that he leaves open that waterboarding could be permitted as an interrogation technique has me very concerned.

Judge Mukasey now acknowledges he understands what is generally meant by waterboarding. I gave him the benefit of the doubt during the hearing. He said: I am not familiar with the technique.

That is difficult to understand but—OK. He then had time to reflect and learn about waterboarding as generally understood, waterboarding that has been condemned for literally hundreds of years—since the Spanish Inquisition. He now understands what is generally meant be waterboarding. But during the confirmation hearing and in follow-up questions he would not rule out the potential use. Questions asked during the confirmation hearing did not ask about a specific technique that may have been authorized by the President for interrogating detainees. That is not what was asked. The question that was asked is about waterboarding as generally understood. It was not a hypothetical question.

Waterboarding has been condemned by the United States. The United States prosecuted Japanese soldiers for waterboarding as a war crime after World War II. We brought charges as war crimes for those who would try to use that torture technique against Americans.

In 2005, the Congress passed the McCain amendment which prohibits the use of cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment and punishment of persons under the detention, custody, and control of the U.S. Government. We also then required that the Army must use the field manual while interrogating detainees.

In 2006, the Army Field Manual specifically prohibited waterboarding. During our final panel of witnesses, I had a chance to question Admiral Hutson, who has a very distinguished record of service to our country—former Navy Judge Advocate General, senior uniformed legal adviser to the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations. So we had a chance to talk about waterboarding. He said waterboarding is one of the most iconic examples of torture. It was devised during the Spanish Inquisition. Its use has been repudiated for centuries.

Admiral Hutson said we look to the Attorney General as our chief law enforcement officer. He has to be absolutely unequivocal as to what torture is and is not. We need clarity from our principal leaders.

So it appears to me that Judge Mukasey was yielding to the White House pressure on waterboarding in answering the questions of our committee. I find that very troubling. I am looking for an Attorney General who will exercise independent judgment as to what the law of our country is, and that no one is above our law.

On November 1, 2007, President Bush implied if Judge Mukasey answered the questions on waterboarding, he would give ''terrorists a window into which techniques we may use and which ones we may not use.'' I want the President of the United States and the Attorney General of the United States to tell the world, unequivocally, that the United States will not permit the use of torture. I am not clear about the President. We all remember his signing statements to the McCain amendment, which leaves questions as to whether torture could be allowed under some circumstances. Now we are not clear, with Judge Mukasey's answers, as to whether waterboarding could be permitted under some circumstances as a form of torture.

I think it is absolutely clear our leaders must make it apparent to all the United States will not use torture, nor will it ever tolerate any other country using torture or any individuals using torture against an American. If a foreign agent attempts to use waterboarding, as it is generally understood, or any other form of torture against an American, I want our country to use every means at its disposal to hold that offender accountable.

On November 1 the President also said Judge Mukasey could not ''go on the record about the details of a classified program he has not been briefed on.'' I agree with the President of the United States. Judge Mukasey was not asked about specific practices of a classified program. He was requested to give information about waterboarding as generally understood. He had an obligation to answer that question.

The 9/11 Commission, in one of its recommendations to Congress, said the

United States should engage its friends to develop a common approach toward the detention and humane treatment of captured terrorists. Instead, we have gone it alone. We have not sought the advice of the international community, and we are paying a heavy price for the manner in which we are proceeding. We are losing our support internationally as it relates to how we treat detainees. We are losing our ability as an international leader, as the leader in fighting for human rights advancements throughout the world. We are losing our leadership and credibility on this issue.

I serve as the Senate cochair of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and delegate to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The OSCE-Helsinki process was started in 1975 between the countries in Europe, Central Asia, Canada, and the United States. It is best known for its human rights dimensions. It fought during the Soviet Union days, behind the Iron Curtain—fought to open the process and to defend human rights and to stand against torture. Today we are fighting in the emerging democracies to make it clear the human rights of all people must be respected, and torture cannot be permitted while we are being questioned by the Organization for Security for Cooperation in Europe as to what we are doing.

I am having a hard time finding the right answers, particularly on the issue of torture. As I said at the beginning, Judge Mukasey is a good person and an honest man. On the critical issue of standing up to this administration as an independent adviser against torture, I have my doubts. For that reason, I will be voting against his confirmation in the Judiciary Committee tomorrow.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Florida is recognized.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, the subject about which the Senator from Maryland speaks is a subject of enormous gravity to this country. We have been laboring with this issue in the Intelligence Committee. The issue is coming to a head with regard to this nomination for Attorney General. Clearly, the policy of this country has to be, clearly: There can be no torture.

At the same time, we have a world out there with a great deal of bad guys who are trying to do harm. It is important for us, when they are in our custody, that we get their cooperation in order to get the information in order to protect our country. How to strike that balance with no torture while still able to adequately get the information in the debriefing sessions—or interrogation, if you will—is the delicate balance this country must face and answer that question.

America is a beacon of light to the world. We have to be different. The people who crafted that Constitution of ours said we are going to be different from the rest of the world, and we are going to protect freedom of speech and of religion and of assembly and of the press. We are going to protect our citizens from intrusion into their privacy by the Government, unless there is a check and balance of a separate branch of Government, a judge in the judicial branch, granting an order called a warrant so the Government can invade the privacy of the citizen.

All of these things are under assault because of the abuses we have seen in this administration in the last 6 years. Normally, there would not be the abuses, but there are. That is what brings a lot of necessarily delicate issues into the open, issues we would much prefer to be deciding privately, without the full glare of sunshine, if, in fact, the Government was obeying the law.

But that has not been the case. Thus, again, as the Senator from Maryland points out, we are coming to another very delicate situation; this time with regard to the nomination of a very good man, as the Senator says.

But will he act unlike the previous Attorney General did? Will he act as the lawyer for the people instead of the lawyer for the President? Therein it makes it all the more difficult in some of the decisions we are making.

GLOBAL WARMING

I came here to speak about another subject, that is another one that is exceptionally important to the future not only of America but the future of planet Earth. And that is whether this delicate environment that surrounds this planet in an atmosphere is going to go into cardiac arrest which is going to be irreversible unless we do things now.

There is a step in the right direction, and I wish to thank Senator LIEBERMAN and Senator WARNER for their efforts and their hard work in introducing the climate change legislation called America's Climate Security Act. I am a cosponsor of this act. I am because it is acts such as this that will start us on a path to try to reverse the greenhouse effect that is happening to the planet.

What is the greenhouse effect? It is simply when we start putting greenhouse gases in excess into the atmosphere, gases such as carbon dioxide, CO_2; such as nitrous oxide N_2O. Particularly it is the carbon, carbon dioxide. They come from a variety of sources. Maybe 30 percent of the excess carbon dioxide is coming from our personal modes of transportation. Another 40 percent is coming from our electrical utilities plants. What happens is, if you get too much of these gases, such as CO_2, in the air, as the Sun's rays come in and hit the Earth and bounce off the Earth, that heat that radiates out into space, these gases act like the glass top of a greenhouse and trap in the heat, a greenhouse that stays perfectly warm during the winter because of the Sun's heat coming in and cannot escape once inside.

That is exactly how these greenhouse gases work. So if you get too much of a concentration high in the atmosphere, then the heat cannot radiate into space and the Earth starts to warm. So we have to go at the root cause of the problem—lessening the amount of those gases that act as this greenhouse top surrounding the Earth.

That means cutting emissions from powerplants, from manufacturing plants and from transportation and cutting it significantly. This bill calls for cutting the levels, cutting back to the levels that were emitted in 1990 by 2020.

Then it further says, 30 years after that, we would cut those emissions from the 1990 level another 65 percent. That is the way we are going to avert a catastrophic global warming catastrophic event.

Then the seas are going to continue to rise, the Earth is going to continue to warm. As the Earth warms, the pestilence increases, the storms become more frequent and more ferocious, and if you live in a State as do I, a land we call paradise, but paradise is a peninsula called Florida, sticking down into the middle of oceans on both sides, then you have the greater frequency of the storms, the higher intensity of the storms, and all the greater pestilence that comes along with the storms.

So what this bill does is it sets an overall cap on the greenhouse gas emissions, that would, a matter of law, have to be met over that period of time, 2020, then 2050.

The way you would enforce it, the mechanism would be the buying and selling of credits that companies would have to have in order to get the amount of emissions down to what is the reduced cap.

Now, there has already been a similar plan that has been tried, and that was way back almost two decades ago, the plan on reducing acid rain.

It was buying and selling these credits—in some cases auctioning them, under the new bill—and it worked. So we have to get something into law and get on with the process of saving our planet.

Earlier this year, I went with the chairman of the Environment Committee, Senator BOXER. She took Senators on the committee, she was kind enough to allow folks such as myself who were interested in this subject to go. We went to Greenland. Greenland is the place that has the biggest glacier. Why? It is an island that is 1,200 miles long from south to north, it is 500 miles wide. Hundreds of thousands of years ago it was a piece of rock. Then what would happen each year is the water in the Earth would evaporate, it would form clouds, the clouds would be cooled, the clouds would turn, instead of to rain, to snow; the snow would fall, and it would form a layer.

The next year the same thing would occur. When you do that over hundreds of thousands of years, the snow is packed each year, and that layer that is 2 miles thick now becomes a glacier.

What is happening, and what we saw with our own eyes, is that within a few

years, already 6 miles of the glacier at its edge is receding. How it recedes is, it breaks off, and in the particular fjord or river we went to, we could see these big chunks of ice falling off the glacier into the fjord, floating down the fjord, and out into the Atlantic Ocean.

When they get into the Atlantic Ocean, they are what you have always heard, an iceberg. What we saw as we went around these icebergs in a little boat, huge mounds of ice, but that is only 10 percent of it above the surface of the water. Ninety percent is underneath. Then they get on out into the Atlantic and they melt.

The long and short of it is, if that entire glacier on Greenland were to melt—this is going to surprise you—the seas of the entire planet would rise 21 feet.

Now, obviously that is going to take a long period of time. But you can imagine if we do not reverse what, in fact, is happening—and do not give me this stuff that one person says global warming is true and another person says it is not true and the press treats it as if one is balancing against the other.

No; 99.99 percent of the scientists say global warming is a fact. A de minimis amount say it is not. Let's recognize the science, and this is where you have seen that major committee in the United Nations receive one-half of the Nobel Prize, along with the former Vice President of the United States.

Global warming is a fact. You can imagine if seas start to rise. Suppose they rise, not 21 feet but 3 feet. Do you know what would happen to the coast of Florida? To the coast of Louisiana? To parts coming in around Hilton Head and Charleston and Houston and even all the way up the eastern seaboard?

The stakes are too high. That is why I am cosponsoring this bill. This bill made some progress last week when it was approved by a subcommittee on the Environment and Public Works Committee. The full committee should be taking it up soon. I hope we get action and we can get out on the floor of the Senate and debate it.

I hope to be able to bring to this debate the information of a bunch of us, led by Senator BOXER, who are going to go to Bali, Indonesia, for a global conference for world climate change to get the input of the other nations of the world that have shown they are a lot more concerned about this than the United States has been in the last few years.

I wish to thank our colleagues, all who have been involved. I wish to thank Senator BOXER for her leadership. I wish to thank Senator WARNER, who did not have to do this; he is retiring from the Senate, the senior Senator from Virginia. He is a conservative Republican, but he knows that planet Earth is in peril.

I wish to thank Senator LIEBERMAN, who has been at the forefront of these environmental issues for years. I am glad to add my voice to their clarion cry for immediate action before it is too late.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is now closed.

FARM, NUTRITION, AND BIOENERGY ACT OF 2007

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2419, which the clerk the report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2419) to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3500

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY, proposes an amendment numbered 3500.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, that was simply the House bill that came over and was at the desk. On behalf of Senator CHAMBLISS, myself, and others, I offer the substitute amendment as the Senate-passed bill. That is what is now pending at the desk.

Today begins the deliberation and amendments on the 2007 Food and Energy Security Act, otherwise known as the farm bill.

I intend to take some time to lay out basically the farm bill and the different titles, some of the things we did in committee, approaches that were done in the past, and what we are looking at in this farm bill. So I will take some time this afternoon to do that.

As I understand it, under the previous order, there will be no amendments in order today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. HARKIN. It will be opening statements on the bill itself, and we will proceed to amendments tomorrow at whatever time the Senate convenes.

Mr. President, on behalf of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, I am pleased to bring to the floor the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, which enjoys broad bipartisan support among all our committee members. In fact, we reported it out by voice vote without a negative vote among the Senators who were present. We had a quorum present.

I thank our ranking member, the senior Senator from Georgia, SAXBY CHAMBLISS, for his leadership and partnership in producing the bill, along with the chairman and ranking member of the Finance Committee, Senator BAUCUS and Senator GRASSLEY, as well as chairman of the Budget Committee, Senator CONRAD.

We generally refer to this legislation as the farm bill. But that title doesn't do justice to the range and scope of the bill. Yes, the bill helps farmers and ranchers who produce an abundance of food and fiber and are contributing ever more to our Nation's energy security. The bill also helps conserve and protect the environment on tens of millions of acres of farmland, ranchland, and wetlands. It is the most important legislation to allow millions of low-income American families put food on the table. It is the single most important legislation for boosting economic growth in jobs and improving the quality of life in rural communities across our Nation.

We have faced a huge challenge in writing this legislation this year. When we wrote the last farm bill in 2002, we had about $73 billion of new money over 10 years to invest. But for this bill, this year, we barely had any funding above baseline. Fortunately, we have had some help from the Finance Committee in obtaining additional funds. We have also reexamined all of the spending in our baseline to come up with budget offsets. We have combined these funds and produced what I believe is a forward-looking bill to make historic investments in energy, conservation, nutrition, rural development, and promoting better diets and health for all Americans. It also maintains a strong safety net for America's farm producers.

The bill looks to the future and creates new opportunities in agriculture and rural communities. Yet I emphasize that this bill complies with the strict pay-as-you-go budget rules we adopted earlier this year.

This legislation continues a strong system of farm income protection. It is a truism that we have heard many times but ''no farms, no food.'' Our Nation needs programs that will help farm and ranch families survive the inevitable downturns in markets, disasters, and crop failures. We need these programs so that the cycles of markets and weather do not force out of agriculture people who are so vital to grow food, fiber and, increasingly, energy for our Nation.

You will notice I referred to cycles in agriculture. That is why I have long been a strong supporter of what is commonly called countercyclical income protection programs for our farmers and ranchers. That is a type of program that pays adequately when farm income falls. Yet it is careful with taxpayers' dollars when farm income is good. Because a countercyclical program is good common sense, I have never been a fan of direct or, as they came to be known in the mid-1990s, freedom-to-farm payments that were enacted in the 1996 farm bill.

Since the freedom-to-farm payments or the direct payments are not countercyclical, what we have found is that they help too little when times are bad for farmers, but they are very hard to justify—direct payments to farmers—when we may be having record prices and high incomes. How can you justify giving sort of ''free money'' when times are good? So, in my view, a very positive feature of the bill is that we continue the countercyclical income protection system we reinstated in the 2002 bill. We allow farmers at their option to choose a new program, called ''average crop revenue,'' modeled after legislation introduced by Senators DURBIN and BROWN. This new choice for farmers will make farm income protection stronger and more flexible. It will allow farmers better to manage their farm's risk in today's uncertain and evolving farm economy.

Our legislation also includes other improvements in countercyclical income protection. It is reinstituting a higher payment rate in the Milk Income Loss Contract program, or the MILC program, and adjusting certain target prices and loans.

I will explain why I stress the countercyclical elements in this legislation. The farm programs are supposed to be about income protection, helping farm and ranch families survive cycles of hard times—the ravages of wind and weather, pestilence—and to stay in business.

The farm programs are not supposed to be just about USDA commodity program payments and trying to maximize those payments regardless of income. Now, it is true that for over 70 years Federal price and income supports have been the dominant feature of U.S. food and agriculture policy. Yet it is a mistake to suggest that farm program payments are somehow the most important contributor to the past success of American agriculture or to its success in the future. A lot of times, people say these farm programs in the past have been a great success. Look what they have done to help us become the leader in the world in terms of agricultural production. Well, they have been helpful but not the most important.

The most vital elements in the success of American agriculture has been the skill, the dedication, and the hard work of the men and women and families on farms and ranches across the Nation, and also all of the people who develop and supply technology and other production requirements, such as all the new hybrids that have come in in the last 30 to 40 years that increased production exponentially; and, of course, the highly productive land and climate with which our Nation has been so blessed. Thanks to those factors, agricultural productivity—get this—rose some 116 percent from 1960 to 2004, while in other U.S. industries it rose 13 percent. So there has been a 116-percent increase in productivity of agriculture and only 13 percent in the rest of the American economy.

So while this legislation we have today is vitally important, let us not forget the true sources of America's agricultural strength and abundance. For those reasons, I strongly believe that, in addition to a solid countercyclical farm income protection system, we must also make investments to help U.S. agriculture succeed in the future, as I will explain in a moment.

One area in the bill where we are reaching out to help agricultural producers is in initiatives for growers of what we call specialty crops—fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, other horticultural or floricultural crops. Past farm bills focused heavily on a few crops that have come to be known as storable commodities, most notably cotton, rice, corn, soybeans, and wheat, which are, of course, vitally important. However, according to USDA, specialty crops now account for roughly 50 percent of the total value of U.S. crop production.

In this bill before us, we include a dramatic increase in our assistance to specialty crop producers but not in the form of subsidies or payments. They have not asked for those. This legislation will help our Nation's specialty crop growers address the very diverse challenges they face in today's complex and global marketplace.

The programs within this bill will help America's specialty crop producers gain access to overseas markets where they can promote and sell their products. It will also strengthen our national prevention and surveillance system for invasive pests and diseases, which will help protect the stability and health of fruits and vegetables in this country. And, of course, we increase research on specialty crops to prevent the spread of plant-based viruses. For instance, the Clean Plant Network, for which we include $20 million over the life of the bill, will be a tremendous help to our orchard and nursery industries. The Clean Plant Network establishes a national system of diagnostic and research facilities to help ensure that our orchards and nurseries have the safest plant materials possible to grow the fruits and vegetables we need.

We also provide a significant amount of money in this bill to address the trade-related challenges of U.S. specialty crop producers. The current trade deficit for specialty crops in the United States is roughly $2.7 billion. In other words, we import $2.7 billion more in fruits and vegetables, horticulture, items such as that, than we export.

The Market Access Program at USDA provides funding to nonprofit agricultural trade associations and agriculture cooperatives to help promote U.S. agricultural products overseas—in other words, to try to get that balance of payments more in line. The bill invests an additional $94 million in the Market Access Program, which brings the program up to almost $240 million a year. Again, this program has been tremendously popular among specialty crop producers who receive nearly 50 percent of the MAP funding.

The bill also makes crucial investments in the prevention of invasive pests and diseases. A total of $200 million in new funding is provided for a pest and disease program at USDA to enter into cooperative agreements with State departments of agriculture that conduct early plant pest detection and surveillance activities.

To some, the farm bill may seem an abstraction, removed from the pulse of everyday life, but this is not the case. The farm bill touches the lives of millions of Americans every single day, and nowhere is this more evident than in the nutrition title of the farm bill.

In the nutrition sections of this bill, we strengthen America's commitment to fighting hunger and promoting sound health and nutrition. By strengthening food assistance to low-income Americans, the bill that is before us will help millions of Americans who currently live daily in the shadow of hunger. Because of the assistance this bill provides, millions of Americans will put food on their tables, will be better able to afford childcare so they can enter the workforce, will be able to save modest sums for retirement or for the education of their children, and because of this bill, millions of low-income children in schools throughout America will be introduced—some perhaps for the first time—to fresh fruits and vegetables that science tells us are critical to sound health and prevention of diet-related chronic diseases.

The current USDA nutrition assistance programs need to be modernized and strengthened. Nowhere is that more evident than in the persistence of the term ''Food Stamp Program.'' We have all heard of food stamps, even though food stamps, the paper coupons, have long since gone by the wayside. So we renamed it the ''Food and Nutrition Program.'' It is no longer the ''Food Stamp Program,'' it is the ''Food and Nutrition Program.'' We update it in a number of important ways.

We made some progress in the 2002 farm bill, but the economic challenges of low-income Americans, in many respects, multiplied in recent years.

Since 1999, the number of Americans experiencing food insecurity has increased from 31 million to 35 million. Similarly, between 2000 and 2006, median household income in the United

States, adjusted for inflation, actually decreased. Over the same period, the number and percentage of American children living in poverty increased. So USDA food assistance has not kept up with inflation or changes in the real world. For example, because of budget cuts enacted in the mid-1990s, the purchasing power of USDA food benefits has continued to erode with each passing year. Similarly, despite growing recognition that low-income Americans require the same incentives to save for their future as others, current rules all but force low-income Americans to spend down their meager savings to rock bottom before they are eligible to receive food assistance during times of insecurity.

These punitive rules on family assets have not been meaningfully addressed since the late 1970s. Let's take the case of a single mother who is working and has a couple of kids. She may be working at a low-income job, but she has put away a little bit of money for a rainy day. She loses her job. Something happens, and she is temporarily unemployed and needs to have food assistance for herself and her children. Right now, she has over $2,000 in savings. She is ineligible for any food assistance. That $2,000 was set in the 1970s and has barely been increased since. If it had kept up with inflation, that would be about $6,000 now. That is one of the items we address in this bill.

Finally, as more and more low-income women have entered the workforce in recent years, Congress has often spoken of the need to support families during this transition from welfare to work, but our actions have not suited and matched our rhetoric. For example, despite the fact that childcare is critical to successful participation of women in the workforce, when calculating income for a household to qualify for food assistance and to set benefit levels, no more than $175 per child per month can be counted as childcare costs despite the fact that the average monthly cost of childcare in 2006 was well over $600.

So I am proud to say this bill addresses all of these issues. It stops the erosion and even increases food assistance for most recipient families. It reforms the asset rules by increasing the asset limit modestly. I wish we could have done more. We just didn't have the money for it, but we did increase it. We also adjusted for inflation. We exempt tax-deferred retirement accounts and education savings accounts from the asset limit. We take that off the table.

It promotes work by allowing the full deduction of childcare costs. They get to deduct that cost. There is no more $175 limit. Whatever your childcare costs, you get to deduct it. I again thank the administration. In their farm bill they proposed earlier this year, this is also one of the key features of the administration's policy, to take away that limit on the childcare deduction.

Fighting hunger and food insecurity is the central mission of the farm bill's nutrition title, but it is not the only mission. In this title, we also seek to address poor health and nutrition among America's children. Much has been said and written about the sad state of nutrition among our kids, manifested in rising rates of type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and a national epidemic of childhood obesity.

In this bill, we act to improve child nutrition with a major expansion of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for schools. I was able to initiate this program in the 2002 farm bill.

I have always believed that one of the reasons kids don't eat fresh fruits and vegetables is because they simply don't have the opportunity to do so. I figured, let's give them an opportunity and see what happens. So we began by providing fresh fruits and vegetables—free, I might add—free fresh fruits and vegetables to 100 schools in four States and one Indian reservation. We wanted to test it: What would happen if we gave free fresh fruits and vegetables to kids at school—not in the lunchroom, but when they get the growlies at 9 o'clock in the morning or in the afternoon when they get a little tired or antsy, kids need something to eat. What if they had fresh fruits and vegetables available at those times? What happened is the kids, the teachers, the principals, the parents all loved this program. Not one of the schools that has participated in this program—and it is all voluntary, no one is forced into it—not one school that has participated in this program has asked to drop out. In fact, every school that has participated has begged to stay in it.

By 2005, because other States were clamoring to get into the program, and other schools, we expanded to 10 States and two more Indian reservations. That is how successful it has been. In those States in which we do have the program, the schools that are not getting the free fresh fruits and vegetables are lining up saying: We want it also.

We have seen the positive effects it has had. Kids no longer are eating junk food. Kids are no longer sneaking candy and cookies. They are no longer going to vending machines to get some sugary snack. They are eating fresh fruits and vegetables.

In this bill, we make a quantum leap forward for this program. The bill provides $1 billion—that is right, $1 billion—over 5 years to expand the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program to reach nearly 4.5 million children nationwide, with a special focus on high-poverty school districts.

I wish to emphasize that point. I have been to some of these schools where they have the free fresh fruit and vegetables program. I can remember being in one school where some of the fourth-grade kids had never had a fresh apple in their entire lifetime—fourth grade; fresh bananas, they never had such a thing. I remember I was at a class one time, and they had fresh pears. The kids didn't even know what they were—kiwi fruit, strawberries. I remember I went to a school in Iowa once—and our schools let out in the summer after the first crop of strawberries is harvested. The principal told me that by 10 a.m. in the morning, there wasn't a strawberry left in school. Kids eat these fresh fruits. I have actually seen with my own eyes kids eat fresh broccoli. That may come as a surprise to some people, a shock, that kids actually eat fresh broccoli. I have actually seen kids eat fresh spinach.

Because of the popularity of the program, because it has grown, some of the marketers are now packaging fruits and vegetables just for this program, so the kids get a little plastic package, they rip it open, and they have enough in there for a little snack. As I said, it has taken off. It is providing better health, better nutrition for kids. They study better. They behave better.

There was some reticence when we started this program. Teachers said: Oh my gosh, kids will be throwing peels on the floor, apple cores at each other, making a mess of everything. This has not happened. In fact, teachers are now some of the strongest supporters of this program.

So when you go into these schools, you can see these kids eating these foods, ripping open a package and getting little baby spinach leaves, and they have a little tin of ranch dip, they dip it and eat it. I always said I didn't like broccoli until I had fresh broccoli. Who likes cooked broccoli and cooked spinach? It is not good for you. It may be good for you, but fresh is very good.

I emphasize this point because we are expanding this program. I have a goal I have stated, and as long as I am here, I am going to keep fighting for that goal; that is, to make sure this program is available to every elementary school in America within 10 years. I think it will do more to prevent childhood obesity, provide better health, plus when kids start eating these fruits and vegetables—and we have some anecdotal evidence of kids who are eating fresh fruits and vegetables, and they go home and ask their parents: Can we have some of this at home or they go to the store with their parents, when they go shopping, and say: I had this in school, I really liked this fruit or I like these vegetables, can we have this at home? It is going to do a lot for helping get at this problem of childhood obesity and some of the chronic diseases, such as diabetes, among younger kids.

Now, I wish to talk a little bit about the energy title, another very important and kind of a new area for agriculture. The energy title will help farmers in rural communities across the country join in a major transition in which our agricultural sector supplies clean biofuels and renewable energy for all of America. It gives farmers a chance to add biomass crops to their farming operations, with Federal

support to protect against the financial risks associated with the transition. It supports rural communities with the development of biorefineries for the production of biofuels and bioproducts. It helps farmers and ranchers and rural small businesses that want to improve their own energy systems through grants and loan guarantees for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems. It emphasizes a particular opportunity—help for farmers and communities to install livestock manure to energy facilities that address environmental and odor problems, while utilizing a valuable energy resource. It will make investments in research that will complement and enhance rural energy production opportunities. Members of the Senate are well aware of the disastrous consequences of America's dependence on foreign oil. No less an authority than Alan Greenspan has said the war in Iraq is about oil. At the same time, with oil prices relentlessly approaching $100 a barrel, our dependence on foreign oil is a threat to both our national security and the health of our economy.

The bigger picture is that new oil discoveries around the world are steadily declining at the same time that global oil consumption is rising. I have a chart to indicate that. These are the billion barrels of oil per year in discoveries, and we can see in the 1930s, the 1950s, a huge increase, the 1960s, the 1970s a little bump up there with Alaska, and then we keep coming down. We can see that global oil discoveries are rapidly, rapidly, rapidly declining. At the same time, we superimposed on that this red line showing consumption. So as the oil discoveries are going down, look at our consumption. It keeps going up and up and up.

Well, the Petroleum Council's report delivered to the Department of Energy this past summer states that:

> It is a hard truth that the global supply of oil and natural gas from the conventional sources relied upon historically is unlikely to meet the projected 50- to 60-percent growth in demand over the next 25 years.

Well, our country needs energy. We need energy to grow and to produce. We need energy for the new kinds of manufacturing we are going to have in this country, for transportation. It is an urgent national priority to accelerate our transition from oil to homegrown, farm-based renewable sources of fuel and electrical power. If we reach our full potential in producing renewable biofuels using feedstocks from our farms and forests, we can replace as much as 30 percent of our transportation fuels by 2030—by 2030.

Right now, current ethanol production is about 7 billion gallons annually. I believe we are headed toward a production of 60 billion gallons of biofuels, requiring 50 to 100 million acres of crop lands dedicated to biomass crops by the year 2030. These charts show the sharp upward trajectory of biofuels over the past 5 years and with the contributions we are making in this bill.

So here is what we have done in biofuels. It doesn't go back very far. If you go back to about the late 1980s, early 1990s—millions of gallons. Not very much. But look at the sharp curve up as we came up in the late 1990s into 2000 and 2005. Then let us look at the projections. Here we are at 2005, and here is 2030 at 60 billion gallons per year. So that is the trajectory. That is the trajectory we are basically on and a lot of us are committed to. Senator LUGAR and I have a bill in that basically—and others have cosponsored it—to mandate we reach that level by 2030.

Well, the energy title in this bill allocates $1.1 billion over 5 years for new investments in farm-based energy. It is imperative we accelerate the transition of biofuels produced from cellulosic feedstocks, in addition to grains and oilseeds, if we want to get to that 60 billion gallons per year. And here, in addition to speeding up the development and evaluation of conversion technologies, we also confront a classic chicken-and-egg dilemma. Entrepreneurs would not build cellulosic biorefineries in the absence of reliable feedstock. Producers would not grow the cellulosic feedstocks unless and until there are biorefineries to produce them. Well, in this bill we address this dilemma very aggressively.

On the supply side, we allocate $130 million over 5 years to the biomass crop transition program. We know it takes a few years to get crops, such as switchgrass or miscanthus or soft pine or fast-growing poplars or whatever it might be, to get them started and established, so farmers are going to need financial assistance during the transition. That is what we provide in the Senate bill.

On the other side, on the demand side, we allocate $300 million to support grants and loans for biorefinery pilot plants, loan guarantees for commercial biorefineries, and support for repowering existing corn ethanol plants and other facilities so they can process cellulosic ethanol.

In addition, we continue the CCC Bioenergy Program with $245 million to support feedstock purchases for advanced biofuels production. We continue the section 9006 program of grants and loan guarantees that we put in the 2002 farm bill. This is for farmers and ranchers to purchase renewable energy systems or energy efficiency systems for their own farm or ranch. The budget for this is $230 million, double what we put in the farm bill in 2002. We are including about $140 million for biomass research, including biomass crop experiments.

A large part of the future of biofuels lies in the use of cellulosic feedstocks. Cellulosic fuels, biofuels, can be produced just about everywhere in the United States. This will expand biofuels production beyond our major corn-producing regions and to places closer to where the fuels are blended and consumed.

I will make this prediction. If we can preserve the Senate energy provisions in conference—maybe get some additional funding for them, which we will try to do—I predict that within 5 years, by the end of the life of this farm bill, we are going to see cellulosic biofuel refineries sprouting up akin to mushrooms all over this country. That will help restore our energy security and our national security. It is good for the environment and good for farmers and the rural economy.

Now, let me talk a little bit about another important part of this farm bill, and that is the conservation title. Agriculture and forest lands account for 69 percent of all the land in the United States. That means farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners are the first line of defense for our environment. They are America's first conservationists. The conservation title of this bill gives them the tools they need for voluntary efforts to conserve oil, to protect water and air quality, to increase wildlife habitat on their land, and maintain and improve our Nation's natural resources for future generations.

The conservation programs are similar to a toolkit to address conservation needs, from the basic function of providing technical assistance on how best to, for instance, protect the waterway from erosion and runoff, to paying for easements, to protect wetlands and grasslands or working farmland that is under the threat of development, to cost-share incentive payments and enhancement payments to help farmers build and adopt new conservation practices.

This bill looks to the future in preserving our natural resources by allocating $4 billion in new budget authority for the conservation title. This is extraordinarily important to the future of farming in the United States. I am pleased we were able to accomplish so much with relatively limited funding. For example, the Wetlands Reserve Program had no baseline to continue to enroll wetlands after this year, so we had to put in new money for that. The Grassland Reserve Program was also out of funds to enroll new land. We had to put new money in for that. The Conservation Security Program's funding had been cut by billions, almost $4 billion over the last 5 years, to pay for agricultural disasters and budget reconciliation. We needed to restore sufficient funding to allow the program to enroll more acres nationwide, and I am pleased to say we have successfully resolved all of these funding challenges.

In addition to maintaining or expanding existing programs, we addressed some new needs in this bill. For example, here in the mid-Atlantic area, where Washington, DC, is located, we devote $165 million to improving conservation to help clean up the Chesapeake Bay. This is money that will be used for upland treatment so all that runoff would not be going into the Chesapeake Bay.

In the Southeast, in order to provide better wildlife habitat, we provide

funding to improve the management of trees planted on Conservation Reserve Program acres. I am pleased to join with the committee's ranking member, Senator CHAMBLISS, who was the basic mover behind this.

The conservation title also establishes new incentives for producers to allow voluntary public access to their land for hunting, fishing, and other wildlife-related activities. Senator CONRAD has been a leader on this issue. I am pleased to have cosponsored his legislation, and we have included it in this bill.

The conservation title also makes important policy changes. We have worked to streamline the process to acquire conservation easements in the Wetland Reserve Program, the Farmland Protection Program, and the Grassland Reserve Program. That process has been paper heavy since the beginning. In this bill, we have addressed that to cut down on the paperwork.

In this bill, we make significant improvements in the Conservation Security Program, which was created in the 2002 farm bill to reward farmers and ranchers for good conservation practices on working lands. Now, this was new in the 2002 farm bill. In the past, most conservation programs were lands that were taken out of production, in one way or the other—wetlands, grasslands, the CRP and others. But as we saw more and more land coming into production, a lot of it for ethanol production, more and more marginal lands started coming in and we had to do something about that. In this bill, the program was renamed the Conservation Stewardship Program to reflect the goal of the program to promote the long-term benefits to our Nation by adopting and maintaining good conservation practices.

We have yet to realize the full potential of the Conservation Stewardship Program because of tight restrictions on funding that excluded many producers. Regulations only allowed certain farms and acres to be enrolled in certain designated watersheds every year. In addition, the process resulted in some kinds of crops and production techniques being largely excluded from the program, such as organics, for example. Well, the new Conservation Stewardship Program will eliminate these shortcomings. It will grow rapidly, at a pace of more than 13 million acres a year, which, with the 15 million already enrolled, will total 80 million acres in 5 years.

Acres will be allocated to States based not on watersheds but simply on each State's share of the national eligible acres. Within each State, enrollment will be accomplished through a ranking process that will prioritize producers who are already doing good conservation and who are willing to do even more.

Again, I emphasize that this program we started in 2002 is going to grow rapidly, as I said 80 million acres, and the idea behind it basically is to reward farmers for being good conservationists—those farmers who practice good tillage methods, conservation tillage, who put buffer strips along rivers and streams; those who apply the right amount of fertilizer, not excessive amounts of fertilizer that can run off into our rivers and streams, polluting the Chesapeake Bay and other places.

So again, the idea is to reward good stewardship of our land, and I think it is a good investment. I think it is one that will be broadly supported by the American people. As I said, these kinds of conservation programs are more important than ever. The rising demand for commodities is bringing millions of acres into production. A lot of land that was in the Conservation Reserve Program is now coming out.

We can't force people into the Conservation Reserve Program, and we don't have enough money to bid everything back into it. So if that land is going to be planted for some kind of crop production, then we better help ensure it is done in a conserving manner. So we provide the incentives in the Conservation Stewardship Program to make sure they get the technical assistance, the cost-share, and the payments to prevent erosion and runoff.

As we look to the future, we have to look at these conservation programs not only as a boost to the environment and cleaning up our environment but as a WTO, a World Trade Organization-compliant, non-trade distorting way of assisting farmers and ranchers.

I got the idea for this Conservation Security Program—now renamed Conservation Stewardship Program—traveling through Europe in the late 1990s and looking at their farms and being amazed at the countryside. Then I looked at how much money European countries were giving to help their farmers—a lot more than we were—for conservation. I had to figure this out. How were they providing so much money to farmers—more than we were—but they didn't violate trade rules? Yet the money we were giving to farmers violated trade rules.

It was simply they were making ''green payments'' to farmers—payments to their farmers for conservation—cleaning up rivers and streams. Green payments. Green payments are under the ''green box'' of WTO, and it is WTO compliant. So we do not violate any of our agreements under WTO by providing farmers incentives for good conservation.

Now, I mentioned earlier that one element has been overlooked seriously in our farm bills in the past. We put a little bit in the 2002 farm bill dealing with organics, and that was a cost-share for the organic certification. But the fact is, organics is the fastest growing sector in U.S. agriculture. The demand for organic products is so great that it far outpaces our domestic supply. Much of that $2.7 billion of products, all agricultural products coming into this country over what we send out, is organics. I have had people in the organics food business, who sell organic foods, say they can't get it locally; they cannot get it in this country, so they have to import it. Well, we don't have enough farmers getting into organic production, so imports pick up the slack. In this bill, we make it a priority to help farmers who are serious about getting into organic food production, and we help them overcome the challenges of transitioning into this industry.

We include $80 million over 5 years for research into organic production and marketing. We include $5 million for price yields and overall data collection, which we don't even know about. We remove the 5-percent surcharge arbitrarily charged to organic producers who want to reduce their risk by buying crop insurance. Crop insurance had a 5-percent surcharge on it. We removed that. We make EQIP more universally available for farmers to transition into organic agriculture.

Now, one of the problems in organics that we have had is for a farmer to get certified to be organic, you have to have at least 3 years of not using pesticides, that type of thing.

During that 3-year period the farmer cannot sell into the organic market, and receive higher prices, yet still is bearing the costs of making the transition to organic production.

So we have provided some cost-share assistance to help farmers adopt sound conservation practices that are part of the transition to organic production. If they are serious about becoming organic producers, we will provide help in pursuing that opportunity.

Let's also talk about the assistance in this bill addressing global hunger and malnutrition through our food aid and development assistance programs, another part of our bill. We are very proud that over the last half century the United States has been the world's leading donor of food to hungry people. That is a source of great pride to us. U.S. programs are estimated to have helped more than 3.5 billion people over that period. I firmly believe our humanitarian activities throughout the developing world continue to be an essential component of our long-term effort to combat poverty and to build bridges of goodwill to foreign countries. It is a shocking fact that in the 21st century there is an estimated 800 million hungry people in the world, nearly half of them children.

In April, the Government Accountability Office released a study on how to improve the targeting and efficiency of U.S. international food aid programs, a study that Senator CHAMBLISS and I requested last year. I am pleased to report that the agencies involved in the delivery of U.S. food aid are on a path to adopt most of the recommendations made by the GAO. Some of the other recommendations, those that require statutory changes, are addressed in this bill.

We set aside a specific amount of funding under title II food aid for non-emergency development assistance

projects. The creation of this ''safe box,'' as it is called, is intended to send a strong message that it is not acceptable for USAID to use nonemergency program funding as the piggy bank to raid if regular appropriations for title II emergency programs are inadequate. It is shortsighted to withdraw assistance from hungry people struggling to break the vicious circle of poverty in order to provide food to even hungrier or more desperate people. To me, this approach is like using one family's seed corn to feed another family. In the end, both families are left hungry, and the first family's efforts to lift themselves out of poverty are hindered. So we address that in this bill.

The trade title also gives USAID authority for a pilot program to conduct local or regional cash purchases of food. For the last few years, the President has requested authority to use up to 25 percent of title II funds for local or regional cash purchases, but this concept needs careful testing before we consider adopting it on a larger scale. I also want to make clear that I see local cash purchases as a complement to donation of U.S. commodities, not as a substitute.

As I have already noted, the funding for this new farm bill is extremely tight, so we were limited in what we could do to increase resources for international food aid. However, the title containing food aid provides an increase for the amount that can be spent in transporting U.S. food commodities under the Food for Progress Program from the current $40 million annually to $48 million.

The Food for Progress Program is aimed at improving economies and helping to build democratic institutions in developing countries and in Eastern European countries transitioning to democracy. Obviously, we would have liked to do more to increase funding for the Food for Progress Program.

I also would have liked to have provided mandatory funds for the excellent McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, which I helped to establish in law in the 2002 farm bill. The McGovern-Dole program is designed to encourage children in developing countries to go to school and stay in school by providing them free or subsidized food. It has a lot of similarities to the School Lunch Program in this country. In its brief lifetime, the program has helped 19 million kids attend and stay in school in developing countries.

Think about it this way. In the United States, we provide free and reduced-price school lunches all over America and they help families a great deal. We may not think so much about the impact of that because in the overall economy of our nation food costs only about 10 percent of our disposable income on food. In some of the poorest countries, where food may consume perhaps 60 percent or more of disposable income, providing free food to children who attend school is a very big benefit to that family. That food can be the magnet that gets children out of an abusive child labor situation and into school. So it is a great program.

I remember when both Senator Dole and Senator McGovern came to see me about it in the late 1990s, trying to get it into the next farm bill, which we did, and their hopes and dreams for it. I still think if we can put the money into this program and grow it, it could be one of the best things we could do to fight hunger and poverty, to end child labor and to root out some of the harsh economic conditions, anger and frustration that may even lead some to turn to terrorism.

Despite limited new funding, I am proud of the work we have done on food aid and other trade issues in this bill.

We also in this bill help promote farmers markets, which are expanding all over the country. I can remember barely 10 years ago in my State of Iowa you could probably count the number of farmers markets on both hands. Now they are all over. In the Washington, DC, area, and other metropolitan areas, in the last several years we have seen farmers markets springing up all over the place. People want to purchase fresh, locally grown food. However, these are very challenging enterprises. They require grassroots organizing, planning and advertising; farmers have to be recruited; there are regulatory and logistical challenges.

In both the 2002 farm bill and this new farm bill, I have worked to help people overcome some of these barriers to establishing successful farmers markets. In the 2002 farm bill we added a program called the Farmers Market Promotion Program to help people develop and organize farmers markets and to enable direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities. In the legislation before us, we include $30 million for the life of the bill for these types of activities.

Too often farmers can and want to expand production of foods to be sold locally, but they face difficulties finding markets. Larger retail outlets want consistent supplies and abundant quantity, which is something a small farmer just can't provide. This bill seeks to solve this problem by fostering new opportunities for farmers to band together, providing funding through the value-added product market development grant program, as well as loans through the Business and Industry Loan Program. The idea is to promote what we call aggregators, where farmers who grow produce—vegetables or fruits or whatever it might be, or maybe they want to do some free-range chickens or organic meat or something like that—can join together to tap into bigger markets. What we need are aggregators who can go out to this farmer and that farmer and that farmer and say: OK, you bring your beets here and you bring your beets and you bring your beets or you bring your carrots or you bring your eggs or whatever it is. We put them together, and then we can sell them to larger buyers.

That is what we have done in this bill to promote and make it easier for farmers to get their produce to farmers markets.

For rural communities, as we seek to promote new opportunities in production agriculture, we have to realize the success of our farm households is tied not only to what is produced on the farm but the strength of the surrounding economy—rural economic development. Currently, more than 80 percent of total farm household income comes from sources off the farm.

I have a chart that shows that. It is amazing when you look at it. The percent of farm household income from off-farm sources 2 years ago: in the Northern Great Plains, 69.3 percent; in the Heartland, where I am from, Iowa, 66.7 percent; Mississippi Portland, 90.1 percent; Southern Seaboard, 94.9 percent; Northern Crescent, 85.2 percent. I guess we would probably be the least, in the Heartland, 66.7 percent. So even in our area, two-thirds of farming comes from off-farm income sources.

Again, 9 out of 10 people who live in rural America are not farmers. So our committee has a responsibility for crafting public policies that support not only farmers but all of our citizens who live in small towns and rural communities.

Rural America confronts unique challenges because of its low population density, the limited capacity of local governments and other special circumstances. In recent years we have come to appreciate that agriculture and rural development are closely intertwined. They have a common fate. We need to go forward with a policy framework that supports both our farms and our rural economy.

For years many economic development leaders have been frustrated that we have failed to create a more comprehensive approach to rural economic development. That is why I am excited about the Rural Collaborative Investment Program in this bill, which received $135 million in funding over 5 years. This new program provides Federal support for regional collaboration. It is becoming clearer to us that no one rural town or county can go it alone. Rural areas must work together regionally to scale up investments, build competitive economic clusters, and overcome geographic disadvantages.

The Rural Collaborative Investment Program awards innovation grants on a competitive basis to regions that creatively leverage these funds with other Federal, State, private, and philanthropic resources.

It provides incentives for elected officials, leaders of the business community, and nonprofit organizations to come together, to jointly develop plans that work best to improve the economy in their particular area.

Those who develop the best plans will receive significant resources from

USDA to help implement their plans. Because of limited Federal funding, many who compete for innovation grants will not get one, but they will still come out winners because they will have gained valuable experience in collaborating across county and town boundaries, and they will have completed a plan of action tailored to their specific area.

Again, this is so essential. If we look at the fact that the majority of farm household income is coming from nonfarm income, what good does it do to help our farm families if all of the small towns dry up and blow away? Already in my own State of Iowa, kids who live on farms and in small towns are riding school buses longer and longer distances as schools consolidate.

Farm families cannot even buy the essentials for their families without driving long distances, because there is not enough business to support local stores. We have small towns in Iowa where churches no longer exist. We have to do something to start enhancing the economic viability of our small towns and communities. That is what we do with the Rural Collaborative Investment Program.

One other key element I want to point out is the promotion of community foundations. You know, rural Americans possess hundreds of billions of dollars in assets. Much of it is in land. Good valuable land. And, quite frankly, a large share of this, I know in my area, and in the upper Midwest—I do not know so much about some other parts of the country, but I bet it holds true almost all over—a large share of the asset value is held by people who are 65 years of age and older.

Well, these farmers, ranchers, businesspeople and others care deeply about their communities. They care deeply about their rural way of life. They care about the institution of the family farm. Many would be more than happy to give a generous share of their wealth back to their communities if they had a credible agency to make good use of the gift.

That is exactly the role that community foundations play. They are the perfect vehicle for bringing together local financing, local brain power, local leadership, to focus on solutions tailored to a given community or group of communities.

The rural development title of this bill also provides $40 million for a new microloan program championed by the Senator from Nebraska, Mr. NELSON. This initiative provides support for organizations that help people of modest means acquire the expertise to start their own businesses. It provides small loans to these new entrepreneurs.

We provide $50 million in new funding for rural hospitals. Each dollar supports about $18 in direct loans, and generates even more dollars in the form of loan guarantees. This funding will help rural hospitals acquire the equipment they need to improve patient care and to computerize their records, for example. In talking about all of the needs in rural America, one of the big needs is health care, and in making sure we have rural hospitals there with primary and emergency care.

We also provide $40 million for the construction of daycare centers. Again, demographics show many young families are leaving rural America. Poll after poll shows they want to stay there. But they need an off-farm job, and to get that off-farm job, they need daycare, and there simply is not much daycare to be had. Access to quality, affordable daycare is a big part of the solution. It is urgently needed.

Another one of the big problems in rural America is the backlog of requests for money for good drinking water and for wastewater systems. This bill provides $135 million to reduce the backlog of these applications.

One other thing that is going to help a lot with rural jobs is the introduction of broadband services to our small towns and communities; and not only to small towns and communities but to the farms themselves. I like to think the extension of broadband to our farms and rural areas is every bit as essential today as the extension of electric lines was to our farms and rural areas back in the rural electrification days of the 1920s and 1930s.

The bill does that. We provide financial resources, we cut down on paperwork. We also cut down—basically we shift from financial assistance going to areas that already have broadband service. We do not need that. We need to get it into areas that do not have it. Broadband is a basic utility, both for the kids who need it for their schoolwork, and for farmers and rural business people in order to do business. I know of instances where in small communities, a small business person was growing his insurance business, but he needed access to broadband. There were, I forget exactly how many, less than 10 people who worked there. But he was going to grow his business. He knew he could, but he knew he needed broadband access. If he had broadband access, he could have stayed in that small town, maybe employed 15 to 20 people. Since he could not do it, he moved to a larger city, Des Moines, our capital. At least he stayed in Iowa, but I would have much preferred if he could have stayed in that small town and community and had broadband service. We need to extend broadband as rapidly as possible.

Let me talk briefly about agricultural research, which has been so important for that 116 percent increase I talked about in agriculture productivity since 1960.

The research title will increase competitive grant opportunities for basic and applied agricultural research; it will strengthen the research, extension, and education programs administered by USDA through our land grant institutions. It will achieve these objectives by restructuring the grant administering agency at USDA and transforming it into a national institute of food and agriculture. This will improve, integrate, and streamline the management of competitive and infrastructure programs, and will require a roadmap to be led by the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics, to refocus the research mission at USDA.

As I have said, agricultural research has historically produced enormous benefits from relatively modest funding. In my experience, few people appreciate the transformational impact of breakthroughs in agricultural research. To give one example, consider the work of an Iowan, Dr. Norman Borlaug, beginning in the 1950s. His methods of high-volume crossbreeding and shuttle breeding in order to develop disease-resistant wheat varieties were soon applied to other crops around the world, fostering what was known as the ''green revolution'' which has saved upwards of a billion lives.

Dr. Borlaug won the Nobel Peace Prize and recently won the Congressional Gold Medal in a very nice ceremony here in the Capitol. But many people still do not realize how his successes in agricultural research have changed the world.

We are continuing to achieve great agronomic breakthroughs in agricultural research, but agricultural research is rapidly changing, and so we need to change the methodologies by which we fund and promote this research. That is what we do in this bill.

With the changes included in this bill, we will elevate the visibility of competitive research programs while strengthening our infrastructure programs—such as the research, extension and education programs—in place at our land grant universities. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture will lay the groundwork for a more robust agricultural research system, which we hope will lead to increased funding in the future, funding, I might add, that has remained flat in the past 20 years in inflation-adjusted dollars. I would also highlight that in the research title we provide $80 million for specialty crops research, such as to advance breeding and mechanization, and to improve the safety—I emphasize the safety—of fruits and vegetables. We also provide $80 million for research in organic agriculture, which as I said earlier is one of the fastest growing parts of our agricultural economy.

The largest obstacle to farm entry for beginning farmers and ranchers is access to two things, credit and land. Since 1990, a portion of the funding in the Farm Service Agency loan programs has been reserved for beginning farmers and ranchers. This bill expands the credit opportunities for beginning farmers by increasing the funding set-aside, and increasing the direct farm ownership and operating loan limit for the first time in over 20 years. Socially disadvantaged farmers face many of

the same challenges as beginning farmers do, and so we increase opportunities for them by authorizing wider participation in Farm Service Agency loan programs.

I am also proud of the fact that this is the first farm bill ever to include a livestock title dedicated to the needs of our livestock, poultry, and egg producers, and aimed at promoting animal health and expanding market opportunities.

Consolidation and vertical integration of the livestock and poultry industry has dramatically reduced the number of buyers, and in some regions there are only a few left. This lack of buyers has created an acute need for market reforms and more rigorous USDA enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act and the Agricultural Fair Practices Act.

To that end, this bill eliminates two layers of bureaucracy at USDA. It designates a special counsel, so at long last we will have a high-level official at USDA dedicated to overseeing, managing, and enforcing these two acts.

The bill would limit packer ownership of livestock in order to provide stability to the marketplace for independent producers. It provides basic fairness for producers using contracts, so that companies cannot force producers to travel great distances to settle disputes; in other words, to travel clear across the country to where a packer's headquarters might be located.

In addition, this bill makes arbitration voluntary, so producers are not forced into unfriendly terms, requiring mandatory arbitration, in take-it-or-leave-it contracts.

Let me also mention that at the urging of Senator DURBIN and others, the bill requires the creation of a Congressional Bipartisan Food Safety Commission. This commission would be responsible for reviewing the Nation's food safety system, and making recommendations on how best to modernize the current structure.

Over the last year we have had outbreaks of E. coli contamination in bagged spinach, lettuce, and numerous recalls of very large quantities of meat and meat products. Over the weekend and in today's paper I read there are a million pounds of ground beef being recalled from stores in this area, and I do not know what other areas of the country. We have had repeated cases of contaminated food, everything from peanut butter to seafood to hamburger. So the work of this new Congressional Bipartisan Food Safety Commission will both be timely and urgent. Our consumers are basically demanding that.

In sum, I have sought to lay out the comprehensiveness of this bill. A lot of people are focused on payments to farmers. They think that is the farm bill. That is a small part of the farm bill. It is comprehensive. It addresses food safety, as I just mentioned. Food assistance to hungry people abroad, food assistance to hungry people in this country, energy, rural economic development, conservation of our nation's resources.

In energy, the bill opens up new vistas for energy production in this country, biofuels, cellulosic biomass materials; all of this is covered in this bill. So this bill is a strong forward-looking bill. It will be good for farmers, good for rural communities, good for our environment and good for our nation. It will promote our citizen's health, improve our energy security, and it is fiscally responsible. The bill won strong bipartisan support in the committee, and it deserves the same bipartisan support of Senators here on the floor.

As we look ahead to consideration of the bill this week, I hopefully can use the Senate's time productively. Obviously, this is the farm bill. We want to be productive. I encourage Senators, if they have amendments—and I am not encouraging a lot of amendments—to bring their amendments to the floor in a timely fashion. Hopefully, we can complete our work this week and go to conference as soon as possible.

I assume the chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. BAUCUS, in his opening remarks, will dwell more on the part of the substitute amendment at the desk that includes provisions of the Finance Committee package. It includes a permanent disaster assistance program, tax credits that help offset the cost of conservation programs in the bill, and other tax provisions related to agriculture and energy. I expect Senators Baucus and Grassley will discuss these provisions at greater length. However, I thank them both and the members of the Finance Committee, including the occupant of the chair, for all of their support in helping the Agriculture Committee meet its goals and at the same time stay within our budget guidelines.

I know I have taken a lot of time, but for those who may be watching on monitors, people around the country watching on C–SPAN, and others who think a farm bill is only about payments to farmers, I wanted to show the comprehensiveness of this bill. It touches our lives every day in many ways, from the abundant food and fiber we enjoy to the safety of our food, to fruits and vegetables in schools, to the assistance to a family down on their luck who need some food assistance to feed their children during a time where they may be out of work for a period. It provides funding to help us meet our energy needs, to get us off of the oil pipeline to foreign countries. It saves our soil, provides for clean water and increased wildlife habitat for hunters and fishermen and everyone who enjoys the outdoors. It provides more research into improved agricultural technology and practices—how to do things better, how to be more productive, more safe. We have growing demands on the land. Yet we have to make sure our productivity keeps going up. We have seen tremendous strides in the past because of agricultural research and what we have accomplished there.

I want people to know, this legislation is not only a farm bill. This is a food and energy security bill covering everything—all the food we eat and consume, all the food we produce, all the food we have in our food assistance programs, and, yes, our energy needs as well. That is what this bill is. It is comprehensive. It is a good bill. I encourage the support of all Senators for this legislation.

I thank my ranking member and good friend, Senator CHAMBLISS, first for his stewardship of this committee when he was chairman and for all of the hearings Senator CHAMBLISS had last year all around the country. He came to my State of Iowa. We had a great hearing in Iowa. He laid the groundwork for this bill. It was a smooth transition this year, when our party took over the Senate through the election of last year. We continued that groundwork Senator CHAMBLISS laid for this bill.

People wonder why we took so long. Two reasons: One, the farm bill bills usually take a long time. I have often said this is my seventh farm bill since the time I first entered the House back in 1975. It is a very challenging bill to put all together, especially when one has the budget constraints we had.

In 2002, that sailed through easily. We had $73 billion over baseline. Under the leadership of Senator CONRAD and the Budget Committee, we decided this year we will not resort to deficit spending anymore. We will get out of the hole we are in. We are going to get out of the budget deficits we have had in the past. So we have a pay-go budget, and we met our obligations with this bill in that regard. It took some time to work it out. We also received help from the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee, for many reasons, had a lot of things on their plate, too, but once the Finance Committee acted, we had our funding through that action, we moved ahead aggressively to finalize the legislation and put the bill together. We had tough negotiations, but farm bills have always been tough negotiations. They have also been good negotiations. They have been done in a spirit of making sure all the pieces fit together.

That is what this farm bill does—it makes many pieces of the jigsaw puzzle fit together. It may not be everything I wanted in the beginning or everything Senator CHAMBLISS wanted in the beginning or anybody else, but that is what this is. It is kind of a grand compromise, if I may say, to put all these things together and to fit them together so the entire country benefits. I say that in the way of thanking Senator CHAMBLISS.

I see Senator CONRAD in the Chamber. I thank him both in his capacity as chairman of the Budget Committee and as a senior member of the Agriculture Committee. He helped us put all these numbers together so they work.

Again, I close my remarks by thanking Senator CHAMBLISS for his stewardship when he was chairman but also for being my partner in putting this legislation together as ranking member. It would be fine with me if we could quickly vote and move this bill to conference. I think Senator CHAMBLISS might agree with me on that. But we will have some amendments this week. I hope we can complete them in a timely fashion.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter dated November 5, 2007.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY,
Washington, DC, November 5, 2007.

I certify that the information required by Senate Rule XLIV, related to congressionally directed spending in S. 2302 has been available on a publicly accessible website in a searchable format for at least 48 hours before a vote on the pending bill.

TOM HARKIN,
Chairman.

Mr. HARKIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SALAZAR). The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I begin by letting everybody know this is a mutual admiration society. Senator HARKIN has been a great chairman of the Agriculture Committee. In previous years, back in 2002, when we had this farm bill up for debate, he was chairman then and did a great job of leading us. I think a great product was produced. I was in the House then and had the privilege of working with him as well as other members of this committee, including my good friend, Senator CONRAD, about whom I will have more to say about in a minute. It was a good product we produced back then. As chairman for the last 2 years, I had the pleasure of going around the country and holding eight farm bill field hearings as well as a couple of other informal hearings. We tried to extend every courtesy to Senator HARKIN. He had staff at each one of those. We had a good working relationship for those 2 years.

During this year, when the seat change took place and Senator HARKIN reassumed chairmanship, he extended every single courtesy to me he possibly could. It truly has been a good working relationship, not just on production of this bill but on every other issue we had all year long. Senator HARKIN has been a great partner and a great friend for agriculture. That is what this is all about at the end of the day. It is not about the individual but about those farmers we represent and who live and work all across this great country of ours.

I thank Senator HARKIN for the courtesies he has extended to me. I thank him for the dialog we have had. Where we have had differences, he is exactly right: We have been able to talk through them and work them out. We have come up with a good product. I do concur with him that if we could have a vote tonight, I would certainly be glad to see this behind us to move to conference and begin the delicate and difficult challenge ahead of conferencing this bill with the House. At the end of the day, with his leadership, we are going to make that happen.

I see our friend, Senator CONRAD. He and I forged a good friendship back in 2002, when we were in the conference committee, when I, as a Member of the House, and he, as a Member of this body, agreed on several things that we worked hard together on to make sure were incorporated into the 2002 farm bill.

As we moved into the process of the debate on this farm bill, he also has been a great partner for American agriculture. We have had the opportunity, both with our staffs and without, to have numerous discussions, hours of discussion about the direction in which we ought to go. As I told the Presiding Officer the other day, the one thing I learned about Senator CONRAD early on was that when he tells you something, it is like money in the bank. You can know that what he said is his word and he doesn't budge from it. On difficult issues, we have had to compromise and come to agreement. We have done that in a very professional way.

The product of all of that discussion is this farm bill which the three of us have produced and filed here today. It is a good product, and it shows that when we do work together in a bipartisan way—and too often in this body we don't do that, but in this case we have—we can produce what the American people want; that is, a good legislative package.

I rise in support of the bipartisan Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 that was overwhelmingly reported out of the Senate Agriculture Committee on October 25, 2007. This bill is the result of many long hours of hard work on the part of my staff, the staffs of Chairman HARKIN and Budget Committee Chairman CONRAD.

In addition, I have met regularly with Republican members of the Senate Agriculture Committee and tried to address their thoughts and concerns throughout the process. As a result of those outreach efforts, many of the Republican members on the committee played a critical role in constructing this bill. I particularly thank Senator CRAPO for all the hard work he did in crafting the bipartisan conservation title.

In addition, our entire committee worked in a bipartisan fashion and largely was able to accommodate the interests and priorities of almost every member of the Agriculture Committee. I am extremely grateful we were able to report this farm bill out of committee with all but one member of the committee in agreement. It is indeed a luxury to pass a bill out of committee with 20 out of 21 members lending their support. Particularly in this time of increasing political differences and legislative inactivity, it speaks highly of the men and women of our committee that we were able to have a constructive debate that has led to a bipartisan bill that will strengthen American agriculture.

It is my hope and expectation that we will engage in a similarly open, bipartisan process as we consider the farm bill on the floor of the Senate this week and probably into next week. Traditionally, Senate consideration of farm bills has been conducted in an open manner. I see no reason to diverge from that course during this debate.

The substitute amendment we will consider beginning today is an extremely complex piece of legislation. I echo what Senator HARKIN said earlier. We have a Finance Committee piece, and then we have the Agriculture Committee piece. They have been joined together. We would not have been able to produce the Agriculture Committee piece without a contribution from the Finance Committee. The work of Senator BAUCUS and Senator GRASSLEY is extremely important and is melded into the work we did on the Agriculture Committee.

It is complex. Farm bills in and of themselves are extremely complex. When you look at the commodity title where we talk about and use phrases that are not common to most Members of this Senate, most of them don't understand when we start talking about marketing loans or countercyclical payments because they are not used by Members of this body in everyday, ongoing discussions. Likewise, the Finance Committee piece is extremely complex and involves offsets of some programs that most of us don't deal with on a daily basis.

I am hopeful that the process will move in the course that it normally moves along with respect to farm bills. That is we have a free and open debate, everybody has the opportunity to come in and talk about any interest they have in the farm bill and to be able to offer amendments to any portion of the farm bill.

At the end of the day, when all of the votes are counted, I am very confident we are going to come out of here with a very positive, forward-leaning, reform-minded, forward-thinking farm bill that will allow us to go to conference with the House and come out of that conference with a farm bill that provides a safety net, makes the reforms in the right areas of agricultural policy where we need those reforms, and, at the same time, provides the kind of programs we need in nutrition, in school lunch, in energy, as well as in conservation, research, and the other critical portions of this bill.

We will need to carefully and methodically consider all proposals put forth by all Senators, both on the agricultural and finance-related provisions of the bill. It would be counterproductive to attempt to circumvent

our careful deliberative process by restricting the consideration of any proposal that is offered. I believe in an open farm bill debate, and I will not support any circumvention of the normal process with respect to amendments that anyone may want to offer.

It is my sincere hope the Senate will agree with our committee and support this farm bill that will strengthen the Nation's food security, protect the livelihood of our farmers and ranchers, preserve our efforts to remain good stewards of the environment, and enhance our Nation's energy security efforts.

I consider a safe, affordable, and abundant food supply a critical national security interest. I realize many people today are far removed from the farm, and it is hard for them to comprehend the complexities of production agriculture and how vitally important it is to the Nation that our agricultural industry can support the diet of American citizens without relying on imported foods and products.

Free market advocates will say we will always be able to buy what we need from other countries. That is true. But I do not want to take that chance. I do not want to rely on other countries for my food, as we do now for energy.

Senator HARKIN just put up some charts that talked about the production of oil. We could have put up similar charts that talk about the production of food. But, at the end of the day, the bottom line is that American farmers and ranchers produce the safest, most abundant, highest quality food supply in the world. When the consumer buys those products at the marketplace, Americans pay less out of every disposable dollar than any other country in the world for that safe, abundant, and high-quality food supply.

Now, despite challenging budgetary constraints, we were able to allocate $3.1 billion in new spending for all farm programs over the life of this bill, thanks in large part to the efforts of Chairman BAUCUS and Ranking Member GRASSLEY of the Finance Committee. Do I wish we had more resources? Sure. But we find ourselves in a different situation today compared to the last time Congress passed a farm bill.

It is ironic that the strong prices we are experiencing today in farm country would make our jobs more difficult in drafting a new farm bill. That being said, key agricultural priorities, including specialty crops, nutrition, conservation, and energy programs all received additional funding, allowing these critical agricultural sectors to realize unprecedented gains that will stimulate production and benefit not only the farmers and ranchers who produce agricultural products, but also the consumers and food aid participants who enjoy them at an affordable price.

Americans enjoy the safest, most affordable, and most abundant food supply in the world—and all of this being done using less than 1 percent of the Federal budget being spent. As a fiscal conservative, I can support that kind of investment any time.

Let me point out that the largest funding increase in this farm bill goes to nutrition. I think in the last farm bill we spent 28 percent of the budget on the commodity title alone. In this farm bill, we are spending approximately 14 percent on the commodity title. We are increasing the nutrition title by over $5 billion, and that is no small accomplishment. The additional resources were made available by reductions in other areas of the bill, including the commodity and crop insurance programs, which have always been the heart and soul of production agriculture.

Senators should understand the delicate compromise this entails, and further efforts to take funds from the farm safety net could stall this bill. The nutrition title is a vital part of this farm bill, and the committee-passed bill makes important improvements to the Food Stamp Program that have long been on the agenda of the antihunger community.

Senator HARKIN alluded to the fact we have increased the asset limit from $2,000 to $3,500. He is exactly right. That is a critical aspect of this bill with regard to the nutrition title. I have been a supporter of trying to increase that to $4,000, which on a cost-of-living scale over the last 20 years that is what it should be. We had hoped to do that. I actually have a bill—it is a stand-alone bill—to do that. But, unfortunately, with the limited funds we have we were not able to do that.

But when we did find some additional money, kind of at the end of the day just before we finished the writing of this bill, Senator HARKIN and I agreed, very quickly, that where we ought to put that money is in the nutrition title to make sure we can do things such as make some of the programs permanent, as well as raise the asset limit, and make sure we have a Food Stamp Program which benefits farmers and ranchers as much as it does the beneficiaries that will be meaningful and will be workable.

I especially thank my dear friend, Bill Bolling, the executive director of the Atlanta Community Food Bank, for not only his counsel as we went through the preparation of this farm bill, but also for hosting the committee's nutrition hearing at his facility this past April. This provided us a great opportunity to better understand the needs of food banks all across America, as well as hear firsthand testimony from Georgians who rely on the food assistance programs that are an important part of this farm bill.

This bill takes important steps to improve the food purchasing power of food stamp participants and makes the Food Stamp Program more accessible to working families with low incomes. By raising the asset limit, exempting certain IRS-approved savings accounts, increasing the standard deduction, and increasing the minimum benefit for food stamps, this legislation will better enable low-income Americans to afford the food and nutrition they need to lead productive lives.

This bill also substantially increases the Federal funding for the Emergency Food Assistance Program from $140 million annually to $250 million annually. These additional resources will help people in need, as well as the local food pantries that provide these important services in communities throughout the country. In addition, the farm bill promotes healthier diets by expanding access to farmers markets, as well as expanding the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program to all States by targeting benefits to low-income children.

Again, Senator HARKIN is exactly right. We have farmers markets popping up all over. We have a great system in our State of Georgia that is led by our Commissioner of Agriculture, Tommy Irvin, who has made sure we have very active and viable farmers markets in virtually every area of our State and that farms have access to those markets. It is not just in the metropolitan areas, where the price may be a little bit better, but in the rural parts of Georgia.

Where I live, there is not a community I can think of or a county I can think of that does not have a very active and viable farmers market, where we sell fresh fruits and vegetables and whatever is in season. Whether it is watermelons, cantaloupes, or snap beans, the farmers markets have all of those products readily available for the consumer.

The committee has once again wisely decided to include an energy title in this farm bill. That is not by accident. In 2002, the Congress passed a farm bill that for the first time contained an energy title, and we have expanded this important title in the 2007 bill by including programs to stimulate the production of cellulosic crops that can be converted into energy. The Southeast has not been a participant in this arena to date, but with the expansion of these programs to include cellulosic feedstocks, southeastern farmers will hopefully be able to make fuel from agricultural products, all the way from kudzu to peanut hulls.

Mr. President, 100 percent of the ethanol manufactured in this country today comes from corn. We do not grow corn in the southeastern part of our country, nor do we grow it in the western part of our country in the abundance it is grown in the Midwest. There are reasons for that. But we have the ability because of our long growing season both in the West as well as in the Southeast to grow virtually any crop that is out there.

So by providing funding for the additional research, by providing funding for those investors who want to manufacture ethanol from something besides

corn, they now are going to have that funding available to them to invest in the cellulosic production of ethanol. At the same time we are going to encourage farmers to think outside the box, to not just grow the crops that automatically come to mind when you think of ''The Farmer in the Dell'' or ''Old MacDonald.''

We are going to have farmers now producing all sorts of alternative crops that can be used in the production of ethanol. I will cite just one instance of that. In Georgia, we have the first cellulosic ethanol plant that has been committed for construction in our part of the world. The investor in this particular cellulosic-producing ethanol facility is going to take a crop we grow with great abundance in the Southeast—and that is pine trees—and he has developed a system that will allow them to take pine trees and convert those pine trees into ethanol. The good news is, when he sticks that pine tree in that cylinder for the manufacture of ethanol, nothing escapes. Nothing comes out in the form of emissions into the air. Everything is used and recycled. So it is an amazing process, and it is exactly the type of entrepreneurial exercise that we are encouraging in this farm bill.

Through the inclusion of this title, we continue to push forward the necessary research, development, and promotion of renewable fuels that will enable America's farmers and ranchers to contribute to the Nation's expanding alternative energy industry. Notably, the energy title receives the largest percentage increase compared to the farm bill baseline, an increase of over $1 billion.

Importantly, this bill takes a fresh look at our commodity programs while continuing the traditional safety net so critical to America's farmers. In addition, we have created a program whereby farmers may choose to manage the inherent risks of agricultural production through a new type of revenue assurance program. I am pleased farmers will have the option to utilize this new Average Crop Revenue Program.

Senator HARKIN has been instrumental in crafting this program. Senators DURBIN and BROWN have been instrumental. I particularly compliment Senator ROBERTS for the great effort he put into digesting this new program that is extremely complex but has the potential of offering farmers and ranchers a new option. It is one of those options where we as a committee and we as a body have been thinking outside the box relative to programs of agricultural policy that benefit farmers and ranchers. I think with the amendment we have in place now in this bill we are going to encourage farmers and ranchers to think about some alternative to the conventional programs we have always had.

I understand several Members have an interest in offering amendments to further limit payments to the hard-working farmers and ranchers in this country. However, I want the Senate to realize the committee-reported bill includes the most significant reforms to payment limitations we have seen in the history of American farm policy. Any amendment that attempts to make Draconian reforms is going to be met with my strong opposition.

I urge my colleagues to compare this bill with current law and recognize the dramatic changes. As my good friend, Senator CONRAD, was quoted in the press the other day as saying, the changes in this bill represent the ''most significant reform'' in the long-fought battle over payment limitations. He is exactly right. He went on further to say:

> All payments will be attributed to an actual, living, breathing human [being] rather than some paper entity.

Because now we are going to have attribution. We have eliminated three entity, and we have changed the numbers dramatically.

Many of the proponents of significant reform to agricultural policy will argue that only a small percentage of Americans receive any benefit from farm programs. Agriculture economists at the University of Georgia recently released a study on the Community Economic Analysis and Impacts of Georgia Cotton Production. This study focused on one cotton-producing county in the southern part of our State. The cotton production in this one county alone has a $36 million impact on U.S. output and almost a $9 million impact on labor income in the United States. Another interesting result from this study was that each dollar received in Government payments generated $1.37 of new tax revenue in the U.S. economy. Let me repeat that. This study concluded that for every dollar received in Government payments, that $1 generated $1.37 of new tax revenue in the U.S. economy.

The following excerpt came from the October edition of ''Southern Farmer'' magazine. By extrapolating the results of the University of Georgia study, the columnist Steve Ford notes:

> In summary, if cotton subsidies paid to farmers are $2 billion, $1.2 billion is returned to the federal treasury through tax revenue from economic activity generated by cotton farmers. Economic activity generated by a net investment of $800 million grows the U.S. economy by $28 billion, provides another $800 million in state and local tax revenue, and generates a $7 billion payroll and 230,000 jobs. This investment generates a 3,400 percent return.

Although the study only focused on one small county in Georgia, when expanded, the national impact of the cotton industry and the cotton program is astounding. I hope my colleagues understand our farm program benefits all Americans, not just cotton farmers in south Georgia.

It is vitally important to the farmers and ranchers of Georgia, as well as to farmers and ranchers all across this great Nation, that we uphold the strength of the safety net American agriculture depends on in this farm bill. The agriculture and food sector represents over 15 percent of the gross domestic product of the United States. This bill requires our attention and commitment to the farmers and ranchers who put food on our plates every day. If we go down the path of crippling our farm programs in response to the newspaper editorials, the inevitable result will be the outsourcing of the production of our food and fiber.

While U.S. agriculture exports continue to grow, agriculture imports increased by 10 percent and we are fast approaching a point in time when exports will equal imports. This is the one segment of our economy that has consistently and continually over the last several decades provided a positive balance of trade for our economy. If we let that slip away from us, it is going to be a huge mistake. Let the current energy crisis be a warning sign to every Member of this body. If America becomes as dependent on foreign nations to supply our food and fiber as currently is the case with petroleum, we will threaten the security of this Nation and leave our children's health and diets to the political whims of foreign nations.

Let me say that at the end of the day, the reason we are here is to represent the hard-working men and women who get dirt under their fingernails each and every day to provide the safest, most affordable, and highest quality agriculture products in the world. I hope my colleagues keep those Americans in mind when they debate this critical piece of legislation.

I wish to also discuss several important provisions in the conservation title of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007. I would like to highlight 5 areas: conservation technical assistance, the Conservation Reserve Wildlife Habitat Program, forest conservation, climate change, and partnerships and cooperation.

U.S. agriculture delivers safe, reliable, high quality food, feed, and fiber to the Nation and to the world, but it also delivers much more. Through their careful stewardship, farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners also deliver clean water, productive wildlife habitat, and healthy landscapes.

In the 1930s, this Nation made a historic commitment to a conservation partnership with farmers and ranchers. Rooted in our national experience with the devastation of soil erosion at that time, the conservation movement began with the purpose of keeping productive topsoil—and a productive agriculture—in place. Conservation technology was harnessed to meet that challenge.

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 also was historic as it renewed our commitment to the Nation's working lands. Working land—the cropland, grazing land, and forest land that is used to produce our food, feed, and fiber—accounts for nearly 1.3 billion acres, or two-thirds of this Nation's land area. Since the enactment

of the 2002 farm bill, conservation measures have been applied on more than 70 million acres of cropland and 125 million acres of grazing land. In addition, more than one million acres of wetlands have been created, restored or enhanced.

In 1935, Congress created the Soil Conservation Service SCS, within the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA, to lead conservation efforts at the federal level. SCS was renamed the Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS, in 1994. NRCS provides technical, scientifically sound advice and assistance to farmers and ranchers to address their local resource concerns. This technical assistance is the foundation of conservation.

In the 1980s, Congress began to seriously focus on conservation. During the 1990s, Congress accelerated the investment in conservation by creating additional programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, EQIP, to share the cost of installing conservation practices with farmers and ranchers. These programs are commonly called financial assistance or cost-share programs. NRCS was given the responsibility of managing most of these programs in addition to maintaining its traditional leadership role in the technical aspects of conservation.

In response to the popularity of the financial assistance programs and their dramatic increases in funding, NRCS has had to focus almost entirely on implementing them. While the financial assistance programs have increased the adoption of conservation practices and awareness of the benefits of conservation across the country, this shift in focus has potential negative consequences for NRCS's ability to maintain its technical base and ensure scientifically valid technical assistance to farmers and ranchers.

Congress is expected to continue to support financial assistance programs well into the future. But in order to help farmers and ranchers put meaningful conservation on the ground, Congress must also maintain NRCS's core technical functions and capabilities—the science, technology development and transfer and resource assessments—that support the programs. Both parts of the portfolio are equally important.

In addition to continuing the investment in financial assistance programs, the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 also recognizes that the success of the conservation partnership was built on a foundation of proven conservation science, technical assistance, and technology. The legislation updates, clarifies, and consolidates statutes governing technical assistance for easy reference. It defines technical assistance to ensure a common understanding by Congress, stakeholders, farmers and ranchers, and NRCS. The Act reauthorizes the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act and reaffirms its purpose of informing the direction of conservation policy. It better incorporates monitoring and evaluation into the conservation planning process and conservation programs to reflect increasing demands for a better understanding of the real-world environmental effects of conservation policy and programs.

Especially important to my home State of Georgia and other southeastern states is the creation of a new program within the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). It will help improve wildlife habitat on CRP acres planted to softwood pine trees. The program is called the Conservation Reserve Wildlife Habitat Program.

Currently, there are about 1.5 million CRP acres in pines in the Southeast. Most of these plantings are extremely dense and have few wildlife benefits. The program provides cost-share and incentive payments to landowners to better manage their pine stands, for example, through the appropriate use of thinning and prescribed fire. Wildlife habitat quality can be rapidly restored in pine forests with the use of these and other forest management strategies. This program will be a significant tool to help reverse the decline of northern bobwhite quails, certain songbirds and other at-risk species in the Southeast.

I sincerely thank the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission, National Association of Conservation Districts, and the National Wild Turkey Federation for all of their help developing the program. This was a true grassroots effort.

The Nation's forest resources are a sometimes overlooked but critically important part of our environment and economy. In the United States, approximately 262 million acres of forest are owned by families or individuals. Nearly one million acres of these privately owned forest acres are developed each year. U.S. paper and wood processing generates 1.2 million jobs and $230 billion in annual sales. More than 75 million acres of forests are part of a farm. U.S. forest lands provide two-thirds of the Nation's drinking water, and a single tree can absorb more than 10 pounds of carbon dioxide per year. Unfortunately, 27 million acres of private forest are at risk of insect and disease, and 90 million acres are at risk of wildfire.

The Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 helps private forestland owners improve their land and plan for the future. The conservation title places an increased emphasis on forest resources by defining non-industrial private forest land in the Food Security Act of 1985 and clarifying that technical assistance is available for forest land conservation. Forest management practices and conservation plan development are added to EQIP, as is fire pre-suppression. The Conservation Innovation Grant program encourages forestry projects and emphasizes the development and transfer of innovative conservation technologies.

One particular area I wanted to address in the 2007 farm bill was how agriculture and individual farmers can help tackle climate change. While I am not sure we understand all of the science of climate change, there are some reasonable steps we can take to begin mitigating its effects and ensure agriculture can meaningfully participate in any future emission reduction program developed by Congress.

Agriculture accounts for about 6 percent of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the United States as measured on a million metric ton carbon equivalent. Since 1995, emissions from the agriculture sector have trended downward. The two primary types of agricultural emissions are methane and nitrous oxide. Methane is released as part of the natural digestive process of animals and manure management at livestock operations. Fertilizer and manure application to soils are the source of nitrous oxide. Carbon captured and stored in U.S. soils partially offsets these emissions, sequestering about one-tenth of all emissions generated by the agriculture sector.

Currently, there are many land management and farm conservation practices that reduce GHG emissions and/or sequester carbon. Examples include land retirement, conservation tillage, and manure and livestock feed management practices. These practices are supported through existing farm bill conservation programs. But looking ahead to the future, there are additional opportunities for agriculture to further reduce emissions and sequester carbon. USDA estimates carbon uptake in agricultural soils could double by 2012, and over the long term agriculture could sequester 2 to 14 percent more carbon dioxide.

I have been encouraged by Federal, state, and private efforts over the past few years to include agriculture in carbon credit trading programs. However, it is time to go beyond the minimum standards that have been set and develop more robust certification, measurement and verification standards. The key area that needs to be addressed is the measurement and verification of offsets generated by agriculture. Other questions that need to be answered are how to distinguish between emissions mitigation and emissions reductions that would occur anyway, what activities should be eligible, and how the actions are measured, monitored, and verified.

I am very pleased the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 addresses these issues by directing the Secretary of Agriculture to establish uniform standards; design accounting procedures; establish a protocol to report environmental benefits; establish a registry to report and maintain the benefits; and establish a process to verify that a farmer, rancher or forest land owner has implemented the conservation or land management activity. The Secretary is required to coordinate and

leverage existing activities in environmental services markets but to focus first on carbon markets.

For several years, farm, conservation, wildlife and environmental groups have promoted cooperative conservation and debated ways to ''get more bang for the buck'' from the Federal investment in conservation. The 2002 farm bill included an important provision to encourage cooperative conservation through its partnerships and cooperation provisions. Partnerships and cooperation is the next step in locally led conservation as it promotes conservation on a landscape or regional level. Unfortunately, the provisions were not implemented due to a lack of specificity in the bill language regarding the relationship with partners and how funding would flow.

The Farm and Energy Security Act of 2007 resolves these issues and significantly improves partnerships and cooperation. The new provisions authorize the Secretary to undertake a competitive process to designate special projects to address conservation issues related to agricultural and non-industrial private forest land management and production. The Secretary may enter into agreements with eligible partners to provide technical and financial assistance to producers to implement on-the-ground conservation to achieve the objectives of the special project.

The concept of partnerships and cooperation is based on the highly successful Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). In a CREP, a state and the Farm Service Agency agree to focus CRP resources on a specific area within a state to address a specific conservation need. The state usually agrees to provide some funding and technical resources to the CREP. With the new partnerships and cooperation, all conservation programs, not just CRP, could be leveraged to address specific conservation needs and to produce watershed or regional conservation objectives.

I would like to provide an example for how the partnerships and cooperation authority could be used. A cannery has closed, and nearby orchards are going out of business. A local watershed council pulls together several partners, such as a state university, a wildlife organization and an organic growers' cooperative. They agree to work together to improve water quality and wildlife habitat while working with interested local producers to transition their orchards to organic grass-based cattle operations.

The watershed council files an application with USDA proposing to conduct local producer outreach; provide training on transitioning to a new agricultural sector, including organic certification and cattle management workshops; assist with tree removal; and assist in implementing habitat diversity practices with workshops, labor, and seed. The council asks for designation of these resources: $10 million in EQIP; $250,000 in the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP); 1,000 acres of Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP); and 20,000 acres in Grassland Reserve Program easements (GRP).

The State Conservationist and State Executive Director agree with the proposal and set aside the approved resources, which will go to producers participating in the project. When the producer applies for the programs, they certify that they are a project participant. If they are qualified, they bypass the regular program ranking processes and enter into a contract in the identified program(s). Each program in this example stands on its own and all program rules apply. What is different is the streamlined application and the process that works to make the programs seamless in application.

In closing, I would like to repeat a story of an old man down on a hill farm in the South, who sat on his front porch as a newcomer passed by. To make talk, the newcomer said, ''Mister, how does the land lie around here?'' The old man replied, ''Well, I don't know about the land a-lying; it's these real estate people who do the lying.''

W.C. Lowdermilk, the Assistant Chief of the Soil Conservation Service in the 1930s said:

> In a very real sense the land does not lie; it bears a record of what men write on it. In a larger sense, a Nation writes its record on the land. This record is easy to read by those who understand the simple language of the land.

Conservation leads to prosperous, healthy societies and stable, self-sufficient countries. It sustains the agricultural productivity that allows for division of labor and the growth and longevity of a society.

In 1938 and 1939, Mr. Lowdermilk studied the record of agriculture in countries where land had been cultivated for many centuries. He sought to learn if the experience of these older civilizations could help in solving the serious soil erosion and land productivity problems in the United States, then struggling with repair of the Dust Bowl and the gullied South. He found that careful land stewardship through terracing, crop rotation and other soil conservation measures enabled societies to flourish for centuries. But neglect of the land, manifested as soil erosion, deforestation, and overgrazing, helped to topple empires and destroy entire civilizations. He concluded that America's future was tied to conservation and that this calling fell to the Nation as well as the farmer and landowner.

Mr. President, I am pleased to have helped develop the conservation title of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007. I look forward to seeing its resources and programs used by this Nation's farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners for generations to come.

The 2007 Senate farm bill includes a new title not contained in bills in the past of provisions regarding the livestock marketplace. I want to state very clearly that I have tremendous concerns with this title and do not support the vast majority of provisions included.

I know without question that the entire United States Senate is concerned about farmers and ranchers and their ability to succeed in the marketplace. The livestock industry plays a critical role in the health of rural America. Livestock and related industries account for approximately one half of the total farm-gate receipts to U.S. agricultural producers, employ half a million Americans, and create approximately $100 billion in economic activity. It is therefore clearly important that we make certain the livestock industry continues to thrive and make every effort to sustain the economic viability of this critical sector of our economy.

In our efforts to assist constituents in the livestock marketplace, we must exert extreme caution in how we attempt to address the agriculture sector. Our focus must be on expanding the options of producers, rather than restricting their options and penalizing those successful segments of the industry.

It is for this reason that I have serious concerns with some of the provisions in this livestock title. The approach taken in this title is an attempt to regulate the industry to profitability, rather than stimulate innovation and encourage stronger relationships between the various industry segments.

I am pleased that industry—including livestock producers, packers, and retailers—were able to find a compromise on the issue of Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling. While I have long supported a voluntary program, I believe the compromise included in this bill will allow all livestock market participants to benefit from the program without being burdened by unworkable regulations and excessive fines. But outside of this provision, there is very little in this title that I support.

The livestock title includes a provision that would ban the use of mandatory arbitration in livestock contracts unless both parties agree, after the dispute arises, to utilize arbitration. Being from the great State of Georgia, I understand that poultry contract growers must be afforded the right to enter into fair and balanced contracts and to have fair and just means to settle disputes when they arise. But I am concerned that this provision will lead to increased litigation and will not benefit our poultry industry in the long run.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce opposes the anti-arbitration provisions in the title, because: The long-term effects of such provisions, if enacted, would cause serious damage to the general use and availability of alternative dispute resolution as well as weaken the Federal Arbitration Act.

Wisely, the House of Representatives has taken a different approach to this issue and attempted to strengthen the arbitration process in order to ensure that producers are treated fairly. I prefer the approach utilized by the House, but I recognize that many of the members of the Agriculture Committee view this issue differently.

I also would like to briefly address another provision that greatly troubles me. The livestock title creates a special counsel for agricultural competition at the Department of Agriculture who will absorb all of the responsibilities for enforcing the Packers and Stockyards Act and the Agricultural Fair Practices Act. While I understand the issues that Members are attempting to address by creating this position, I believe we are creating yet another level of bureaucracy at the Department that may in fact make enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act even more difficult.

The most troubling aspect of this special counsel provision is that he is given the power to both investigate and prosecute violations under the Packers and Stockyards Act and Agricultural Fair Practices Act. What we effectively do in this legislation is create an Office of Inspector General within the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), and then give that office the power to prosecute as well. This is simply bad policy, that sets a bad precedent, and will potentially lead to overzealous prosecutions and confuse the current roles in the Department of Agriculture.

USDA is strongly opposed to this Special Counsel provision because it will alter the current structure of USDA in an attempt to address problems that the Department is already addressing. In fiscal year 2007, USDA has handled more enforcement cases of the Packers and Stockyards Act than in any year in the recent past. As a result of these efforts, violators were assessed civil penalties totaling over $450,000 this past fiscal year. It is evident that GIPSA is making tremendous progress in their enforcement efforts. Rather than build on these recent accomplishments, this provision will likely hamper enforcement efforts at GIPSA and create confusion in the livestock marketplace.

The livestock title of this farm bill attempts to create a one-size-fits-all livestock marketplace where all producers are treated the same regardless of economics or free market principles. This approach is simply not reflective of the industry today. Producers have made tremendous investments to improve the genetics, quality, and grades of their livestock in an effort to command a greater return for their products. And, contrary to the popular sentiment reflected in this livestock title, many producers are experiencing great success in their efforts.

One producer from Mason City, IA, eloquently summed up his view of the livestock marketplace in a letter to me and Senator HARKIN. The producer stated: We don't share the grim view of our industry that others hold. We want you to know that our industry is doing well. We are able to prosper under the current law and regulations that apply to our businesses. For many producers, the stability that arises out of the contracts they strike with packing companies are the key to their financial viability, helping them to obtain credit and avoid the harshest consequences of volatility in the markets.

I commend this producer and others like him who have worked hard to secure their position in today's livestock marketplace.

The Georgia Cattlemen's Association also strongly opposes the provisions included in this title. These hard-working men and women have made substantial investments in their businesses in order to compete in today's livestock marketplace. The supposed reforms in this livestock title neglect their hard-fought efforts to secure markets for their superior products. Perhaps 15 years ago, these reforms would have made sense. But today's marketplace has evolved and my Georgia producers and many producers across this country have displayed the American spirit and dedication necessary to evolve with that marketplace and enjoy prosperity.

Rather than reduce the options available to these hard-working Americans, it certainly would make more sense to provide them with every option at their disposal so that they can continue to compete in this evolving marketplace. Attempts to drag the livestock marketplace back to the way business was conducted 15 or 30 years ago will threaten the livelihood of farmers and ranchers, drive down consumer demand for specialized products, and increase costs—not only to packers, but to the producers this livestock title attempts to serve.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to speak in support of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007. First, I thank the very able chairman of the Agriculture Committee, Senator HARKIN, and the ranking member, Senator CHAMBLISS, for their leadership on this bill. We wouldn't be here today without their leadership. I, for one, deeply appreciate the time and the effort they have poured into this bill. This has been months of determined effort to produce a consensus bill that can command a supermajority in the Senate. It certainly did in the committee. It passed without a dissenting vote.

First, Chairman HARKIN. I applaud his vision for a new direction for farm policy in America. Make no mistake, this is a very different farm bill because of Chairman HARKIN's determination, leadership, and vision. This farm bill goes in a new direction with a much greater commitment to conservation, one that I think over time will prove to have been very wise, because we all know what is happening in the world. We have to do more through the conservation elements of the program in order to be sustainable over time.

In addition to that, Chairman HARKIN has played a lead role in creating a new option for farmers with the State Revenue Assurance Plan. Of course, he has been a champion for rural development and for reform. Make no mistake, this bill is the beginning of significant reform. If anybody had told us 5 years ago we could get the elimination of the three-entity rule and direct attribution, we would have thought the skies had opened up and there was a whole new day. The fact is it is in this bill.

I also applaud Senator HARKIN's staff. Mark Halverson, his staff director, who you can see is now somewhat gray-haired. Anybody who has gone through what he has goes to gray, because this is tough. This is hard to do. The regional differences are deep across the country, as are the philosophical differences.

Senator CHAMBLISS, the ranking member. We couldn't ask for a better ranking member than Senator CHAMBLISS. He did a terrific job as chairman, but he proved his mettle in helping us bring this farm bill to the floor. He is a consummate professional. I have worked with a lot of people over the years on farm legislation. It is always difficult; It is always contentious. Yet we have produced some very good bills. I think this one is by far the best. Senator CHAMBLISS played an absolutely essential role. Make no mistake, he fought for his people. He did it effectively and in a collegial way, and that is what we would hope for in the Senate. He always had his eye on the ball, and that was to produce a result for American agriculture.

I also salute his staff, the very professional Martha Scott and Bernie Hubert, who were terrific to work with every step of the way; outstanding individuals who reflect well on Senator CHAMBLISS and reflect well on the body.

Additionally, I thank the outstanding work of the chairman of the Finance Committee, Chairman BAUCUS, and the ranking member, Senator GRASSLEY, because without their help, it would have been infinitely more difficult to write this bill. Let's say right at the beginning that we have $8 billion of new resources here; in other words, we are $8 billion above the so-called baseline. The only reason we could do that was because of the help of the Finance Committee. That has made a profound difference. As a result, and as a result of the exceptional leadership of Chairman HARKIN and Ranking Member CHAMBLISS, this bill significantly improves commodity programs and energy. We are now embarked on a massive effort to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. It is in this bill. It is critically important. There are also

new resources for nutrition. Changes that have not been made in nutrition in over 30 years have been made in this bill, and people can be proud of it; over $5 billion of new resources for nutrition. We should recall, to all those who are listening, this isn't just a food and energy security bill; this is also at root a nutrition bill. Sixty-six percent of the money in this bill is for nutrition in America. That affects every city and town, every farm gate, every ranch gate in America. Sixty-six percent of the money in this bill is for nutrition. For all of those critics—and there are legions of them out there—especially in some parts of the media who have never bothered to actually look at this bill or read this bill or research what is in it, they should know that 66 percent of this bill is for nutrition. The thing that draws most of their attack, the so-called commodity programs, less than 14 percent; less than $1 in every $7 in this bill is for commodities.

Conservation. Because of Senator HARKIN's vision and leadership, this is by far the most ambitious conservation program ever included in farm legislation, and he is right. He is right to take us in that direction. The people who are the critics should know that conservation and nutrition are at the centerpiece of this legislation, and rural development programs as well.

This legislation is good for farm and ranch families. It is good for rural communities and Main Street businesses. It is an enormous win for consumers and taxpayers. This legislation is the product of countless hours of deliberation that represents a broad consensus.

Let me also say the occupant of the chair, Senator SALAZAR of Colorado, played a key role time after time after time in bringing people together. At the end of the day, what you learn in a legislative body is you have to have an idea, a kernel of an idea for legislation, and it then has to be sold to so many people, and that is the difficult part. Bringing people together is an extraordinary skill. The occupant of the chair, Senator SALAZAR, has it in spades. I have told others we are lucky to have somebody of his character and somebody of his ability to talk to others, even when they disagree, to find areas of agreement. That has been his great gift on this bill.

There are so many others whom I want to single out. Senator DEBBIE STABENOW of Michigan, who is such a passionate advocate for specialty crops. My goodness, Chairman HARKIN, if we heard once, we heard 100 times from her about specialty crops, and boy, she has delivered for those people in this bill, over $2.5 billion of new resources for specialty crops. When you include everything, what a major advance for specialty crops, and there is nothing better than this fresh fruit and vegetable program. Of course, the chairman is the champion of that program, but we are going to go from 14 States that have this fresh fruit and vegetable program for kids in schools, and it is going to go to all 50 States, and a dramatic increase in resources. Because we know—we can see—what is happening in America. We can see what is happening with obesity. We can see there has to be change, and there is dramatic change in this bill—change that I think every Member of this body can be proud of. I mentioned Senator BAUCUS and the role he played as chairman of the Finance Committee. I can look down that table at others who have contributed. This was a team effort, if ever there was a team effort, on both the Republican and Democratic sides.

We appreciate the efforts of so many of our colleagues. I think of our friend from Arkansas, who was so passionate about defending her people, BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN. It is tough when you are in a minority situation. But she was absolutely determined that her people not be hurt. She worked tirelessly to make certain that was the outcome. So I appreciate the efforts of so many.

BEN NELSON of Nebraska, who comes from a farm State much like mine, was so determined, as well, that we write a farm bill that could get through the committee on a strong bipartisan vote and get through the floor on a supermajority, which we have done.

I thank AMY KLOBUCHAR, who was so determined to make certain we would look at cellulosic, recognizing that corn ethanol could not meet the ambitious national goals set by the Congress of the United States, and that we had to turn toward cellulosic. She was right there with ideas, advice, and also a willingness to go colleague to colleague to persuade them of the need. All of these people have made enormous contributions.

Of course, Senator LEAHY's contribution on MILC programs, the former chairman of the committee. We deeply appreciate his contribution as well.

It is difficult to write this bill because, as the chairman said, we have a lot less money this time than last time. Let me put that in terms people will more easily understand, in visual terms. The red line on the chart is the old CBO baseline, what the farm bill would cost. The green bars are what this bill has actually cost and is projected to cost. If you net it all out, you find that the 2002 farm bill cost about $20 billion less than the Congressional Budget Office said it would in August of 2002.

Looking forward, we have $22 billion less in baseline to write this farm bill than was estimated by the CBO in 2002. I took a call from Mr. Chuck Connor, Acting Secretary, telling me they are going to recommend—or say tomorrow that they would recommend a Presidential veto of this legislation. They do it on cost grounds. They have a number they throw out there that has no relationship to reality. It is an imagining on their part. It is their sort of make-believe writing up of the numbers.

The fact is we have $22 billion less in baseline to write this bill than was predicted when we wrote the last one—$22 billion less. So we are $8 billion over the baseline and every penny of it paid for. That is a fact. It is also true that this bill was difficult to write not only because we had less money but because the financial circumstances of the country changed dramatically. The debt of the country increased from $5.8 trillion at the end of 2001 to $8.9 trillion at the end of this year. So we were writing this bill in a totally different environment than the last one. Back then, there were surpluses as far as the eye could see. Now it is red ink, debt. That profoundly changed the circumstance.

In addition to that, we also face a very hostile media environment, especially from the leading newspaper in this town, which hasn't seen a single initiative for farm and ranch families in this country that they like. They have not been positive about one single thing. These headlines say: ''Agri-welfare.'' ''Aid is a Bumper Crop to Farmers.'' ''Aid to Ranchers was Diverted for Big Profits.'' ''No Drought Required for Federal Aid.''

There are some elements of truth in every story, but the thing they miss is the much larger story. What does the food policy in this country lead to? I will tell you: the lowest cost food in the history of the world. That is what this food policy leads to—the most plentiful and the safest supplies and the most ambitious nutrition programs of any country in the free world. That is what is here.

Do you see one word of that printed in the Washington Post? Do you see one word on the positive things that are here? Not one. They take every little anomaly, every little exception, blow it into a big headline, and take things out of context. They ought to be ashamed of themselves. They take stories from people who have dedicated their careers to dismantling the farm programs of the United States, which are the envy of the world.

Here is what happened to food expenditures as a share of disposable personal income in our country. In 1929, 23 cents out of every dollar went to buy food. Today it is 10 cents. That includes, by the way, eating out. We are down to 10 cents of every dollar going for food in this country.

There is a lot to be proud of in the agricultural policy of the United States. I would put this at the top: Who pays the least for food in the entire world? Who pays the smallest part of their disposable income for food? We do. America pays the least. By the way, these comparisons are looking in the other countries at food purchased for home consumption. Our number is home consumption and eating out. Look. Indonesia, 55 cents out of every dollar goes to buy food. In the Philippines, it is 38 cents. In China, it is 26 cents. In France, it is 15 cents. In Japan, it is 14 cents. Remember, their numbers are food consumed in the home. Our number—10 percent—is food

consumed at home and food outside the home. What a dramatic difference it is, what our people are paying out of their disposable income for food and what everybody else in the world is paying. We can be proud of that.

We look at our major competitors—again, the Washington Post never writes this story. Never. You know, we are not in this world alone. There happen to be other countries. We happen to have tough competition. The Europeans are our leading competitors in agriculture. In fact, they are about equal with us in terms of market share. Yet look at what they do for their producers versus what we do for ours. This is a 5-year baseline in the 2007 farm bill. This is what we are doing for nutrition. We are providing five times as much for nutrition over the 5 years as we are for commodities—five times as much for nutrition as for commodities.

The Washington Post, why don't you write that story and tell people the whole story? The other element I wished to mention that I was leading up to was what is happening with what the Europeans, our leading competitors, do for their producers versus what we do for ours. Washington Post, why don't you write this story? European Union, $134 billion—and this is after their cap reform. This is what they are spending on farm supports, more than three times greater than the United States at $43 billion. I don't see the Washington Post telling this story. I don't see them ever helping the American people to understand what we are up against in the real world—that our major competitors are spending more than three times as much as we are to support their producers.

What happens if you pull the rug out from under our producers? What would happen? Mass bankruptcy, that is what would happen. Is that what we want to do in this country? Do you want to bankrupt American agriculture? Do you want to bankrupt farm and ranch families? I don't think so. So people need to think a little more carefully than some of these columns I have seen written do. They owe it to the American people to tell the whole story of what American food policy has meant.

I am going to also look at what our European friends are doing on export subsidies. This is a pie chart of what the Europeans are doing on export subsidies. They account for 87 percent of the export subsidies in the world—the Europeans. The United States is this little sliver, 1 percent. The European Union is outgunning us 87 to 1. These are the hard realities that those of us who have a responsibility for writing agricultural policy have to cope with. Those of us who have actual responsibility, those of us who will be held accountable, the people in this Chamber, have to deal with reality, not fantasy, not misrepresentations, not the exceptions. We have to deal with what is right at the heart of the effect of American farm policy.

I would like to read one paragraph from the Wall Street Journal article from September 28 of this year. That article said this:

> The prospect for a long boom is riveting economists because the declining real price of grain has long been one of the unsung forces behind the development of the global economy. Thanks to steadily improving seeds, synthetic fertilizer and more powerful farm equipment, the productivity of farmers in the West and Asia has stayed so far ahead of population growth that prices of corn and wheat, adjusted for inflation, had dropped 75 percent and 69 percent, respectively, since 1974.

Let me repeat that:

> Thanks to steadily improving seeds, synthetic fertilizer and more powerful farm equipment, the productivity of farmers in the West and Asia has stayed so far ahead of population growth that prices of corn and wheat, adjusted for inflation, had dropped 75 percent and 69 percent, respectively, since 1974. Among other things, falling grain prices made food more affordable for the world's poor, helping shrink the percentage of the world's population that is malnourished.

You never see that report in the Washington Post—not once, no. To characterize this bill and this policy as a giveaway to farmers is not accurate or warranted. Total farm bill outlays for the commodity, conservation, nutrition, energy, and other priorities are estimated to represent less than 2 percent of total Federal outlays. Here is total Federal outlays. Here is what is going to the farm bill. This farm bill is going to be less than 2 percent of total Federal expenditure, and the commodity provisions that draw the fire are one-quarter of 1 percent.

We used to talk about the farm bill—the last farm bill being 3 percent of Federal outlays. Now we are down to less than 2 percent. Those who run out and—as the administration apparently will do tomorrow—chastise this bill for its spending, why don't they put it in perspective and level with the American people? Why don't they tell the whole story? Why don't they tell them that the old farm bill used to consume 3 percent of the Federal budget? This is down to 2 percent, and the commodity programs that used to be one-third of 1 percent are down to one-quarter of 1 percent. Why not tell the whole story? Why not give people the facts from which they can make a reasoned judgment?

We know the European Union is spending three times as much to help their producers as we spend to support ours. We know they are outspending us on export subsidies 87 to 1. We know the European Union is not the only culprit and that Brazil, Argentina, and China are gaining unfair market advantage through hidden subsidies.

I know what this means to my State. My State of North Dakota, according to North Dakota State University, says that without the farm bill, net farm income in North Dakota would have decreased from $77,000 per farm to about $13,000 per farm—a reduction of $64,000. That is how significant this is. The average net farm income for all farms was $77,000. Without the provisions of the farm bill, net farm income would average $13,000. The 2002 farm bill decreases the income variability by 47 percent. These are facts.

So I conclude that our current farm policy is working not just for farmers but for consumers and taxpayers. But that is not just my conclusion. Over the past 2 years, I have engaged in long conversations with people all across my State. They told me the 2002 farm bill had been a great success, and they recommended that we build on those successes by maintaining and rebalancing commodity programs, by promoting energy production in America so we are less dependent on foreign sources, so that instead of turning to the Middle East, we can look to the Midwest. Wouldn't that be great for America? We are spending almost $300 billion a year importing foreign oil. How much better would our country be if that money could be spent here rather than sending it to places all over the world?

The people back home have told me that ensuring predictable help is available for producers stricken by disastrous weather should be part of the farm bill, that we should enhance the conservation of our land and provide new resources for nutrition. All of those items are in this farm bill, and those who wrote it deserve to be proud.

Let me briefly talk about what I see as the high points of the bill before us.

In the commodity programs, this bill strengthens the producer safety net by rebalancing support for many crops. It leaves direct payments untouched. It increases loan rates for key American commodities, such as wheat, barley, sunflowers, and canola. It provides higher target prices for wheat, barley, oats, soybeans, and minor oil seeds that have for many years been treated less generously, less fairly than other commodities. Finally, it provides a new target price program for the pulse crops.

The Sugar Program sees modest improvements. There is a new sugar loan rate, a sugar-to-ethanol program modeled after what they do in Brazil that has led them to energy independence. They were at one time far more dependent than we are. They were getting 80 percent of their energy supplies from abroad. They are now on the brink of energy independence. There is a higher sugar storage rate, and the bill improves the safety net for dairy producers.

Specialty crop growers are getting a substantial boost under this bill. There is $2.5 billion of increased funding for nutrition, research, production, and market promotion programs that will further grow our fruit and vegetable industry.

There are also reforms to eliminate abuse and make farm programs more transparent. These include elimination of the three-entity rule and the requirement for direct attribution of farm program payments. If somebody is listening and says: What does that mean? very simply, it means there is

going to have to be a living, breathing human out there getting farm program payments. They are not going to be able to hide behind a mishmash of legalisms, they are not going to be able to hide behind paper entities and nobody knows who gets the money.

This bill provides a new State revenue-based countercyclical program and contains a supplemental agricultural disaster assistance program that was crafted as part of the Senate Finance Committee work.

In particular, I again recognize Senator BAUCUS for his leadership on taking a concept advanced by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and making it a reality. It is extremely well thought out.

We are also aware of the tremendous financial pain caused by droughts, floods, hurricanes, and other acts of nature. When disasters occur, we respond, but sometimes those responses come much later than they should. A standing disaster assistance program sets us on a predictable and logical path to deal with disaster-related conditions for our farmers and ranchers.

In North Dakota 2 years ago, we faced conditions such as massive flooding, water as far as the eye could see, and there was no relief for 2 long years. That should not happen in America.

This supplemental disaster program has the following elements: a supplemental revenue assistance program that provides payments when the whole farm revenue falls below the whole farm revenue guarantee; an improved noninsured assistance program to more fairly protect crops that are not currently covered by crop insurance. Some crops are not covered by crop insurance. That doesn't mean there is not a program. Under the current law, the most people can hope to recover is 27.5 percent of what they lose—27.5 percent. That is the most they can possibly recover of losses they might suffer because of a natural disaster, 27.5 percent. Under this program, they will be able to do better.

There is a livestock loss assistance program to indemnify producers when deaths occur due to disaster-related conditions, a tree assistance program to help restore and replace damaged orchards and vineyards, and a speciality crop pest and disease prevention program to reduce the likelihood of disaster-related losses due to pest infestation.

The supplemental disaster program was built on sound principles authored by the State commissioners of agriculture: One, a predictable agriculture disaster program; two, it covers program crops, speciality crops, forage, and livestock; three, it provides assistance as a percentage of the difference between actual and expected whole farm crop revenue; it complements crop insurance and noninsured assistance programs. In fact, it creates an incentive to buy up. That is exactly what we should be doing, and that is in this bill.

This program is designed to be made available soon after a disaster hits, not after the auction signs go up. This picture is from my hometown newspaper earlier this year. ''First the drought, then the auction.'' This picture is showing a farm auction in North Dakota from the perspective of this fellow's boot. I have been to these auctions. I have watched the mother of the family crying at the kitchen table after losing a farm that was in the family for five generations. I have seen farmers and their kids and the looks of agony on their faces as everything they have known is taken in a few hours. I have seen it. Anybody who has felt the emotion knows what I am talking about—incredibly good and decent people who lost it all, not because of something they did but because of the vagaries of Mother Nature, because of disease, because of movements in a market that are the most difficult to predict, other than the energy markets, of any market in this country.

If we want farm and ranch families to just be wiped out by natural disasters, we can do that, but that isn't America. When Katrina hit, Americans rushed to help out. My wife and I called the Red Cross to make our donation, and the man answering the phone told me he had never seen such an outpouring in his life of just average citizens digging in their own pockets to help people in another part of the country. That is America.

There is a history in farm country: If your neighbor gets sick and the crop needs to be harvested, all the neighbors come together and go out and harvest that farmer's crop. If a barn burns down, they don't wait for the insurance settlement; the neighbors get together and they build that barn back up. That is a good thing. That is right at the heart of what makes America a great place.

Let me briefly talk about the energy title that helps us reduce our dependence on foreign oil. The reason the bill is called the Food and Energy Security Act is because it makes smart investments in breaking our long-term dependence on foreign oil. That is why the energy title is the most exciting piece of this legislation, to me. It focuses on developing cellulosic ethanol. We cannot reach the level of ethanol use Congress has called for without it. There are simply limits to what corn-based ethanol can produce. With a cellulosic ethanol industry that can turn prairie grass or wood waste into fuel, we will be able to take full advantage of the agricultural abundance of our country. We have set ourselves on a path to freedom from relying on foreign despots for the energy we need.

This energy title will provide more than $2.5 billion, including the Finance Committee tax credits, to encourage production of advanced biofuels and renewable energy. The farm bill assists with biofuel and renewable energy production in several ways: It provides assistance for the establishment of renewable biomass crops; it includes grants and loan guarantees to develop advanced biofuels refineries; it provides an incentive for increased production of advanced biofuels; it helps farmers and rural small businesses invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; and it accelerates research and development of advanced biofuels.

I think this is the most exciting part of this bill. It is in every American's interest that we do this and we do it sooner rather than later. It is in this bill. It deserves people's support.

The conservation title enhances the conservation of our land with a $4.5 billion expansion from our current conservation efforts. It fully funds successful programs, such as the Wetlands Reserve Program, which is important environmentally, and the Grasslands Reserve Program. It also maintains the overall acreage limit for the Conservation Reserve Program.

Additionally, $20 million is provided to fund the Open Fields Initiative that I offered with Senator ROBERTS. Open Fields underwrites State programs that offer incentives to farmers and ranchers who voluntarily open their land to hunting, fishing, and people who might just want to take a walk or look at birds.

I am proud this bill boosts nutrition funding by almost $5.3 billion over 5 years. That is more than $1 billion higher than the House adds for nutrition. In fact, nutrition gets a bigger increase than any other area in this bill. Within that total, $1 billion for the fresh fruit and vegetable program that the chairman has championed is going to make a difference to kids in every State in the Union. Previously, we could only provide assistance to 14 States. Now every State in the Nation will be able to have a fresh fruit and vegetable program. We have also increased funding for the Emergency Food Assistance Program by $550 million over 5 years. This additional funding will allow food banks to serve those most in need. Who among us has not heard from our food banks that they are having an increasing difficulty meeting the demands made on them?

Finally, we have updated a number of food stamp policies for the first time in 30 years. These changes represent an additional $3.7 billion for that program.

In addition to all the important improvements I noted, this bill is fully paid for. It complies with the new pay-go budget discipline, and that has not been easy. We will hear from the administration tomorrow that somehow we have come up with $36 billion or $38 billion of new money. They arrived at that total by the most creative accounting I have ever seen.

The fact is this bill is $8 billion over baseline. The further fact is that this bill allowed us $22 billion less than we had when we wrote the last farm bill. Anybody who suggests this isn't fiscally responsible is not looking very hard.

When the 2002 farm bill was written, the Ag Committee had $73.5 billion in new resources to utilize in addressing the challenges of that bill. As many in this body remember, that was not an easy process. Well, this year the Agriculture Committee, working in close cooperation with the Senate Finance Committee, had only $8 billion above baseline in new funding resources. And as I have indicated, even with that, we were $22 billion below on a baseline basis of what was available for writing the last farm bill. At the same time, by rebalancing and reformulating the commodity title and establishing a standing Agriculture Disaster Assistance Program, the committee has been able to maintain and improve the economic safety net for our farmers, including those who produce specialty crops. At the same time, the adjustments made in the commodity title, when coupled with the funding made available by the Finance Committee, allow this legislation to provide about $10.7 billion that is used to address other priorities within the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Committee.

So hear me now. Hear me now. We have reduced the commodity portion. We have reduced crop insurance. Commodities provide 34 percent, crop insurance provides 32 percent, and the Finance Committee provided 28 percent. Those are the funding sources to increase conservation by 39.4 percent of the total, nutrition got 46.8 percent of the increases, energy 9 percent, and other 4.7 percent. So this is where the money came from. It came from commodities and crop insurance and it went to conservation and nutrition. That is a fact.

That is not the only fact we ought to draw people's attention to. We also ought to point out that if you look ahead on this farm bill to where all the money goes—you look at this whole bill and where the money goes—66 percent goes to nutrition, conservation 9 percent, crop insurance 7.6 percent, commodity programs 13.6 percent—a dramatic reduction from the previous farm bill. And that is a fact. That is a fact. I think in the last farm bill commodities were at about 15 percent.

So this has been no easy task, but the farm bill we are considering represents a tremendous effort by Chairman HARKIN, by Ranking Member CHAMBLISS, as well as by Chairman BAUCUS and Ranking Member GRASSLEY. I tell you, I have never seen a better team effort in this Chamber, a more bipartisan effort than was made on this farm bill. When has a farm bill ever come out of the committee—with 21 Members of the Senate on that committee—when has a farm bill ever come out without a dissenting vote? I have been here 21 years. I have never seen that kind of bipartisan support as we saw for this bill. And why? Because it is deserved. It is deserved because this bill breaks new ground. It is the beginning of reform. It commits substantial new resources to nutrition that is already by far the biggest part of farm legislation, and it has the hope for America being able to reduce its dependence on foreign energy. That is right at the heart of this bill. That is why we call it the Food and Energy Security Act.

I commend the leaders for their hard work. It has been the result of months of bipartisan collaboration. And, as I have said, it is fully paid for. Over the next several days, I expect we will hear some colleagues unfairly criticize the bill for providing an economic safety net for our producers. Let me remind my colleagues that current law is estimated by CBO to spend almost 15 percent of total mandatory outlays for the commodity programs, with 66 percent of the estimated outlays going to support food stamps and other nutrition programs to the needy, and just under 8 percent of the outlays are for resource conservation programs.

Under the bill proposed by the Senate Agriculture Committee, the amount for commodity programs is reduced more than 11 percent to 13.6 percent of total outlays. Spending for nutrition programs remains at about two-thirds of total outlays, and conservation spending is increased nearly 17 percent to 9 percent of total estimated spending.

In closing, this farm bill represents an investment in American agriculture that will benefit our producers, our rural communities, our Main Street businesses, taxpayers, and consumers, and particularly the most needy among us. It deserves the support of every Senator.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, before I make my comments on the farm bill, I want to follow up on something that the Senator from North Dakota said about the bipartisanship of this bill, and that is to remind people who might be listening that what they see on the evening news about dissension within Congress does not present a very clear picture of the way Congress operates.

We can all say there is too much partisanship, but in the final analysis, at least as far as the Senate goes, nothing is ever going to get done here unless it is bipartisan. So I compliment the Senator from North Dakota for speaking about the bipartisanship of the farm bill that is now before the Senate, but I take that opportunity to remind people when you have 51 Democrats and 49 Republicans and you have a filibuster, it takes 60 votes to move forward to stop a filibuster and to get finality on a bill. We would never get anything done in the Senate if it weren't at least somewhat bipartisan.

I say to the American people who watch television at night and get fed up because there is talk about too much partisanship going on in the Congress and too many things being done to make one party look better than the other party and vice versa, this farm bill is an example of how things get done in the Senate because parties must work together or nothing would get done. This farm bill will be passed by the Senate for the reason that it is bipartisan.

I thank my colleagues who have worked so hard on this bill, particularly the leadership of the Senate Agriculture Committee, and Senator HARKIN for his leadership in this area. It is a lot of hard work to bring a bill to the floor that supports rural America when you consider only about 2 percent of the people in this country are producing the food that the other 98 percent eat.

While this bill isn't perfect, it is something that will help the family farmers. The most important job the committee has to do every 5 years is to write a farm bill. It is not all we do. We operate in a lot of different areas. But one of the most important things the Agriculture Committee does is provide a safety net for farmers, and we generally review and rewrite that piece of legislation every 5 or 6 years.

I am glad that in addition to the Agriculture Committee being involved in this bill, as the Senator from North Dakota has pointed out, the Finance Committee has had a part of the action, because we were able to contribute to that process and free up over $3 billion for the Agriculture Committee to spend on priorities that are very important for the Agriculture Committee.

What is more, for the first time I am aware of, we will be merging our agricultural tax policy with the Agriculture Committee's authorization and spending policy. This bipartisan tax package frees up conservation dollars for programs that we have backlogs in, closes tax loopholes, provides support for our growing cellulosic technology for ethanol, encourages rural economic development, and helps family farmers to get started in the business of agriculture.

I have never been a big proponent for a permanent disaster program, but there are a few key items I want to point out about the bill that is before us. This program will set up a permanent system to administer disaster aid. We won't have to go through the trouble then of setting up a new way to administer a disaster program every time we do an ad hoc disaster package, as we have done from year to year as disasters might happen.

Also, what is most important to me about this part of the farm bill that comes from the Finance Committee is that it is tied directly to crop insurance. We want to promote farmers managing their own risk, and one way to do that is through the crop insurance program. Now, the crop insurance program might not cover all disasters, so that is why this program is set up. But as a precondition to participating in the disaster program that is in the Finance Committee's provisions that

are going to go into this farm bill is that each farmer who wants to benefit from it has crop insurance.

In my home State of Iowa, we have a very successful crop insurance system. I like that farmers have to take risk mitigation into their own hands. Tying the two together was the only way it would work. I know this body will be looking at additional provisions that might affect the crop insurance program. I am not opposed to changes, but I urge my colleagues to be careful that we don't undermine a successful risk tool for our farmers. I believe we should give producers as many tools as possible to provide them an adequate safety net. An optional revenue protection program is a step in the right direction. Farmers should be able to make the best choices for their individual operations based upon the level of risk management that they, as their own manager, decide they need. I am glad to see that option included in the farm bill, and I look forward to anybody suggesting improvements in that program.

One of the most important titles in the Agriculture Committee bill, and it is added for the first time to a farm bill, is the livestock competition title. I am glad to see a compromise on legislation that we call COOL—an acronym for country-of-origin labeling—and I look forward to the law being implemented quickly. This COOL legislation was actually passed 5 years ago, but it has been held up by action on separate appropriations bills over the years so that this law has never been implemented. Hopefully, once and for all, it will be implemented, because it is a darned good time to let consumers know where their food comes from. The country of origin of their food is as important as their knowing the country of origin of any other product they might buy as a consumer in the United States. That is the law for every other product that consumers buy—that they know what country it comes from—so why not the same requirement for food as well?

We have also put a ban on mandatory arbitration in production contracts. This isn't to say a producer can't agree to arbitration once a dispute arises. In fact, I am very much a supporter of the process called arbitration, but I am very much opposed to mandatory arbitration. Because of this legislation, processors can no longer force these arbitration clauses on farmers who have no choice but to sign the contract for lack of competition.

I am also very pleased that my amendment to ban packer ownership for owning or feeding livestock has been accepted into this package by Senator HARKIN and other leaders on the committee. This is very good news for small livestock producers who deserve to make sure the competitive marketplace is working. One of the things that brings this about is the meat processing industry has said very clearly from time to time: Why do they own livestock? They own livestock—they say, in their words—because when prices are high, they can kill their own livestock. When prices are low, they buy from the farmer. I think it is easy to see how demoralizing that is to the family farmer when he sees, working hard to produce a product, that somehow he can be undercut by the vertical integration of meat packers owning their own livestock.

While this does not accomplish all that we need in this area of enhanced competition for the family farmer, it is an important first step toward remedying the biggest problem facing farmers today, the problem of concentration in agriculture, particularly in agribusiness. Senator HARKIN and I, along with other Members of this body, will be offering additional reforms that are critical to a vibrant future in the livestock industry. I call on my fellow Senators to support the livestock title and these additional reforms.

Another issue I have been working to address through the farm bill relates to the administrative rules issued by a department unrelated to agriculture, the Department of Homeland Security—well, related in the sense that they have responsibilities to make sure that products coming into our country are safe. But this regulation I am talking about is their attempt to regulate stored quantities of propane energy sources.

Earlier this year, the Department of Homeland Security issued regulations that required registration of all propane tanks storing 7,500 pounds of propane. These regulations were unduly burdensome and disproportionately impacting rural American homeowners, farmers, and rural small businesses. Senator HARKIN included a provision in the farm bill that I authored that would reduce this impact on rural Americans.

Coincidentally, after the provision was included, the Department of Homeland Security stepped up and increased the threshold quantity of propane, exempting many small homeowners, farmers, and small businesses by excluding tanks smaller than 10,000 pounds of propane and raising the threshold to 60,000 pounds per large tanks. That is a movement in the right direction. This change in regulation by the Department of Homeland Security is welcome, but the Department should have alerted everyone in advance and eliminated the need for us to include a provision in this bill at all. That said, we are currently working on some new language that would ensure that the Department of Homeland Security reports to Congress on the impact its new rule will have and ensure that rural Americans are not disproportionately impacted.

As a family farmer on the Agriculture Committee, I have made it my job to look out for small- and medium-sized family farmers. However, the position of the family farmer has become increasingly weaker as there has been consolidation in agribusiness, and it seems to have reached an alltime high. Farmers today have fewer buyers for their products and fewer suppliers to buy their inputs from. It seems this concentration is more now than ever before. The result is an increasing loss of family farms and the smallest farm share of the consumer dollar in history. It is important for us to remember that family farmers ultimately derive their income from the agricultural marketplace, not from the farm belt. Family farmers have, unfortunately, been in a position of weakness in selling their products to large processors and in buying their imports from large suppliers.

I have been fighting for real payment limitations since the last farm bill. I have, to some extent, over a period of decades in Congress, helped to pass farm bills. Senator DORGAN of North Dakota and I realize that a hard cap on payments is a most effective tool in helping our small farmers get a level playing field with the corporate megafarms. Ask a taxpayer if a quarter of a million dollars is enough for a farmer. That is what our cap is going to be. I think we would all know the answer to that question would be very positive.

The family farmer continues to struggle with land prices literally skyrocketing. Landlords know what kind of payments the farmer is getting and takes that into account in the rent they charge. We cannot sit idly by and do nothing while family farmers suffer. I certainly am not going to. That is why I pushed for reform in our laws that has an effect on family farmers and particularly in helping young farmers get started in farming.

The time for real reform is now. Our family farmers deserve it. I think we have a good start on a good package for rural America. An adequate safety net will assure us a safe and abundant food supply. It is critical to our economic and energy independence for the future. I look forward to the debate over the next few days to improve this bill, and I would like to highlight the issue of a hard cap on farm payments.

Presently, we have 10 percent of the large farmers in America getting 72 percent of all the money we put into a farm bill. There is nothing wrong with big farmers getting bigger, but there is something wrong when we have subsidies and farm programs going to big farmers who are getting bigger partly because of subsidies. What we want to do is maintain urban support for a farm safety net for farmers. It seems, in order to maintain that safety net, we are going to have to maintain credibility with urban taxpayers and urban consumers. We cannot do that very easily when big farmers—10 percent—are getting 72 percent of the benefits out of it because the taxpayers in the cities are going to start raising the question: What is this farm safety net all about if it is only helping the biggest of farmers? To get a farm bill

through the House of Representatives, where urban representation is so all-powerful, it is very important for us to take that into consideration.

Another factor we need to take into consideration is the extent, as I have already alluded to, this drives up the cash rent, so it is very difficult for a generation of new farmers to start farming when they have the unfair competition of 10 percent of biggest farmers getting 72 percent of the benefits out of the farm program.

Then it seems to me we ought to take into consideration what has been the history of the safety net for family farmers. It generally has been targeted toward medium- and small-sized farmers. Why? Because these are the people, when they have an opportunity to farm and things happen that are beyond their control—that could be a natural disaster; that could be Nixon freezing beef prices, as he did; it could be, in the same administration, prohibiting the export of soybeans when they got $13 a bushel, driving it down to maybe $3 a bushel in just a matter of a few days. You can have international war. You can have energy at a high price as it is now because of OPEC. All of these are beyond the control of the family farmer. The small- and medium-sized farmer does not have the ability to withstand some of these things that are beyond his control. But there is a certain level of efficiency, a certain level of bigness in farming where you have enough staying power so that you can withstand some of that.

We, through payment limits, have tended to target the farm program toward small- and medium-sized farmers. It is quite obvious that when 10 percent of the biggest farmers get 72 percent of the benefit out of the farm program, that targeting is no longer the case. What Senator DORGAN and I are trying to do in our amendments that will come up shortly is to make sure we keep that targeting and safety net what it really is—a safety net to help people when they have problems beyond their own control, to overcome them, to survive in business, to keep producing. Why? Because we have come to the conclusion, after a century and a half, that the family farmer is the most efficient food-producing institution anywhere in the world. We ought to maintain it. We ought to keep it strong. This legislation will do that. Some improvements we can make in that legislation in the areas of payment caps will help even more so.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to come to the floor of the Senate to support the farm bill. I believe the committee has produced a good bill. I believe, as my colleagues Senator CONRAD and Senator GRASSLEY have said, and before them Senator HARKIN and CHAMBLISS—they have talked about the need for a farm bill, No. 1, and, No. 2, the ability to produce a bill that gives farmers some hope.

It is late in the year. My hope is we can pass a bill here, go to conference with the House, and give farmers and their lenders and others some certainty by the end of this year about what the rules will be, what the farm program will be as they begin to think about getting into the fields in the spring. They are already planning for spring planting, and they need to understand what the rules are.

This is a very important debate. I congratulate and say to my colleagues: You have done a good job. It has been bipartisan. I, like my colleague from Iowa, Senator GRASSLEY, believe we can improve it in a couple of places. I believe we can do that, but I support this bill.

I want to try to give some description to what this is about. It is not just about statistics. It is not just about theory. It is about people who populate this country, living out on the land by themselves, under a yard light, trying to raise a family, trying to raise a crop, risking everything. They are called family farmers and ranchers. In most cases, they live out in the country alone. It is them against the odds. They are having to confront uncertain weather, uncertain commodity prices, and uncertain international events that can affect whether they can make a living or not—all of these things.

We are here in suits and ties, and we debate. What a wonderful thing. Unlike us, the farmers take a shower after work. We take a shower before work, and then we put on a suit and tie. But the family farmers in this country, in most cases they get up and do chores. They say it is doing chores—5, 6 in the morning, get up, get out, and get busy. They work hard all day, and they are out there by themselves. They are a sole proprietor running their own business, living under a yard light, hoping things go well. They plant a crop; they plant a seed in the ground. They hope it will grow. Maybe it will. They hope they don't get too much rain. They hope they get enough rain. They hope if the seed grows it doesn't develop some sort of plant disease. They hope it doesn't hail, and they hope at some point they will be able to harvest it. And when they harvest it, they hope there will be a price at the elevator that gives them half a shot at making a profit.

These are all hopes. The only way a farmer can live is on hope—hope that things will be better, hope that tomorrow is going to be better. These are families who live on hope.

This piece of legislation, this farm bill, gives those families some assurance, a safety net, to get them over difficult times.

When price swings move up and down, this safety net is a bridge over those price valleys that say to family farmers: We think you matter to this country. We think the fact that you exist makes a difference. We think the fact that families produce America's food makes a difference to this country.

Now, family farms produce a lot more than crops. They also produce communities. I come from one of those communities, 300 people. The arteries that fed life into that small community were the family farmers all around it. On Saturday nights, you could not find a parking place on Main Street because family farmers came to town to talk about the weather, talk about the crops, visit with neighbors. It is what a rural lifestyle is about. It is about producing communities.

An author named Critchfield once described family values in America. He said: Family farms are the very seedbed of family values.

And those family values roll from the family farms to small towns to big towns to nurture and refresh the value system of this country.

There is a poet in North Dakota who is a farmer and rancher named Rodney Nelson. Rodney wrote a piece that asked, plaintively: What is it worth? It says exactly what should be said here. He asked this question: What is it worth for a kid to know how to plow a field? What is it worth for a kid to know how to grease a combine? What is it worth for a kid to know how to pour cement? What is it worth for a kid to know how to weld a seam? What is it worth for a kid to know how to build a lean-to? What is it worth? He said: All of those skills you learn on the family farm. It is the only university in our country where they teach all of those skills. What is it worth to the country, he asks?

It is a good question. I hope the answer is rooted in a farm bill that says to those family farms: We want you to have a chance to continue because we think you add great value to our country, to our culture.

There are many who do not have the foggiest notion of what family farming is about. I remember I took a Congressman with me from the east coast to come to North Dakota on a trip some while ago. We went to North Dakota, and one of the stops was at a dairy barn, George Doll's dairy barn, north of New Salem, ND.

We stood in that dairy barn with the soft light of the late afternoon coming through the boards on that barn. The cattle came in to be milked. The milk cows came in and went to their assigned stanchions, and George Doll and his wife began milking 80 cows.

And my colleague from the east coast, in a blue pin-stripped suit, observed this standing in that dairy barn, and realized this is a lot of work. So, finally, he said to me: How often do they do this, BYRON?

I said: Well, they do this twice a day. They do this in the morning and again in the evening.

I said to George: What time do you get up?

He said: We start about 5 in the morning, then we do it about 5 in the evening.

Then he watched for a while more and then he said to George, he said:

George, do you have to do this on weekends?

He did not know you milk cows 7 days a week, twice a day. He did not know that. There would have been no reason to know that milk comes from anywhere but a carton, unless you go to a farm that is milking cows and see what kind of work it is.

So it seems to me there is much to be said about the value system, in talking about family farming.

Now, I wish to make one other point. Some talk about agriculture. I prefer to talk about family farming. If this is not about family farms, we do not need the bill. We would have probably separate pieces of legislation dealing with nutrition and so on, food stamps.

But it seems to me the question of a safety net is almost exclusively the question: Do we want to try to help family farmers through tough times? The big corporate agrifactories, they can make it through tough times. If you have a real tough time, price depressions and other things, the big corporate agrifactories, they can make it through there, but the family farms get washed away. So we developed instead a safety net. That safety net is rooted in the legislation before us, which incidentally I think improves the safety net.

That is why I like this bill. It also includes a disaster title. That is why I like this bill. I think it was important to do. I had included a separate piece of legislation calling for a disaster title. I am very pleased this bill contains a disaster title.

Now, my colleague from Iowa indicated he felt there should be some additional reform, as do I, so we will offer, perhaps tomorrow or perhaps a day later, a piece of legislation that will provide some further limitations on payments.

Why would we do that? Because I worry what is going to happen is we are going to erode the support for the farm program if we do not provide the reforms and changes that are necessary. One of those reforms, and part of that change is payment limitations, so that we are structuring this to try to provide the most help to family-sized farms.

I do not have anything against big corporate agrifactories. If they want to farm two or three counties, God bless them. But I do not think the Federal Government has a responsibility to be their banker. They are big enough to be a big corporate agrifactory, and they have got the financial strength to get through tough times.

We ought to provide a safety net to help those families through tough times to stay on the land. So the proposal we offer is a proposal that does say a couple of important things: One, there is a payment limitation of $250,000, a hard cap.

I will admit the piece of legislation that has come to the floor of the Senate includes some significant improvements. It eliminates the three entity rule, which is a significant reform. It has an adjusted gross income requirement, of sorts. So it does make some progress in a couple of areas. But it does not, for example, cap payments for all of the payments. It has been said that the committee bill caps payments at $200,000.

But it leaves out the LDP, the marketing loan, or loan deficiency payment. Because it exempts marketing loans and makes them unlimited, every single bushel of commodity in America has effectively an unlimited price support.

Well, there needs to be a limitation on that, on the direct payment, the countercyclical payment, and the marketing loan, which produces an LDP. There ought to be a limitation.

Second, it seems to me reasonable that we would limit farm program payments to those who are actively involved in farming. That ought not be radical. An arts patron from San Francisco, I will not use her name, but a patron of the arts in San Francisco gets $1.2 million in support payments over three years. An arts patron who has nothing to do with farming, her grandfather had something to do with farming, but she does not, she collects $1.2 million from the farm program.

Is that sort of thing going to ruin the reputation of the farm program at some point? I think it will. Another related problem is what they call cowboy starter kits. They have a situation in rice country where, going back to 1985, if you grew rice on the land, you now own that land, and it is still rural land, you do not have to produce rice for a quarter century, you get a farm program payment. You do not have to be a farmer to get the payment.

In Texas, north of Houston, they were selling cowboy starter kits. Ten acres of land, put a house on 1 acre, run a horse on 9 acres. You have never farmed, you do not have to farm, and you have 9 acres you can get farm program price supports because they grew rice on it 20 years ago. That is not justifiable.

One of the ways to shut that done, of course, very simply and very effectively, is to say: If you are going to get benefits, you have to have some real tangible connection to farming.

So my colleague, Senator GRASSLEY, and I will offer an amendment that is very simple. It is not at amendment that is attempting to undo this important piece of legislation, it is an attempt to improve it and improve it in a way that will give it even more credibility.

A payment limitation of $250,000 and a requirement that you have active involvement in farming if you are going to get a farm program benefit. So that is what we would intend to do. My hope is that working with Senator HARKIN and Senator CHAMBLISS, we will be able to offer that, perhaps tomorrow.

I would be willing to come in the morning, and with my colleague, if he is available, I see he is still on the floor, and perhaps we can reach agreement, offer an amendment, and have that debate.

At any rate, it is my hope to be helpful to both the chairman and ranking member to move this legislation. We are going to have a couple of these discussions where there will be disagreement, we will have a vote, we will see what the view of the Senate is. But I want this piece of legislation to be done. I would like to improve it some. But I give this bill good marks. I am going to be a supporter on the floor of the Senate, working to try to get this through the Senate, get it passed, get it to conference so we can tell family farmers: Here is what we are going to do. Here are the rules.

I might say, finally, I hope when we have completed our work, I hope the President will be supportive as well. That is another part of this process. I know many are working with the President for that support.

As I have indicated earlier, I know there are thousands, tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of farmers out around the country waiting for an answer. What will the farm program be as they begin to think about getting into the fields next spring? They can hardly wait. That is the nature of being a farmer.

I mean they want to get on a tractor, they want to get moving, they want to plant some seeds, they want to buy some cattle. That is the way it is because they live on hope.

My expectation is we can give them much greater hope if we pass a piece of legislation that says to them: This country wants to invest in your future. If you are a farmer living out there alone, trying to raise a crop and a family and you run through a tough patch, you run through some tough times, we want to help you.

The farm bill says to those farmers: You are not alone. This country believes in the merit and value of having a network of family farms populating this country, producing food for a hungry country.

Having said all that, let me again thank my colleagues for the bill they have produced. I look forward to being here tomorrow with my colleague, Senator GRASSLEY, and offering an amendment. Then further, working this week, perhaps by the end of this week or at least into next week, to get this piece of legislation through and get a final vote on it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, earlier this year, the Senate tried to solve the very complex and emotional issue

of immigration reform. The immigration bill we considered included border security, interior enforcement, and amnesty.

It also included many needed reforms to our legal immigration process. I said throughout the debate that Congress needs a long-term solution to the immigration issue. We cannot pass a bandaid approach that includes a path to citizenship for law breakers; rather, Congress needs to improve our legal immigration channels.

I firmly believe companies want to hire legal workers, and people want to enter the United States legally. If we fix our visa policies, we can restore integrity to our immigration system, and all parties can benefit. But if we cannot pass a comprehensive bill—and I think as time goes on it is going to look more difficult as we go into an election year—if we cannot pass such a comprehensive bill, I think that we should consider passing legislation we can agree on.

I am taking the floor at this time to talk about the H–1B visa provisions that were included in the immigration bill and ask my colleagues to take a second look at these needed reforms.

Many companies use H–1B programs. It has served a valuable purpose. But we need to reevaluate how this program operates and work to make it more effective. The H–1B program was officially created in 1990, although we have brought foreign workers legally into our country for over 30 years.

It was brought into existence to serve American employers that needed high-tech workers. It was created to file a void in the U.S. labor force. The visa holders were intended to file jobs for a temporary amount of time, while the country invested in American workers to pick up the skills our economy needed.

We attached fees to the visas that now bring in millions of dollars. These fees and the dollars that come with it are invested in training grants to educate our own workforce. We use the funds to put kids through school for science, technology, engineering, and math skills. We provide students with scholarships with the hope that they will replace imported foreign workers.

Unfortunately, the H–1B program is so popular, it is now replacing the U.S. labor force rather than supplementing it. The high-tech and business community is begging Congress to raise or eliminate the annual cap that currently stands at 85,000 visas each year. These numbers do not include and account for those who are exempt from the cap. For instance, we don't count employees at institutions of higher education or nonprofit research organizations. We don't count those who change jobs or renew their H–1B visa. My point is, we have many more than 85,000 H–1B visas distributed each year. I am here to tell my colleagues that increasing the visa supply is not the only solution to the so-called shortage of high-tech workers.

Since March of this year, the Senator from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN, and I have taken a good look at the H–1B visa program. We have raised issues with the Citizenship and Immigration Service as well as the Department of Labor. We have asked questions of companies that use the H–1B visa, and I have raised issues with attorneys who advise their clients on how to get around the permanent employment regulations. I would like to share what I have learned. I want to give some fraud and abuse examples. Unfortunately, there are some bad apples in the H–1B visa program.

In 2005, a man was charged with fraud and misuse of visas, money laundering, and mail fraud for his participation in a multistate scam to smuggle Indian and Pakistani nationals into the United States with fraudulently obtained H–1B visas. The man created fictitious companies, often renting only a cubicle simply to have a mailing address. He fabricated tax returns and submitted over 1,000 false visa petitions.

Another man pled guilty last August to charges of fraud and conspiracy. This man and an attorney charged foreign nationals thousands of dollars to fraudulently obtain H–1B visas. He provided false documents to substantiate their H–1B petitions. The Programmer's Guild, a group representing U.S. worker interests, filed over 300 discrimination complaints in the first half of 2006 against companies that posted ''H–1B visa holder only'' ads on job boards. Anyone can go on the Internet and find jobs that target H–1B visa holders.

There are more than just national anecdotes, however. Everyday Americans are affected. Since looking into the H–1B visa program, some of my constituents have come to me and spoken out against abuses they see. One of my constituents has shared copies of e-mails showing how he is often bombarded with requests by companies that want to lease their H–1B workers to that Iowan. There are companies with H–1B workers who are so-called ''on the bench,'' meaning they are ready to be deployed to a project. Hundreds of foreign workers are standing by waiting for work. Some call these H–1B ''factory firms.'' This Iowan even said one company went so far as to require him to sign a memorandum of understanding that helps the H–1B factory firm justify to the Federal Government that they have adequate business opportunity that requires additional visa holders. It is a complete falsification of the market justification for additional H–1B workers.

These firms are making a commodity out of H–1B workers. They have visa holders but are looking for work. It is supposed to be the other way around. There should be a shortage or a need, first and foremost. Then and only then do we allow foreign workers to fill these jobs temporarily.

Another constituent sent me a letter saying that he saw firsthand how foreign workers were brought in while Iowans with similar qualifications were let go. He tells me he is a computer professional with over 20 years experience. He was laid off and has yet to find a job. He states:

> I believe [my employer] has a history of hiring H–1B computer personnel at the expense of qualified American citizens.

Another Iowan from Cedar Falls wrote in support of our review of the H–1B program. He is a computer programmer with a master's degree and over 20 years of work experience in that field. He says:

> Despite all of my qualifications, in the last four years I have applied to over 3,700 positions and have received no job offers.

He believes he is in constant competition with H–1B visa holders.

I received a letter from a man in Arizona who works for a company that employs dozens of H–1B workers. When he asked his supervisor why so many foreign nationals were being hired, the head of human resources said:

> If the company has an American and a person from India, both with the same skill set, the company will hire the person from India because they can pay them less.

These are firsthand stories from U.S. workers. I ask those begging for an increase in foreign workers to explain these cases to me. Why are Americans struggling to get jobs as software developers, data processors, and program analysts?

Senator DURBIN and I inquired with several foreign-based companies that use the H–1B program. Rather than sending a letter to all companies that use the program, which would be over 200 companies, we decided to start our investigation with foreign-based entities. Our intention was to learn how foreign companies are using our visas. We learned that the top nine foreign-based companies used 20,000 visas in 2006. Think of what a high percentage that is of the 85,000, just nine foreign-based companies, 20,000 visas in the year 2006. I say that twice for emphasis. It just so happens that Indian companies are using one-third of the available visas we allocate each year, but there is more to learn. We are not done asking questions. We, meaning Senator DURBIN and I, continue to talk to U.S.-based companies and companies in our own States that use the program.

The Citizenship and Immigration Service also has concerns. Our review has prompted discussion among the executive branch, businesses, labor unions, and workers, and workers are the ones we are concerned about. So we are not the only ones asking questions. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service is also worried about fraud in the program. This agency's investigative arm, that subdivision called the Fraud Detection and National Security unit, is doing a fraud assessment of the H–1B and L visa programs. I asked the unit to brief my staff on their work, and they reported they are not finished with analyzing the data. Senator COLLINS of Maine and I put the agency on

notice that we are anxiously awaiting this report so we may continue our quest to reform the program appropriately. In the meantime, the bill Senator DURBIN and I introduced includes measures to rein in the abuse. It goes a long ways to close some loopholes to protect American workers. It is our hope that these measures will bring the program back to its original mission; that is, to help U.S.-based companies find highly skilled workers to fill the shortage for a temporary period of time. That is what the H–1B visa program is all about.

Under current law, companies can bring in foreign workers on an H–1B visa without first attempting to hire an American. Our bill would require every employer to attest that it is not displacing a U.S. worker by hiring an H–1B visa holder and that the employer has taken good-faith steps to recruit U.S. workers for the jobs in which an H–1B visa holder is being sought. Why would anyone oppose this measure? Our bill also gives more oversight and investigative authority to the Department of Labor. Right now the Department may only review labor certification for ''clear indication of fraud and misrepresentation.'' The Secretary of Labor is unable to review applications for anything but what the law calls incompleteness and cannot initiate an investigation unless requested. This means the Labor Department in effect is required to turn a blind eye to information that is suspicious.

To remedy this problem, our bill provides the Department of Labor the ability to initiate an investigation on its own and gives the Department of Labor more time to review applications. The Department could also do random audits of any company that uses the program. Aside from these measures, our bill would prohibit employers to only advertise available jobs to H–1B visa holders. It would encourage information sharing between the Department of Labor and the Department of Homeland Security. It would double the penalties for employer noncompliance with the H–1B program requirements.

I am happy to report that most of these commonsense solutions were included in the immigration bill. I challenge any of my colleagues to oppose these needed reforms before we talk about increasing the number of H–1B visas or at the very least in conjunction with that process.

Today I take the floor to tell my colleagues that I am willing to work on this issue before the end of the year. I know businesses want more visas. I know groups that represent workers and visa holders want reforms. I know the American people want a sensible system in place that gives their children a chance at these highly skilled jobs. Some of my colleagues think the solution is increasing the annual cap on H–1B visas and doing nothing else. Before we agree to import more foreign workers, let's restore integrity in this H–1B program. The system needs a makeover. I am willing to consider an increase in the H–1B visa supply, but only if reforms are included. We must fix the loopholes before we just allow more foreign workers to come in and take jobs that Americans want to do. I would think my colleagues would want this program to work as it was intended by its original authors. My colleagues should want to protect the jobs of our various constituencies and help our businesses find the workers they truly need.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 15 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

(The remarks of Mr. WHITEHOUSE pertaining to the introduction of S. 2305 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

CHANGES TO S. CON. RES. 21

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, section 307 of S. Con. Res. 21, the 2008 budget resolution, permits the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels for legislation, including one or more bills and amendments, that reauthorizes the 2002 farm bill or similar or related programs, provides for revenue changes, or any combination thereof. Section 307 authorizes the revisions provided that certain conditions are met, including that amounts provided in the legislation for the above purposes not exceed $20 billion over the period of fiscal years 2007 through 2012 and that the legislation not worsen the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2007 through 2012 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2007 through 2017.

The Senate is considering an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2419 that consolidates the following: S. 2302, the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, which was reported by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on November 2, 2007; S. 2242, the Heartland, Habitat, Harvest, and Horticulture Act of 2007, which was reported by the Senate Committee on Finance on October 25, 2007; and a number of technical and other corrections made to both bills. I find that the consolidated legislation satisfies the conditions of the deficit-neutral reserve fund for the farm bill. I am pleased to report to the Senate that this legislation is fully paid for over both the 2007 through 2012 time period and the 2007 through 2017 time period. Therefore, pursuant to section 307, I am adjusting the aggregates in the 2008 budget resolution, as well as the allocation provided to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

I ask unanimous consent to have the following revisions to S. Con. Res. 21 printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008—S. CON. RES. 21; REVISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 307 DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE FARM BILL

[In billions of dollars]

Section 101	
(1)(A) Federal Revenues:	
FY 2007	1,900.340
FY 2008	2,024.835
FY 2009	2,121.607
FY 2010	2,176.229
FY 2011	2,357.094
FY 2012	2,498.971
(1)(B) Change in Federal Revenues:	
FY 2007	−4.366
FY 2008	−25.961
FY 2009	14.681
FY 2010	12.508
FY 2011	−37.456
FY 2012	−98.125
(2) New Budget Authority:	
FY 2007	2,371.470
FY 2008	2,508.833
FY 2009	2,526.124
FY 2010	2,581.369
FY 2011	2,696.797
FY 2012	2,737.578
(3) Budget Outlays:	
FY 2007	2,294.862
FY 2008	2,471.548
FY 2009	2,573.005
FY 2010	2,609.873
FY 2011	2,702.839
FY 2012	2,716.392

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008—S. CON. RES. 21; REVISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 307 DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE FARM BILL

[In millions of dollars]

Current Allocation to Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee:	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	14,284
FY 2007 Outlays	14,056
FY 2008 Budget Authority	13,464
FY 2008 Outlays	12,939
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	67,878
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	65,557
Adjustments:	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	0
FY 2007 Outlays	0
FY 2008 Budget Authority	3,624
FY 2008 Outlays	1,690
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	9,003
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	5,492
Revised Allocation to Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee:	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	14,284
FY 2007 Outlays	14,056
FY 2008 Budget Authority	17,088
FY 2008 Outlays	14,629
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	76,881
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	71,049

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CAPTAIN TIMOTHY I. MCGOVERN

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude to honor the life of a brave soldier from Idaville, IN. CPT Timothy McGovern, 28 years old, died October 31 in Mosul, Iraq. Captain McGovern died of injuries he sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. With an optimistic future before him, Timothy risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Timothy was a graduate of Twin Lakes High School and Purdue University, where he began his military service in the Reserve Officers Training Corps. At Twin Lakes, he was a leader on the football team and ran on the track team. His football coach and uncle, Mike Wright, said that he could depend on Timothy on the field because of his intelligence and positive attitude. He always supported his teammates. Later in life, he would support his fellow soldiers.

Timothy wanted to be a soldier nearly all his life, and he believed strongly in the goals of our engagement in Iraq. Two weeks before his death, Timothy spoke to a local radio station about the positive impact Americans at home can have on the morale of the soldiers abroad, saying, ''Any support they get, any letters they get, anything like that is great for morale and lets the soldiers here know that people still care about them and care about what they're doing.''

Timothy was serving a second tour of duty when he died. He was a member of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division from Fort Bliss, TX. For his service and sacrifice, he was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. Timothy is survived by his parents, LTC Colonel Bill McGovern and Jonell McGovern, and his sister, Miranda.

Today, I join Timothy's family and friends in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Timothy. Today and always, Timothy will be remembered by family members, friends, and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero, and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Timothy's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: ''We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.'' This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Timothy's actions will live on far longer that any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of CPT Timothy I. McGovern in the official RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy, and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Timothy's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah, who said, ''He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces.''

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Timothy.

HEALTHY AMERICANS ACT

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, as I travel and talk to folks across Minnesota, one thing is abundantly clear—Minnesotans, like most Americans, are more concerned about health care than just about any other issue—and for good reason.

As a Nation, we are spending about $2.2 trillion on health care each year, about 16 percent of GDP. This is more than twice what many other developed countries spend, yet 47 million of our fellow Americans are uninsured. And even those with insurance are worried. Worried about the escalating cost of premiums, whether their children will be covered, or whether they will lose their health plan at work.

One thing we can all agree on is that inaction is not an option. As these concerns grow and the costs continue to increase, the problem will only get more complex and more difficult to solve. The time for solutions is now.

It is in the spirit of finding a solution to our Nation's health care crisis that I recently joined four of my Republican colleagues as a cosponsor of Senator RON WYDEN's Healthy Americans Act. While this is certainly not a perfect solution, it is not ''Government-run'' or ''single-payer'' health care. It is a private market, consumer-focused proposal that serves as a good place to start the discussion. Yet, as a cosponsor, I think it is also important that I point out some of the areas where I disagree with this legislation.

One area of concern has to do with transitioning people from employer-based insurance to the private market. The Healthy Americans Act severs the ties between employment and health insurance and shifts everyone into the individual market. Instead, I think the Government should level the playing field regarding taxation of health benefits, so workers can leave their employer, start a new business, change jobs, or spend more time at home with their family without risking their health care coverage.

Another area where I strongly disagree with Senator WYDEN is his requirement that health insurance companies cover abortions. I have never wavered in my support for pro-life policies. While I am willing to work with Senator WYDEN on this bill in the interest of improving access to health insurance, I will absolutely not support passage of any legislation that requires coverage of abortions. This is one area of the bill that must be reconsidered.

I have also expressed concerns to my colleagues about using the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan, FEHBP, as the standard for health insurance. While I certainly believe people should have access to this level of coverage, I don't think it should be the only option. My vision of health reform does not include this one-size-fits-all approach. Instead, I support giving people access to a variety of health insurance options and the ability to make informed choices.

While these are a few of the areas where I disagree with Senator WYDEN, there are definitely provisions in this bill that I will work to preserve or even expand upon. I am pleased that the legislation focuses on more than just expanding coverage but also on reforming the health care system and providing peace of mind that a person's coverage won't end when his or her employment situation changes. The Healthy Americans Act provides incentives for preventive health care, expands wellness programs, and emphasizes important cost containment measures. It also promotes greater adoption of health information technology and enacts vital medical malpractice reforms.

As you can probably see, the Healthy Americans Act is a work in progress. But as I said before, it is a good place to start the discussion. That is why I look forward to working with Senator WYDEN and all of the cosponsors of the Healthy Americans Act to make sure we come up with a proposal that provides the health care choices we all want, the quality we need, and the health care security the American people deserve.

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge National Adoption Awareness Month and National Adoption Day on Nov. 17, 2007. With over 114,000 children available for adoption out of the U.S. foster care system, I think it is crucial to celebrate those lawyers, social workers, officials and, most importantly, parents who help many children move from foster homes to adoptive families.

Adoption has personally touched my life this year as two new children have been welcomed as members of my family. My son Brendan and his wife Jana recently adopted Trualem, age 11, and Peneal, age 8, from Ethiopia. I am now a proud grandfather of five, and our family is larger and richer with them in it.

National Adoption Day was started in 2000 by the Alliance for Children's Rights, the Freddie Mac Foundation, and the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption and helped complete foster care adoptions in nine jurisdictions in its first year. National Adoption Day has quickly grown since that time. In 2006, a milestone was surpassed, as National Adoption Day was celebrated in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for the first time. In total last year, over 3,300 adoptions were finalized on National Adoption Day.

I am committed to assisting children in the United States to find stable, loving, and permanent homes. Additionally, I support the goals of National Adoption Day to encourage others to adopt children from foster care, to build stronger ties between local adoption agencies, courts, and adoption advocacy organizations, and to continue to research and learn more about families wanting to adopt and the children waiting to be adopted.

I am proud that Members of the Senate continue to support ways to make adoption easier and more affordable. Since the cost of adoption can be very high, we ought to do what we can to lessen this initial burden for the exceptional people who provide caring homes for children. Adoption proceedings and legal fees for some domestic adoptions can cost more than $40,000. To ease some of this burden, Congress adopted a $10,000 tax credit for adoption expenses. If we ask individuals to care for and adopt children, we must provide some relief from the financial burdens associated with that care. The adoption tax credit is an effective vehicle to provide this relief, and it is vitally important that this tax credit does not expire at the end of 2010.

In keeping with the celebration of adoption, this year I am proud to recognize Audrey Kirkpatrick as an Angel in Adoption. Audrey is a social worker with Catholic Social Services in Rapid City, SD. She is an integral part of Catholic Social Services offering her knowledge to fellow employees and often her services to birth mothers and adoptive families 24 hours per day.

I am also proud to recognize the Amiotte family, whose portrait is displayed in my front office as a part of the Voice of Adoption Adoptive Family Portrait Project. David and Malinda Amiotte began their foster care experience not planning to adopt. However, after meeting and growing attached to biological siblings Medina and David, and biological sisters JoAnne and Karen, David and Malinda wanted to keep these sibling groups together. Despite challenges with the legal process, adoptions for all of their children have been finalized, and I wish them many years of happiness in the future.

The commitment of adoptive parents in South Dakota and throughout our country to provide children with safe, permanent, and loving homes will, of course, have a positive impact on their lives. As we celebrate National Adoption Awareness Month and National Adoption Day, I call on my colleagues to continue supporting efforts to make adoption easier for parents, children, and other important participants in the adoption process.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I would like to add my voice to the growing chorus, in the Senate and across the world, supporting Senate ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

While we have made great strides towards eradicating blatant discrimination based on race or social class in our country, far too many women around the world continue to face oppression and violence simply because of their gender.

While it may be easy to believe that this only is a foreign problem, one that does not exist in our homes, this is simply not the case. An estimated 30 percent of American women experience some form of assault in their lifetime. And even if women do not experience violence, discrimination can take many other forms. Hundreds of millions of women across the globe are living their lives facing oppression. Despite all the advancements towards social equality, there still exists a strong undercurrent of gender-based prejudice.

Beyond simply striking it from our laws, we must also strike it from our hearts and demonstrate that ending discrimination means recognizing basic rights. All women should have access to health care. All women should have access to education. And all women should be allowed to live their lives free of fear.

The United States has always represented a beacon of hope and opportunity to oppressed peoples around the world. While our Nation is among the best in ensuring equal rights and opportunities to women, we must never grow complacent in this constant struggle or believe that we have conquered sex-based discrimination.

That is why I believe it is so important that the Senate ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Ratification of this Convention represents a step towards empowerment, not just of American women but women everywhere.

Ratification also presents an opportunity to reassert American values to the world. At a time when our Nation's image abroad is under assault and our commitment to fundamental human rights and norms has been questioned, it is critical that we reaffirm our repudiation of discrimination in all forms.

The full realization of women's rights is vital to the development and well-being of people of all nations. The United States becoming a member of this convention is an important step toward that reality.

I urge my colleagues to join me in calling for the prompt ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CHESHIRE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SWIM TEAM

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to some of Connecticut's finest high school athletes: the girls swim team of Cheshire High School. Cheshire High recently set a national record with an astounding 235 dual meet wins in a row.

With its victory, Cheshire High breaks a record that had been held for 13 years by Elkhart Central High in Indiana—one of the longest-standing, most respected marks in high school swimming. Even more incredibly, the Connecticut streak dates back all the way to 1986, before any members of the current team were born.

Their record-setting night brought together parents who decorated the pool, painted their faces, and dressed up as the school's Ram mascot; more than 200 paying spectators; and the support of an entire community. For a town still struggling to overcome the memory of last July's notorious home-invasion murders, it was a joyous community celebration; I hope it will go a little way toward restoring the spirit of this Connecticut town.

For their teamwork and success, I applaud the Cheshire High swimmers:

Megan Aitro, Tara Aitro, Olivia Amato, Alexandria Barry, Jessica Bauer, Kailee Brown, Bridget Carmichael, Alyssa Carofano, Tina Chang, Katherine Collins, Kayla DeLuca, Adriana DiCenzo, Nicole Dicks, Rachael Dioses, Kelly Dolyak, Danielle Forrest, Amy Hudak, Kathryn Hummel, Kimberly Jerome, Jasmine Liu, Samantha Loignon, Shirin Lowell, Sofia Martone, Alexandra Maurice, Mairin McKinlay, Jessica Metcalf, Melissa Metcalf, Michaela Morr, Jessica Morse, Megan Mostoller, Stephanie Nguyen, Catherine Patrell, Brianna Perazella, Lauren Piccolino, Emilie Ptaszynski, Elissa Rosenfield, Sarah Schulefand, Morgan Schwenn, Meghan Shanahan, Sydney Smith, Jennifer Thompson, Margaret Tooley, Emma Velcofsky, and Elizabeth Visconti.

Congratulations are due as well their assistant coaches, William Lapman and Kristen Shanley, and their dedicated coach, Ed Aston, whom his team pulled, fully dressed, into the pool once the record was broken.

It is a true team, and town, achievement; and if I could list here the names of all 278 athletes who contributed their part to the streak, I certainly would. Instead I simply extend my admiration and my best wishes for many more wins to come.•

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2262. An act to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain lands, consistent with the principles of self-initiation of mining claims, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3920. An act to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to reauthorize trade adjustment assistance, to extend trade adjustment assistance to service workers and firms, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2262. An act to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain lands, consistent with the principles of self-initiation of mining claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3920. An act to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to reauthorize trade adjustment assistance, to extend trade adjustment assistance to service workers and firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the committee on the Judiciary.

John Daniel Tinder, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2304. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants for the improved mental health treatment and services provided to offenders with mental illnesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. BROWN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DODD):

S. 2305. A bill to prevent voter caging; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2306. A bill to encourage and facilitate the use of renewable fuel in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2307. A bill to amend the Global Change Research Act of 1990, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 2308. A bill to improve the efficiency of customs and other services at the Wild Horse, Montana port of entry; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CONRAD, and Mrs. DOLE):

S. Res. 366. A resolution designating November 2007 as ''National Methamphetamine Awareness Month'', to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 400

At the request of Mr. SUNUNU, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 400, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that dependent students who take a medically necessary leave of absence do not lose health insurance coverage, and for other purposes.

S. 439

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 439, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

S. 450

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 450, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 661

At the request of Mr. CASEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 661, a bill to establish kinship navigator programs, to establish guardianship assistance payments for children, and for other purposes.

S. 759

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 759, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for military operations in Iran.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 773, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for sewer overflow control grants.

S. 1159

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1159, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.

S. 1551

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1551, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 1580

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 1580, a bill to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

S. 1638

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1638, a bill to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, and for other purposes.

S. 1661

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1661, a bill to communicate United States travel policies and improve marketing and other activities designed to increase travel in the United States from abroad.

S. 1854

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1854, a bill to amend the Social Security Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve elderly suicide early intervention and prevention strategies, and for other purposes.

S. 1876

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1876, a bill to prohibit extraterritorial detention and rendition, except under limited circumstances, to modify the definition of ''unlawful enemy combatant'' for purposes of military commissions, to extend statutory habeas corpus to detainees, and for other purposes.

S. 1956

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1956, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide equitable access for foster care and adoption services for Indian children in tribal areas, and for other purposes.

S. 1963

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1963, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow bonds guaranteed by the Federal home loan banks to be treated as tax exempt bonds.

S. 1991

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1991, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation and return phases of the expedition, and for other purposes.

S. 2056

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2056, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore financial stability to Medicare anesthesiology teaching programs for resident physicians.

S. 2058

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2058, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to close the Enron loophole, prevent price manipulation and excessive speculation in the trading of energy commodities, and for other purposes.

S. 2119

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2119, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 2136

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2136, a bill to address the treatment of primary mortgages in bankruptcy, and for other purposes.

S. 2164

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2164, a bill to establish a Science and Technology Scholarship Program to award scholarships to recruit and prepare students for careers in the National Weather Service and in National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration marine research, atmospheric research, and satellite programs and for other purposes.

S. 2166

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2166, a bill to provide for greater responsibility in lending and expanded cancellation of debts owed to the United States and the international financial institutions by low-income countries, and for other purposes.

S. 2168

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2168, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enable increased federal prosecution of identity theft crimes and to allow for restitution to victims of identity theft.

S. 2237

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2237, a bill to fight crime.

S. 2272

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2272, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service known as the Southpark Station in Alexandria, Louisiana, as the John ''Marty'' Thiels Southpark Station, in honor and memory of Thiels, a Louisiana postal worker who was killed in the line of duty on October 4, 2007.

S. 2300

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2300, a bill to improve the Small Business Act, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 22, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the Department of Health and Human Services relating to Medicare coverage for the use of erythropoiesis stimulating agents in cancer and related neoplastic conditions.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2304. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants for the improved mental health treatment and services provided to offenders with mental illnesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleagues, Senator KENNEDY, Senator LEAHY, and Senator SPECTER to introduce the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2007. This bill will reauthorize and improve several programs intended to provide Federal support for collaborations between criminal justice and mental health systems.

It is estimated that approximately 16 percent of adult U.S. jail and prison inmates suffer from mental illness and the numbers are even higher in the juvenile justice system. Many of these individuals are not violent or habitual criminals. Most have been charged or convicted of nonviolent crimes that are a direct consequence of not having received needed treatment and supportive services for their mental illness.

The presence of defendants with mental illnesses in the criminal justice system imposes substantial costs on that system and can cause significant harm to defendants. In response to this problem, a number of communities around the country are implementing mental health courts, a specialty-court model that utilizes a separate docket, coupled with regular judicial supervision, to respond to individuals with mental illnesses who come in contact with the justice system.

This past spring, I visited the courtroom of Judge Michael Vigil in the First Judicial Court of Santa Fe, NM. Judge Vigil operates a mental health court that helps individuals who have been involved in nonviolent crimes that do not involve weapons and who have been diagnosed with a mental illness. It is a 14-month program that attempts to keep defendants with mental illness out of jail. The court meets every Friday for about an hour. Defendants are required to attend individually designed therapy sessions, take their medications, and submit to random drug tests and breathalyzer tests. The appearances before Judge Vigil are akin to ''check-ups'' to make sure the defendant is on course, taking his or her medications, and that the defendant is in good health. If a participant violates the rules, they are sanctioned. If the violations are serious enough, the defendant can be removed from the program and sentenced to jail.

The day I visited Judge Vigil's court, I witnessed a participant graduate from the program. I spoke with the defendant and his mother after the hearing. They told me how this program

had helped turn his life around. Participation in this program had kept him out of jail and more importantly helped him access treatment, housing, and other critical supports. By addressing the mental illness that contributed to his criminal act, this man received the services he needed to hopefully prevent him from repeating his crime or committing a more serious crime. Furthermore, the program helped reduce the burden on the judicial system allowing for resources to be focused on violent criminals.

Many communities are not prepared to meet the comprehensive treatment and needs of individuals with mental illness when they enter the criminal justice system. The bill we are introducing today is intended to help provide resources to help States and counties design and implement collaborative efforts between criminal justice and mental health structures. The bill will reauthorize the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction grant program and reauthorize the Mental Health Courts Program. It will create a new grant program to help law enforcement identify and respond to incidents involving persons with mental illness and it will fund a study and report on the prevalence of mentally ill offenders in the criminal justice system. All of these reforms will help to address this problem from both a public safety and a public health point of view. This will help save taxpayers money, improve public safety, and link individuals with the treatment they need to become productive members of their community.

Certainly, not every crime committed by an individual diagnosed with a mental illness is attributable to their illness or to the failure of public mental health. Mental health courts are not a panacea for addressing the needs of the growing number of people with mental illnesses who come in contact with the criminal justice system. But they should be one part of the solution. Evidence has shown that in communities where mental health and criminal justice interests work collaboratively on solutions it can make a significant impact in fostering recovery, improving treatment outcomes and decreasing recidivism.

I want to thank my good friends for working with me on this very important issue. I appreciate their commitment to advancing these important programs and I look forward to working with them to pass this legislation this Congress.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There geing no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows.

S. 2304

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2007''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Reauthorization of the Adult and Juvenile Collaboration Program Grants.
Sec. 4. Law enforcement response to mentally ill offenders improvement grants.
Sec. 5. Improving the mental health courts grant program.
Sec. 6. Study and report on prevalence of mentally ill offenders.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Communities nationwide are struggling to respond to the high numbers of people with mental illnesses involved at all points in the criminal justice system.

(2) A 1999 study by the Department of Justice estimated that 16 percent of people incarcerated in prisons and jails in the United States, which is more than 300,000 people, suffer from mental illnesses.

(3) Los Angeles County Jail and New York's Rikers Island jail complex hold more people with mental illnesses than the largest psychiatric inpatient facilities in the United States.

(4) State prisoners with a mental health problem are twice as likely as those without a mental health problem to have been homeless in the year before their arrest.

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE ADULT AND JUVENILE COLLABORATION PROGRAM GRANTS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS THROUGH 2013.—Section 2991(h) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking at the end ''and'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.'' and inserting ''for each of the fiscal years 2006 and 2007; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) $75,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2013.''.

(b) ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES.—Section 2991(h) of such title is further amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) (as added by subsection (a)(3)) as subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C), respectively;

(2) by striking ''There are authorized'' and inserting ''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES.—For fiscal year 2008 and each subsequent fiscal year, of the amounts authorized under paragraph (1) for such fiscal year, the Attorney General may obligate not more than 3 percent for the administrative expenses of the Attorney General in carrying out this section for such fiscal year.''.

(c) ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVING PRIORITY.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended to read as follows:

''(c) PRIORITY.—The Attorney General, in awarding funds under this section, shall give priority to applications that—

''(1) promote effective strategies by law enforcement to identify and to reduce risk of harm to mentally ill offenders and public safety;

''(2) promote effective strategies for identification and treatment of female mentally ill offenders; or

''(3)(A) demonstrate the strongest commitment to ensuring that such funds are used to promote both public health and public safety;

''(B) demonstrate the active participation of each co-applicant in the administration of the collaboration program;

''(C) document, in the case of an application for a grant to be used in whole or in part to fund treatment services for adults or juveniles during periods of incarceration or detention, that treatment programs will be available to provide transition and reentry services for such individuals; and

''(D) have the support of both the Attorney General and the Secretary.''.

SEC. 4. LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part HH of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 2992. LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

''(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney General is authorized to make grants to States, units of local government, Indian tribes, and tribal organizations for the following purposes:

''(1) TRAINING PROGRAMS.—To provide for programs that offer law enforcement personnel specialized and comprehensive training in procedures to identify and respond appropriately to incidents in which the unique needs of individuals with mental illnesses are involved.

''(2) RECEIVING CENTERS.—To provide for the development of specialized receiving centers to assess individuals in the custody of law enforcement personnel for mental health and substance abuse treatment needs.

''(3) IMPROVED TECHNOLOGY.—To provide for computerized information systems (or to improve existing systems) to provide timely information to law enforcement personnel and criminal justice system personnel to improve the response of such respective personnel to mentally ill offenders.

''(4) COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS.—To provide for the establishment and expansion of cooperative efforts by criminal and juvenile justice agencies and mental health agencies to promote public safety through the use of effective intervention with respect to mentally ill offenders.

''(5) CAMPUS SECURITY PERSONNEL TRAINING.—To provide for programs that offer campus security personnel training in procedures to identify and respond appropriately to incidents in which the unique needs of individuals with mental illnesses are involved.

''(b) BJA TRAINING MODELS.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall develop training models for training law enforcement personnel in procedures to identify and respond appropriately to incidents in which the unique needs of individuals with mental illnesses are involved.

''(c) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Federal share of funds for a program funded by a grant received under this section may not exceed 75 percent of the costs of the program unless the Attorney General waives, wholly or in part, such funding limitation. The non-Federal share of payments made for such a program may be made in cash or in-kind fairly evaluated, including planned equipment or services.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2013.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Such part is further amended by amending the part heading to read as follows: ''**GRANTS TO IMPROVE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES**''.

SEC. 5. IMPROVING THE MENTAL HEALTH COURTS GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COURTS GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 1001(a)(20) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(20)) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 2001 through 2004'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2008 through 2013''.

(b) ADDITIONAL GRANT USES AUTHORIZED.—Section 2201 of such title (42 U.S.C. 3796ii) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) at the end, by striking ''and'';

(2) in paragraph (2) at the end, by striking the period and adding ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(3) pretrial services and related treatment programs for offenders with mental illnesses; and

''(4) developing, implementing, or expanding programs that are alternatives to incarceration for offenders with mental illnesses.''.

SEC. 6. STUDY AND REPORT ON PREVALENCE OF MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS.

(a) STUDY.—The Attorney General shall provide for a study of the following:

(1) The rate of occurrence of serious mental illnesses in each of the following populations:

(A) Individuals, including juveniles, on probation.

(B) Individuals, including juveniles, incarcerated in a jail.

(C) Individuals, including juveniles, incarcerated in a prison.

(D) Individuals, including juveniles, on parole.

(2) For each population described in paragraph (1), the percentage of individuals with serious mental illnesses who, at the time of the arrest, are eligible to receive Supplemental Security Income benefits, Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, or medical assistance under a State plan for medical assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act.

(3) For each such population, with respect to a year, the percentage of individuals with serious mental illnesses who—

(A) were homeless (as defined in section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302)) at the time of arrest; and

(B) were homeless (as so defined) during any period in the previous year.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the study under subsection (a).

(c) DEFINITION OF SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS.—For purposes of this section, the term ''serious mental illness'' has the meaning given such term for purposes of title V of the Public Health Service Act.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $2,000,000 for 2008.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is a privilege to join my colleague from New Mexico in introducing the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2007. This bipartisan, bicameral legislation will authorize continued Federal support for cooperation between the criminal justice and mental health systems on jail diversion, correctional treatment, and community reentry of offenders with a mental illness, and cross-training of criminal justice and mental health personnel. With full funding, this proposal has the potential to achieve significant reforms in the treatment of offenders diagnosed with a mental illness.

I commend Senator DOMENICI for his leadership on this bill and on many other initiatives to improve our Nation's mental health systems. I also welcome the support and leadership of Representatives SCOTT and FORBES in the House of Representatives. We all agree that this legislation can promote cooperative initiatives that will significantly reduce recidivism and improve treatment outcomes.

Based on the most recent studies by the Bureau of Justice, more than half of all prison and jail inmates had a mental health problem in 2005, including 56 percent of inmates in State prisons, 45 percent of Federal prisoners and 64 percent of jail inmates. The high rate of symptoms of mental illness among jail inmates may reflect the role of local jails in the criminal justice system, which operate as locally-run correctional facilities that receive offenders pending arraignment, trial, conviction or sentencing. Among other functions, local jails also hold mentally ill persons pending their relocation in appropriate mental health facilities.

Far too often, individuals encounter the criminal justice system when what is really needed is treatment and support for mental illness. Families often resort to the police in desperation in order to obtain treatment for a loved one suffering from an extreme episode of a mental illness. During such extreme distress, families may face no other alternative, because persons with symptoms such as paranoia, exaggerated actions or impaired judgment may be unable to recognize the need for treatment.

It is unconscionable, and may well be unconstitutional, for these vulnerable individuals to be further marginalized once they are incarcerated. Too often, they are denied even minimal treatment because of inadequate resources.

Most mentally ill offenders who come into contact with the criminal justice system are charged with low-level, nonviolent crimes. Once behind bars, they may well face an environment that further exacerbates symptoms of mental illness, which might otherwise be manageable with proper treatment. Caught in a revolving door, they may soon be back in prison as a result of insufficient and inadequate transitional services when they are released.

This bill reauthorizes critical programs to move away from troubled systems that often result in the escalating incarceration of individuals with mental illness. Through this legislation, State and local correctional facilities will be able to create appropriate, cost-effective solutions. Low-level, nonviolent mentally ill offenders will have greater access to continuity of care.

Congress must also address an unfunded mandate that has been imposed on the States for decades. In Estelle v. Gamble in 1967, the Supreme Court held that deliberate indifference to serious medical needs of inmates is unconstitutional, ''whether the indifference is manifested by prison doctors in their response to the prisoner's needs or by prison guards in intentionally denying or delaying access to medical care or intentionally interfering with the treatment once prescribed.'' In Ruiz v. Estelle in 1980, the Supreme Court established minimum standards for mental health services in correctional settings. Yet more than twenty years later, Federal, State, and local facilities still do not have nearly enough resources to come even close to meeting these constitutional requirements.

Congress must do its part to assist State and local governments in meeting this burden. We cannot tolerate a system that fails to meet constitutional safeguards, or that fails to dedicate resources effectively so that people will get help instead of jail time. As a result of State budget cuts, more and more communities are looking to the Federal Government for support.

This call for change can not be ignored. We have seen too many news stories reflecting the need for action on this issue. A New York Times editorial by Bernard Harcourt on January 15, 2007, highlighted problems facing the mentally ill behind bars, noting two extreme examples in different parts of the country. In August 2006, a prison inmate, described by authorities as ''floridly psychotic,'' died in Michigan shackled to a concrete slab, waiting for a mental health transfer that never happened. Six months later, the head of Florida's social services department resigned in the face of charges for failing to transfer severely mentally ill jail inmates to State hospitals.

To date, we have seen only a fraction of the possible potential under this legislation, because only 50 planning and implementation grants have been awarded. Because of limited Federal funding, only 11 percent of applicants were able to receive one of these grants for which there is high demand. In Massachusetts, the Norfolk District Attorney's office received one of the planning grants. Right now, the office is working hard to implement a program to ensure that a trained mental health professional will serve in police departments, so that a qualified person on the scene can assist in a situation involving a mentally ill person.

The program will also reduce the likelihood that a mentally ill person charged with a low-level crime will be inappropriately jailed, and will give such persons the treatment they need and provide life skills training, housing placement, vocational training and job placement. Several local mental health centers have already expressed their support for the program and their willingness to cooperate in providing valuable services to this long-neglected population.

The expanded funding in this bill could help support ongoing efforts like

the Massachusetts Mental Health Diversion & Integration Program, MMHDIP, which is part of the Center for Mental Health Services Research at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. The center for Mental Health Services Research has supported a series of research and training programs to assist persons with mental illness who come in contact with the criminal justice system and have worked with police departments in Boston, Worcester, and Attleboro. The center is also working on programs to develop evidence on which future practices may be based. They also disseminate best practices for crisis intervention and risk management to police, courts, probation, prosecutors, defense attorneys, schools, and social service providers. The goal of the program is to reduce reliance on the criminal justice system as an access point for social service provision, thereby freeing police and other portions of the criminal justice system to more effectively fulfill their public safety function.

The current programs in Massachusetts reflect the continuing legacy of the nationwide movement that began when Dorothea Dix entered an East Cambridge Jail in 1841. Discovering that the mentally ill inmates were being housed together in terrible conditions without any heat, Dorothea began documenting prison conditions for the mentally ill throughout our Commonwealth. Her advocacy, and her determination to pursue ideas that seemed radical at the time, achieved significant reforms in Massachusetts. She went on to lead the first national legislation to provide for the mentally ill. Today, we are still a long way to achieve the goals set forth by Dorothea so many years ago.

In every State, interactions between law enforcement and individuals suffering from mental illness continue to rise and the need for effective solutions is critical. This legislation will continue to ''foster local collaborations'' between law enforcement and mental health providers. What works in one community will not necessarily work or be desired in another—solutions must take into account the existing problem as well as the social and political dynamics within each community. With so many complex issues involved at the intersection of mental illness and the criminal justice system, no magic solution will solve the problems faced in communities across America. This bill encourages funding for specialized programs that will most effectively address the needs of these local communities. With this legislation, Congress will join local communities in their response to this problem.

In addition, members of State and local law enforcement need access to training and other alternatives to improve safety and responsiveness. The bill reauthorizes the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment Program and increases the funding to $75 million a year. The legislation also authorizes $10 million for grants to States and local governments to train law enforcement personnel on procedures to identify and respond more appropriately to persons with mental illnesses, and to develop specialized receiving centers to assess individuals in custody.

In his last public bill signing in 1963, President Kennedy signed a $3 billion authorization bill to create a national network of community mental health facilities across the country. With the escalation of the Vietnam War, not one penny of the $3 billion was ever appropriated. Now, decades later, we face a crisis in which far too many mentally ill individuals are facing jail time rather than treatment.

Last year, more than 1 million persons with serious mental illnesses were arrested. Noting the breadth of this national problem, Judge Leifman of the Criminal Division of the Miami-Dade County Court has stated that, ''Jails and prisons have become the asylums of the new millennium.''

The broad support for this legislation—ranging from the Council of State Governments, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the National Sheriffs Association, the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the Council of State Governments, the Campaign for Mental Health Reform and Mental Health America—demonstrates that it will provide much-needed support to help solve this complex problem. The courts, law enforcement, corrections and mental health communities have all come together in support of this legislation, and Congress must respond.

Individuals and their loved ones struggle with countless challenges and barriers during a mental health crisis. With this bill, Congress can provide significant support to needed cooperation efforts between law enforcement and mental health experts. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, so that we can achieve its enactment before the end of this current session of Congress.

Mr. LEAHY. I have joined today with Senators DOMENICI, KENNEDY, and SPECTER to introduce legislation to reauthorize the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act. I was a sponsor of the original authorization of this act in 2004, and I am proud that these programs have helped our State and local governments reduce crime by providing more effective treatment for the mentally ill.

All too often, people with mental illness rotate repeatedly between the criminal justice system and the streets of our communities, committing a series of minor offenses. Offenders find themselves in prisons or jails, where little or no appropriate medical care is available for them. This bill gives State and local governments the tools to break this cycle, for the good of law enforcement, corrections officers, the public's safety, and mentally ill offenders. More than 16 percent of adults incarcerated in U.S. jails and prisons have a mental illness, about 20 percent of youth in the juvenile justice system have serious mental health problems, and almost half the inmates in prison with a mental illness were incarcerated for committing a nonviolent crime. This is a serious problem that I hear about often when I talk with law enforcement officials and others in Vermont.

Under this bill, State and local governments can apply for funding to create or expand mental health courts or other court-based programs, which can divert qualified offenders from prison to receive treatment; create or expand programs to provide specialized training for criminal justice and mental health system personnel; create or expand local treatment programs that serve individuals with mental illness or co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorders; and promote and provide mental health treatment for those incarcerated in or released from a penal or correctional institution.

The grants created under this program have been in high demand, but only about 11 percent of the applications submitted have been able to receive funding due to inadequate Federal funds. This bill would increase funding of these programs and authorize $75 million to help communities address the needs of the mentally ill in our justice system. The bill also provides $10 million for law enforcement training grant programs to help law enforcement recognize and respond to incidents involving mentally ill persons.

This legislation brings together law enforcement, corrections, and mental health professionals to help respond to the needs of our communities. They know that the states have been dealing with the unique problems created by mentally ill offenders for many years, and that a federal support is invaluable. I look forward to working with them, and with Senators DOMENICI, KENNEDY, SPECTER, and other Members, to see this bill enacted this Congress.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. BROWN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DODD):

S. 2305. A bill to prevent voter caging, to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, it is an unfortunate reality that with so much at stake in the ballot box, organized efforts to suppress the vote go nearly as far back as the right to vote itself. These efforts have cast a shadow over what Justice Earl Warren called ''the essence of a Democratic society'': the right to vote freely for the candidate of one's choice.

The first voter suppression in America was direct: blanket restrictions based on race, based on gender, based on class. Over the years, these overt efforts were eventually replaced by more indirect and nefarious means: poll taxes, literacy tests, Whites-only primaries, and myriad other disenfranchisement laws aimed directly at minority voters. These crafty legal obstacles were often supplemented by blunt physical violence. But despite the many and varied efforts to impede the franchise, American democracy has shown an extraordinary resilience—and the American people have shown an abiding dedication, sometimes paying with life and limb, to defend the right of their fellow citizens to vote.

This Senate, of course, has a checkered past on voting rights. For many years, the Senate is where civil rights bills came to die, stalled by filibusters and tangled in parliamentary technique. Eventually, of course, the tide turned, and Congress ushered in a series of laws that remain among the most important ever enacted: the 24th amendment banning poll taxes; the Civil Rights Act; and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which banned literacy tests, authorized the Attorney General to appoint Federal voting examiners to ensure fair administration of elections, and required the Federal Government to ''pre-clear'' certain changes in the voting laws of local jurisdictions.

That law has been improved and reauthorized a number of times—as recently as last year—and is a cornerstone of our democracy. Nevertheless, as we all know, efforts to suppress the vote persist and continue to erode the promise of democracy for many Americans. For example, in the last election cycle, we saw organized efforts to deceive voters by sending out fliers with false information about the location of polling places or with phony endorsements, we saw threats that immigrants could be imprisoned if they voted.

The Judiciary Committee, under the wise leadership of Chairman LEAHY, has responded with the Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act, which would criminalize various forms of voter intimidation and election misinformation.

In recent years, we have also seen the rise of another voter suppression tactic, which has come to be known as ''vote caging.'' Caging is a voter suppression tactic whereby a political campaign sends mail marked ''do not forward/return to sender'' to a targeted group of voters—often targeted into minority neighborhoods. The campaign then challenges the right of those citizens whose mail was returned as ''undeliverable'' on the grounds that the voter does not live at the registered address. Of course, as the Presiding Officer knows, there are many reasons why a piece of mail might be ''returned to sender'' that have nothing whatsoever to do with the voter's eligibility. For example, a voter might be an active member of the armed services and stationed far from home or a student lawfully registered at their parents' address. Even a typographical error during entry of the voter's registration information might result in a ''false negative.'' Nevertheless, these individuals end up facing a challenge to their vote and possibly losing their right to vote.

Caging came into the media spotlight this summer during Congress's investigation into the political dismissal of U.S. attorneys, but this practice is not new, and it is not rare. In fact, since 1982, the Republican National Committee has been operating under a consent decree, filed in New Jersey U.S. District Court, which states that the RNC shall ''refrain from undertaking any ballot security activities in polling places or election districts where the racial or ethnic composition of such districts is a factor in the decision to conduct, or the actual conduct of, such activities.''

This consent decree was entered into after the Republican National Committee, during the 1981 New Jersey gubernatorial election, initiated a massive voter-caging operation, sending mailers marked ''do not forward'' to voters in predominantly African-American and Latino neighborhoods throughout the State. The Republican National Committee then compiled a caging list based solely on the returned letters and challenged these voters at the polls. They did it again in Louisiana, in 1986, when the Republican National Committee hired a consultant to send 350,000 pieces of mail marked ''do not forward'' to districts that were mostly African American, and the consent decree was then modified to require the U.S. District Court in New Jersey to preclear any so-called ballot security programs undertaken by the Republican National Committee.

However, in part because the Federal consent decree does not apply to State parties or other campaigns, caging has continued. During the past few election cycles, there has been credible evidence of caging in Ohio, in Florida, in Pennsylvania, and elsewhere. Not every caging operation has been successful, but the failure of a voter suppression attempt is no excuse for it. Therefore, I am introducing the Caging Prohibition Act, which would prohibit challenging a person's eligibility to vote—or to register to vote—based on a caging list. Simply put, eligible voters should not fear their right to vote might be challenged at the polls because a single piece of mail never reached them.

The bill would also require any private party who challenges the right of another citizen to vote—or to register to vote—to set forth in writing, under penalty of perjury, the specific grounds for the alleged ineligibility. The principle here is simple: If you are going to challenge one of your fellow citizen's right to vote, you should at least have cause and be willing to stand behind it.

I am very proud of the extraordinary group of Senators who have agreed to be original cosponsors of this piece of legislation: Chairman LEAHY of the Judiciary Committee, Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator DODD, Senator KERRY, Senator FEINGOLD, Senator SCHUMER, Senator NELSON of Florida, Senator CLINTON, Senator OBAMA, Senator MENENDEZ, Senator BROWN, and Senator KLOBUCHAR. I was proud to work closely with the Brennan Center for Social Justice and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law to develop the language of this bill. I would also like to thank People for the American Way for its support of this legislation.

In the 1964 case of Reynolds v. Sims, the U.S. Supreme Court stated:

> [T]he right to exercise the franchise in a free and unimpaired matter is preservative of other basic civil and political rights. . . .

In other words, every right we have depends upon the right to vote. Organized voter-suppression efforts, including vote-caging schemes, infringe on this right and undermine our democracy. Congress should rise to the occasion and say ''enough is enough'' to vote caging.

I thank my many distinguished colleagues who have cosponsored this bill, and I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join us in stopping this nefarious voter suppression activity.

I yield the floor.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 366—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2007 AS ''NATIONAL METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS MONTH'', TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CONRAD, and Mrs. DOLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 366

Whereas methamphetamine, an easily manufactured drug of the amphetamine group, is a powerful and addictive central nervous system stimulant with long-lasting effects;

Whereas the National Association of Counties found that methamphetamine is the number 1 illegal drug problem for 47 percent of the counties in the United States, a higher percentage than that of any other drug;

Whereas 4 out of 5 county sheriffs report that, while local methamphetamine production is down, methamphetamine abuse is not (½ of the Nation's sheriffs report abuse of the drug has stayed the same and nearly ⅓ say that it has increased);

Whereas the highest rates of methamphetamine use among all ethnic groups occur within Native American communities;

Whereas the consequence of methamphetamine use by many young adults in the Native American community has been death, including methamphetamine-related suicides;

Whereas crime related to methamphetamine abuse continues to increase, with 55 percent of sheriffs reporting increases in robberies and burglaries during the last year;

Whereas most illegal methamphetamine available in the United States is produced in large clandestine laboratories in Mexico and smuggled into this country;

Whereas methamphetamine labs are costly to clean up in that every pound of methamphetamine produced can yield up to 5 pounds of toxic waste, representing a public danger to adults and children;

Whereas the profile of methamphetamine users is changing, as ⅗ of the Nation's sheriffs report increased methamphetamine use by women and ½ of the Nation's sheriffs report increased use by teens;

Whereas, in surveys on the abuse of methamphetamine among teens, many of the respondents said that the drug was easy to get and believed there is little risk in trying it;

Whereas other National Association of Counties surveys have shown that methamphetamine also places significant burdens on local social service and health care resources, increasing out-of-home placements for children, sending more people to public hospital emergency rooms than any other drug, and producing an ever-growing need for methamphetamine treatment programs; and

Whereas the establishment of a National Methamphetamine Awareness month would increase awareness of methamphetamine and educate the public on effective ways to help prevent methamphetamine use at the Federal, State, and local levels: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2007 as ''National Methamphetamine Awareness Month'' to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe National Methamphetamine Awareness Month with appropriate educational programs and outreach activities.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleague Senator GRASSLEY, as well as Senators ALEXANDER, BIDEN, BINGAMAN, BOND, CANTWELL, CORKER, CRAPO, DOMENICI, GRAHAM, KERRY, LEVIN, LINCOLN, MURKOWSKI, ROBERTS, SALAZAR, SCHUMER, SMITH, STABENOW, TESTER, and THUNE in submitting a resolution designating November 2007 as National Methamphetamine Awareness Month.

It is the sense of the Senate to increase awareness of methamphetamine and call upon the people of the U.S. to observe this month with appropriate methamphetamine educational programs and outreach activities.

Methamphetamine is devastating families and communities across the Nation.

It has been more than 1 year since enactment of the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act. Methamphetamine lab seizures declined 42 percent nationwide last year, as a result of regulations on the sale of pseudoephedrine and ephedrine. These are the over the counter drugs which are often used in the production of methamphetamine.

But our work is not done. Methamphetamine is still the number one law enforcement problem. The National Association of Counties found that methamphetamine is the number one illegal drug problem for 47 percent of the counties in the country.

Four out of five county sheriffs report that while local methamphetamine production is down, methamphetamine abuse is not.

Methamphetamine users are changing. Three-fifths of the Nation's sheriffs report increased methamphetamine use by women. Half of the Nation's sheriffs report increased use by teens.

Surveys on methamphetamine abuse among teens show that many of the respondents said the drug was easy to get, and believed there was little risk in trying it. Methamphetamine is still far too readily available.

As a result, local social service and health care resources are stretched thin, and more and more children are being sent to foster homes.

These issues are even more apparent within tribal communities. I am very concerned that the highest rates of methamphetamine use among all ethnic groups occur within the Native American communities.

Last year, Carl Venne, Crow Tribal Chairman, testified before the Finance Committee. Chairman Venne told of the grave effects of meth on the Apsaalooka Nation. He said, ''There is no entity or organization on the Crow Reservation that is exempt from the devastating destruction of Meth.''

And while the regulations under the Combat Meth Act have stifled meth production here in the United States, the production has shifted to keep up with the ever-growing demand. Most illegal methamphetamine available in the U.S. is produced in large clandestine laboratories in Mexico and smuggled into this country. We must do more to break the meth supply chain at the border.

We must do more to end the demand for this devastating drug. We need to redouble our efforts and intensify methamphetamine education, prevention, and treatment. In this way, we show our resolve to bring to an end the problem of meth.

Thus, I stand here today, asking my fellow colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join us in support of designating November 2007 National Methamphetamine Awareness Month.

Conducting educational programs and outreach activities in November will give us an opportunity to talk with folks at home and focus on ways to fight methamphetamine across America.

I urge everyone to join us in support of this legislation.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3499. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3500. Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2419, supra.

SA 3501. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3499. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 9005 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (as amended by section 9001) and insert the following:

''SEC. 9005. BIOREFINERY AND REPOWERING ASSISTANCE.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to assist in the development of new or emerging technologies for the use of renewable biomass or other sources of renewable energy—

''(1) to develop advanced biofuels;

''(2) to increase the energy independence of the United States by promoting the replacement of energy generated from fossil fuels with energy generated from a renewable energy source;

''(3) to promote resource conservation, public health, and the environment;

''(4) to diversify markets for raw agricultural and forestry products, and agriculture waste material; and

''(5) to create jobs and enhance the economic development of the rural economy.

''(b) DEFINITION OF REPOWER.—In this section, the term 'repower' means to substitute the production of heat or power from a fossil fuel source with heat or power from sources of renewable energy.

''(c) ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make available to eligible entities described in subsection (d)—

''(A) grants to assist in paying the costs of—

''(i) development and construction of pilot- and demonstration-scale biorefineries intended to demonstrate the commercial viability of 1 or more processes for converting renewable biomass to advanced biofuels;

''(ii) repowering a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part;

''(iii) conducting a study to determine the feasibility of repowering a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part; or

''(iv) development and demonstration of harvesting, transportation, preprocessing, and storage technologies relating to the production and use of renewable biomass feedstocks in biorefineries and repowering projects; and

''(B) guarantees for loans made to fund—

''(i) the development and construction of commercial-scale biorefineries; or

''(ii) the repowering of a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part.

''(2) PREFERENCE.—In selecting projects to receive grants and loan guarantees under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to projects that receive or will receive financial support from the State in which the project is carried out.

''(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An eligible entity under this section is—

''(1) an individual;

''(2) a corporation;

''(3) a farm cooperative;

''(4) a rural electric cooperative or public power entity;

''(5) an association of agricultural producers;

''(6) a State or local energy agency or office;

''(7) an Indian tribe;

''(8) an institution of higher education;

''(9) a consortium comprised of any individuals or entities described in any of paragraphs (1) through (8); or

''(10) any other similar entity, as determined by the Secretary.

''(e) GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants under subsection (c)(1)(A) on a competitive basis.

''(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—

''(A) GRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF PILOT AND DEMONSTRATION SCALE BIOREFINERIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants for development and construction of pilot and demonstration scale biorefineries under subsection (c)(1)(A)(i), the Secretary shall select projects based on the likelihood that the projects will demonstrate the commercial viability of a new or emerging process for converting renewable biomass into advanced biofuels.

''(ii) FACTORS.—The factors to be considered under clause (i) may include—

''(I) the potential market for 1 or more products;

''(II) the level of financial participation by the applicants;

''(III) the availability of adequate funding from other sources;

''(IV) the participation of producer associations and cooperatives;

''(V) the beneficial impact on resource conservation, public health, and the environment;

''(VI) the timeframe in which the project will be operational;

''(VII) the potential for rural economic development;

''(VIII) the participation of multiple eligible entities; and

''(IX) the potential for developing advanced industrial biotechnology approaches.

''(B) GRANTS FOR REPOWERING.—In selecting projects to receive grants for repowering under clauses (ii) and (iii) of subsection (c)(1)(A), the Secretary shall consider—

''(i) the change in energy efficiency that would result from the proposed repowering of the eligible entity;

''(ii) the reduction in fossil fuel use that would result from the proposed repowering; and

''(iii) the volume of renewable biomass located in such proximity to the eligible entity as to make local sourcing of feedstock economically practicable.

''(C) GRANTS FOR HARVESTING, TRANSPORTATION, PREPROCESSING, AND STORAGE OF RENEWABLE BIOMASS FEEDSTOCKS.—In selecting projects to receive grants for the development and demonstration of harvesting, transportation, preprocessing, and storage technologies relating to the production and use of biomass feedstocks in biorefineries and repowering projects, the Secretary shall consider—

''(i) the regional diversity and availability of renewable biomass; and

''(ii) the economic and energy potential for use of the proposed type of renewable biomass.

''(3) COST SHARING.—

''(A) LIMITS.—

''(i) DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF PILOT AND DEMONSTRATION SCALE BIOREFINERIES.—The amount of a grant awarded for development and construction of a biorefinery under subsection (c)(1)(A)(i) shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of the project.

''(ii) REPOWERING.—The amount of a grant awarded for repowering under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii) shall not exceed 20 percent of the cost of the project.

''(iii) FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR REPOWERING.—The amount of a grant awarded for a feasibility study for repowering under subsection (c)(1)(A)(iii) shall not exceed an amount equal to the lesser of—

''(I) an amount equal to 50 percent of the total cost of conducting the feasibility study; and

''(II) $150,000.

''(iv) HARVESTING, TRANSPORTATION, PREPROCESSING, AND STORAGE.—The amount of a grant awarded for harvesting, transportation, preprocessing, and storage under subsection (c)(1)(A)(iv) shall not exceed an amount equal to 50 percent of the cost of the project.

''(B) FORM OF GRANTEE SHARE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The grantee share of the cost of a project may be made in the form of cash or the provision of services, material, or other in-kind contributions.

''(ii) LIMITATION.—The amount of the grantee share of the cost of a project that is made in the form of the provision of services, material, or other in-kind contributions shall not exceed 15 percent of the amount of the grantee share determined under subparagraph (A).

''(f) LOAN GUARANTEES.—

''(1) CONDITIONS.—As a condition of making a loan guarantee under subsection (c)(1)(B), the Secretary shall require—

''(A) demonstration of binding commitments to cover, from sources other than Federal funds, at least 20 percent of the total cost of the project described in the application;

''(B) in the case of a new or emerging technology, demonstration that the project design has been validated through a technical review and subsequent operation of a pilot or demonstration scale facility that can be scaled up to commercial size; and

''(C) demonstration that the applicant provided opportunities to local investors (as determined by the Secretary) to participate in the financing or ownership of the biorefinery.

''(2) LOCAL OWNERSHIP.—The Secretary shall give preference under subsection (c)(1)(B) to applications for projects with significant local ownership.

''(3) APPROVAL.—Not later than 90 days after the Secretary receives an application for a loan guarantee under subsection (c)(1)(B), the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the application.

''(4) LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN GUARANTEED.—

''(i) COMMERCIAL-SCALE BIOREFINERIES.—Subject to clause (iii), the principal amount of a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B)(i) may not exceed $250,000,000.

''(ii) REPOWERING.—Subject to clause (iii), the principal amount of a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B)(ii) may not exceed $70,000,000.

''(iii) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL FUNDING.—The amount of a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B) shall be reduced by the amount of other Federal funding that the entity receives for the same project.

''(B) MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE OF LOAN GUARANTEED.—A loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B) shall be in an amount not to exceed 80 percent of the project costs, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) AUTHORITY TO GUARANTEE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF THE LOAN.—The Secretary may guarantee up to 100 percent of the principal and interest due on a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B).

''(g) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Energy.

''(h) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use for the cost of grants and loan guarantees to carry out this section $300,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.''.

SA 3500. Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Food and Energy Security Act of 2007''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary.

TITLE I—PRODUCER INCOME PROTECTION PROGRAMS

Sec. 1001. Definitions.

Subtitle A—Traditional Payments and Loans

PART I—DIRECT PAYMENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS

Sec. 1101. Base acres and payment acres for a farm.
Sec. 1102. Payment yields.
Sec. 1103. Availability of direct payments.
Sec. 1104. Availability of counter-cyclical payments.
Sec. 1105. Producer agreement required as condition of provision of direct payments and counter-cyclical payments.
Sec. 1106. Planting flexibility.
Sec. 1107. Special rule for long grain and medium grain rice.
Sec. 1108. Period of effectiveness.

PART II—MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS

Sec. 1201. Availability of nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for loan commodities.
Sec. 1202. Loan rates for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans.
Sec. 1203. Term of loans.
Sec. 1204. Repayment of loans.
Sec. 1205. Loan deficiency payments.
Sec. 1206. Payments in lieu of loan deficiency payments for grazed acreage.
Sec. 1207. Special marketing loan provisions for upland cotton.
Sec. 1208. Special competitive provisions for extra long staple cotton.
Sec. 1209. Availability of recourse loans for high moisture feed grains and seed cotton.
Sec. 1210. Adjustments of loans.

PART III—PEANUTS

Sec. 1301. Definitions.
Sec. 1302. Base acres for peanuts for a farm.
Sec. 1303. Availability of direct payments for peanuts.
Sec. 1304. Availability of counter-cyclical payments for peanuts.
Sec. 1305. Producer agreement required as condition on provision of direct payments and counter-cyclical payments.
Sec. 1306. Planting flexibility.
Sec. 1307. Marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments for peanuts.
Sec. 1308. Adjustments of loans.

Subtitle B—Average Crop Revenue Program

Sec. 1401. Availability of average crop revenue payments.

Sec. 1402. Producer agreement as condition of average crop revenue payments.
Sec. 1403. Planting flexibility.

Subtitle C—Sugar

Sec. 1501. Sugar program.
Sec. 1502. Storage facility loans.
Sec. 1503. Commodity Credit Corporation storage payments.
Sec. 1504. Flexible marketing allotments for sugar.
Sec. 1505. Sense of the Senate regarding NAFTA sugar coordination.

Subtitle D—Dairy

Sec. 1601. Dairy product price support program.
Sec. 1602. National dairy market loss payments.
Sec. 1603. Dairy export incentive and dairy indemnity programs.
Sec. 1604. Funding of dairy promotion and research program.
Sec. 1605. Revision of Federal marketing order amendment procedures.
Sec. 1606. Dairy forward pricing program.
Sec. 1607. Report on Department of Agriculture reporting procedures for nonfat dry milk.
Sec. 1608. Federal Milk Marketing Order Review Commission.
Sec. 1609. Mandatory reporting of dairy commodities.

Subtitle E—Administration

Sec. 1701. Administration generally.
Sec. 1702. Suspension of permanent price support authority.
Sec. 1703. Payment limitations.
Sec. 1704. Adjusted gross income limitation.
Sec. 1705. Availability of quality incentive payments for certain producers.
Sec. 1706. Hard white wheat development program.
Sec. 1707. Durum wheat quality program.
Sec. 1708. Storage facility loans.
Sec. 1709. Personal liability of producers for deficiencies.
Sec. 1710. Extension of existing administrative authority regarding loans.
Sec. 1711. Assignment of payments.
Sec. 1712. Cotton classification services.
Sec. 1713. Designation of States for cotton research and promotion.
Sec. 1714. Government publication of cotton price forecasts.
Sec. 1715. State, county, and area committees.
Sec. 1716. Prohibition on charging certain fees.
Sec. 1717. Signature authority.
Sec. 1718. Modernization of Farm Service Agency.
Sec. 1719. Geospatial systems.
Sec. 1720. Leasing office space.
Sec. 1721. Repeals.

Subtitle F—Specialty Crop Programs

Sec. 1801. Definitions.

PART I—MARKETING, INFORMATION, AND EDUCATION

Sec. 1811. Fruit and vegetable market news allocation.
Sec. 1812. Farmers' market promotion program.
Sec. 1813. Food safety initiatives.
Sec. 1814. Census of specialty crops.

PART II—ORGANIC PRODUCTION

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Sec. 1822. Exemption of certified organic products from assessments.
Sec. 1823. National Organic Certification Cost Share Program.
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Sec. 1831. Foreign market access study and strategy plan.
Sec. 1832. Market access program.
Sec. 1833. Technical assistance for specialty crops.
Sec. 1834. Consultations on sanitary and phytosanitary restrictions for fruits and vegetables.

PART IV—SPECIALTY CROPS COMPETITIVENESS

Sec. 1841. Specialty crop block grants.
Sec. 1842. Grant program to improve movement of specialty crops.
Sec. 1843. Healthy Food Enterprise Development Center.

PART V—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 1851. Clean plant network.
Sec. 1852. Market loss assistance for asparagus producers.
Sec. 1853. Mushroom promotion, research, and consumer information.
Sec. 1854. National Honey Board.
Sec. 1855. Identification of honey.
Sec. 1856. Expedited marketing order for Hass avocados for grades and standards and other purposes.

Subtitle G—Risk Management

Sec. 1901. Definition of organic crop.
Sec. 1902. General powers.
Sec. 1903. Reduction in loss ratio.
Sec. 1904. Controlled business insurance.
Sec. 1905. Administrative fee.
Sec. 1906. Time for payment.
Sec. 1907. Surcharge prohibition.
Sec. 1908. Premium reduction plan.
Sec. 1909. Denial of claims.
Sec. 1910. Measurement of farm-stored commodities.
Sec. 1911. Reimbursement rate.
Sec. 1912. Renegotiation of standard reinsurance agreement.
Sec. 1913. Change in due date for Corporation payments for underwriting gains.
Sec. 1914. Access to data mining information.
Sec. 1915. Producer eligibility.
Sec. 1916. Contracts for additional crop policies.
Sec. 1917. Research and development.
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Sec. 1922. Crop insurance mediation.
Sec. 1923. Drought coverage for aquaculture under noninsured crop assistance program.
Sec. 1924. Increase in service fees for noninsured crop assistance program.
Sec. 1925. Determination of certain sweet potato production.
Sec. 1926. Perennial crop report.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION

Subtitle A—Definitions

Sec. 2001. Definitions.

Subtitle B—Highly Erodible Land Conservation

Sec. 2101. Review of good faith determinations; exemptions.

Subtitle C—Wetland Conservation

Sec. 2201. Review of good faith determinations.

Subtitle D—Agricultural Resources Conservation Program

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SUBCHAPTER B—CONSERVATION RESERVE

Sec. 2311. Conservation reserve program.
Sec. 2312. Flooded farmland program.
Sec. 2313. Wildlife habitat program.

SUBCHAPTER C—WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM

Sec. 2321. Wetlands reserve program.
Sec. 2322. Easements and agreements.
Sec. 2323. Payments.

SUBCHAPTER D—HEALTHY FORESTS RESERVE PROGRAM

Sec. 2331. Healthy forests reserve program.

''SUBCHAPTER D—HEALTHY FORESTS RESERVE PROGRAM

''Sec. 1237M. Establishment of healthy forests reserve program.
''Sec. 1237N. Eligibility and enrollment of lands in program.
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''Sec. 1237P. Financial assistance.
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''CHAPTER 6—COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM

''SUBCHAPTER A—COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM

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''Sec. 1240U. Purposes.
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CHAPTER 3—FARMLAND PROTECTION

SUBCHAPTER A—FARMLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM

Sec. 2371. Farmland protection program.

SUBCHAPTER B—GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM

Sec. 2381. Grassland reserve program.

''SUBCHAPTER C—GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM

''Sec. 1238N. Definitions.
''Sec. 1238O. Grassland reserve program.
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Sec. 3009. Microenterprise activities.
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Sec. 3011. Food Aid Consultative Group.
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Sec. 3013. Assistance for stockpiling and rapid transportation, delivery, and distribution of shelf-stable prepackaged foods.
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''TITLE IX—ENERGY

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SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.

In this Act, the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

TITLE I—PRODUCER INCOME PROTECTION PROGRAMS

SEC. 1001. DEFINITIONS.

In this title (other than part III of subtitle A):

(1) AVERAGE CROP REVENUE PAYMENT.—The term ''average crop revenue payment'' means a payment made to producers on a farm under section 1401.

(2) BASE ACRES.—The term ''base acres'', with respect to a covered commodity on a farm, means the number of acres established under section 1101 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7911) as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, subject to any adjustment under section 1101 of this Act.

(3) COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENT.—The term ''counter-cyclical payment'' means a payment made to producers on a farm under section 1104.

(4) COVERED COMMODITY.—The term ''covered commodity'' means wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, long grain rice, medium grain rice, pulse crops, soybeans, and other oilseeds.

(5) DIRECT PAYMENT.—The term ''direct payment'' means a payment made to producers on a farm under section 1103.

(6) EFFECTIVE PRICE.—The term ''effective price'', with respect to a covered commodity for a crop year, means the price calculated by the Secretary under section 1104 to determine whether counter-cyclical payments are required to be made for that crop year.

(7) EXTRA LONG STAPLE COTTON.—The term ''extra long staple cotton'' means cotton that—

(A) is produced from pure strain varieties of the Barbadense species or any hybrid of the species, or other similar types of extra long staple cotton, designated by the Secretary, having characteristics needed for various end uses for which United States upland cotton is not suitable and grown in irrigated cotton-growing regions of the United States designated by the Secretary or other areas designated by the Secretary as suitable for the production of the varieties or types; and

(B) is ginned on a roller-type gin or, if authorized by the Secretary, ginned on another type gin for experimental purposes.

(8) LOAN COMMODITY.—The term ''loan commodity'' means wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, long grain rice, medium grain rice, soybeans, other oilseeds, wool, mohair, honey, dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas, and large chickpeas.

(9) MEDIUM GRAIN RICE.—The term ''medium grain rice'' includes short grain rice.

(10) OTHER OILSEED.—The term ''other oilseed'' means a crop of sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, camelina, or any oilseed designated by the Secretary.

(11) PAYMENT ACRES.—The term ''payment acres'' means, in the case of direct payments and counter-cyclical payments, 85 percent of the base acres of a covered commodity on a farm on which direct payments or counter-cyclical payments are made.

(12) PAYMENT YIELD.—The term ''payment yield'' means the yield established for direct payments and counter-cyclical payments under section 1102 of the Farm Security and

Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7912) as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, or under section 1102 of this Act, for a farm for a covered commodity.

(13) PRODUCER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''producer'' means an owner, operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper that shares in the risk of producing a crop and is entitled to share in the crop available for marketing from the farm, or would have shared had the crop been produced.

(B) HYBRID SEED.—In determining whether a grower of hybrid seed is a producer, the Secretary shall—

(i) not take into consideration the existence of a hybrid seed contract; and

(ii) ensure that program requirements do not adversely affect the ability of the grower to receive a payment under this title.

(14) PULSE CROP.—The term ''pulse crop'' means dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas, and large chickpeas.

(15) STATE.—The term ''State'' means—

(A) a State;

(B) the District of Columbia;

(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and

(D) any other territory or possession of the United States.

(16) TARGET PRICE.—The term ''target price'' means the price per bushel, pound, or hundredweight (or other appropriate unit) of a covered commodity used to determine the payment rate for counter-cyclical payments.

(17) UNITED STATES.—The term ''United States'', when used in a geographical sense, means all of the States.

Subtitle A—Traditional Payments and Loans

PART I—DIRECT PAYMENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS

SEC. 1101. BASE ACRES AND PAYMENT ACRES FOR A FARM.

(a) ADJUSTMENT OF BASE ACRES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide for an adjustment, as appropriate, in the base acres for covered commodities for a farm whenever the following circumstances occurs:

(A) A conservation reserve contract entered into under section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) with respect to the farm expires or is voluntarily terminated.

(B) Cropland is released from coverage under a conservation reserve contract by the Secretary.

(C) The producer has eligible pulse crop or camelina acreage.

(D) The producer has eligible oilseed acreage as the result of the Secretary designating additional oilseeds.

(2) SPECIAL CONSERVATION RESERVE ACREAGE PAYMENT RULES.—For the crop year in which a base acres adjustment under subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) is first made, the owner of the farm shall elect to receive either direct payments and counter-cyclical payments with respect to the acreage added to the farm under this subsection or a prorated payment under the conservation reserve contract, but not both.

(b) PREVENTION OF EXCESS BASE ACRES.—

(1) REQUIRED REDUCTION.—If the sum of the base acres for a farm, together with the acreage described in paragraph (2) exceeds the actual cropland acreage of the farm, the Secretary shall reduce the base acres for 1 or more covered commodities for the farm or the base acres for peanuts for the farm so that the sum of the base acres and acreage described in paragraph (2) does not exceed the actual cropland acreage of the farm.

(2) OTHER ACREAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the Secretary shall include the following:

(A) Any base acres for peanuts for the farm.

(B) Any acreage on the farm enrolled in the conservation reserve program or wetlands reserve program under chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3830 et seq.).

(C) Any other acreage on the farm enrolled in a Federal conservation program for which payments are made in exchange for not producing an agricultural commodity on the acreage.

(D) Any eligible pulse crop or camelina acreage, which shall be determined in the same manner as eligible oilseed acreage under section 1101(a)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7911(a)(2)).

(E) If the Secretary designates additional oilseeds, any eligible oilseed acreage, which shall be determined in the same manner as eligible oilseed acreage under section 1101(a)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7911(a)(2)).

(3) SELECTION OF ACRES.—The Secretary shall give the owner of the farm the opportunity to select the base acres for a covered commodity or the base acres for peanuts for the farm against which the reduction required by paragraph (1) will be made.

(4) EXCEPTION FOR DOUBLE-CROPPED ACREAGE.—In applying paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make an exception in the case of double cropping, as determined by the Secretary.

(5) COORDINATED APPLICATION OF REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall take into account section 1302(b) when applying the requirements of this subsection.

(c) PERMANENT REDUCTION IN BASE ACRES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner of a farm may reduce, at any time, the base acres for any covered commodity for the farm.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The reduction shall be permanent and made in the manner prescribed by the Secretary.

SEC. 1102. PAYMENT YIELDS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—For the purpose of making direct payments and counter-cyclical payments under this subtitle, the Secretary shall provide for the establishment of a yield for each farm for any designated oilseed, camelina, or eligible pulse crop for which a payment yield was not established under section 1102 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7912) in accordance with this section.

(b) PAYMENT YIELDS FOR DESIGNATED OILSEEDS, CAMELINA, AND ELIGIBLE PULSE CROPS.—

(1) DETERMINATION OF AVERAGE YIELD.—In the case of designated oilseeds, camelina, and eligible pulse crops, the Secretary shall determine the average yield per planted acre for the designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop on a farm for the 1998 through 2001 crop years, excluding any crop year in which the acreage planted to the designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop was zero.

(2) ADJUSTMENT FOR PAYMENT YIELD.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment yield for a farm for a designated oilseed, camelina, or eligible pulse crop shall be equal to the product of the following:

(i) The average yield for the designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop determined under paragraph (1).

(ii) The ratio resulting from dividing the national average yield for the designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop for the 1981 through 1985 crops by the national average yield for the designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop for the 1998 through 2001 crops.

(B) NO NATIONAL AVERAGE YIELD INFORMATION AVAILABLE.—To the extent that national average yield information for a designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop is not available, the Secretary shall use such information as the Secretary determines to be fair and equitable to establish a national average yield under this section.

(3) USE OF PARTIAL COUNTY AVERAGE YIELD.—If the yield per planted acre for a crop of a designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop for a farm for any of the 1998 through 2001 crop years was less than 75 percent of the county yield for that designated oilseed, camelina, or pulse crop, the Secretary shall assign a yield for that crop year equal to 75 percent of the county yield for the purpose of determining the average under paragraph (1).

(4) NO HISTORIC YIELD DATA AVAILABLE.—In the case of establishing yields for designated oilseeds, camelina, and eligible pulse crops, if historic yield data is not available, the Secretary shall use the ratio for dry peas calculated under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) in determining the yields for designated oilseeds, camelina, and eligible pulse crops, as determined to be fair and equitable by the Secretary.

SEC. 1103. AVAILABILITY OF DIRECT PAYMENTS.

(a) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—Except as provided in section 1401, for each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years of each covered commodity (other than pulse crops), the Secretary shall make direct payments to producers on farms for which payment yields and base acres are established.

(b) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment rates used to make direct payments with respect to covered commodities for a crop year are as follows:

(1) Wheat, $0.52 per bushel.

(2) Corn, $0.28 per bushel.

(3) Grain sorghum, $0.35 per bushel.

(4) Barley, $0.24 per bushel.

(5) Oats, $0.024 per bushel.

(6) Upland cotton, $0.0667 per pound.

(7) Long grain rice, $2.35 per hundredweight.

(8) Medium grain rice, $2.35 per hundredweight.

(9) Soybeans, $0.44 per bushel.

(10) Other oilseeds, $0.80 per hundredweight.

(c) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The amount of the direct payment to be paid to the producers on a farm for a covered commodity for a crop year shall be equal to the product of the following:

(1) The payment rate specified in subsection (b).

(2) The payment acres of the covered commodity on the farm.

(3) The payment yield for the covered commodity for the farm.

(d) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years, the Secretary shall make direct payments under this section not earlier than October 1 of the calendar year in which the crop of the covered commodity is harvested.

(2) ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—

(A) OPTION.—At the option of the producers on a farm, the Secretary shall pay in advance up to 22 percent of the direct payment for a covered commodity for any of the 2008 through 2011 crop years to the producers on a farm.

(B) MONTH.—

(i) SELECTION.—Subject to clauses (ii) and (iii), the producers on a farm shall select the month during which the advance payment for a crop year will be made.

(ii) OPTIONS.—The month selected may be any month during the period—

(I) beginning on December 1 of the calendar year before the calendar year in which the crop of the covered commodity is harvested; and

(II) ending during the month within which the direct payment would otherwise be made.

(iii) CHANGE.—The producers on a farm may change the selected month for a subsequent advance payment by providing advance notice to the Secretary.

(3) REPAYMENT OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—If a producer on a farm that receives an advance direct payment for a crop year ceases to be a producer on that farm, or the extent to which the producer shares in the risk of producing a crop changes, before the date the remainder of the direct payment is made, the producer shall be responsible for repaying the Secretary the applicable amount of the advance payment, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 1104. AVAILABILITY OF COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.

(a) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—Subject to sections 1107 and 1401, for each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years for each covered commodity, the Secretary shall make counter-cyclical payments to producers on farms for which payment yields and base acres are established with respect to the covered commodity if the Secretary determines that the effective price for the covered commodity is less than the target price for the covered commodity.

(b) EFFECTIVE PRICE.—

(1) COVERED COMMODITIES OTHER THAN RICE.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), for purposes of subsection (a), the effective price for a covered commodity is equal to the sum of the following:

(A) The higher of the following:

(i) The national average market price received by producers during the 12-month marketing year for the covered commodity, as determined by the Secretary.

(ii) The national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity in effect for the applicable period under part II.

(B) The payment rate in effect for the covered commodity under section 1103 for the purpose of making direct payments with respect to the covered commodity.

(2) RICE.—In the case of long grain rice and medium grain rice, for purposes of subsection (a), the effective price for each type or class of rice is equal to the sum of the following:

(A) The higher of the following:

(i) The national average market price received by producers during the 12-month marketing year for the type or class of rice, as determined by the Secretary.

(ii) The national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the type or class of rice in effect for the applicable period under part II.

(B) The payment rate in effect for the type or class of rice under section 1103 for the purpose of making direct payments with respect to the type or class of rice.

(c) TARGET PRICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years, the target prices for covered commodities shall be as follows:

(A) Wheat, $4.20 per bushel.

(B) Corn, $2.63 per bushel.

(C) Grain sorghum, $2.63 per bushel.

(D) Barley, $2.63 per bushel.

(E) Oats, $1.83 per bushel.

(F) Upland cotton, $0.7225 per pound.

(G) Long grain rice, $10.50 per hundredweight.

(H) Medium grain rice, $10.50 per hundredweight.

(I) Soybeans, $6.00 per bushel.

(J) Other oilseeds, $12.74 per hundredweight.

(K) Dry peas, $8.33 per hundredweight.

(L) Lentils, $12.82 per hundredweight.

(M) Small chickpeas, $10.36 per hundredweight.

(N) Large chickpeas, $12.82 per hundredweight.

(2) SEPARATE TARGET PRICE.—The Secretary may not establish a target price for a covered commodity that is different from the target price specified in paragraph (1) for the covered commodity.

(d) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment rate used to make counter-cyclical payments with respect to a covered commodity for a crop year shall be equal to the difference between—

(1) the target price for the covered commodity; and

(2) the effective price determined under subsection (b) for the covered commodity.

(e) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—If counter-cyclical payments are required to be paid for any of the 2008 through 2012 crop years of a covered commodity, the amount of the counter-cyclical payment to be paid to the producers on a farm for that crop year shall be equal to the product of the following:

(1) The payment rate specified in subsection (d).

(2) The payment acres of the covered commodity on the farm.

(3) The payment yield for the covered commodity for the farm.

(f) TIME FOR PAYMENTS.—

(1) GENERAL RULE.—If the Secretary determines under subsection (a) that counter-cyclical payments are required to be made under this section for the crop of a covered commodity, the Secretary shall make the counter-cyclical payments for the crop beginning October 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter, after the end of the applicable marketing year for the covered commodity.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF PARTIAL PAYMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If, before the end of the 12-month marketing year for a covered commodity, the Secretary estimates that counter-cyclical payments will be required for the crop of the covered commodity, the Secretary shall give producers on a farm the option to receive partial payments of the counter-cyclical payment projected to be made for that crop of the covered commodity.

(B) ELECTION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allow producers on a farm to make an election to receive partial payments for a covered commodity under subparagraph (A) at any time but not later than 30 days prior to the end of the marketing year for that covered commodity.

(ii) DATE OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary shall issue the partial payment after the date of an announcement by the Secretary but not later than 30 days prior to the end of the marketing year.

(3) TIME FOR PARTIAL PAYMENTS.—When the Secretary makes partial payments for a covered commodity for any of the 2008 through 2010 crop years—

(A) the first partial payment shall be made after completion of the first 180 days of the marketing year for the covered commodity; and

(B) the final partial payment shall be made beginning October 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter, after the end of the applicable marketing year for the covered commodity.

(4) AMOUNT OF PARTIAL PAYMENT.—

(A) FIRST PARTIAL PAYMENT.—For each of the 2008 through 2010 crops of a covered commodity, the first partial payment under paragraph (3) to the producers on a farm may not exceed 40 percent of the projected counter-cyclical payment for the covered commodity for the crop year, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) FINAL PAYMENT.—The final payment for a covered commodity for a crop year shall be equal to the difference between—

(i) the actual counter-cyclical payment to be made to the producers for the covered commodity for that crop year; and

(ii) the amount of the partial payment made to the producers under subparagraph (A).

(5) REPAYMENT.—The producers on a farm that receive a partial payment under this subsection for a crop year shall repay to the Secretary the amount, if any, by which the total of the partial payments exceed the actual counter-cyclical payment to be made for the covered commodity for that crop year.

SEC. 1105. PRODUCER AGREEMENT REQUIRED AS CONDITION OF PROVISION OF DIRECT PAYMENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.

(a) COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—Before the producers on a farm may receive direct payments or counter-cyclical payments with respect to the farm, the producers shall agree, during the crop year for which the payments are made and in exchange for the payments—

(A) to comply with applicable conservation requirements under subtitle B of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811 et seq.);

(B) to comply with applicable wetland protection requirements under subtitle C of title XII of that Act (16 U.S.C. 3821 et seq.);

(C) to comply with the planting flexibility requirements of section 1106;

(D) to use the land on the farm, in a quantity equal to the attributable base acres for the farm and any base acres for peanuts for the farm under part III, for an agricultural or conserving use, and not for a nonagricultural commercial, industrial, or residential use (including land subdivided and developed into residential units or other nonfarming uses, or that is otherwise no longer intended to be used in conjunction with a farming operation), as determined by the Secretary; and

(E) to effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain the land in accordance with sound agricultural practices, as determined by the Secretary, if the agricultural or conserving use involves the noncultivation of any portion of the land referred to in subparagraph (D).

(2) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary may issue such rules as the Secretary considers necessary to ensure producer compliance with the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) MODIFICATION.—At the request of the transferee or owner, the Secretary may modify the requirements of this subsection if the modifications are consistent with the objectives of this subsection, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) TRANSFER OR CHANGE OF INTEREST IN FARM.—

(1) TERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a transfer of (or change in) the interest of the producers on a farm in base acres for which direct payments or counter-cyclical payments are made shall result in the termination of the payments with respect to the base acres, unless the transferee or owner of the acreage agrees to assume all obligations under subsection (a).

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The termination shall take effect on the date determined by the Secretary.

(2) EXCEPTION.—If a producer entitled to a direct payment or counter-cyclical payment dies, becomes incompetent, or is otherwise unable to receive the payment, the Secretary shall make the payment, in accordance with rules issued by the Secretary.

(c) ACREAGE REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on the receipt of any benefits under this part or part

II, the Secretary shall require producers on a farm to submit to the Secretary annual acreage reports with respect to all cropland on the farm.

(2) PENALTIES.—No penalty with respect to benefits under this part or part II shall be assessed against the producers on a farm for an inaccurate acreage report unless the producers on the farm knowingly and willfully falsified the acreage report.

(d) TENANTS AND SHARECROPPERS.—In carrying out this subtitle, the Secretary shall provide adequate safeguards to protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers.

(e) SHARING OF PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide for the sharing of direct payments and counter-cyclical payments among the producers on a farm on a fair and equitable basis.

SEC. 1106. PLANTING FLEXIBILITY.

(a) PERMITTED CROPS.—Subject to subsection (b), any commodity or crop may be planted on base acres on a farm.

(b) LIMITATIONS REGARDING CERTAIN COMMODITIES.—

(1) GENERAL LIMITATION.—The planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) shall be prohibited on base acres unless the commodity, if planted, is destroyed before harvest.

(2) TREATMENT OF TREES AND OTHER PERENNIALS.—The planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) that is produced on a tree or other perennial plant shall be prohibited on base acres.

(3) COVERED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) apply to the following agricultural commodities:

(A) Fruits.

(B) Vegetables (other than mung beans and pulse crops).

(C) Wild rice.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) shall not limit the planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) of that subsection—

(1) in any region in which there is a history of double-cropping of covered commodities with agricultural commodities specified in subsection (b)(3), as determined by the Secretary, in which case the double-cropping shall be permitted;

(2) on a farm that the Secretary determines has a history of planting agricultural commodities specified in subsection (b)(3) on base acres, except that direct payments and counter-cyclical payments shall be reduced by an acre for each acre planted to such an agricultural commodity; or

(3) by the producers on a farm that the Secretary determines has an established planting history of a specific agricultural commodity specified in subsection (b)(3), except that—

(A) the quantity planted may not exceed the average annual planting history of such agricultural commodity by the producers on the farm in the 1991 through 1995 or 1998 through 2001 crop years (excluding any crop year in which no plantings were made), as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) direct payments and counter-cyclical payments shall be reduced by an acre for each acre planted to such agricultural commodity.

(d) PLANTING TRANSFERABILITY PILOT PROJECT.—

(1) PILOT PROJECT AUTHORIZED.—In addition to the exceptions provided in subsection (c), the Secretary shall carry out a pilot project in the State of Indiana under which paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) shall not limit the planting of tomatoes grown for processing on up to 10,000 base acres during each of the 2008 through 2009 crop years.

(2) CONTRACT AND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible for selection to participate in the pilot project, the producers on a farm shall—

(A) have entered into a contract to produce tomatoes for processing; and

(B) agree to produce the tomatoes as part of a program of crop rotation on the farm to achieve agronomic and pest and disease management benefits.

(3) TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN BASE ACRES.—The base acres on a farm participating in the pilot program for a crop year shall be reduced by an acre for each acre planted to tomatoes under the pilot program.

(4) RECALCULATION OF BASE ACRES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary recalculates base acres for a farm while the farm is included in the pilot project, the planting and production of tomatoes on base acres for which a temporary reduction was made under this section shall be considered to be the same as the planting and production of a covered commodity.

(B) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this paragraph provides authority for the Secretary to recalculate base acres for a farm.

SEC. 1107. SPECIAL RULE FOR LONG GRAIN AND MEDIUM GRAIN RICE.

(a) CALCULATION METHOD.—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), for the purposes of determining the amount of the counter-cyclical payments to be paid to the producers on a farm for long grain rice and medium grain rice under section 1104, the base acres of rice on the farm shall be apportioned using the 4-year average of the percentages of acreage planted in the applicable State to long grain rice and medium grain rice during the 2003 through 2006 crop years, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) PRODUCER ELECTION.—As an alternative to the calculation method described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide producers on a farm the opportunity to elect to apportion rice base acres on the farm using the 4-year average of—

(1) the percentages of acreage planted on the farm to long grain rice and medium grain rice during the 2003 through 2006 crop years;

(2) the percentages of any acreage on the farm that the producers were prevented from planting to long grain rice and medium grain rice during the 2003 through 2006 crop years because of drought, flood, other natural disaster, or other condition beyond the control of the producers, as determined by the Secretary; and

(3) in the case of a crop year for which a producer on a farm elected not to plant to long grain and medium grain rice during the 2003 through 2006 crop years, the percentages of acreage planted in the applicable State to long grain rice and medium grain rice, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) LIMITATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall use the same total base acres, payment acres, and payment yields established with respect to rice under sections 1101 and 1102 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7911, 7912), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, subject to any adjustment under section 1101 of this Act.

SEC. 1108. PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.

This part shall be effective beginning with the 2008 crop year of each covered commodity through the 2012 crop year.

PART II—MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS

SEC. 1201. AVAILABILITY OF NONRECOURSE MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS FOR LOAN COMMODITIES.

(a) NONRECOURSE LOANS AVAILABLE.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—Except as provided in section 1401, for each of the 2008 through 2012 crops of each loan commodity, the Secretary shall make available to producers on a farm nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for loan commodities produced on the farm.

(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The marketing assistance loans shall be made under terms and conditions that are prescribed by the Secretary and at the loan rate established under section 1202 for the loan commodity.

(b) ELIGIBLE PRODUCTION.—The producers on a farm shall be eligible for a marketing assistance loan under subsection (a) for any quantity of a loan commodity produced on the farm.

(c) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN COMMINGLED COMMODITIES.—In carrying out this part, the Secretary shall make loans to producers on a farm that would be eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan, but for the fact the loan commodity owned by the producers on the farm is commingled with loan commodities of other producers in facilities unlicensed for the storage of agricultural commodities by the Secretary or a State licensing authority, if the producers obtaining the loan agree to immediately redeem the loan collateral in accordance with section 166 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7286).

(d) COMPLIANCE WITH CONSERVATION AND WETLANDS REQUIREMENTS.—As a condition of the receipt of a marketing assistance loan under subsection (a), the producer shall comply with applicable conservation requirements under subtitle B of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811 et seq.) and applicable wetland protection requirements under subtitle C of title XII of the Act (16 U.S.C. 3821 et seq.) during the term of the loan.

SEC. 1202. LOAN RATES FOR NONRECOURSE MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS.

(a) LOAN RATES.—For each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years, the loan rate for a marketing assistance loan under section 1201 for a loan commodity shall be equal to the following:

(1) In the case of wheat, $2.94 per bushel.

(2) In the case of corn, $1.95 per bushel.

(3) In the case of grain sorghum, $1.95 per bushel.

(4) In the case of barley, $1.95 per bushel.

(5) In the case of oats, $1.39 per bushel.

(6) In the case of the base quality of upland cotton, $0.52 per pound.

(7) In the case of extra long staple cotton, $0.7977 per pound.

(8) In the case of long grain rice, $6.50 per hundredweight.

(9) in the case of medium grain rice, $6.50 per hundredweight.

(10) In the case of soybeans, $5.00 per bushel.

(11) In the case of other oilseeds, $10.09 per hundredweight.

(12) In the case of dry peas, $5.40 per hundredweight.

(13) In the case of lentils, $11.28 per hundredweight.

(14) In the case of small chickpeas, $7.43 per hundredweight.

(15) In the case of large chickpeas, $11.28 per hundredweight.

(16) In the case of graded wool, $1.20 per pound.

(17) In the case of nongraded wool, $0.40 per pound.

(18) In the case of mohair, $4.20 per pound.

(19) In the case of honey, $0.72 per pound.

(b) SINGLE COUNTY LOAN RATE FOR OTHER OILSEEDS.—The Secretary shall establish a single loan rate in each county for each kind of other oilseeds described in subsection (a)(10).

(c) GRADING BASIS FOR MARKETING LOANS FOR PULSE CROPS.—The loan rate for pulse crops—

(1) shall be based on a grade not less than grade number 2 or other grade factors, including the fair and average quality of the 1 or more crops in any year; and

(2) may be adjusted by the Secretary to reflect the normal market discounts for grades less than number 2 quality.

(d) CORN AND GRAIN SORGHUM.—The Secretary shall—

(1) establish a single county loan rate for corn and grain sorghum in each county;

(2) establish a single national average loan rate for corn and grain sorghum; and

(3) determine each county loan rate and the national average loan rate for corn and grain sorghum, and any and all other program loan rates applicable to corn and grain sorghum, from a data set that includes prices for both corn and grain sorghum.

SEC. 1203. TERM OF LOANS.

(a) TERM OF LOAN.—In the case of each loan commodity, a marketing assistance loan under section 1201 shall have a term of 9 months beginning on the first day of the first month after the month in which the loan is made.

(b) EXTENSIONS PROHIBITED.—The Secretary may not extend the term of a marketing assistance loan for any loan commodity.

SEC. 1204. REPAYMENT OF LOANS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—The Secretary shall permit the producers on a farm to repay a marketing assistance loan under section 1201 for a loan commodity (other than upland cotton, long grain rice, medium grain rice, extra long staple cotton, and confectionery and each other kind of sunflower seed (other than oil sunflower seed)) at a rate that is the lesser of—

(1) the loan rate established for the commodity under section 1202, plus interest (determined in accordance with section 163 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7283)); or

(2) a rate that the Secretary determines will—

(A) minimize potential loan forfeitures;

(B) minimize the accumulation of stocks of the commodity by the Federal Government;

(C) minimize the cost incurred by the Federal Government in storing the commodity;

(D) allow the commodity produced in the United States to be marketed freely and competitively, both domestically and internationally; and

(E) minimize discrepancies in marketing loan benefits across State boundaries and across county boundaries.

(b) REPAYMENT RATES FOR UPLAND COTTON, LONG GRAIN RICE, AND MEDIUM GRAIN RICE.—The Secretary shall permit producers to repay a marketing assistance loan under section 1201 for upland cotton, long grain rice, and medium grain rice at a rate that is the lesser of—

(1) the loan rate established for the commodity under section 1202, plus interest (determined in accordance with section 163 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7283)); or

(2) the prevailing world market price for the commodity (adjusted to United States quality and location), as determined by the Secretary.

(c) REPAYMENT RATES FOR EXTRA LONG STAPLE COTTON.—Repayment of a marketing assistance loan for extra long staple cotton shall be at the loan rate established for the commodity under section 1202, plus interest (determined in accordance with section 163 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7283)).

(d) PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE.—For purposes of this section and section 1207, the Secretary shall prescribe by regulation—

(1) a formula to determine—

(A) the prevailing world market price for upland cotton (adjusted to United States quality and location); and

(B) the prevailing world market price for long grain rice and medium grain rice, adjusted to United States quality and location; and

(2) a mechanism by which the Secretary shall announce periodically the prevailing world market price for upland cotton, long grain rice, and medium grain rice.

(e) ADJUSTMENT OF PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE FOR UPLAND COTTON.——

(1) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending July 31, 2013, the Secretary may further adjust the prevailing world market price for upland cotton (adjusted to United States quality and location) if the Secretary determines the adjustment is necessary—

(A) to minimize potential loan forfeitures;

(B) to minimize the accumulation of stocks of upland cotton by the Federal Government;

(C) to allow upland cotton produced in the United States to be marketed freely and competitively, both domestically and internationally;

(D) to ensure that upland cotton produced in the United States is competitive in world markets; and

(E) to ensure an appropriate transition between current-crop and forward-crop price quotations, except that the Secretary may use forward-crop price quotations prior to July 31 of a marketing year only if—

(i) there are insufficient current-crop price quotations; and

(ii) the forward-crop price quotation is the lowest such quotation available.

(2) GUIDELINES FOR ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENTS.—In making adjustments under this subsection, the Secretary shall establish a mechanism for determining and announcing the adjustments in order to avoid undue disruption in the United States market.

(f) REPAYMENT RATES FOR CONFECTIONERY AND OTHER KINDS OF SUNFLOWER SEEDS.—The Secretary shall permit the producers on a farm to repay a marketing assistance loan under section 1201 for confectionery and each other kind of sunflower seed (other than oil sunflower seed) at a rate that is the lesser of—

(1) the loan rate established for the commodity under section 1202, plus interest (determined in accordance with section 163 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7283)); or

(2) the repayment rate established for oil sunflower seed.

(g) QUALITY GRADES FOR PULSE CROPS.—The loan repayment rate for pulse crops shall be based on the quality grades for the applicable commodity specified in section 1202(c).

(h) PAYMENT OF COTTON STORAGE COSTS.—Effective for the 2008 through 2012 crop years, the Secretary shall use the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide cotton storage payments in the same manner, and at the same rates, as the Secretary provided those payments for the 2006 crop of cotton.

SEC. 1205. LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (d) and section 1401, the Secretary may make loan deficiency payments available to producers on a farm that, although eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan under section 1201 with respect to a loan commodity, agree to forgo obtaining the loan for the commodity in return for loan deficiency payments under this section.

(2) UNSHORN PELTS, HAY, AND SILAGE.—

(A) MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS.—Subject to subparagraph (B), nongraded wool in the form of unshorn pelts and hay and silage derived from a loan commodity are not eligible for a marketing assistance loan under section 1201.

(B) LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT.—Effective for the 2008 through 2012 crop years, the Secretary may make loan deficiency payments available under this section to producers on a farm that produce unshorn pelts or hay and silage derived from a loan commodity.

(b) COMPUTATION.—A loan deficiency payment for a loan commodity or commodity referred to in subsection (a)(2) shall be computed by multiplying—

(1) the payment rate determined under subsection (c) for the commodity; by

(2) the quantity of the commodity produced by the eligible producers, excluding any quantity for which the producers obtain a marketing assistance loan under section 1201.

(c) PAYMENT RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a loan commodity, the payment rate shall be the amount by which—

(A) the loan rate established under section 1202 for the loan commodity; exceeds

(B) the rate at which a marketing assistance loan for the loan commodity may be repaid under section 1204.

(2) UNSHORN PELTS.—In the case of unshorn pelts, the payment rate shall be the amount by which—

(A) the loan rate established under section 1202 for ungraded wool; exceeds

(B) the rate at which a marketing assistance loan for ungraded wool may be repaid under section 1204.

(3) HAY AND SILAGE.—In the case of hay or silage derived from a loan commodity, the payment rate shall be the amount by which—

(A) the loan rate established under section 1202 for the loan commodity from which the hay or silage is derived; exceeds

(B) the rate at which a marketing assistance loan for the loan commodity may be repaid under section 1204.

(d) EXCEPTION FOR EXTRA LONG STAPLE COTTON.—This section shall not apply with respect to extra long staple cotton.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE FOR PAYMENT RATE DETERMINATION.—

(1) LOSS OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST.—The Secretary shall determine the amount of the loan deficiency payment to be made under this section to the producers on a farm with respect to a quantity of a loan commodity or commodity referred to in subsection (a)(2) using the payment rate in effect under subsection (c) as soon as practicable after the date on which the producers on the farm lose beneficial interest.

(2) ON-FARM CONSUMPTION.—For the quantity of a loan commodity or commodity referred to in subsection (a)(2) consumed on a farm, the Secretary shall provide procedures to determine a date on which the producers on the farm lose beneficial interest.

(3) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection does not apply for the 2009 through 2012 crop years.

SEC. 1206. PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR GRAZED ACREAGE.

(a) ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section 1401, effective for the 2008 through 2012 crop years, in the case of a producer that would be eligible for a loan deficiency payment under section 1205 for wheat, barley, or oats, but that elects to use acreage planted to the wheat, barley, or oats for the grazing of livestock, the Secretary shall make a payment to the producer under this section if the producer enters into an agreement with the Secretary to forgo any other harvesting of the wheat, barley, or oats on that acreage.

(2) GRAZING OF TRITICALE ACREAGE.—Effective for the 2008 through 2012 crop years, with respect to a producer on a farm that uses acreage planted to triticale for the grazing of livestock, the Secretary shall make a payment to the producer under this section

if the producer enters into an agreement with the Secretary to forgo any other harvesting of triticale on that acreage.

(b) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a payment made under this section to a producer on a farm described in subsection (a)(1) shall be equal to the amount determined by multiplying—

(A) the loan deficiency payment rate determined under section 1205(c) in effect, as of the date of the agreement, for the county in which the farm is located; by

(B) the payment quantity determined by multiplying—

(i) the quantity of the grazed acreage on the farm with respect to which the producer elects to forgo harvesting of wheat, barley, or oats; and

(ii) the payment yield in effect for the calculation of direct payments under part I with respect to that loan commodity on the farm or, in the case of a farm without a payment yield for that loan commodity, an appropriate yield established by the Secretary in a manner consistent with section 1102(c).

(2) GRAZING OF TRITICALE ACREAGE.—The amount of a payment made under this section to a producer on a farm described in subsection (a)(2) shall be equal to the amount determined by multiplying—

(A) the loan deficiency payment rate determined under section 1205(c) in effect for wheat, as of the date of the agreement, for the county in which the farm is located; by

(B) the payment quantity determined by multiplying—

(i) the quantity of the grazed acreage on the farm with respect to which the producer elects to forgo harvesting of triticale; and

(ii) the payment yield in effect for the calculation of direct payments under part I with respect to wheat on the farm or, in the case of a farm without a payment yield for wheat, an appropriate yield established by the Secretary in a manner consistent with section 1102(c).

(c) TIME, MANNER, AND AVAILABILITY OF PAYMENT.—

(1) TIME AND MANNER.—A payment under this section shall be made at the same time and in the same manner as loan deficiency payments are made under section 1205.

(2) AVAILABILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish an availability period for the payments authorized by this section.

(B) CERTAIN COMMODITIES.—In the case of wheat, barley, and oats, the availability period shall be consistent with the availability period for the commodity established by the Secretary for marketing assistance loans authorized by this part.

(d) PROHIBITION ON CROP INSURANCE INDEMNITY OR NONINSURED CROP ASSISTANCE.—A 2008 through 2012 crop of wheat, barley, oats, or triticale planted on acreage that a producer elects, in the agreement required by subsection (a), to use for the grazing of livestock in lieu of any other harvesting of the crop shall not be eligible for an indemnity under a policy or plan of insurance authorized under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) or noninsured crop assistance under section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333).

SEC. 1207. SPECIAL MARKETING LOAN PROVISIONS FOR UPLAND COTTON.

(a) SPECIAL IMPORT QUOTA.—

(1) DEFINITION OF SPECIAL IMPORT QUOTA.—In this subsection, the term ''special import quota'' means a quantity of imports that is not subject to the over-quota tariff rate of a tariff-rate quota.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall carry out an import quota program during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act through July 31, 2013, as provided in this subsection.

(B) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Whenever the Secretary determines and announces that for any consecutive 4-week period, the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced United States growth, as quoted for Middling (M) 1 3/32-inch cotton, delivered to a definable and significant international market, as determined by the Secretary, exceeds the prevailing world market price, there shall immediately be in effect a special import quota.

(3) QUANTITY.—The quota shall be equal to 1 week's consumption of cotton by domestic mills at the seasonally adjusted average rate of the most recent 3 months for which data are available.

(4) APPLICATION.—The quota shall apply to upland cotton purchased not later than 90 days after the date of the Secretary's announcement under paragraph (2) and entered into the United States not later than 180 days after that date.

(5) OVERLAP.—A special quota period may be established that overlaps any existing quota period if required by paragraph (2), except that a special quota period may not be established under this subsection if a quota period has been established under subsection (b).

(6) PREFERENTIAL TARIFF TREATMENT.—The quantity under a special import quota shall be considered to be an in-quota quantity for purposes of—

(A) section 213(d) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703(d));

(B) section 204 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3203);

(C) section 503(d) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)); and

(D) General Note 3(a)(iv) to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

(7) LIMITATION.—The quantity of cotton entered into the United States during any marketing year under the special import quota established under this subsection may not exceed the equivalent of 10 week's consumption of upland cotton by domestic mills at the seasonally adjusted average rate of the 3 months immediately preceding the first special import quota established in any marketing year.

(b) LIMITED GLOBAL IMPORT QUOTA FOR UPLAND COTTON.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) SUPPLY.—The term ''supply'' means, using the latest official data of the Bureau of the Census, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of the Treasury—

(i) the carry-over of upland cotton at the beginning of the marketing year (adjusted to 480-pound bales) in which the quota is established;

(ii) production of the current crop; and

(iii) imports to the latest date available during the marketing year.

(B) DEMAND.—The term ''demand'' means—

(i) the average seasonally adjusted annual rate of domestic mill consumption of cotton during the most recent 3 months for which data are available; and

(ii) the larger of—

(I) average exports of upland cotton during the preceding 6 marketing years; or

(II) cumulative exports of upland cotton plus outstanding export sales for the marketing year in which the quota is established.

(C) LIMITED GLOBAL IMPORT QUOTA.—The term ''limited global import quota'' means a quantity of imports that is not subject to the over-quota tariff rate of a tariff-rate quota.

(2) PROGRAM.—The President shall carry out an import quota program that provides that whenever the Secretary determines and announces that the average price of the base quality of upland cotton, as determined by the Secretary, in the designated spot markets for a month exceeded 130 percent of the average price of the quality of cotton in the markets for the preceding 36 months, notwithstanding any other provision of law, there shall immediately be in effect a limited global import quota subject to the following conditions:

(A) QUANTITY.—The quantity of the quota shall be equal to 21 days of domestic mill consumption of upland cotton at the seasonally adjusted average rate of the most recent 3 months for which data are available or as estimated by the Secretary.

(B) QUANTITY IF PRIOR QUOTA.—If a quota has been established under this subsection during the preceding 12 months, the quantity of the quota next established under this subsection shall be the smaller of 21 days of domestic mill consumption calculated under subparagraph (A) or the quantity required to increase the supply to 130 percent of the demand.

(C) PREFERENTIAL TARIFF TREATMENT.—The quantity under a limited global import quota shall be considered to be an in-quota quantity for purposes of—

(i) section 213(d) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703(d));

(ii) section 204 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3203);

(iii) section 503(d) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)); and

(iv) General Note 3(a)(iv) to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

(D) QUOTA ENTRY PERIOD.—When a quota is established under this subsection, cotton may be entered under the quota during the 90-day period beginning on the date the quota is established by the Secretary.

(3) NO OVERLAP.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), a quota period may not be established that overlaps an existing quota period or a special quota period established under subsection (a).

(c) ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE TO USERS OF UPLAND COTTON.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall, on a monthly basis, provide economic adjustment assistance to domestic users of upland cotton in the form of payments for all documented use of that upland cotton during the previous monthly period regardless of the origin of the upland cotton.

(2) VALUE OF ASSISTANCE.—

(A) BEGINNING PERIOD.—During the period beginning on August 1, 2008, and ending on June 30, 2013, the value of the assistance provided under paragraph (1) shall be 4 cents per pound.

(B) SUBSEQUENT PERIOD.—Effective beginning on July 1, 2013, the value of the assistance provided under paragraph (1) shall be 0 cents per pound.

(3) ALLOWABLE PURPOSES.—Economic adjustment assistance under this subsection shall be made available only to domestic users of upland cotton that certify that the assistance shall be used only to acquire, construct, install, modernize, develop, convert, or expand land, plant, buildings, equipment, facilities, or machinery.

(4) REVIEW OR AUDIT.—The Secretary may conduct such review or audit of the records of a domestic user under this subsection as the Secretary determines necessary to carry out this subsection.

(5) IMPROPER USE OF ASSISTANCE.—If the Secretary determines, after a review or audit of the records of the domestic user, that economic adjustment assistance under this subsection was not used for the purposes specified in paragraph (3), the domestic user shall be—

(A) liable to repay the assistance to the Secretary, plus interest, as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) ineligible to receive assistance under this subsection for a period of 1 year following the determination of the Secretary.

SEC. 1208. SPECIAL COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS FOR EXTRA LONG STAPLE COTTON.

(a) COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act through July 31, 2013, the Secretary shall carry out a program—

(1) to maintain and expand the domestic use of extra long staple cotton produced in the United States;

(2) to increase exports of extra long staple cotton produced in the United States; and

(3) to ensure that extra long staple cotton produced in the United States remains competitive in world markets.

(b) PAYMENTS UNDER PROGRAM; TRIGGER.—Under the program, the Secretary shall make payments available under this section whenever—

(1) for a consecutive 4-week period, the world market price for the lowest priced competing growth of extra long staple cotton (adjusted to United States quality and location and for other factors affecting the competitiveness of such cotton), as determined by the Secretary, is below the prevailing United States price for a competing growth of extra long staple cotton; and

(2) the lowest priced competing growth of extra long staple cotton (adjusted to United States quality and location and for other factors affecting the competitiveness of such cotton), as determined by the Secretary, is less than 134 percent of the loan rate for extra long staple cotton.

(c) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary shall make payments available under this section to domestic users of extra long staple cotton produced in the United States and exporters of extra long staple cotton produced in the United States that enter into an agreement with the Commodity Credit Corporation to participate in the program under this section.

(d) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—Payments under this section shall be based on the amount of the difference in the prices referred to in subsection (b)(1) during the fourth week of the consecutive 4-week period multiplied by the amount of documented purchases by domestic users and sales for export by exporters made in the week following such a consecutive 4-week period.

SEC. 1209. AVAILABILITY OF RECOURSE LOANS FOR HIGH MOISTURE FEED GRAINS AND SEED COTTON.

(a) HIGH MOISTURE FEED GRAINS.—

(1) DEFINITION OF HIGH MOISTURE STATE.—In this subsection, the term ''high moisture state'' means corn or grain sorghum having a moisture content in excess of Commodity Credit Corporation standards for marketing assistance loans made by the Secretary under section 1201.

(2) RECOURSE LOANS AVAILABLE.—For each of the 2008 through 2012 crops of corn and grain sorghum, the Secretary shall make available recourse loans, as determined by the Secretary, to producers on a farm that—

(A) normally harvest all or a portion of their crop of corn or grain sorghum in a high moisture state;

(B) present—

(i) certified scale tickets from an inspected, certified commercial scale, including a licensed warehouse, feedlot, feed mill, distillery, or other similar entity approved by the Secretary, pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary; or

(ii) field or other physical measurements of the standing or stored crop in regions of the United States, as determined by the Secretary, that do not have certified commercial scales from which certified scale tickets may be obtained within reasonable proximity of harvest operation;

(C) certify that they were the owners of the feed grain at the time of delivery to, and that the quantity to be placed under loan under this subsection was in fact harvested on the farm and delivered to, a feedlot, feed mill, or commercial or on-farm high-moisture storage facility, or to a facility maintained by the users of corn and grain sorghum in a high moisture state; and

(D) comply with deadlines established by the Secretary for harvesting the corn or grain sorghum and submit applications for loans under this subsection within deadlines established by the Secretary.

(3) ELIGIBILITY OF ACQUIRED FEED GRAINS.—A loan under this subsection shall be made on a quantity of corn or grain sorghum of the same crop acquired by the producer equivalent to a quantity determined by multiplying—

(A) the acreage of the corn or grain sorghum in a high moisture state harvested on the producer's farm; by

(B) the lower of the farm program payment yield used to make counter-cyclical payments under part I or the actual yield on a field, as determined by the Secretary, that is similar to the field from which the corn or grain sorghum was obtained.

(b) RECOURSE LOANS AVAILABLE FOR SEED COTTON.—For each of the 2008 through 2012 crops of upland cotton and extra long staple cotton, the Secretary shall make available recourse seed cotton loans, as determined by the Secretary, on any production.

(c) REPAYMENT RATES.—Repayment of a recourse loan made under this section shall be at the loan rate established for the commodity by the Secretary, plus interest (determined in accordance with section 163 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7283)).

SEC. 1210. ADJUSTMENTS OF LOANS.

(a) ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.—Subject to subsections (e) and (f), the Secretary may make appropriate adjustments in the loan rates for any loan commodity (other than cotton) for differences in grade, type, quality, location, and other factors.

(b) MANNER OF ADJUSTMENT.—The adjustments under subsection (a) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be made in such a manner that the average loan level for the commodity will, on the basis of the anticipated incidence of the factors, be equal to the level of support determined in accordance with this subtitle and subtitles B through E.

(c) ADJUSTMENT ON COUNTY BASIS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish loan rates for a crop for producers in individual counties in a manner that results in the lowest loan rate being 95 percent of the national average loan rate, if those loan rates do not result in an increase in outlays.

(2) PROHIBITION.—Adjustments under this subsection shall not result in an increase in the national average loan rate for any year.

(d) ADJUSTMENT IN LOAN RATE FOR COTTON.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make appropriate adjustments in the loan rate for cotton for differences in quality factors.

(2) REVISIONS TO QUALITY ADJUSTMENTS FOR UPLAND COTTON.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act and after consultation with the private sector in accordance with paragraph (3), the Secretary shall implement revisions in the administration of the marketing assistance loan program for upland cotton to more accurately and efficiently reflect market values for upland cotton.

(B) MANDATORY REVISIONS.—Revisions under subparagraph (A) shall include—

(i) the elimination of warehouse location differentials;

(ii) the establishment of differentials for the various quality factors and staple lengths of cotton based on a 3-year, weighted moving average of the weighted designated spot market regions, as determined by regional production;

(iii) the elimination of any artificial split in the premium or discount between upland cotton with a 32 or 33 staple length due to micronaire; and

(iv) a mechanism to ensure that no premium or discount is established that exceeds the premium or discount associated with a leaf grade that is 1 better than the applicable color grade.

(C) DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS.—Revisions under subparagraph (A) may include—

(i) the use of non-spot market price data, in addition to spot market price data, that would enhance the accuracy of the price information used in determining quality adjustments under this subsection;

(ii) adjustments in the premiums or discounts associated with upland cotton with a staple length of 33 or above due to micronaire with the goal of eliminating any unnecessary artificial splits in the calculations of the premiums or discounts; and

(iii) such other adjustments as the Secretary determines appropriate, after consultations conducted in accordance with paragraph (3).

(3) CONSULTATION WITH PRIVATE SECTOR.—

(A) PRIOR TO REVISION.—Prior to implementing any revisions to the administration of the marketing assistance loan program for upland cotton, the Secretary shall consult with a private sector committee that—

(i) is in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(ii) has a membership that includes representatives of the production, ginning, warehousing, cooperative, and merchandising segments of the United States cotton industry; and

(iii) has developed recommendations concerning the revisions.

(B) REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall consult with the committee described in subparagraph (A) when conducting a review of adjustments in the operation of the loan program for upland cotton in accordance with paragraph (4).

(C) INAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to consultations under this subsection.

(4) REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary may review the operation of the upland cotton quality adjustments implemented pursuant to this subsection and may make further revisions to the administration of the loan program for upland cotton, by—

(A) revoking or revising any actions taken under paragraph (2)(B); or

(B) revoking or revising any actions taken or authorized to be taken under paragraph (2)(C).

(5) ADJUSTMENTS IN EFFECT PRIOR TO REVISION.—The quality differences (premiums and discounts for quality factors) applicable to the loan program for upland cotton (prior to any revisions in accordance with this subsection) shall be established by the Secretary by giving equal weight to—

(A) loan differences for the preceding crop; and

(B) market differences for the crop in the designated United States spot markets.

(e) CORN AND GRAIN SORGHUM.—In the case of corn and grain sorghum, the Secretary—

(1) shall administer the applicable loan, marketing loan, and related programs using

a single loan rate for corn and grain sorghum that is identical in each individual county;

(2) shall provide that any adjustment in the corn and grain sorghum loan rate for location shall be determined and applied on the basis of the combined corn and grain sorghum data set in a manner that any transportation adjustment shall be the same for corn and grain sorghum in each individual county; and

(3) may provide for adjustments for grade, type, and quality, as appropriate, for the corn or grain sorghum involved in each specific transaction.

(f) RICE.—The Secretary shall not make adjustments in the loan rates for long grain rice and medium grain rice, except for differences in grade and quality (including milling yields).

PART III—PEANUTS

SEC. 1301. DEFINITIONS.

In this part:

(1) BASE ACRES FOR PEANUTS.—The term ''base acres for peanuts'' means the number of acres assigned to a farm pursuant to section 1302 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7952), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, subject to any adjustment under section 1302 of this Act.

(2) COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENT.—The term ''counter-cyclical payment'' means a payment made to producers on a farm under section 1304.

(3) DIRECT PAYMENT.—The term ''direct payment'' means a direct payment made to producers on a farm under section 1303.

(4) EFFECTIVE PRICE.—The term ''effective price'' means the price calculated by the Secretary under section 1304 for peanuts to determine whether counter-cyclical payments are required to be made under that section for a crop year.

(5) PAYMENT ACRES.—The term ''payment acres'' means 85 percent of the base acres for peanuts.

(6) PAYMENT YIELD.—The term ''payment yield'' means the yield established for direct payments and counter-cyclical payments under section 1302 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7952), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, for a farm for peanuts.

(7) PRODUCER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''producer'' means an owner, operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper that shares in the risk of producing a crop on a farm and is entitled to share in the crop available for marketing from the farm, or would have shared had the crop been produced.

(B) HYBRID SEED.—In determining whether a grower of hybrid seed is a producer, the Secretary shall—

(i) not take into consideration the existence of a hybrid seed contract; and

(ii) ensure that program requirements do not adversely affect the ability of the grower to receive a payment under this part.

(8) STATE.—The term ''State'' means—

(A) a State;

(B) the District of Columbia;

(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and

(D) any other territory or possession of the United States.

(9) TARGET PRICE.—The term ''target price'' means the price per ton of peanuts used to determine the payment rate for counter-cyclical payments.

(10) UNITED STATES.—The term ''United States'', when used in a geographical sense, means all of the States.

SEC. 1302. BASE ACRES FOR PEANUTS FOR A FARM.

(a) ADJUSTMENT OF BASE ACREAGE FOR PEANUTS.—

(1) TREATMENT OF CONSERVATION RESERVE CONTRACT ACREAGE.—The Secretary shall provide for an adjustment, as appropriate, in the base acres for peanuts for a farm whenever either of the following circumstances occur:

(A) A conservation reserve contract entered into under section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) with respect to the farm expires or is voluntarily terminated.

(B) Cropland is released from coverage under a conservation reserve contract by the Secretary.

(C) The producer has eligible pulse crop or camelina acreage.

(D) The producer has eligible oilseed acreage as the result of the Secretary designating additional oilseeds.

(2) SPECIAL CONSERVATION RESERVE ACREAGE PAYMENT RULES.—For the crop year in which a base acres for peanuts adjustment under paragraph (1) is first made, the owner of the farm shall elect to receive either direct payments and counter-cyclical payments with respect to the acreage added to the farm under this subsection or a prorated payment under the conservation reserve contract, but not both.

(b) PREVENTION OF EXCESS BASE ACRES FOR PEANUTS.—

(1) REQUIRED REDUCTION.—If the sum of the base acres for peanuts for a farm, together with the acreage described in paragraph (2), exceeds the actual cropland acreage of the farm, the Secretary shall reduce the base acres for peanuts for the farm or the base acres for 1 or more covered commodities for the farm so that the sum of the base acres for peanuts and acreage described in paragraph (2) does not exceed the actual cropland acreage of the farm.

(2) OTHER ACREAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the Secretary shall include the following:

(A) Any base acres for the farm for a covered commodity.

(B) Any acreage on the farm enrolled in the conservation reserve program or wetlands reserve program under chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3830 et seq.).

(C) Any other acreage on the farm enrolled in a Federal conservation program for which payments are made in exchange for not producing an agricultural commodity on the acreage.

(D) Any eligible pulse crop or camelina acreage, which shall be determined in the same manner as eligible oilseed acreage under section 1101(a)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7911(a)(2)).

(E) If the Secretary designates additional oilseeds, any eligible oilseed acreage, which shall be determined in the same manner as eligible oilseed acreage under section 1101(a)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7911(a)(2)).

(3) SELECTION OF ACRES.—The Secretary shall give the owner of the farm the opportunity to select the base acres for peanuts or the base acres for covered commodities against which the reduction required by paragraph (1) will be made.

(4) EXCEPTION FOR DOUBLE-CROPPED ACREAGE.—In applying paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make an exception in the case of double cropping, as determined by the Secretary.

(5) COORDINATED APPLICATION OF REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall take into account section 1101(b) when applying the requirements of this subsection.

(c) PERMANENT REDUCTION IN BASE ACRES FOR PEANUTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner of a farm may reduce, at any time, the base acres for peanuts assigned to the farm.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The reduction shall be permanent and made in the manner prescribed by the Secretary.

SEC. 1303. AVAILABILITY OF DIRECT PAYMENTS FOR PEANUTS.

(a) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—Except as provided in section 1401, for each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years for peanuts, the Secretary shall make direct payments to the producers on a farm to which a payment yield and base acres for peanuts are established.

(b) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment rate used to make direct payments with respect to peanuts for a crop year shall be equal to $36 per ton.

(c) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The amount of the direct payment to be paid to the producers on a farm for the 2008 through 2012 crops of peanuts shall be equal to the product of the following:

(1) The payment rate specified in subsection (b).

(2) The payment acres on the farm.

(3) The payment yield for the farm.

(d) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years, the Secretary shall make direct payments under this section not earlier than October 1 of the calendar year in which the crop is harvested.

(2) ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—

(A) OPTION.—At the option of the producers on a farm, the Secretary shall pay in advance up to 22 percent of the direct payment for peanuts for any of the 2008 through 2011 crop years to the producers on a farm.

(B) MONTH.—

(i) SELECTION.—Subject to clauses (ii) and (iii), the producers on a farm shall select the month during which the advance payment for a crop year will be made.

(ii) OPTIONS.—The month selected may be any month during the period—

(I) beginning on December 1 of the calendar year before the calendar year in which the crop of peanuts is harvested; and

(II) ending during the month within which the direct payment would otherwise be made.

(iii) CHANGE.—The producers on a farm may change the selected month for a subsequent advance payment by providing advance notice to the Secretary.

(3) REPAYMENT OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—If a producer on a farm that receives an advance direct payment for a crop year ceases to be a producer on that farm, or the extent to which the producer shares in the risk of producing a crop changes, before the date the remainder of the direct payment is made, the producer shall be responsible for repaying the Secretary the applicable amount of the advance payment, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 1304. AVAILABILITY OF COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS FOR PEANUTS.

(a) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—Except as provided in section 1401, for each of the 2008 through 2012 crop years for peanuts, the Secretary shall make counter-cyclical payments to producers on farms for which payment yields and base acres for peanuts are established if the Secretary determines that the effective price for peanuts is less than the target price for peanuts.

(b) EFFECTIVE PRICE.—For purposes of subsection (a), the effective price for peanuts is equal to the sum of the following:

(1) The higher of the following:

(A) The national average market price for peanuts received by producers during the 12-month marketing year for peanuts, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) The national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for peanuts in effect for the applicable period under this part.

(2) The payment rate in effect for peanuts under section 1303 for the purpose of making direct payments.

(c) TARGET PRICE.—For purposes of subsection (a), the target price for peanuts shall be equal to $495 per ton.

(d) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment rate used to make counter-cyclical payments for a crop year shall be equal to the difference between—

(1) the target price; and

(2) the effective price determined under subsection (b).

(e) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—If counter-cyclical payments are required to be paid for any of the 2008 through 2012 crops of peanuts, the amount of the counter-cyclical payment to be paid to the producers on a farm for that crop year shall be equal to the product of the following:

(1) The payment rate specified in subsection (d).

(2) The payment acres on the farm.

(3) The payment yield for the farm.

(f) TIME FOR PAYMENTS.—

(1) GENERAL RULE.—If the Secretary determines under subsection (a) that counter-cyclical payments are required to be made under this section for a crop year, the Secretary shall make the counter-cyclical payments for the crop year beginning on October 1 or as soon as practicable after the end of the marketing year.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF PARTIAL PAYMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If, before the end of the 12-month marketing year, the Secretary estimates that counter-cyclical payments will be required under this section for a crop year, the Secretary shall give producers on a farm the option to receive partial payments of the counter-cyclical payment projected to be made for the crop.

(B) ELECTION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allow participants to make an election to receive partial payments under subparagraph (A) at any time but not later than 30 days prior to the end of the marketing year for the crop.

(ii) DATE OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary shall issue the partial payment after the date of an announcement by the Secretary but not later than 30 days prior to the end of the marketing year.

(3) TIME FOR PARTIAL PAYMENTS.—When the Secretary makes partial payments available for any of the 2008 through 2010 crop years—

(A) the first partial payment shall be made after completion of the first 180 days of the marketing year for that crop; and

(B) the final partial payment shall be made on October 1 of the fiscal year starting in the same calendar year as the end of the marketing year for that crop.

(4) AMOUNT OF PARTIAL PAYMENTS.—

(A) FIRST PARTIAL PAYMENT.—For each of the 2008 through 2010 crop years, the first partial payment under paragraph (3) to the producers on a farm may not exceed 40 percent of the projected counter-cyclical payment for the crop year, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) FINAL PAYMENT.—The final payment for a crop year shall be equal to the difference between—

(i) the actual counter-cyclical payment to be made to the producers for that crop year; and

(ii) the amount of the partial payment made to the producers under subparagraph (A).

(5) REPAYMENT.—The producers on a farm that receive a partial payment under this subsection for a crop year shall repay to the Secretary the amount, if any, by which the total of the partial payments exceed the actual counter-cyclical payment to be made for that crop year.

SEC. 1305. PRODUCER AGREEMENT REQUIRED AS CONDITION ON PROVISION OF DIRECT PAYMENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.

(a) COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—Before the producers on a farm may receive direct payments or counter-cyclical payments under this part with respect to the farm, the producers shall agree, during the crop year for which the payments are made and in exchange for the payments—

(A) to comply with applicable conservation requirements under subtitle B of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811 et seq.);

(B) to comply with applicable wetland protection requirements under subtitle C of title XII of that Act (16 U.S.C. 3821 et seq.);

(C) to comply with the planting flexibility requirements of section 1306;

(D) to use the land on the farm, in a quantity equal to the attributable base acres for peanuts and any base acres for the farm under part I, for an agricultural or conserving use, and not for a nonagricultural commercial, industrial, or residential use (including land subdivided and developed into residential units or other nonfarming uses, or that is otherwise no longer intended to be used in conjunction with a farming operation), as determined by the Secretary; and

(E) to effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain the land in accordance with sound agricultural practices, as determined by the Secretary, if the agricultural or conserving use involves the noncultivation of any portion of the land referred to in subparagraph (D).

(2) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary may issue such rules as the Secretary considers necessary to ensure producer compliance with the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) MODIFICATION.—At the request of the transferee or owner, the Secretary may modify the requirements of this subsection if the modifications are consistent with the objectives of this subsection, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) TRANSFER OR CHANGE OF INTEREST IN FARM.—

(1) TERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a transfer of (or change in) the interest of the producers on a farm in the base acres for peanuts for which direct payments or counter-cyclical payments are made shall result in the termination of the payments with respect to those acres, unless the transferee or owner of the acreage agrees to assume all obligations under subsection (a).

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The termination shall take effect on the date determined by the Secretary.

(2) EXCEPTION.—If a producer entitled to a direct payment or counter-cyclical payment dies, becomes incompetent, or is otherwise unable to receive the payment, the Secretary shall make the payment, in accordance with rules issued by the Secretary.

(c) ACREAGE REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on the receipt of any benefits under this part, the Secretary shall require producers on a farm to submit to the Secretary annual acreage reports with respect to all cropland on the farm.

(2) PENALTIES.—No penalty with respect to benefits under this part shall be assessed against the producers on a farm for an inaccurate acreage report unless the producers on the farm knowingly and willfully falsified the acreage report.

(d) TENANTS AND SHARECROPPERS.—In carrying out this part, the Secretary shall provide adequate safeguards to protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers.

(e) SHARING OF PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide for the sharing of direct payments and counter-cyclical payments among the producers on a farm on a fair and equitable basis.

SEC. 1306. PLANTING FLEXIBILITY.

(a) PERMITTED CROPS.—Subject to subsection (b), any commodity or crop may be planted on the base acres for peanuts on a farm.

(b) LIMITATIONS REGARDING CERTAIN COMMODITIES.—

(1) GENERAL LIMITATION.—The planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) shall be prohibited on base acres for peanuts unless the commodity, if planted, is destroyed before harvest.

(2) TREATMENT OF TREES AND OTHER PERENNIALS.—The planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) that is produced on a tree or other perennial plant shall be prohibited on base acres for peanuts.

(3) COVERED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) apply to the following agricultural commodities:

(A) Fruits.

(B) Vegetables (other than mung beans and pulse crops).

(C) Wild rice.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) shall not limit the planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) of that subsection—

(1) in any region in which there is a history of double-cropping of peanuts with agricultural commodities specified in subsection (b)(3), as determined by the Secretary, in which case the double-cropping shall be permitted;

(2) on a farm that the Secretary determines has a history of planting agricultural commodities specified in subsection (b)(3) on the base acres for peanuts, except that direct payments and counter-cyclical payments shall be reduced by an acre for each acre planted to such an agricultural commodity; or

(3) by the producers on a farm that the Secretary determines has an established planting history of a specific agricultural commodity specified in subsection (b)(3), except that—

(A) the quantity planted may not exceed the average annual planting history of such agricultural commodity by the producers on the farm in the 1991 through 1995 or 1998 through 2001 crop years (excluding any crop year in which no plantings were made), as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) direct payments and counter-cyclical payments shall be reduced by an acre for each acre planted to such agricultural commodity.

SEC. 1307. MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR PEANUTS.

(a) NONRECOURSE LOANS AVAILABLE.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—Except as provided in section 1401, for each of the 2008 through 2012 crops of peanuts, the Secretary shall make available to producers on a farm nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for peanuts produced on the farm.

(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The loans shall be made under terms and conditions that are prescribed by the Secretary and at the loan rate established under subsection (b).

(3) ELIGIBLE PRODUCTION.—The producers on a farm shall be eligible for a marketing assistance loan under this subsection for any quantity of peanuts produced on the farm.

(4) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN COMMINGLED COMMODITIES.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary shall make loans to producers on a farm that would be eligible to

obtain a marketing assistance loan, but for the fact the peanuts owned by the producers on the farm are commingled with other peanuts in facilities unlicensed for the storage of agricultural commodities by the Secretary or a State licensing authority, if the producers obtaining the loan agree to immediately redeem the loan collateral in accordance with section 166 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7286).

(5) OPTIONS FOR OBTAINING LOAN.—A marketing assistance loan under this subsection, and loan deficiency payments under subsection (e), may be obtained at the option of the producers on a farm through—

(A) a designated marketing association or marketing cooperative of producers that is approved by the Secretary; or

(B) the Farm Service Agency.

(6) STORAGE OF LOAN PEANUTS.—As a condition on the Secretary's approval of an individual or entity to provide storage for peanuts for which a marketing assistance loan is made under this section, the individual or entity shall agree—

(A) to provide such storage on a nondiscriminatory basis; and

(B) to comply with such additional requirements as the Secretary considers appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this section and promote fairness in the administration of the benefits of this section.

(7) STORAGE, HANDLING, AND ASSOCIATED COSTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with the 2007 crop of peanuts, to ensure proper storage of peanuts for which a loan is made under this section or section 1307 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7957), the Secretary shall use the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to pay handling and other associated costs (other than storage costs) incurred at the time at which the peanuts are placed under loan, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) REDEMPTION AND FORFEITURE.—The Secretary shall—

(i) require the repayment of handling and other associated costs paid under subparagraph (A) for all peanuts pledged as collateral for a loan that is redeemed under this section or section 1307 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7957); and

(ii) pay storage, handling, and other associated costs for all peanuts pledged as collateral that are forfeited under this section or section 1307 of that Act.

(8) MARKETING.—A marketing association or cooperative may market peanuts for which a loan is made under this section in any manner that conforms to consumer needs, including the separation of peanuts by type and quality.

(b) LOAN RATE.—The loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for peanuts under subsection (a) shall be equal to $355 per ton.

(c) TERM OF LOAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A marketing assistance loan for peanuts under subsection (a) shall have a term of 9 months beginning on the first day of the first month after the month in which the loan is made.

(2) EXTENSIONS PROHIBITED.—The Secretary may not extend the term of a marketing assistance loan for peanuts under subsection (a).

(d) REPAYMENT RATE.—The Secretary shall permit producers on a farm to repay a marketing assistance loan for peanuts under subsection (a) at a rate that is the lesser of—

(1) the loan rate established for peanuts under subsection (b), plus interest (determined in accordance with section 163 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7283)); or

(2) a rate that the Secretary determines will—

(A) minimize potential loan forfeitures;

(B) minimize the accumulation of stocks of peanuts by the Federal Government;

(C) minimize the cost incurred by the Federal Government in storing peanuts; and

(D) allow peanuts produced in the United States to be marketed freely and competitively, both domestically and internationally.

(e) LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary may make loan deficiency payments available to producers on a farm that, although eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan for peanuts under subsection (a), agree to forgo obtaining the loan for the peanuts in return for loan deficiency payments under this subsection.

(2) COMPUTATION.—A loan deficiency payment under this subsection shall be computed by multiplying—

(A) the payment rate determined under paragraph (3) for peanuts; by

(B) the quantity of the peanuts produced by the producers, excluding any quantity for which the producers obtain a marketing assistance loan under subsection (a).

(3) PAYMENT RATE.—For purposes of this subsection, the payment rate shall be the amount by which—

(A) the loan rate established under subsection (b); exceeds

(B) the rate at which a loan may be repaid under subsection (d).

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE FOR PAYMENT RATE DETERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall determine the amount of the loan deficiency payment to be made under this subsection to the producers on a farm with respect to a quantity of peanuts using the payment rate in effect under paragraph (3) as soon as practicable after the date on which the producers on the farm lose beneficial interest.

(B) APPLICABILITY.—This paragraph does not apply for the 2009 through 2012 crop years.

(f) COMPLIANCE WITH CONSERVATION AND WETLANDS REQUIREMENTS.—As a condition of the receipt of a marketing assistance loan under subsection (a), the producer shall comply with applicable conservation requirements under subtitle B of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811 et seq.) and applicable wetland protection requirements under subtitle C of title XII of that Act (16 U.S.C. 3821 et seq.) during the term of the loan.

(g) REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENTS AND PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The Secretary may implement any reimbursable agreements or provide for the payment of administrative expenses under this part only in a manner that is consistent with such activities in regard to other commodities.

SEC. 1308. ADJUSTMENTS OF LOANS.

(a) ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may make appropriate adjustments in the loan rates for peanuts for differences in grade, type, quality, location, and other factors.

(b) MANNER OF ADJUSTMENT.—The adjustments under subsection (a) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be made in such a manner that the average loan level for peanuts will, on the basis of the anticipated incidence of the factors, be equal to the level of support determined in accordance with this subtitle and subtitles B through E.

(c) ADJUSTMENT ON COUNTY BASIS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish loan rates for a crop of peanuts for producers in individual counties in a manner that results in the lowest loan rate being 95 percent of the national average loan rate, if those loan rates do not result in an increase in outlays.

(2) PROHIBITION.—Adjustments under this subsection shall not result in an increase in the national average loan rate for any year.

Subtitle B—Average Crop Revenue Program

SEC. 1401. AVAILABILITY OF AVERAGE CROP REVENUE PAYMENTS.

(a) AVAILABILITY AND ELECTION OF ALTERNATIVE APPROACH.—

(1) AVAILABILITY OF AVERAGE CROP REVENUE PAYMENTS.—As an alternative to receiving payments or loans under subtitle A with respect to all covered commodities and peanuts on a farm (other than loans for graded and nongraded wool, mohair, and honey), the Secretary shall give the producers on the farm an opportunity to make a 1-time election to instead receive average crop revenue payments under this section for—

(A) the 2010, 2011, and 2012 crop years;

(B) the 2011 and 2012 crop years; or

(C) the 2012 crop year.

(2) ELECTION; TIME FOR ELECTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide notice to producers regarding the opportunity to make the election described in paragraph (1).

(B) NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.—The notice shall include—

(i) notice of the opportunity of the producers on a farm to make the election; and

(ii) information regarding the manner in which the election must be made and the time periods and manner in which notice of the election must be submitted to the Secretary.

(3) ELECTION DEADLINE.—Within the time period and in the manner prescribed pursuant to paragraph (2), the producers on a farm shall submit to the Secretary notice of the election made under paragraph (1).

(4) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO MAKE ELECTION.—If the producers on a farm fail to make the election under paragraph (1) or fail to timely notify the Secretary of the election made, as required by paragraph (3), the producers shall be deemed to have made the election to receive payments and loans under subtitle A for all covered commodities and peanuts on the farm for the applicable crop year.

(b) PAYMENTS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of producers on a farm who make the election under subsection (a) to receive average crop revenue payments, for any of the 2010 through 2012 crop years for all covered commodities and peanuts, the Secretary shall make average crop revenue payments available to the producers on a farm in accordance with this subsection.

(2) FIXED PAYMENT COMPONENT.—Subject to paragraph (3), in the case of producers on a farm described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make average crop revenue payments available to the producers on a farm for each crop year in an amount equal to not less than the product obtained by multiplying—

(A) $15 per acre; and

(B) 100 percent of the quantity of base acres on the farm for all covered commodities and peanuts (as adjusted in accordance with the terms and conditions of section 1101 or 1302, as determined by the Secretary).

(3) REVENUE COMPONENT.—The Secretary shall increase the amount of the average crop revenue payments available to the producers on a farm in a State for a crop year if—

(A) the actual State revenue for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State determined under subsection (c); is less than

(B) the average crop revenue program guarantee for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State determined under subsection (d).

(4) TIME FOR PAYMENTS.—In the case of each of the 2010 through 2012 crop years, the Secretary shall make average crop revenue payments beginning October 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter, after the end of the applicable marketing year for the covered commodity or peanuts.

(c) ACTUAL STATE REVENUE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (b)(3)(A), the amount of the actual State revenue for a crop year of a covered commodity shall equal the product obtained by multiplying—

(A) the actual State yield for each planted acre for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts determined under paragraph (2); and

(B) the average crop revenue program harvest price for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts determined under paragraph (3).

(2) ACTUAL STATE YIELD.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(A) and subsection (d)(1)(A), the actual State yield for each planted acre for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State shall equal (as determined by the Secretary)—

(A) the quantity of the covered commodity or peanuts that is produced in the State during the crop year; divided by

(B) the number of acres that are planted to the covered commodity or peanuts in the State during the crop year.

(3) AVERAGE CROP REVENUE PROGRAM HARVEST PRICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), subject to subparagraph (B), the average crop revenue program harvest price for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State shall equal the harvest price that is used to calculate revenue under revenue coverage plans that are offered for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).

(B) ASSIGNED PRICE.—If the Secretary cannot establish the harvest price for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State in accordance with subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall assign a price for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State on the basis of comparable price data.

(d) AVERAGE CROP REVENUE PROGRAM GUARANTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The average crop revenue program guarantee for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State shall equal 90 percent of the product obtained by multiplying—

(A) the expected State yield for each planted acre for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in a State determined under paragraph (2); and

(B) the average crop revenue program preplanting price for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts determined under paragraph (3).

(2) EXPECTED STATE YIELD.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(A), subject to subparagraph (B), the expected State yield for each planted acre for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State shall equal the projected yield for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State, based on a linear regression trend of the yield per acre planted to the covered commodity or peanuts in the State during the 1980 through 2006 period using National Agricultural Statistics Service data.

(B) ASSIGNED YIELD.—If the Secretary cannot establish the expected State yield for each planted acre for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State in accordance with subparagraph (A) or if the linear regression trend of the yield per acre planted to the covered commodity or peanuts in the State (as determined under subparagraph (A)) is negative, the Secretary shall assign an expected State yield for each planted acre for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State on the basis of expected State yields for planted acres for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in similar States.

(3) AVERAGE CROP REVENUE PROGRAM PREPLANTING PRICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the average crop revenue program pre-planting price for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State shall equal the average price that is used to calculate revenue under revenue coverage plans that are offered for the covered commodity in the State under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) for the crop year and the preceding 2 crop years.

(B) ASSIGNED PRICE.—If the Secretary cannot establish the pre-planting price for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts in a State in accordance with subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall assign a price for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State on the basis of comparable price data.

(C) MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM PRICE.—In the case of each of the 2011 through 2012 crop years, the average crop revenue program preplanting price for a crop year for a covered commodity or peanuts under subparagraph (A) shall not decrease or increase more than 15 percent from the pre-planting price for the preceding year.

(e) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—If average crop revenue payments are required to be paid for any of the 2010 through 2012 crop years of a covered commodity or peanuts under subsection (b)(3), in addition to the amount payable under subsection (b)(2), the amount of the average crop revenue payment to be paid to the producers on the farm for the crop year under this section shall be increased by an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

(1) the difference between—

(A) the average crop revenue program guarantee for the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State determined under subsection (d); and

(B) the actual State revenue from the crop year for the covered commodity or peanuts in the State determined under subsection (c);

(2) 85 percent of the quantity of base acres on the farm for the covered commodity or peanuts (as adjusted in accordance with the terms and conditions of section 1101 or 1302, as determined by the Secretary);

(3) the quotient obtained by dividing—

(A)(i) the yield used to calculate crop insurance coverage for the commodity or peanuts on the farm under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) (commonly referred to as ''actual production history''); or

(ii) if actual production history for the commodity or peanuts on the farm is not available, a comparable yield as determined by the Secretary; by

(B) the expected State yield for the crop year, as determined under subsection (d)(2); and

(4) 90 percent.

(f) RECOURSE LOANS.—For each of the 2010 through 2012 crops of a covered commodity or peanuts, the Secretary shall make available to producers on a farm who elect to receive payments under this section recourse loans, as determined by the Secretary, on any production of the covered commodity.

SEC. 1402. PRODUCER AGREEMENT AS CONDITION OF AVERAGE CROP REVENUE PAYMENTS.

(a) COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—Before the producers on a farm may receive average crop revenue payments with respect to the farm, the producers shall agree, and in the case of subparagraph (C), the Farm Service Agency shall certify, during the crop year for which the payments are made and in exchange for the payments—

(A) to comply with applicable conservation requirements under subtitle B of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811 et seq.);

(B) to comply with applicable wetland protection requirements under subtitle C of title XII of that Act (16 U.S.C. 3821 et seq.); and

(C) that the individuals or entities receiving payments are producers;

(D) to use the land on the farm, in a quantity equal to the attributable base acres for the farm and any base acres for peanuts for the farm under part III of subtitle A, for an agricultural or conserving use, and not for a nonagricultural commercial, industrial, or residential use (including land subdivided and developed into residential units or other nonfarming uses, or that is otherwise no longer intended to be used in conjunction with a farming operation), as determined by the Secretary; and

(E) to effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain the land in accordance with sound agricultural practices, as determined by the Secretary, if the agricultural or conserving use involves the noncultivation of any portion of the land referred to in subparagraph (D).

(2) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary may issue such rules as the Secretary considers necessary to ensure producer compliance with the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) MODIFICATION.—At the request of the transferee or owner, the Secretary may modify the requirements of this subsection if the modifications are consistent with the objectives of this subsection, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) TRANSFER OR CHANGE OF INTEREST IN FARM.—

(1) TERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a transfer of (or change in) the interest of the producers on a farm for which average crop revenue payments are made shall result in the termination of the payments, unless the transferee or owner of the farm agrees to assume all obligations under subsection (a).

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The termination shall take effect on the date determined by the Secretary.

(2) EXCEPTION.—If a producer entitled to an average crop revenue payment dies, becomes incompetent, or is otherwise unable to receive the payment, the Secretary shall make the payment, in accordance with rules issued by the Secretary.

(c) ACREAGE REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on the receipt of any benefits under this subtitle, the Secretary shall require producers on a farm to submit to the Secretary annual acreage reports with respect to all cropland on the farm.

(2) PENALTIES.—No penalty with respect to benefits under subtitle shall be assessed against the producers on a farm for an inaccurate acreage report unless the producers on the farm knowingly and willfully falsified the acreage report.

(d) TENANTS AND SHARECROPPERS.—In carrying out this subtitle, the Secretary shall provide adequate safeguards to protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers.

(e) SHARING OF PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide for the sharing of average crop revenue payments among the producers on a farm on a fair and equitable basis.

(f) AUDIT AND REPORT.—Each year, to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable,

that payments are received only by producers, the Secretary shall—

(1) conduct an audit of average crop revenue payments; and

(2) submit to Congress a report that describes the results of that audit.

SEC. 1403. PLANTING FLEXIBILITY.

(a) PERMITTED CROPS.—Subject to subsection (b), any commodity or crop may be planted on base acres on a farm for which the producers on a farm elect to receive average crop revenue payments (referred to in this section as ''base acres'').

(b) LIMITATIONS REGARDING CERTAIN COMMODITIES.—

(1) GENERAL LIMITATION.—The planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) shall be prohibited on base acres unless the commodity, if planted, is destroyed before harvest.

(2) TREATMENT OF TREES AND OTHER PERENNIALS.—The planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) that is produced on a tree or other perennial plant shall be prohibited on base acres.

(3) COVERED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) apply to the following agricultural commodities:

(A) Fruits.

(B) Vegetables (other than mung beans and pulse crops).

(C) Wild rice.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) shall not limit the planting of an agricultural commodity specified in paragraph (3) of that subsection—

(1) in any region in which there is a history of double-cropping of covered commodities with agricultural commodities specified in subsection (b)(3), as determined by the Secretary, in which case the double-cropping shall be permitted;

(2) on a farm that the Secretary determines has a history of planting agricultural commodities specified in subsection (b)(3) on base acres, except that average crop revenue payments shall be reduced by an acre for each acre planted to such an agricultural commodity; or

(3) by the producers on a farm that the Secretary determines has an established planting history of a specific agricultural commodity specified in subsection (b)(3), except that—

(A) the quantity planted may not exceed the average annual planting history of such agricultural commodity by the producers on the farm in the 1991 through 1995 or 1998 through 2001 crop years (excluding any crop year in which no plantings were made), as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) average crop revenue payments shall be reduced by an acre for each acre planted to such agricultural commodity.

(d) PLANTING TRANSFERABILITY PILOT PROJECT.—Producers on a farm that elect to receive average crop revenue payments shall be eligible to participate in the pilot program established under section 1106(d) under the same terms and conditions as producers that receive direct payments and counter-cyclical payments.

(e) PRODUCTION OF FRUITS OR VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) through (4), effective beginning with the 2010 crop years, producers on a farm that elect to receive average crop revenue payments, with the consent of the owner of and any other producers on the farm, may reduce the base acres for a covered commodity for the farm if the reduced acres are used for the planting and production of fruits or vegetables for processing.

(2) REVERSION TO BASE ACRES FOR COVERED COMMODITY.—Any reduced acres on a farm devoted to the planting and production of fruits or vegetables during a crop year under paragraph (1) shall be included in base acres for the covered commodity for the subsequent crop year, unless the producers on the farm make the election described in paragraph (1) for the subsequent crop year.

(3) RECALCULATION OF BASE ACRES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), if the Secretary recalculates base acres for a farm, the planting and production of fruits or vegetables for processing under paragraph (1) shall be considered to be the same as the planting, prevented planting, or production of a covered commodity.

(B) AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this subsection provides authority for the Secretary to recalculate base acres for a farm covered by this subsection other than as provided in this subsection.

(4) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—This subsection applies in land located in each of the States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

(B) ACREAGE LIMIT.—The total number of base acres that may be reduced in any State under this subsection shall not exceed 10,000.

Subtitle C—Sugar

SEC. 1501. SUGAR PROGRAM.

Section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 156. SUGAR PROGRAM.

''(a) SUGARCANE.—The Secretary shall make loans available to processors of domestically grown sugarcane at a rate equal to—

''(1) 18.00 cents per pound for raw cane sugar for the 2008 crop year;

''(2) 18.25 cents per pound for raw cane sugar for the 2009 crop year;

''(3) 18.50 cents per pound for raw cane sugar for the 2010 crop year;

''(4) 18.75 cents per pound for raw cane sugar for the 2011 crop year; and

''(5) 19.00 cents per pound for raw cane sugar for the 2012 crop year.

''(b) SUGAR BEETS.—The Secretary shall make loans available to processors of domestically grown sugar beets at a rate per pound for refined beet sugar that is equal to 128.5 percent of the loan rate per pound of raw cane sugar for the applicable crop year under subsection (a).

''(c) TERM OF LOANS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A loan under this section during any fiscal year shall be made available not earlier than the beginning of the fiscal year and shall mature at the earlier of—

''(A) the end of the 9-month period beginning on the first day of the first month after the month in which the loan is made; or

''(B) the end of the fiscal year in which the loan is made.

''(2) SUPPLEMENTAL LOANS.—In the case of a loan made under this section in the last 3 months of a fiscal year, the processor may repledge the sugar as collateral for a second loan in the subsequent fiscal year, except that the second loan shall—

''(A) be made at the loan rate in effect at the time the second loan is made; and

''(B) mature in 9 months less the quantity of time that the first loan was in effect.

''(d) LOAN TYPE; PROCESSOR ASSURANCES.—

''(1) NONRECOURSE LOANS.—The Secretary shall carry out this section through the use of nonrecourse loans.

''(2) PROCESSOR ASSURANCES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall obtain from each processor that receives a loan under this section such assurances as the Secretary considers adequate to ensure that the processor will provide payments to producers that are proportional to the value of the loan received by the processor for the sugar beets and sugarcane delivered by producers to the processor.

''(B) MINIMUM PAYMENTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the Secretary may establish appropriate minimum payments for purposes of this paragraph.

''(ii) LIMITATION.—In the case of sugar beets, the minimum payment established under clause (i) shall not exceed the rate of payment provided for under the applicable contract between a sugar beet producer and a sugar beet processor.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary may not impose or enforce any prenotification requirement, or similar administrative requirement not otherwise in effect on the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, that has the effect of preventing a processor from electing to forfeit the loan collateral (of an acceptable grade and quality) on the maturity of the loan.

''(e) LOANS FOR IN-PROCESS SUGAR.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF IN-PROCESS SUGARS AND SYRUPS.—In this subsection, the term 'in-process sugars and syrups' does not include raw sugar, liquid sugar, invert sugar, invert syrup, or other finished product that is otherwise eligible for a loan under subsection (a) or (b).

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make nonrecourse loans available to processors of a crop of domestically grown sugarcane and sugar beets for in-process sugars and syrups derived from the crop.

''(3) LOAN RATE.—The loan rate shall be equal to 80 percent of the loan rate applicable to raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar, as determined by the Secretary on the basis of the source material for the in-process sugars and syrups.

''(4) FURTHER PROCESSING ON FORFEITURE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of the forfeiture of in-process sugars and syrups serving as collateral for a loan under paragraph (2), the processor shall, within such reasonable time period as the Secretary may prescribe and at no cost to the Commodity Credit Corporation, convert the in-process sugars and syrups into raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar of acceptable grade and quality for sugars eligible for loans under subsection (a) or (b).

''(B) TRANSFER TO CORPORATION.—Once the in-process sugars and syrups are fully processed into raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar, the processor shall transfer the sugar to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

''(C) PAYMENT TO PROCESSOR.—On transfer of the sugar, the Secretary shall make a payment to the processor in an amount equal to the amount obtained by multiplying—

''(i) the difference between—

''(I) the loan rate for raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar, as appropriate; and

''(II) the loan rate the processor received under paragraph (3); by

''(ii) the quantity of sugar transferred to the Secretary.

''(5) LOAN CONVERSION.—If the processor does not forfeit the collateral as described in paragraph (4), but instead further processes the in-process sugars and syrups into raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar and repays the loan on the in-process sugars and syrups, the processor may obtain a loan under subsection (a) or (b) for the raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar, as appropriate.

''(6) TERM OF LOAN.—The term of a loan made under this subsection for a quantity of in-process sugars and syrups, when combined with the term of a loan made with respect to the raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar derived from the in-process sugars and syrups, may not exceed 9 months, consistent with subsection (d).

''(f) FEEDSTOCK FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM FOR BIOENERGY PRODUCERS.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) BIOENERGY.—The term 'bioenergy' means fuel grade ethanol and other biofuel.

''(B) BIOENERGY PRODUCER.—The term 'bioenergy producer' means a producer of bioenergy that uses an eligible commodity to produce bioenergy under this subsection.

''(C) ELIGIBLE COMMODITY.—The term 'eligible commodity' means a form of raw or refined sugar or in-process sugar that is eligible—

''(i) to be marketed in the United States for human consumption; or

''(ii) to be used for the extraction of sugar for human consumption.

''(D) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means an entity located in the United States that markets an eligible commodity in the United States.

''(2) FEEDSTOCK FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM.—

''(A) PURCHASES AND SALES.—For each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, the Secretary shall purchase eligible commodities from eligible entities and sell such commodities to bioenergy producers for the purpose of producing bioenergy in a manner that ensures that this section is operated at no cost to the Federal Government and avoids forfeitures to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

''(B) COMPETITIVE PROCEDURES.—In carrying out the purchases and sales required under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, use competitive procedures, including the receiving, offering, and accepting of bids, when entering into contracts with eligible entities and bioenergy producers, provided that the procedures are consistent with the purposes of subparagraph (A).

''(C) LIMITATION.—The purchase and sale of eligible commodities under subparagraph (A) shall only be made for a fiscal year for which the purchases and sales are necessary to ensure that the program under this section is operated at no cost to the Federal Government by avoiding forfeitures to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

''(3) NOTICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, and each September 1 thereafter through fiscal year 2012, the Secretary shall provide notice to eligible entities and bioenergy producers of the quantity of eligible commodities that shall be made available for purchase and sale for the subsequent fiscal year under this subsection.

''(B) REESTIMATES.—Not later than the first day of each of the second through fourth quarters of each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, the Secretary shall reestimate the quantity of eligible commodities determined under subparagraph (A), and provide notice and make purchases and sales based on the reestimates.

''(4) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION INVENTORY.—To the extent that an eligible commodity is owned and held in inventory by the Commodity Credit Corporation (accumulated pursuant to the program under this section), the Secretary shall sell the eligible commodity to bioenergy producers under this subsection.

''(5) TRANSFER RULE; STORAGE FEES.—

''(A) GENERAL TRANSFER RULE.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall ensure that bioenergy producers that purchase eligible commodities pursuant to this subsection take possession of the eligible commodities not later than 30 calendar days after the date of the purchase from the Commodity Credit Corporation.

''(B) PAYMENT OF STORAGE FEES PROHIBITED.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, carry out this subsection in a manner that ensures no storage fees are paid by the Commodity Credit Corporation in the administration of this subsection.

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) shall not apply with respect to any commodities owned and held in inventory by the Commodity Credit Corporation (accumulated pursuant to the program under this section).

''(C) OPTION TO PREVENT STORAGE FEES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into contracts with bioenergy producers to sell eligible commodities to the bioenergy producers prior in time to entering into contracts with eligible entities to purchase the eligible commodities to be used to satisfy the contracts entered into with the bioenergy producers.

''(ii) SPECIAL TRANSFER RULE.—If the Secretary makes a sale and purchase referred to in clause (i), the Secretary shall ensure that the bioenergy producer that purchased eligible commodities takes possession of the eligible commodities not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which the Commodity Credit Corporation purchases the eligible commodities.

''(6) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—If sugar that is subject to a marketing allotment under part VII of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359aa et seq.) is the subject of a payment under this subsection, the sugar shall be considered marketed and shall count against the allocation of a processor of an allotment under that part, as applicable.

''(7) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall use the funds, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation, including the use of such sums as are necessary, to carry out this subsection.

''(g) AVOIDING FORFEITURES; CORPORATION INVENTORY DISPOSITION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (d)(3), to the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall operate the program established under this section at no cost to the Federal Government by avoiding the forfeiture of sugar to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

''(2) INVENTORY DISPOSITION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—To carry out paragraph (1), the Commodity Credit Corporation may accept bids to obtain raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar in the inventory of the Commodity Credit Corporation from (or otherwise make available such commodities, on appropriate terms and conditions, to) processors of sugarcane and processors of sugar beets (acting in conjunction with the producers of the sugarcane or sugar beets processed by the processors) in return for the reduction of production of raw cane sugar or refined beet sugar, as appropriate.

''(B) BIOENERGY FEEDSTOCK.—Sugar beets or sugarcane planted on acreage diverted from production to achieve any reduction required under subparagraph (A) may not be used for any commercial purpose other than as a bioenergy feedstock.

''(C) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—The authority provided under this paragraph is in addition to any authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation under any other law.

''(h) INFORMATION REPORTING.—

''(1) DUTY OF PROCESSORS AND REFINERS TO REPORT.—A sugarcane processor, cane sugar refiner, and sugar beet processor shall furnish the Secretary, on a monthly basis, such information as the Secretary may require to administer sugar programs, including the quantity of purchases of sugarcane, sugar beets, and sugar, and production, importation, distribution, and stock levels of sugar.

''(2) DUTY OF PRODUCERS TO REPORT.—

''(A) PROPORTIONATE SHARE STATES.—As a condition of a loan made to a processor for the benefit of a producer, the Secretary shall require each producer of sugarcane located in a State (other than the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico) in which there are in excess of 250 producers of sugarcane to report, in the manner prescribed by the Secretary, the sugarcane yields and acres planted to sugarcane of the producer.

''(B) OTHER STATES.—The Secretary may require each producer of sugarcane or sugar beets not covered by subparagraph (A) to report, in a manner prescribed by the Secretary, the yields of, and acres planted to, sugarcane or sugar beets, respectively, of the producer.

''(3) DUTY OF IMPORTERS TO REPORT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall require an importer of sugars, syrups, or molasses to be used for human consumption or to be used for the extraction of sugar for human consumption to report, in the manner prescribed by the Secretary, the quantities of the products imported by the importer and the sugar content or equivalent of the products.

''(B) TARIFF-RATE QUOTAS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to sugars, syrups, or molasses that are within the quantities of tariff-rate quotas that are subject to the lower rate of duties.

''(4) INFORMATION ON MEXICO.—

''(A) COLLECTION.—The Secretary shall collect—

''(i) information of the production, consumption, stocks, and trade of sugar in Mexico, including United States exports of sugar to Mexico; and

''(ii) publicly-available information on Mexican production, consumption, and trade of high fructose corn syrups to Mexico.

''(B) PUBLICATION.—The date collected under subparagraph (A) shall be published in each edition of the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates.

''(5) PENALTY.—Any person willfully failing or refusing to furnish the information required under paragraph (1), (2), or (3), or furnishing willfully any false information, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than $10,000 for each such violation.

''(6) MONTHLY REPORTS.—Taking into consideration the information received under this subsection, the Secretary shall publish on a monthly basis composite data on production, imports, distribution, and stock levels of sugar.

''(i) SUBSTITUTION OF REFINED SUGAR.—For purposes of Additional U.S. Note 6 to chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and the reexport programs and polyhydric alcohol program administered by the Secretary, all refined sugars (whether derived from sugar beets or sugarcane) produced by cane sugar refineries and beet sugar processors shall be fully substitutable for the export of sugar and sugar-containing products under those programs.

''(j) EFFECTIVE PERIOD.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—This section shall be effective only for the 2008 through 2012 crops of sugar beets and sugarcane.

''(2) TRANSITION.—The Secretary shall make loans for raw cane sugar and refined beet sugar available for the 2007 crop year on the terms and conditions provided in this section as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.''.

SEC. 1502. STORAGE FACILITY LOANS.

Section 1402(c) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7971(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) not include any penalty for prepayment''; and

(4) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by paragraph (2)), by inserting ''other'' after ''on such''.

SEC. 1503. COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION STORAGE PAYMENTS.

Subtitle E of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7281 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 167. COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION STORAGE PAYMENTS.

''(a) INITIAL CROP YEARS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for each of the 2008 through 2011 crop years, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall establish rates for the storage of forfeited sugar in an amount that is not less than—

''(1) in the case of refined sugar, 15 cents per hundredweight of refined sugar per month; and

''(2) in the case of raw cane sugar, 10 cents per hundredweight of raw cane sugar per month.

''(b) SUBSEQUENT CROP YEARS.—For each of the 2012 and subsequent crop years, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall establish rates for the storage of forfeited sugar in the same manner as was used on the day before the date of enactment of this section.''.

SEC. 1504. FLEXIBLE MARKETING ALLOTMENTS FOR SUGAR.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 359a of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359aa) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (4) as paragraphs (3) through (5), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) MARKET.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'market' means to sell or otherwise dispose of in commerce in the United States.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'market' includes—

''(i) the forfeiture of sugar under the loan program for sugar established under section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272); and

''(ii) with respect to any integrated processor and refiner, the movement of raw cane sugar into the refining process.

''(C) MARKETING YEAR.—Forfeited sugar described in subparagraph (B)(i) shall be considered to have been marketed during the crop year for which a loan is made under the loan program described in that subparagraph.''.

(b) FLEXIBLE MARKETING ALLOTMENTS FOR SUGAR.—Section 359b of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359bb) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 359. FLEXIBLE MARKETING ALLOTMENTS FOR SUGAR.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—By the beginning of each crop year, the Secretary shall establish for that crop year appropriate allotments under section 359c for the marketing by processors of sugar processed from sugar cane, sugar beets, or in-process sugar (whether produced domestically or imported) at a level that is—

''(A) sufficient to maintain raw and refined sugar prices at a level that will result in no forfeitures of sugar to the Commodity Credit Corporation under the loan program for sugar established under section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272); but

''(B) not less than 85 percent of the estimated quantity of sugar consumption for domestic food use for the crop year.

''(2) PRODUCTS.—The Secretary may include sugar products, the majority content of which is sucrose for human consumption, derived from sugarcane, sugar beets, molasses, or sugar in the allotments under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines it to be appropriate for purposes of this part.

''(b) COVERAGE OF ALLOTMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Marketing allotments under this part shall apply to the marketing by processors of sugar intended for domestic human food use that has been processed from sugar cane, sugar beets, or in-process sugar, whether produced domestically or imported.

''(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Marketing allotments under this part shall not apply to sugar sold—

''(A) to facilitate the exportation of the sugar to a foreign country;

''(B) to enable another processor to fulfill an allocation established for that processor; or

''(C) for uses other than domestic human food use.

''(3) REQUIREMENT.—The sale of sugar described in paragraph (2)(B) shall be—

''(A) made prior to May 1; and

''(B) reported to the Secretary.

''(c) PROHIBITIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—During all or part of any crop year for which marketing allotments have been established, no processor of sugar beets or sugarcane shall market for domestic human food use a quantity of sugar in excess of the allocation established for the processor, except—

''(A) to enable another processor to fulfill an allocation established for that other processor; or

''(B) to facilitate the exportation of the sugar.

''(2) CIVIL PENALTY.—Any processor who knowingly violates paragraph (1) shall be liable to the Commodity Credit Corporation for a civil penalty in an amount equal to 3 times the United States market value, at the time of the commission of the violation, of that quantity of sugar involved in the violation.''.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF FLEXIBLE MARKETING ALLOTMENTS.—Section 359c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359cc) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) OVERALL ALLOTMENT QUANTITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish the overall quantity of sugar to be allotted for the crop year (referred to in this part as the 'overall allotment quantity') at a level that is—

''(A) sufficient to maintain raw and refined sugar prices above the level that will result in no forfeiture of sugar to the Commodity Credit Corporation; but

''(B) not less than a quantity equal to 85 percent of the estimated sugar consumption for domestic food use for the crop year.

''(2) ADJUSTMENT.—Subject to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall adjust the overall allotment quantity to maintain—

''(A) raw and refined sugar prices above forfeiture levels to avoid the forfeiture of sugar to the Commodity Credit Corporation; and

''(B) adequate supplies of raw and refined sugar in the domestic market.''; and

(2) by striking subsection (h).

(d) ALLOCATION OF MARKETING ALLOTMENTS.—Section 359d(b) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359dd(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''subparagraphs (C) and (D)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (C)'';

(B) by striking subparagraph (C);

(C) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) through (F) as subparagraphs (C) through (E), respectively;

(D) in subparagraph (D) (as so redesignated)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking ''subparagraphs (B) and (D)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (B) and (C)''; and

(ii) in clause (iii)(II), by striking ''subparagraph (B) or (D)'' as ''subparagraph (B) or (C)''; and

(E) in subparagraph (E) (as so redesignated), by striking ''Except as otherwise provided in section 359f(c)(8), if'' and inserting ''If''; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraphs (H) and (I) and inserting the following:

''(H) NEW ENTRANTS STARTING PRODUCTION OR REOPENING FACTORIES.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF NEW ENTRANT.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—In this subparagraph, the term 'new entrant' means an individual, corporation, or other entity that—

''(aa) does not have an allocation of the beet sugar allotment under this part;

''(bb) is not affiliated with any other individual, corporation, or entity that has an allocation of beet sugar under this part (referred to in this clause as a 'third party'); and

''(cc) will process sugar beets produced by sugar beet growers under contract with the new entrant for the production of sugar at the new or re-opened factory that is the basis for the new entrant allocation.

''(II) AFFILIATION.—For purposes of subclause (I)(bb), a new entrant and a third party shall be considered to be affiliated if—

''(aa) the third party has an ownership interest in the new entrant;

''(bb) the new entrant and the third party have owners in common;

''(cc) the third party has the ability to exercise control over the new entrant by organizational rights, contractual rights, or any other means;

''(dd) the third party has a contractual relationship with the new entrant by which the new entrant will make use of the facilities or assets of the third party; or

''(ee) there are any other similar circumstances by which the Secretary determines that the new entrant and the third party are affiliated.

''(ii) ALLOCATION FOR A NEW ENTRANT THAT HAS CONSTRUCTED A NEW FACTORY OR REOPENED A FACTORY THAT WAS NOT OPERATED SINCE BEFORE 1998.—If a new entrant constructs a new sugar beet processing factory, or acquires and reopens a sugar beet processing factory that last processed sugar beets prior to the 1998 crop year and there is no allocation currently associated with the factory, the Secretary shall—

''(I) assign an allocation for beet sugar to the new entrant that provides a fair and equitable distribution of the allocations for beet sugar so as to enable the new entrant to achieve a factory utilization rate comparable to the factory utilization rates of other similarly-situated processors; and

''(II) reduce the allocations for beet sugar of all other processors on a pro rata basis to reflect the allocation to the new entrant.

''(iii) ALLOCATION FOR A NEW ENTRANT THAT HAS ACQUIRED AN EXISTING FACTORY WITH A PRODUCTION HISTORY.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—If a new entrant acquires an existing factory that has processed sugar beets from the 1998 or subsequent crop year and has a production history, on the mutual agreement of the new entrant and the company currently holding the allocation associated with the factory, the Secretary shall transfer to the new entrant a portion of the allocation of the current allocation holder to reflect the historical contribution of the production of the acquired factory to the total allocation of the current allocation holder.

''(II) PROHIBITION.—In the absence of a mutual agreement described in subclause (I),

the new entrant shall be ineligible for a beet sugar allocation.

''(iv) APPEALS.—Any decision made under this subsection may be appealed to the Secretary in accordance with section 359i.''.

(e) REASSIGNMENT OF DEFICITS.—Section 359e(b) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359ee(b)) is amended in paragraphs (1)(D) and (2)(C), by inserting ''of raw cane sugar'' after ''imports'' each place it appears.

(f) PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO PRODUCERS.—Section 359f(c) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359ff(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (8);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (7) as paragraphs (2) through (8), respectively;

(3) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(1) DEFINITION OF SEED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In this subsection, the term 'seed' means only those varieties of seed that are dedicated to the production of sugarcane from which is produced sugar for human consumption.

''(B) EXCLUSION.—The term 'seed' does not include seed of a high-fiber cane variety dedicated to other uses, as determined by the Secretary'';

(4) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking ''paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)''; and

(ii) by inserting ''sugar produced from'' after ''quantity of''; and

(B) in the second sentence, by striking ''paragraph (7)'' and inserting ''paragraph (8)''; and

(5) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated), by inserting ''sugar from'' after ''the amount of''.

(g) SPECIAL RULES.—Section 359g of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359gg) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) TRANSFER OF ACREAGE BASE HISTORY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of establishing proportionate shares for sugarcane farms under section 359f(c), the Secretary, on application of any producer, with the written consent of all owners of a farm, may transfer the acreage base history of the farm to any other parcels of land of the applicant.

''(2) CONVERTED ACREAGE BASE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Sugarcane base acreage established under section 359f(c) that has been or is converted to nonagricultural use on or after the date of the enactment of this paragraph may be transferred to other land suitable for the production of sugarcane that can be delivered to a processor in a proportionate share in accordance with this paragraph.

''(B) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this paragraph and at the subsequent conversion of any sugarcane base acreage to a nonagricultural use, the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency shall notify the 1 or more affected landowners of the transferability of the applicable sugarcane base acreage.

''(C) INITIAL TRANSFER PERIOD.—Not later than the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date of receipt of the notification under subparagraph (B), the owner of the base attributable to the acreage at the time of the conversion shall transfer the base to 1 or more farms owned by the owner.

''(D) GROWER OF RECORD.—If a transfer under subparagraph (C) cannot be accomplished during the period specified in that subparagraph, the grower of record with regard to the base acreage on the date on which the acreage was converted to nonagricultural use shall—

''(i) be notified; and

''(ii) have 90 days from the date of the receipt of the notification to transfer the base to 1 or more farms operated by the grower.

''(E) POOL DISTRIBUTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If transfers under subparagraphs (B) and (C) cannot be accomplished during the periods specified in those subparagraphs, the county committee of the Farm Service Agency for the applicable county shall place the acreage base in a pool for possible assignment to other farms.

''(ii) ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTS.—After providing reasonable notice to farm owners, operators, and growers of record in the county, the county committee shall accept requests from owners, operators, and growers of record in the county.

''(iii) ASSIGNMENT.—The county committee shall assign the base acreage to other farms in the county that are eligible and capable of accepting the base acreage, based on a random selection from among the requests received under clause (ii).

''(F) STATEWIDE REALLOCATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Any base acreage remaining unassigned after the transfers and processes described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) shall be made available to the State committee of the Farm Service Agency for allocation among the remaining county committees representing counties with farms eligible for assignment of the base, based on a random selection.

''(ii) ALLOCATION.—Any county committee receiving base acreage under this subparagraph shall allocate the base acreage to eligible farms using the process described in subparagraph (E).

''(G) STATUS OF REASSIGNED BASE.—After base acreage has been reassigned in accordance with this subparagraph, the base acreage shall—

''(i) remain on the farm; and

''(ii) be subject to the transfer provisions of paragraph (1).''; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting ''affected'' before ''crop-share owners'' each place it appears; and

(ii) by striking '', and from the processing company holding the applicable allocation for such shares,''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''based on'' and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting ''based on—

''(A) the number of acres of sugarcane base being transferred; and

''(B) the pro rata amount of allocation at the processing company holding the applicable allocation that equals the contribution of the grower to allocation of the processing company for the sugarcane base acreage being transferred.''.

(h) APPEALS.—Section 359i of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359ii) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting ''or 359g(d)'' after ''359f''; and

(2) by striking subsection (c).

(i) REALLOCATING SUGAR QUOTA IMPORT SHORTFALLS.—Section 359k of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359kk) is repealed.

(j) ADMINISTRATION OF TARIFF RATE QUOTAS.—Part VII of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359aa) (as amended by subsection (i)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 359k. ADMINISTRATION OF TARIFF RATE QUOTAS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the beginning of the quota year, the Secretary shall establish the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined sugars (other than specialty sugar) at the minimum necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements that have been approved by Congress.

''(b) ADJUSTMENT.—

''(1) BEFORE APRIL 1.—Before April 1 of each fiscal year, if there is an emergency shortage of sugar in the United States market that is caused by a war, flood, hurricane, or other natural disaster, or other similar event as determined by the Secretary—

''(A) the Secretary shall take action to increase the supply of sugar in accordance with sections 359c(b)(2) and 359e(b); and

''(B) if there is still a shortage of sugar in the United States market, and marketing of domestic sugar has been maximized, the Secretary may increase the tariff-rate quota for refined sugars sufficient to accommodate the supply increase, if the further increase will not threaten to result in the forfeiture of sugar pledged as collateral for a loan under section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272).

''(2) ON OR AFTER APRIL 1.—On or after April 1 of each fiscal year—

''(A) the Secretary may take action to increase the supply of sugar in accordance with sections 359c(b)(2) and 359e(b); and

''(B) if there is still a shortage of sugar in the United States market, and marketing of domestic sugar has been maximized, the Secretary may increase the tariff-rate quota for raw cane sugar if the further increase will not threaten to result in the forfeiture of sugar pledged as collateral for a loan under section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272).''.

(k) PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.—Part VII of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359aa) (as amended by subsection (j)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 359l. PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—This part shall be effective only for the 2008 through 2012 crop years for sugar.

''(b) TRANSITION.—The Secretary shall administer flexible marketing allotments for sugar for the 2007 crop year for sugar on the terms and conditions provided in this part as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this section.''.

(l) UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL SUGAR ORGANIZATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall work with the Secretary of State to restore, to the maximum extent practicable, United States membership in the International Sugar Organization.

SEC. 1505. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING NAFTA SUGAR COORDINATION.

It is the sense of the Senate that in order to improve the operations of the North American Free Trade Agreement—

(1) the United States Government and the Government of Mexico should coordinate the operation of their respective sugar policies; and

(2) the United States Government should consult with the Government of Mexico on policies to avoid disruptions of the United States sugar market and the Mexican sugar market in order to maximize the benefits of sugar policies for growers, processors, and consumers of sugar in the United States and Mexico.

Subtitle D—Dairy

SEC. 1601. DAIRY PRODUCT PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAM.

(a) SUPPORT ACTIVITIES.—During the period beginning on January 1, 2008, and ending on December 31, 2012, the Secretary shall support the price of cheddar cheese, butter, and

nonfat dry milk through the purchase of such products made from milk produced in the United States.

(b) PURCHASE PRICE.—To carry out subsection (a), the Secretary shall purchase cheddar cheese, butter, and nonfat dry milk at prices that are equivalent to—

(1) in the case of cheddar cheese—

(A) in blocks, not less than $1.13 per pound;

(B) in barrels, not less than $1.10 per pound;

(2) in the case of butter, not less than $1.05 per pound; and

(3) in the case of nonfat dry milk, not less than $0.80 per pound.

(c) UNIFORM PURCHASE PRICE.—The prices that the Secretary pays for cheese, butter, or nonfat dry milk under this section shall be uniform for all regions of the United States.

(d) SALES FROM INVENTORIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), in the case of each commodity specified in subsection (b) that is available for unrestricted use in inventories of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary may sell the commodity at the market prices prevailing for that commodity at the time of sale.

(2) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—The sale price described in paragraph (1) may not be less than 110 percent of the minimum purchase price specified in subsection (b) for that commodity.

SEC. 1602. NATIONAL DAIRY MARKET LOSS PAYMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CLASS I MILK.—The term ''Class I milk'' means milk (including milk components) classified as Class I milk under a Federal milk marketing order.

(2) ELIGIBLE PRODUCTION.—The term ''eligible production'' means milk produced by a producer in a participating State.

(3) FEDERAL MILK MARKETING ORDER.—The term ''Federal milk marketing order'' means an order issued under section 8c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937.

(4) PARTICIPATING STATE.—The term ''participating State'' means each State.

(5) PRODUCER.—The term ''producer'' means an individual or entity that directly or indirectly (as determined by the Secretary)—

(A) shares in the risk of producing milk; and

(B) makes contributions (including land, labor, management, equipment, or capital) to the dairy farming operation of the individual or entity that are at least commensurate with the share of the individual or entity of the proceeds of the operation.

(b) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall offer to enter into contracts with producers on a dairy farm located in a participating State under which the producers receive payments on eligible production.

(c) AMOUNT.—Payments to a producer under this section shall be calculated by multiplying (as determined by the Secretary)—

(1) the payment quantity for the producer during the applicable month established under subsection (d);

(2) the amount equal to—

(A) $16.94 per hundredweight; less

(B) the Class I milk price per hundredweight in Boston under the applicable Federal milk marketing order; by

(3)(A) for the period beginning October 1, 2007, and ending September 30, 2008, 34 percent;

(B) for the period beginning October 1, 2008, and ending August 31, 2012, 45 percent; and

(C) for the period beginning September 1, 2012, and thereafter, 34 percent.

(d) PAYMENT QUANTITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the payment quantity for a producer during the applicable month under this section shall be equal to the quantity of eligible production marketed by the producer during the month.

(2) LIMITATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment quantity for all producers on a single dairy operation for which the producers receive payments under subsection (b) shall not exceed—

(i) for the period beginning October 1, 2007, and ending September 30, 2008, 2,400,000 pounds;

(ii) for the period beginning October 1, 2008, and ending August 31, 2012, 4,150,000 pounds; and

(iii) effective beginning September 1, 2012, 2,400,000 pounds.

(B) STANDARDS.—For purposes of determining whether producers are producers on separate dairy operations or a single dairy operation, the Secretary shall apply the same standards as were applied in implementing the dairy program under section 805 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (as enacted into law by Public Law 106–387; 114 Stat. 1549A–50).

(3) RECONSTITUTION.—The Secretary shall ensure that a producer does not reconstitute a dairy operation for the sole purpose of receiving additional payments under this section.

(e) PAYMENTS.—A payment under a contract under this section shall be made on a monthly basis not later than 60 days after the last day of the month for which the payment is made.

(f) SIGNUP.—The Secretary shall offer to enter into contracts under this section during the period beginning on the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and ending on September 30, 2012.

(g) DURATION OF CONTRACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any contract entered into by producers on a dairy farm under this section shall cover eligible production marketed by the producers on the dairy farm during the period starting with the first day of month the producers on the dairy farm enter into the contract and ending on September 30, 2012.

(2) VIOLATIONS.—If a producer violates the contract, the Secretary may—

(A) terminate the contract and allow the producer to retain any payments received under the contract; or

(B) allow the contract to remain in effect and require the producer to repay a portion of the payments received under the contract based on the severity of the violation.

SEC. 1603. DAIRY EXPORT INCENTIVE AND DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAMS.

(a) DAIRY EXPORT INCENTIVE PROGRAM.—Section 153(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (15 U.S.C. 713a–14(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(b) DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM.—Section 3 of Public Law 90–484 (7 U.S.C. 450*l*) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 1604. FUNDING OF DAIRY PROMOTION AND RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Section 113(e)(2) of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4504(e)(2)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 1605. REVISION OF FEDERAL MARKETING ORDER AMENDMENT PROCEDURES.

Section 8c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended by striking subsection (17) and inserting the following:

''(17) PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AMENDMENTS.—

''(A) APPLICABILITY TO AMENDMENTS.—The provisions of this section and section 8d applicable to orders shall be applicable to amendments to orders.

''(B) SUPPLEMENTAL RULES OF PRACTICE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall issue, using informal rulemaking, supplemental rules of practice to define guidelines and timeframes for the rulemaking process relating to amendments to orders.

''(ii) ISSUES.—At a minimum, the supplemental rules of practice shall establish—

''(I) proposal submission requirements;

''(II) pre-hearing information session specifications;

''(III) written testimony and data request requirements;

''(IV) public participation timeframes; and

''(V) electronic document submission standards.

''(iii) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The supplemental rules of practice shall take effect not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) HEARING TIMEFRAMES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not more than 30 days after the receipt of a proposal for an amendment hearing regarding a milk marketing order, the Secretary shall—

''(I) issue a notice providing an action plan and expected timeframes for completion of the hearing not more than 180 days after the date of the issuance of the notice;

''(II)(aa) issue a request for additional information to be used by the Secretary in making a determination regarding the proposal; and

''(bb) if the additional information is not provided to the Secretary within the timeframe requested by the Secretary, issue a denial of the request; or

''(III) issue a denial of the request.

''(ii) NOTICE.—A notice issued under clause (i)(I) shall be individualized for each proceeding and take into consideration—

''(I) the number of orders affected;

''(II) the complexity of issues involved; and

''(III) the extent of the analyses required by applicable Executive orders (including Executive orders relating to civil rights, regulatory flexibility, and economic impact).

''(iii) RECOMMENDED DECISIONS.—A recommended decision on a proposed amendment to an order shall be issued not later than 90 days after the deadline established after the hearing for the submission of post-hearing briefs, unless otherwise provided in the initial notice issued under clause (i)(I).

''(iv) FINAL DECISIONS.—A final decision on a proposed amendment to an order shall be issued not later than 60 days after the deadline for submission of comments and exceptions to the recommended decision issued under clause (ii), unless otherwise provided in the initial notice issued under clause (i)(I).

''(D) INDUSTRY ASSESSMENTS.—If the Secretary determines it is necessary to improve or expedite rulemaking under this subsection, the Secretary may impose an assessment on the affected industry to supplement appropriated funds for the procurement of service providers, such as court reporters.

''(E) USE OF INFORMAL RULEMAKING.—The Secretary may use rulemaking under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, to amend orders, other than provisions of orders that directly affecting milk prices.

''(F) MONTHLY FEED AND FUEL COSTS FOR MAKE ALLOWANCES.—As part of any hearing to adjust make allowances under marketing orders, the Secretary shall—

''(i) determine the average monthly prices of feed and fuel incurred by dairy producers in the relevant marketing area;

''(ii) consider the most recent monthly feed and fuel price data available; and

''(iii) consider those prices in determining whether or not to adjust make allowances.''.

SEC. 1606. DAIRY FORWARD PRICING PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 23 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 627), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**PILOT**'';

(2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a program under which milk producers and cooperative associations of producers are authorized to voluntarily enter into forward price contracts with milk handlers.'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking ''PILOT''; and

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''pilot'';

(4) by striking subsections (d) and (e); and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) VOLUNTARY PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A milk handler may not require participation in a forward price contract as a condition of the handler receiving milk from a producer or cooperative association of producers.

''(2) EFFECT OF NONPARTICIPATION.—A producer or cooperative association that does not enter into a forward price contract may continue to have milk priced under the minimum payment provisions of the applicable milk marketing order.

''(3) COMPLAINTS.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) investigate complaints made by producers or cooperative associations of coercion by handlers to enter into forward price contracts; and

''(B) if the Secretary finds evidence of coercion, take appropriate action.

''(e) DURATION.—No forward price contract under this section may—

''(1) be entered into after September 30, 2012; or

''(2) may extend beyond September 30, 2015.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 23 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 627), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended by striking ''cooperatives'' each place it appears in subsections (b) and (c)(2) and inserting ''cooperative associations of producers''.

SEC. 1607. REPORT ON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE REPORTING PROCEDURES FOR NONFAT DRY MILK.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report regarding Department of Agriculture reporting procedures for nonfat dry milk and the impact of the procedures on Federal milk marketing order minimum prices during the period beginning on July 1, 2006, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1608. FEDERAL MILK MARKETING ORDER REVIEW COMMISSION.

(a) DEFINITION OF ASCARR INSTITUTION.—In this section:

(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ''ASCARR Institution'' means a public college or university offering a baccalaureate or higher degree in the study of agriculture.

(2) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ''ASCARR Institution'' does not include an institution eligible to receive funds under—

(A) the Act of July 2, 1862 (commonly known as the ''First Morrill Act'') (7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.);

(B) the Act of August 30, 1890 (commonly known as the ''Second Morrill Act'') (7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.); or

(C) the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of funds appropriated to carry out this section, the Secretary shall establish a commission to be known as the ''Federal Milk Marketing Order Review Commission'' (referred to in this section as the ''Commission''), which shall conduct a comprehensive review and evaluation of—

(1) the Federal milk marketing order system in effect on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) non-Federal milk marketing order systems.

(c) ELEMENTS OF REVIEW AND EVALUATION.—As part of the review and evaluation under subsection (b), the Commission shall consider legislative and regulatory options for—

(1) ensuring that the competitiveness of dairy products with other competing products in the marketplace is preserved and enhanced;

(2) enhancing the competitiveness of United States dairy producers in world markets;

(3) increasing the responsiveness of the Federal milk marketing order system to market forces;

(4) streamlining and expediting the process by which amendments to Federal milk market orders are adopted;

(5) simplifying the Federal milk marketing order system;

(6) evaluating whether the Federal milk marketing order system, established during the Great Depression, continues to serve the interests of the public, dairy processors, and dairy producers;

(7) evaluating whether Federal milk marketing orders are operating in a manner to minimize costs to taxpayers and consumers;

(8) evaluating the nutritional composition of milk, including the potential benefits and costs of adjusting the milk content standards;

(9) evaluating the economic benefits to milk producers of establishing a 2-class system of classifying milk consisting of a fluid milk class and a manufacturing grade milk class, with the price of both classes determined using the component prices of butterfat, protein, and other solids; and

(10) evaluating a change in advance pricing that is used to calculate the advance price of Class II skim milk under Federal milk marketing orders using the 4-week component prices that are used to calculate prices for Class III and Class IV milk.

(d) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall consist of 18 members.

(2) MEMBERS.—As soon as practicable after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this section—

(A) 2 members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the ranking member of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;

(B) 2 members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, in consultation with the ranking member of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry of the Senate; and

(C) 14 members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Secretary.

(3) SPECIAL APPOINTMENT REQUIREMENTS.—In the case of members of the Commission appointed under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary shall ensure that—

(A) at least 1 member represents a national consumer organization;

(B) at least 4 members represent land-grant colleges or universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)) or ASCARR institutions with accredited dairy economic programs, with at least 2 of those members being experts in the field of economics;

(C) at least 1 member represents the food and beverage retail sector; and

(D) 4 dairy producers and 4 dairy processors are appointed in a manner that will—

(i) balance geographical distribution of milk production and dairy processing;

(ii) reflect all segments of dairy processing; and

(iii) represent all regions of the United States equitably, including States that operate outside of a Federal milk marketing order.

(4) CHAIR.—The Commission shall elect 1 of the members of the Commission to serve as chairperson for the duration of the proceedings of the Commission.

(5) VACANCY.—Any vacancy occurring before the termination of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(6) COMPENSATION.—A member of the Commission shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed by the Secretary from existing budget authority for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(e) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall submit to Congress and the Secretary a report describing the results of the review and evaluation conducted under this section, including such recommendations regarding the legislative and regulatory options considered under subsection (c) as the Commission considers to be appropriate.

(2) SUPPORT.—The report findings shall reflect, to the maximum extent practicable, a consensus opinion of the Commission members, but the report may include majority and minority findings regarding those matters for which consensus was not reached.

(f) ADVISORY NATURE.—The Commission is wholly advisory in nature and the recommendations of the Commission are nonbinding.

(g) NO EFFECT ON EXISTING PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall not allow the existence of the Commission to impede, delay, or otherwise affect any decisionmaking process of the Department of Agriculture, including any rulemaking procedures planned, proposed, or near completion.

(h) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide such administrative support to the Commission, and expend such funds as necessary from budget authority available to the Secretary, as is necessary to carry out this section.

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

(j) TERMINATION OF EFFECTIVENESS.—The authority provided by this section terminates effective on the date of the submission of the report under subsection (e).

SEC. 1609. MANDATORY REPORTING OF DAIRY COMMODITIES.

Section 273 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1637b) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) DAILY REPORTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall require corporate officers or officially-designated representatives of each dairy

processor to report to the Secretary on each daily reporting day designated by the Secretary, not later than 10:00 a.m. Central Time, for each sales transaction involving a dairy commodity, information concerning—

''(A) the sales price;

''(B) the quantity sold;

''(C) the location of the sales transaction; and

''(D) product characteristics, including—

''(i) moisture level;

''(ii) packaging size;

''(iii) grade;

''(iv) if appropriate, fat, protein, or other component level;

''(v) heat level for dried products; and

''(vi) other defining product characteristics used in transactions.

''(2) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make the information reported under paragraph (1) available to the public not less frequently than once each reporting day, categorized by location and product characteristics.

''(3) FEDERAL ORDER PRICES.—If the Secretary uses dairy product prices to establish minimum prices in accordance with section 8c(5) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(5)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, the Secretary shall use daily prices published under paragraph (2) to determine such prices.

''(4) EXEMPTION FOR SMALL PROCESSORS.—A processor that processes 1,000,000 pounds of milk or less per year shall be exempt from daily reporting requirements under this subsection.''; and

(2) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively.

Subtitle E—Administration

SEC. 1701. ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY.

(a) USE OF COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.—Except as otherwise provided in subtitles A through D and this subtitle, the Secretary shall use the funds, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out subtitles A through D and this subtitle.

(b) DETERMINATIONS BY SECRETARY.—A determination made by the Secretary under this title shall be final and conclusive.

(c) REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Commodity Credit Corporation, as appropriate, shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement this title and the amendments made by this title.

(2) PROCEDURE.—The promulgation of the regulations and administration of this title and the amendments made by this title shall be made without regard to—

(A) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Paperwork Reduction Act'');

(B) the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804), relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking; and

(C) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULEMAKING.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary shall use the authority provided under section 808 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY RELATED TO TRADE AGREEMENTS COMPLIANCE.—

(1) REQUIRED DETERMINATION; ADJUSTMENT.—If the Secretary determines that expenditures under subtitles A through D and this subtitle that are subject to the total allowable domestic support levels under the Uruguay Round Agreements (as defined in section 2 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3501)) will exceed such allowable levels for any applicable reporting period, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, make adjustments in the amount of such expenditures during that period to ensure that such expenditures do not exceed such allowable levels.

(2) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Before making any adjustment under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describing the determination made under that paragraph and the extent of the adjustment to be made.

(e) TREATMENT OF ADVANCE PAYMENT OPTION.—Section 1601(d) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7991(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) the advance payment of direct payments and counter-cyclical payments under title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.''.

SEC. 1702. SUSPENSION OF PERMANENT PRICE SUPPORT AUTHORITY.

(a) AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1938.—The following provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 shall not be applicable to the 2008 through 2012 crops of covered commodities and sugar and shall not be applicable to milk during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act through December 31, 2012:

(1) Parts II through V of subtitle B of title III (7 U.S.C. 1326 et seq.).

(2) In the case of upland cotton, section 377 (7 U.S.C. 1377).

(3) Subtitle D of title III (7 U.S.C. 1379a et seq.).

(4) Title IV (7 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).

(b) AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 1949.—The following provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949 shall not be applicable to the 2008 through 2012 crops of covered commodities and sugar and shall not be applicable to milk during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and through December 31, 2012:

(1) Section 101 (7 U.S.C. 1441).

(2) Section 103(a) (7 U.S.C. 1444(a)).

(3) Section 105 (7 U.S.C. 1444b).

(4) Section 107 (7 U.S.C. 1445a).

(5) Section 110 (7 U.S.C. 1445e).

(6) Section 112 (7 U.S.C. 1445g).

(7) Section 115 (7 U.S.C. 1445k).

(8) Section 201 (7 U.S.C. 1446).

(9) Title III (7 U.S.C. 1447 et seq.).

(10) Title IV (7 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.), other than sections 404, 412, and 416 (7 U.S.C. 1424, 1429, and 1431).

(11) Title V (7 U.S.C. 1461 et seq.).

(12) Title VI (7 U.S.C. 1471 et seq.).

(c) SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN QUOTA PROVISIONS.—The joint resolution entitled ''A joint resolution relating to corn and wheat marketing quotas under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended'', approved May 26, 1941 (7 U.S.C. 1330 and 1340), shall not be applicable to the crops of wheat planted for harvest in the calendar years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 1703. PAYMENT LIMITATIONS.

(a) EXTENSION OF LIMITATIONS.—Sections 1001 and 1001C(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308, 1308-3(a)) are amended by striking ''Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002'' each place it appears and inserting ''Food and Energy Security Act of 2007''.

(b) REVISION OF LIMITATIONS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1001(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''and section 1001A'' after ''section'';

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (5); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) FAMILY MEMBER.—The term 'family member' means an individual to whom a member in the farming operation is related as lineal ancestor, lineal descendant, sibling, or spouse.

''(3) LEGAL ENTITY.—The term 'legal entity' means an entity that is created under Federal or State law and that—

''(A) owns land or an agricultural commodity; or

''(B) produces an agricultural commodity.

''(4) PERSON.—The term 'person' means a natural person, and does not include a legal entity.''.

(2) LIMITATION ON DIRECT PAYMENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.—Section 1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308) is amended by striking subsections (b), (c) and (d) and inserting the following:

''(b) LIMITATION ON DIRECT AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS FOR COVERED COMMODITIES (OTHER THAN PEANUTS).—

''(1) DIRECT PAYMENTS.—The total amount of direct payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (except a joint venture or a general partnership) for any crop year under part I of subtitle A of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 for 1 or more covered commodities (except for peanuts), or average crop revenue payments determined under section 1401(b)(2) of that Act, may not exceed $40,000.

''(2) COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.—The total amount of counter-cyclical payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (except a joint venture or a general partnership) for any crop year under part I of subtitle A of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 for one or more covered commodities (except for peanuts), or average crop revenue payments determined under section 1401(b)(3) of that Act, may not exceed $60,000.

''(c) LIMITATION ON DIRECT PAYMENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS FOR PEANUTS.—

''(1) DIRECT PAYMENTS.—The total amount of direct payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (except a joint venture or a general partnership) for any crop year under part III of subtitle A of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 for peanuts, or average crop revenue payments determined under section 1401(b)(2) of that Act, may not exceed $40,000.

''(2) COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.—The total amount of counter-cyclical payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (except a joint venture or a general partnership) for any crop year under part III of subtitle A of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 for peanuts, or average crop revenue payments determined under section 1401(b)(3) of that Act, may not exceed $60,000.''.

''(d) LIMITATION ON APPLICABILITY.—Nothing in this section authorizes any limitation on any benefit associated with the marketing assistance loan program or the loan deficiency payment program under title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.''.

(3) DIRECT ATTRIBUTION.—Section 1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308) is amended by striking subsection (e) and redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as (g) and (h), respectively, and inserting the following:

''(e) ATTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In implementing subsections (b) and (c) and a program described in section 1001D(b)(2)(C), the Secretary shall issue such regulations as are necessary to ensure that the total amount of payments are attributed to a person by taking into account the direct and indirect ownership interests of the person in a legal entity that is eligible to receive the payments.

''(2) PAYMENTS TO A PERSON.—Each payment made directly to a person shall be combined with the pro rata interest of the person in payments received by a legal entity in which the person has a direct or indirect ownership interest unless the payments of the legal entity have been reduced by the pro rata share of the person.

''(3) PAYMENTS TO A LEGAL ENTITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each payment made to a legal entity shall be attributed to those persons who have a direct or indirect ownership interest in the legal entity unless the payment to the legal entity has been reduced by the pro rata share of the person.

''(B) ATTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS.—

''(i) PAYMENT LIMITS.—Except as provided in clause (ii), payments made to a legal entity shall not exceed the amounts specified in subsections (b) and (c).

''(ii) EXCEPTION FOR JOINT VENTURES AND GENERAL PARTNERSHIPS.—Payments made to a joint venture or a general partnership shall not exceed, for each payment specified in subsections (b) and (c), the amount determined by multiplying the maximum payment amount specified in subsections (b) and (c) by the number of persons and legal entities (other than joint ventures and general partnerships) that comprise the ownership of the joint venture or general partnership.

''(iii) REDUCTION.—Payments made to a legal entity shall be reduced proportionately by an amount that represents the direct or indirect ownership in the legal entity by any individual or legal entity that has otherwise exceeded the applicable maximum payment limitation.

''(4) 4 LEVELS OF ATTRIBUTION FOR EMBEDDED LEGAL ENTITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Attribution of payments made to legal entities shall be traced through 4 levels of ownership in legal entities.

''(B) FIRST LEVEL.—Any payments made to a legal entity (a first-tier legal entity) that is owned in whole or in part by a person shall be attributed to the person in an amount that represents the direct ownership in the first-tier legal entity by the person.

''(C) SECOND LEVEL.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Any payments made to a first-tier legal entity that is owned (in whole or in part) by another legal entity (a second-tier legal entity) shall be attributed to the second-tier legal entity in proportion to the ownership of the second-tier legal entity in the first-tier legal entity.

''(ii) OWNERSHIP BY A PERSON.—If the second-tier legal entity is owned (in whole or in part) by a person, the amount of the payment made to the first-tier legal entity shall be attributed to the person in the amount that represents the indirect ownership in the first-tier legal entity by the person.

''(D) THIRD AND FOURTH LEVELS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Secretary shall attribute payments at the third and fourth tiers of ownership in the same manner as specified in subparagraph (C).

''(ii) FOURTH-TIER OWNERSHIP.—If the fourth-tier of ownership is that of a fourth-tier legal entity and not that of a person, the Secretary shall reduce the amount of the payment to be made to the first-tier legal entity in the amount that represents the indirect ownership in the first-tier legal entity by the fourth-tier legal entity.

''(f) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) MINOR CHILDREN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), payments received by a child under the age of 18 shall be attributed to the parents of the child.

''(B) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations specifying the conditions under which payments received by a child under the age of 18 will not be attributed to the parents of the child.

''(2) MARKETING COOPERATIVES.—Subsections (b) and (c) shall not apply to a cooperative association of producers with respect to commodities produced by the members of the association that are marketed by the association on behalf of the members of the association but shall apply to the producers as persons.

''(3) TRUSTS AND ESTATES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to irrevocable trusts and estates, the Secretary shall administer this section through section 1001F in such manner as the Secretary determines will ensure the fair and equitable treatment of the beneficiaries of the trusts and estates.

''(B) IRREVOCABLE TRUST.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In order for a trust to be considered an irrevocable trust, the terms of the trust agreement shall not—

''(I) allow for modification or termination of the trust by the grantor;

''(II) allow for the grantor to have any future, contingent, or remainder interest in the corpus of the trust; or

''(III) except as provided in clause (ii), provide for the transfer of the corpus of the trust to the remainder beneficiary in less than 20 years beginning on the date the trust is established.

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i)(III) shall not apply in a case in which the transfer is—

''(I) contingent on the remainder beneficiary achieving at least the age of majority; or

''(II) is contingent on the death of the grantor or income beneficiary.

''(C) REVOCABLE TRUST.—For the purposes of this section through section 1001F, a revocable trust shall be considered to be the same person as the grantor of the trust.

''(4) CASH RENT TENANTS.—

''(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term 'cash rent tenant' means a person or legal entity that rents land—

''(i) for cash; or

''(ii) for a crop share guaranteed as to the amount of the commodity to be paid in rent.

''(B) RESTRICTION.—A cash rent tenant who makes a significant contribution of active personal management, but not of personal labor, with respect to a farming operation shall be eligible to receive a payment described in subsection (b) or (c) only if the tenant makes a significant contribution of equipment to the farming operation.

''(5) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A Federal agency shall not be eligible to receive any payment described in subsection (b) or (c).

''(B) LAND RENTAL.—A lessee of land owned by a Federal agency may receive a payment described in subsection (b) or (c) if the lessee otherwise meets all applicable criteria.

''(6) STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (g), a State or local government, or political subdivision or agency of the government, shall not be eligible to receive a payment described in subsection (b) or (c).

''(B) TENANTS.—A lessee of land owned by a State or local government, or political subdivision or agency of the government, may receive payments described in subsections (b) and (c) if the lessee otherwise meet all applicable criteria.

''(7) CHANGES IN FARMING OPERATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the administration of this section through section 1001F, the Secretary may not approve any change in a farming operation that otherwise will increase the number of persons to which the limitations under this section are applied unless the Secretary determines that the change is bona fide and substantive.

''(B) FAMILY MEMBERS.—The addition of a family member to a farming operation under the criteria set out in section 1001A shall be considered a bona fide and substantive change in the farming operation.

''(8) DEATH OF OWNER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If any ownership interest in land or a commodity is transferred as the result of the death of a program participant, the new owner of the land or commodity may, if the person is otherwise eligible to participate in the applicable program, succeed to the contract of the prior owner and receive payments subject to this section without regard to the amount of payments received by the new owner.

''(B) LIMITATIONS ON PRIOR OWNER.—Payments made under this paragraph shall not exceed the amount to which the previous owner was entitled to receive under the terms of the contract at the time of the death of the prior owner.''.

(c) REPEAL OF 3-ENTITY RULE.—Section 1001A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–1) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**PREVENTION OF CREATION OF ENTITIES TO QUALIFY AS SEPARATE PERSONS**'' and inserting ''**NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTS**''; and

(2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTS.—To facilitate administration of section 1001 and this section, each person or legal entity receiving payments described in subsections (b) and (c) of section 1001 as a separate person or legal entity shall separately provide to the Secretary, at such times and in such manner as prescribed by the Secretary—

''(1) the name and social security number of each individual, or the name and taxpayer identification number of each legal entity, that holds or acquires an ownership interest in the separate person or legal entity; and

''(2) the name and taxpayer identification number of each legal entity in which the person or legal entity holds an ownership interest.''.

(d) AMENDMENT FOR CONSISTENCY.—Section 1001A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–1) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) ACTIVELY ENGAGED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a payment described in subsection (b) or (c) of section 1001, a person or legal entity shall be actively engaged in farming with respect to a farming operation as provided in this subsection or subsection (c).

''(2) CLASSES ACTIVELY ENGAGED.—Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d)—

''(A) a person (including a person participating in a farming operation as a partner in a general partnership, a participant in a joint venture, a grantor of a revocable trust, or a participant in a similar entity, as determined by the Secretary) shall be considered to be actively engaged in farming with respect to a farming operation if—

''(i) the person makes a significant contribution (based on the total value of the farming operation) to the farming operation of—

''(I) capital, equipment, or land; and

''(II) personal labor or active personal management;

''(ii) the person's share of the profits or losses from the farming operation is commensurate with the contributions of the person to the farming operation; and

''(iii) the contributions of the person are at risk;

''(B) a legal entity that is a corporation, joint stock company, association, limited partnership, charitable organization, or other similar entity determined by the Secretary (including any such legal entity participating in the farming operation as a partner in a general partnership, a participant in a joint venture, a grantor of a revocable trust, or as a participant in a similar legal entity as determined by the Secretary) shall be considered as actively engaged in farming with respect to a farming operation if—

''(i) the legal entity separately makes a significant contribution (based on the total value of the farming operation) of capital, equipment, or land;

''(ii) the stockholders or members collectively make a significant contribution of personal labor or active personal management to the operation; and

''(iii) the standards provided in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subparagraph (A), as applied to the legal entity, are met by the legal entity;

''(C) if a legal entity that is a general partnership, joint venture, or similar entity, as determined by the Secretary, separately makes a significant contribution (based on the total value of the farming operation involved) of capital, equipment, or land, and the standards provided in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subparagraph (A), as applied to the legal entity, are met by the legal entity, the partners or members making a significant contribution of personal labor or active personal management shall be considered to be actively engaged in farming with respect to the farming operation involved; and

''(D) in making determinations under this subsection regarding equipment and personal labor, the Secretary shall take into consideration the equipment and personal labor normally and customarily provided by farm operators in the area involved to produce program crops.

''(c) SPECIAL CLASSES ACTIVELY ENGAGED.—

''(1) LANDOWNER.—A person or legal entity that is a landowner contributing the owned land to a farming operation shall be considered to be actively engaged in farming with respect to the farming operation if—

''(A) the landowner receives rent or income for the use of the land based on the production on the land or the operating results of the operation; and

''(B) the person or legal entity meets the standards provided in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subsection (b)(2)(A).

''(2) ADULT FAMILY MEMBER.—If a majority of the participants in a farming operation are family members, an adult family member shall be considered to be actively engaged in farming with respect to the farming operation if the person—

''(A) makes a significant contribution, based on the total value of the farming operation, of active personal management or personal labor; and

''(B) with respect to such contribution, meets the standards provided in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subsection (b)(2)(A).

''(3) SHARECROPPER.—A sharecropper who makes a significant contribution of personal labor to a farming operation shall be considered to be actively engaged in farming with respect to the farming operation if the contribution meets the standards provided in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subsection (b)(2)(A).

''(4) GROWERS OF HYBRID SEED.—In determining whether a person or legal entity growing hybrid seed under contract shall be considered to be actively engaged in farming, the Secretary shall not take into consideration the existence of a hybrid seed contract.

''(5) CUSTOM FARMING SERVICES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A person or legal entity receiving custom farming services shall be considered separately eligible for payment limitation purposes if the person or legal entity is actively engaged in farming based on subsection (b)(2) or paragraphs (1) through (4) of this subsection.

''(B) PROHIBITION.—No other rules with respect to custom farming shall apply.

''(6) SPOUSE.—If 1 spouse (or estate of a deceased spouse) is determined to be actively engaged, the other spouse shall be determined to have met the requirements of subsection (b)(2)(A)(i)(II).

''(d) CLASSES NOT ACTIVELY ENGAGED.—

''(1) CASH RENT LANDLORD.—A landlord contributing land to a farming operation shall not be considered to be actively engaged in farming with respect to the farming operation if the landlord receives cash rent, or a crop share guaranteed as to the amount of the commodity to be paid in rent, for the use of the land.

''(2) OTHER PERSONS AND LEGAL ENTITIES.—Any other person or legal entity that the Secretary determines does not meet the standards described in subsections (b)(2) and (c) shall not be considered to be actively engaged in farming with respect to a farming operation.''.

(e) DENIAL OF PROGRAM BENEFITS.—Section 1001B of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–2) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 1001B. DENIAL OF PROGRAM BENEFITS.

''(a) 2-YEAR DENIAL OF PROGRAM BENEFITS.—A person or legal entity shall be ineligible to receive payments specified in subsections (b) and (c) of section 1001 for the crop year, and the succeeding crop year, in which the Secretary determines that the person or legal entity—

''(1) failed to comply with section 1001A(b) and adopted or participated in adopting a scheme or device to evade the application of section 1001, 1001A, or 1001C; or

''(2) intentionally concealed the interest of the person or legal entity in any farm or legal entity engaged in farming.

''(b) EXTENDED INELIGIBILITY.—If the Secretary determines that a person or legal entity, for the benefit of the person or legal entity or the benefit of any other person or legal entity, has knowingly engaged in, or aided in the creation of a fraudulent document, presented false information that was material and relevant to the administration of sections 1001 through 1001F, or committed other equally serious actions (as identified in regulations issued by the Secretary), the Secretary may for a period not to exceed 5 crop years deny the issuance of payments to the person or legal entity.

''(c) PRO RATA DENIAL.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Payments otherwise owed to a person or legal entity described in subsections (a) or (b) shall be denied in a pro rata manner based on the ownership interest of the person or legal entity in a farm.

''(2) CASH RENT TENANT.—Payments otherwise payable to the person or legal entity described in subsection (a) or (b) who is a cash rent tenant on a farm owned or under the control of the person or legal entity shall be denied.

''(d) JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY.—Any member of any legal entity (including partnerships and joint ventures) determined to have knowingly participated in a scheme or device to evade, or that has the purpose of evading, sections 1001, 1001A, or 1001C shall be jointly and severally liable for any amounts that are payable to the Secretary as the result of the scheme or device (including amounts necessary to recover those amounts).

''(e) RELEASE.—The Secretary may partially or fully release from liability any person or legal entity who cooperates with the Secretary in enforcing sections 1001, 1001A, and 1001C, and this section.''.

(f) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1009(e) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308a(e)) is amended in the second sentence by striking ''of $50,000''.

(2) Section 609(b)(1) of the Emergency Livestock Feed Assistance Act of 1988 (7 U.S.C. 1471g(b)(1)) is amended by inserting ''(before the amendment made by section 1703(a) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007)'' after ''1985''.

(3) Section 524(b)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)(3)) is amended by inserting ''(before the amendment made by section 1703(a) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007)'' after ''1308(5)))''.

(4) Section 196(i) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333(i)) is amended in paragraphs (1)(A) and (5) by inserting ''(before the amendment made by section 1703(a) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007)'' after ''1308)'' each place it appears.

(5) Section 10204(c)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8204(c)(1)) is amended by inserting ''(before the amendment made by section 1703(a) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007)'' after ''1308)''.

(6) Section 1271(c)(3)(A) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 2106a(c)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting ''(before the amendment made by section 1703(a) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007)'' after ''1308)''.

(7) Section 291(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2401(2) is amended by inserting ''(before the amendment made by section 1703(a) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007)'' before the period at the end.

(g) TRANSITION.—Section 1001, 1001A, and 1001B of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308, 1308–1, 1308–2), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply with respect to the 2007 crop of any covered commodity or peanuts.

SEC. 1704. ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME LIMITATION.

(a) EXTENSION OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME LIMITATION.—Section 1001D(e) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a(e)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(b) ALLOCATION OF INCOME.—Section 1001D(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) ALLOCATION OF INCOME.—On the request of any individual filing a joint tax return, the Secretary shall provide for the allocation of adjusted gross income among the individuals filing the return based on a certified statement provided by a certified public accountant or attorney specifying the manner in which the income would have been declared and reported if the individuals had filed 2 separate returns, if the Secretary determines that the calculation is consistent with the information supporting the filed joint return.''.

(c) MODIFICATION OF LIMITATION.—Section 1001D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) LIMITATION.—

''(1) CROP YEARS.—

''(A) 2009 CROP YEAR.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an individual or entity shall not be eligible to receive any benefit described in paragraph (2)(A) during the 2009 crop year if the average adjusted gross income of the individual or entity exceeds $1,000,000, unless not less than 66.66 percent of the average adjusted gross income of the individual or entity is derived from farming,

ranching, or forestry operations, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) 2010 AND SUBSEQUENT CROP YEARS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an individual or entity shall not be eligible to receive any benefit described in paragraph (2)(A) during any of the 2010 and subsequent crop years if the average adjusted gross income of the individual or entity exceeds $750,000, unless not less than 66.66 percent of the average adjusted gross income of the individual or entity is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry operations, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an individual or entity shall not be eligible to receive any benefit described in paragraph (2)(B) during a crop year if the average adjusted gross income of the individual or entity exceeds $2,500,000, unless not less than 75 percent of the average adjusted gross income of the individual or entity is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry operations, as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) COVERED BENEFITS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) apply with respect to the following:

''(i) A direct payment or counter-cyclical payment under part I or III of subtitle A of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.

''(ii) A marketing loan gain or loan deficiency payment under part II or III of subtitle A of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.

''(iii) An average crop revenue payment under subtitle B of title I of Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.

''(B) CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.—Paragraph (1)(C) applies with respect to a payment under any program under—

''(i) title XII of this Act;

''(ii) title II of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–171; 116 Stat. 223); or

''(iii) title II of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.

''(3) INCOME DERIVED FROM FARMING, RANCHING OR FORESTRY OPERATIONS.—In determining what portion of the average adjusted gross income of an individual or entity is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry operations, the Secretary shall include income derived from—

''(A) the production of crops, livestock, or unfinished raw forestry products;

''(B) the sale, including the sale of easements and development rights, of farm, ranch, or forestry land or water or hunting rights;

''(C) the sale of equipment to conduct farm, ranch, or forestry operations;

''(D) the rental or lease of land used for farming, ranching, or forestry operations, including water or hunting rights;

''(E) the provision of production inputs and services to farmers, ranchers, and foresters;

''(F) the processing (including packing), storing (including shedding), and transporting of farm, ranch, and forestry commodities;

''(G) the sale of land that has been used for agriculture; and

''(H) payments or other income attributable to benefits received under any program authorized under title I or II of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.''.

(d) TRANSITION.—Section 1001D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply with respect to the 2007 and 2008 crops of any covered commodity or peanuts.

SEC. 1705. AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN PRODUCERS.

(a) INCENTIVE PAYMENTS REQUIRED.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary shall use funds made available under subsection (f) to provide quality incentive payments for the production of oilseeds with specialized traits that enhance human health, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) COVERED OILSEEDS.—The Secretary shall make payments under this section only for the production of an oilseed variety that has, as determined by the Secretary—

(1) been demonstrated to improve the health profile of the oilseed for use in human consumption by—

(A) reducing or eliminating the need to partially hydrogenate the oil derived from the oilseed for use in human consumption; or

(B) adopting new technology traits; and

(2) 1 or more impediments to commercialization.

(c) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.—

(1) ISSUANCE.—If funds are made available to carry out this section for a crop year, the Secretary shall issue a request for proposals for payments under this section.

(2) MULTIYEAR PROPOSALS.—An entity may submit a multiyear proposal for payments under this section.

(3) CONTENT OF PROPOSALS.—A proposal for payments under this section shall include a description of—

(A) each oilseed variety described in subsection (b) and the value of the oilseed variety as a matter of public policy;

(B) a range for the amount of total per bushel or hundredweight premiums to be paid to producers;

(C) a per bushel or hundredweight amount of incentive payments requested for each year under this section that does not exceed ⅓ of the total premium offered for any year;

(D) the period of time, not to exceed 4 years, during which incentive payments are to be provided to producers; and

(E) the targeted total quantity of production and estimated acres needed to produce the targeted quantity for each year under this section.

(d) CONTRACTS FOR PRODUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall approve successful proposals submitted under subsection (c) on a timely basis so as to allow production contracts to be entered into with producers in advance of the spring planting season for the 2009 crop year.

(2) TIMING OF PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall make payments to producers under this section after the Secretary receives documentation that the premium required under a contract has been made to covered producers.

(e) ADMINISTRATION.—If funding provided for a crop year is not fully allocated under the initial request for proposals under subsection (c), the Secretary shall issue additional requests for proposals for subsequent crop years under this section.

(f) PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall protect proprietary information provided to the Secretary for the purpose of administering this section.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $400,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 1706. HARD WHITE WHEAT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE HARD WHITE WHEAT SEED.—The term ''eligible hard white wheat seed'' means hard white wheat seed that, as determined by the Secretary, is—

(A) certified;

(B) of a variety that is suitable for the State in which the seed will be planted;

(C) rated at least superior with respect to quality; and

(D) specifically approved under a seed establishment program established by the State Department of Agriculture and the State Wheat Commission of the 1 or more States in which the seed will be planted.

(2) PROGRAM.—The term ''program'' means the hard white wheat development program established under subsection (b)(1).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the State Departments of Agriculture and the State Wheat Commissions of the States in regions in which hard white wheat is produced, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a hard white wheat development program in accordance with paragraph (2) to promote the establishment of hard white wheat as a viable market class of wheat in the United States by encouraging production of at least 240,000,000 bushels of hard white wheat by 2012.

(2) PAYMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C) and subsection (c), the Secretary shall make available incentive payments to producers of each of the 2008 through 2012 crops of hard white wheat.

(B) ACREAGE LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall carry out subparagraph (A) subject to a regional limitation determined by the Secretary on the number of acres for which payments may be received that takes into account planting history and potential planting, but does not exceed a total of 2,900,000 acres or the equivalent volume of production based on a yield of 50 bushels per acre.

(C) PAYMENT LIMITATIONS.—Payments to producers on a farm described in subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) in an amount that is not less than $0.20 per bushel; and

(ii) in an amount that is not less than $2.00 per acre for planting eligible hard white wheat seed.

(c) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall make available $35,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation during the period of crop years 2008 through 2012 to provide incentive payments to producers of hard white wheat under this section.

SEC. 1707. DURUM WHEAT QUALITY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of funds under subsection (c), the Secretary shall provide compensation to producers of durum wheat in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the actual cost of fungicides applied to a crop of durum wheat of the producers to control Fusarium head blight (wheat scab) on acres certified to have been planted to Durum wheat in a crop year.

(b) INSUFFICIENT FUNDS.—If the total amount of funds appropriated for a fiscal year under subsection (c) are insufficient to fulfill all eligible requests for compensation under this section, the Secretary shall prorate the compensation payments in a manner determined by the Secretary to be equitable.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 1708. STORAGE FACILITY LOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a storage facility loan program to provide funds for producers of grains, oilseeds, pulse crops, hay, renewable biomass, and other storable commodities (other than sugar), as determined by the Secretary, to construct or upgrade storage and handling facilities for the commodities.

(b) ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS.—A storage facility loan under this section shall be made available to any producer described in subsection (a) that, as determined by the Secretary—

(1) has a satisfactory credit history;

(2) has a need for increased storage capacity; and

(3) demonstrates an ability to repay the loan.

(c) TERM OF LOANS.—A storage facility loan under this section shall have a maximum term of 12 years.

(d) LOAN AMOUNT.—The maximum principal amount of a storage facility loan under this section shall be $500,000.

(e) LOAN DISBURSEMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide for partial disbursements of loan principal, as determined to be appropriate and subject to acceptable documentation, to facilitate the purchase and construction of eligible facilities.

(f) LOAN SECURITY.—Approval of a storage facility loan under this section shall—

(1) for loan amounts of less than $150,000, not require a lien on the real estate parcel on which the storage facility is locate;

(2) for loan amounts equal to or more than $150,000, not require a severance agreement from the holder of any prior lien on the real estate parcel on which the storage facility is located, if the borrower—

(A) agrees to increase the down payment on the storage facility loan by an amount determined appropriate by the Secretary; or

(B) provides other security acceptable to the Secretary; and

(3) allow a borrower, upon the approval of the Secretary, to define a subparcel of real estate as security for the storage facility loan if the subparcel is—

(A) of adequate size and value to adequately secure the loan; and

(B) not subject to any other liens or mortgages that are superior to the lien interest of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

SEC. 1709. PERSONAL LIABILITY OF PRODUCERS FOR DEFICIENCIES.

Section 164 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7284) is amended by striking ''and title I of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002'' each place it appears and inserting ''title I of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007''.

SEC. 1710. EXTENSION OF EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY REGARDING LOANS.

Section 166 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7286) is amended in subsections (a) and (c)(1) by striking ''and subtitle B and C of title I of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002'' each place it appears and inserting ''title I of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007''.

SEC. 1711. ASSIGNMENT OF PAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of section 8(g) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590h(g)), relating to assignment of payments, shall apply to payments made under the authority of subtitles A through E and this subtitle.

(b) NOTICE.—The producer making the assignment, or the assignee, shall provide the Secretary with notice, in such manner as the Secretary may require, of any assignment made under this section.

SEC. 1712. COTTON CLASSIFICATION SERVICES.

Section 3a of the Act of March 3, 1927 (7 U.S.C. 473a), is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 3a. COTTON CLASSIFICATION SERVICES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the 'Secretary') shall—

''(1) make cotton classification services available to producers of cotton; and

''(2) provide for the collection of classification fees from participating producers or agents that voluntarily agree to collect and remit the fees on behalf of producers.

''(b) USE OF FEES.—Classification fees collected under subsection (a)(2) and the proceeds from the sales of samples submitted under this section shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be used to pay the cost of the services provided under this section, including administrative and supervisory costs.

''(c) CONSULTATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In establishing the amount of fees under this section, the Secretary shall consult with representatives of the United States cotton industry.

''(2) EXEMPTION.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to consultations with representatives of the United States cotton industry under this section.

''(d) CREDITING OF FEES.—Any fees collected under this section and under section 3d, late payment penalties, the proceeds from the sales of samples, and interest earned from the investment of such funds shall—

''(1) be credited to the current appropriation account that incurs the cost of services provided under this section and section 3d; and

''(2) remain available without fiscal year limitation to pay the expenses of the Secretary in providing those services.

''(e) INVESTMENT OF FUNDS.—Funds described in subsection (d) may be invested—

''(1) by the Secretary in insured or fully collateralized, interest-bearing accounts; or

''(2) at the discretion of the Secretary, by the Secretary of the Treasury in United States Government debt instruments.

''(f) LEASE AGREEMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may enter into long-term lease agreements that exceed 5 years or may take title to property (including through purchase agreements) for the purpose of obtaining offices to be used for the classification of cotton in accordance with this Act, if the Secretary determines that action would best effectuate the purposes of this Act.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To the extent that financing is not available from fees and the proceeds from the sales of samples, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.''.

SEC. 1713. DESIGNATION OF STATES FOR COTTON RESEARCH AND PROMOTION.

Section 17(f) of the Cotton Research and Promotion Act (7 U.S.C. 2116(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(f) The term'' and inserting the following:

''(f) COTTON-PRODUCING STATE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term'';

(2) by striking ''more, and the term'' and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting the following: ''more.

''(2) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'cotton-producing State' includes—

''(A) any combination of States described in paragraph (1); and

''(B) effective beginning with the 2008 crop of cotton, the States of Kansas, Virginia, and Florida.''.

SEC. 1714. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION OF COTTON PRICE FORECASTS.

Section 15 of the Agricultural Marketing Act (12 U.S.C. 1141j) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (e) through (g) as subsections (d) through (f), respectively.

SEC. 1715. STATE, COUNTY, AND AREA COMMITTEES.

Section 8(b)(5)(B)(ii) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590h(b)(5)(B)(ii)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subclauses (I) and (II) as items (aa) and (bb), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) in the matter preceding item (aa) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking ''A committee established'' and inserting the following:

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subclause (II), a committee established''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(II) COMBINATION OR CONSOLIDATION OF AREAS.—A committee established by combining or consolidating 2 or more county or area committees shall consist of not fewer than 3 nor more than 11 members that—

''(aa) are fairly representative of the agricultural producers within the area covered by the county, area, or local committee; and

''(bb) are elected by the agricultural producers that participate or cooperate in programs administered within the area under the jurisdiction of the county, area, or local committee.

''(III) REPRESENTATION OF SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that representation of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers is maintained on combined or consolidated committees.

''(IV) ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP.—Notwithstanding any other producer eligibility requirements for service on county or area committees, if a county or area is consolidated or combined, a producer shall be eligible to serve only as a member of the county or area committee that the producer elects to administer the farm records of the producer.''.

SEC. 1716. PROHIBITION ON CHARGING CERTAIN FEES.

Public Law 108–470 (7 U.S.C. 7416a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''may'' and inserting ''shall''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) PROHIBITION ON CHARGING CERTAIN FEES.—The Secretary may not charge any fees or related costs for the collection of commodity assessments pursuant to this Act.''.

SEC. 1717. SIGNATURE AUTHORITY.

In carrying out this title and title II and amendments made by those titles, if the Secretary approves a document containing signatures of program applicants, the Secretary shall not subsequently determine the document is inadequate or invalid because of the lack of authority of any applicant signing the document on behalf of the applicant or any other individual, entity, general partnership, or joint venture, or the documents relied upon were determined inadequate or invalid, unless the applicant knowingly and willfully falsified the evidence of signature authority or a signature.

SEC. 1718. MODERNIZATION OF FARM SERVICE AGENCY.

The Secretary shall modernize the Farm Service Agency information technology and communication systems to ensure timely and efficient program delivery at national, State, and County offices.

SEC. 1719. GEOSPATIAL SYSTEMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that all agencies of the Department of Agriculture consolidate the geospatial systems of the agencies into a single enterprise system that ensures that geospatial data is shareable, portable, and standardized.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) identify common datasets;

(2) give responsibility for managing each identified dataset to the agency best suited for collecting and maintaining that data, as determined by the Secretary; and

(3) make every effort to minimize the duplication of efforts.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF DATA.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that data is readily available to all agencies beginning not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1720. LEASING OFFICE SPACE.

The Secretary may use the funds, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to lease space for use by agencies of the Department of Agriculture in cases in which office space would be jointly occupied by the agencies.

SEC. 1721. REPEALS.

(a) COMMISSION ON APPLICATION OF PAYMENT LIMITATIONS.—Section 1605 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7993) is repealed.

(b) RENEWED AVAILABILITY OF MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE AND CERTAIN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO PERSONS THAT FAILED TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE UNDER EARLIER AUTHORITIES.—Section 1617 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8000) is repealed.

Subtitle F—Specialty Crop Programs

SEC. 1801. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) SPECIALTY CROP.—The term ''specialty crop'' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465).

(2) STATE.—The term ''State'' means each of the several States of the United States.

(3) STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—The term ''State department of agriculture'' means the agency, commission, or department of a State government responsible for protecting and promoting agriculture in the State.

PART I—MARKETING, INFORMATION, AND EDUCATION

SEC. 1811. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKET NEWS ALLOCATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, shall carry out market news activities to provide timely price information of United States fruits and vegetables in the United States.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 1812. FARMERS' MARKET PROMOTION PROGRAM.

Section 6 of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976 (7 U.S.C. 3005) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting ''and to promote direct producer-to-consumer marketing'' before the period at the end;

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(B), by striking ''infrastructure'' and inserting ''marketing opportunities'';

(3) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting ''or a producer network or association'' after ''cooperative''; and

(4) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section—

''(1) $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2011; and

''(2) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.''.

SEC. 1813. FOOD SAFETY INITIATIVES.

(a) INITIATIVE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may carry out a food safety education program to educate the public and persons in the fresh produce industry about—

(1) scientifically proven practices for reducing microbial pathogens on fresh produce; and

(2) methods of reducing the threat of cross-contamination of fresh produce through unsanitary handling practices.

(b) COOPERATION.—The Secretary may carry out the education program in cooperation with public and private partners.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section $1,000,000.

SEC. 1814. CENSUS OF SPECIALTY CROPS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than September 30, 2008, and each 5 years thereafter, the Secretary shall conduct a census of specialty crops to assist in the regularly development and dissemination of information relative to specialty crops.

(b) RELATION TO OTHER CENSUS.—The Secretary may include the census of specialty crops in the census on agriculture.

PART II—ORGANIC PRODUCTION

SEC. 1821. ORGANIC DATA COLLECTION AND PRICE REPORTING.

Section 2104 of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6503) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) DATA COLLECTION AND PRICE REPORTING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use $5,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012—

''(1) to collect data relating to organic agriculture;

''(2) to identify and publish organic production and market data initiatives and surveys;

''(3) to expand, collect, and publish organic census data analyses;

''(4) to fund comprehensive reporting of prices relating to organically-produced agricultural products;

''(5) to conduct analysis relating to organic production, handling, distribution, retail, and trend studies;

''(6) to study and perform periodic updates on the effects of organic standards on consumer behavior; and

''(7) to conduct analyses for organic agriculture using the national crop table.''.

SEC. 1822. EXEMPTION OF CERTIFIED ORGANIC PRODUCTS FROM ASSESSMENTS.

Section 501(e) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7401(e)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any provision of a commodity promotion law, a person that produces and markets organic products shall be exempt from the payment of an assessment under a commodity promotion law with respect to that portion of agricultural commodities that the person—

''(A) produces on a certified organic farm (as defined in section 2103 of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6502); and

''(B) produces or markets as organically produced (as so defined).''.

SEC. 1823. NATIONAL ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST SHARE PROGRAM.

Section 10606 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 6523) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 10606. NATIONAL ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST-SHARE PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the national certification cost-share program established under subsection (b).

''(2) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Agricultural Marketing Service.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall use amounts made available under subsection (f) to establish a national organic certification cost-share program under which the Secretary shall make payments to States to assist producers and handlers of agricultural products in obtaining certification under the national organic production program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.).

''(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall pay under this section not more than 75 percent of the costs incurred by a producer or handler in obtaining certification under the national organic production program, as certified to and approved by the Secretary.

''(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The maximum amount of a payment made to a producer or handler under this section shall be $750.

''(d) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) keep accurate, up-to-date records of requests and disbursements from the program; and

''(B) require accurate and consistent recordkeeping from each State and entity that receives program payments.

''(2) FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 30 days after the last day on which a State may request funding under the program, the Secretary shall—

''(A) determine the number of States requesting funding and the amount of each request; and

''(B) distribute the funding to the States.

''(3) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—An annual funding request from a State shall include data from the program during the preceding year, including—

''(A) a description of—

''(i) the entities that requested reimbursement;

''(ii) the amount of each reimbursement request; and

''(iii) any discrepancies between the amount requested and the amount provided;

''(B) data to support increases in requests expected in the coming year, including information from certifiers or other data showing growth projections; and

''(C) an explanation of any case in which an annual request is lower than the request of the preceding year.

''(e) REPORTING.—Not later than March 1 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes the expenditures for each State under the program during the previous fiscal year, including the number of producers and handlers served by the program in the previous fiscal year.

''(f) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out this section $22,000,000, to remain available until expended.

''(2) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out this section the funds transferred under paragraph (1), without further appropriation.''.

SEC. 1824. NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM.

Section 2123 of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6522) is amended—

(1) by striking ''There are'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There are''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order to carry out the activities of the Agricultural Marketing Service under the national organic program established under

this title, there are authorized to be appropriated—

''(1) $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(2) $6,500,000 for fiscal year 2009;

''(3) $8,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

''(4) $9,500,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

''(5) $11,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.''.

PART III—INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SEC. 1831. FOREIGN MARKET ACCESS STUDY AND STRATEGY PLAN.

(a) DEFINITION OF URUGUAY ROUND AGREEMENTS.—In this section, the term ''Uruguay Round Agreements'' includes any agreement described in section 101(d) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)).

(b) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall study—

(1) the extent to which United States specialty crops have or have not benefitted from any reductions of foreign trade barriers, as provided for in the Uruguay Round Agreements; and

(2) the reasons why United States specialty crops have or have not benefitted from such trade-barrier reductions.

(c) STRATEGY PLAN.—The Secretary shall prepare a foreign market access strategy plan based on the study in subsection (b), to increase exports of specialty crops, including an assessment of the foreign trade barriers that are incompatible with the Uruguay Round Agreements and a strategy for removing those barriers.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report that contains the results of the study; and

(2) the Secretary shall submit to Congress the strategy plan.

SEC. 1832. MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM.

Section 211(c) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5641(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) MINIMUM ALLOCATION FOR SALE AND EXPORT PROPOSAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In providing funds under paragraph (2), to the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall use not less than 50 percent of any of the funds made available in excess of $200,000,000 to carry out the market access program each fiscal year to provide assistance for proposals submitted by eligible trade organizations to promote the sale and export of specialty crops.

''(B) UNALLOCATED FUNDS.—If, by March 31 of any fiscal year, the Secretary determines that the total amount of funds made available to carry out the market access program are in excess of the amounts necessary to promote the sale and export of specialty crops during the fiscal year, the Secretary may use the excess funds to provide assistance for any other proposals submitted by eligible trade organizations consistent with the priorities described in paragraph (2).''.

SEC. 1833. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIALTY CROPS.

Section 3205 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 5680) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) PETITION.—A participant in the program may petition the Secretary for an extension of a project carried out under this section that exceeds, or will exceed, applicable time restrictions.

''(e) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make available to carry out the program under this section—

''(A) $6,800,000 of funds of, or an equal value of commodities owned by, the Commodity Credit Corporation for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2011; and

''(B) $2,000,000 of funds of, or an equal value of commodities owned by, the Commodity Credit Corporation for fiscal year 2012 and each subsequent fiscal year.

''(2) CARRYOVER OF UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—In a case in which the total amount of funds or commodities made available under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year is not obligated in that fiscal year, the Secretary shall make available in the subsequent fiscal year an amount equal to—

''(A) the amount made available for the fiscal year under paragraph (1); plus

''(B) the amount not obligated in the previous fiscal year.''

SEC. 1834. CONSULTATIONS ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY RESTRICTIONS FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

(a) CONSULTATIONS ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY RESTRICTIONS FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary and the United States Trade Representative shall consult with interested persons, and conduct annual briefings, on sanitary and phytosanitary trade issues, including—

(1) the development of a strategic risk management framework; and

(2) as appropriate, implementation of peer review for risk analysis.

(b) SPECIAL CONSULTATIONS ON IMPORT-SENSITIVE PRODUCTS.—Section 2104(b)(2)(A)(ii)(II) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. 3804(b)(2)(A)(ii)(II)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''whether the products so identified'' and inserting ''whether—

''(aa) the products so identified''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(bb) any fruits or vegetables so identified are subject to or likely to be subject to unjustified sanitary or phytosanitary restrictions, including restrictions not based on scientific principles in contravention of the Uruguay Round Agreements, as determined by the United States Trade Representative Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Fruits and Vegetables of the Department of Agriculture; and''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (b) apply with respect to the initiation of negotiations to enter into any trade agreement that is subject to section 2103(b) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. 3803(b)) on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART IV—SPECIALTY CROPS COMPETITIVENESS

SEC. 1841. SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANTS.

(a) EXTENSION OF PROGRAM.—Section 101(a) of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended by striking ''2009'' and inserting ''2012''.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended by striking subsection (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary of Agriculture shall make grants under this section, using—

''(1) $60,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(2) $65,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

''(3) $70,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

''(4) $75,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

''(5) $0 for fiscal year 2012.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''Subject to the appropriation of funds to carry out this section'' and inserting ''Using the funds made available under subsection (i)'';

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in'' and inserting ''made available under'';

(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), each State shall receive a grant under this section for each fiscal year in an amount that is at least ½ of 1 percent of the total amount of funding made available to carry out this section for the fiscal year.'';

(4) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (j); and

(5) by inserting after subsection (h) the following:

''(i) REALLOCATION.—The Secretary may reallocate to other States any amounts made available under this section that are not obligated or expended by a date determined by the Secretary.''.

(d) DEFINITION OF SPECIALTY CROP.—Section 3 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) SPECIALTY CROP.—The term 'specialty crop' means fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, nursery crops, floriculture, and horticulture, including turfgrass sod and herbal crops.''.

(e) DEFINITION OF STATE.—Section 3(2) of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended by striking ''and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico'' and inserting ''the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands''.

SEC. 1842. GRANT PROGRAM TO IMPROVE MOVEMENT OF SPECIALTY CROPS.

Title II of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–465; 118 Stat. 3884) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 204. GRANT PROGRAM TO IMPROVE MOVEMENT OF SPECIALTY CROPS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture may make grants under this section to an eligible entity described in subsection (b)—

''(1) to improve the cost-effective movement of specialty crops to local, regional, national, and international markets; and

''(2) to address regional intermodal transportation deficiencies that adversely affect the movement of specialty crops to markets inside or outside the United States.

''(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Grants may be made under this section to—

''(1) a State or local government;

''(2) a grower cooperative;

''(3) a State or regional producer or shipper organization;

''(4) a combination of entities described in paragraphs (1) through (3); or

''(5) other entities, as determined by the Secretary.

''(c) MATCHING FUNDS.—As a condition of the receipt of a grant under this section, the recipient of a grant under this section shall contribute an amount of non-Federal funds toward the project for which the grant is provided that is at least equal to the amount of grant funds received by the recipient under this section.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 1843. HEALTHY FOOD ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

Title II of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–465; 118 Stat. 3884) (as amended by section 1842) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 205. HEALTHY FOOD ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) CENTER.—The term 'Center' means the healthy food enterprise development center established under subsection (b).

''(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means—

''(A) a nonprofit organization;

''(B) a cooperative;

''(C) a business;

''(D) an agricultural producer;

''(E) an academic institution;

''(F) an individual; and

''(G) such other entities as the Secretary may designate.

''(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

''(4) UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY.—The term 'underserved community' means a community (including an urban or rural community and an Indian tribal community) that, as determined by the Secretary, has—

''(A) limited access to affordable, healthy foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables;

''(B) a high incidence of a diet-related disease (including obesity) as compared to the national average;

''(C) a high rate of hunger or food insecurity; or

''(D) severe or persistent poverty.

''(b) CENTER.—The Secretary, acting through the Agricultural Marketing Service, shall offer to enter into a contract with a nonprofit organization to establish and support a healthy food enterprise development center to increase access to healthy, affordable foods, such as fresh fruit and vegetables, particularly for school-aged children and individuals in low-income communities.

''(c) ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Center is to increase access to healthy affordable foods, including locally produced agricultural products, to underserved communities.

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION.—The Center shall collect, develop, and provide technical assistance and information to small and mid-sized agricultural producers, food wholesalers and retailers, schools, and other individuals and entities regarding best practices and the availability of assistance for aggregating, storing, processing, and marketing locally produced agricultural products and increasing the availability of the products in underserved communities.

''(d) AUTHORITY TO SUBGRANT.—The Center may provide subgrants to eligible entities to carry out feasibility studies to establish businesses to carry out the purposes of this section.

''(e) PRIORITY.—In providing technical assistance and grants under subsections (c)(2) and (d), the Center shall give priority to applications that have components that will—

''(1) benefit underserved communities; and

''(2) develop market opportunities for small and mid-sized farm and ranch operations.

''(f) REPORT.—For each fiscal year for which the nonprofit organization described in subsection (b) receives funds, the organization shall submit to the Secretary a report describing the activities carried out in the previous fiscal year, including—

''(1) a description of technical assistance provided;

''(2) the total number and a description of the subgrants provided under subsection (d);

''(3) a complete listing of cases in which the activities of the Center have resulted in increased access to healthy, affordable foods, such as fresh fruit and vegetables, particularly for school-aged children and individuals in low-income communities; and

''(4) a determination of whether the activities identified in paragraph (3) are sustained in the years following the initial provision of technical assistance and subgrants under this section.

''(g) COMPETITIVE AWARD PROCESS.—The Secretary shall use a competitive process to award funds to establish the Center.

''(h) FUNDING.—Out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out this section—

''(1) $1,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

''(2) $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012.''.

PART V—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 1851. CLEAN PLANT NETWORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program to be known as the ''National Clean Plant Network'' (referred to in this section as the ''Program'').

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Under the Program, the Secretary shall establish a network of clean plant centers for diagnostic and pathogen elimination services to—

(1) produce clean propagative plant material; and

(2) maintain blocks of pathogen-tested plant material in sites located throughout the United States.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF CLEAN PLANT SOURCE MATERIAL.—Clean plant source material may be made available to—

(1) a State for a certified plant program of the State; and

(2) private nurseries and producers.

(d) CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION.—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall—

(1) consult with State departments of agriculture and land grant universities; and

(2) to the extent practicable and with input from the appropriate State officials and industry representatives, use existing Federal or State facilities to serve as clean plant centers.

(e) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out the Program $4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 1852. MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE FOR ASPARAGUS PRODUCERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall make payments to producers of the 2007 crop of asparagus for market loss resulting from imports during the 2004 through 2007 crop years.

(b) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment rate for a payment under this section shall be based on the reduction in revenue received by asparagus producers associated with imports during the 2004 through 2007 crop years.

(c) PAYMENT QUANTITY.—The payment quantity for asparagus for which the producers on a farm are eligible for payments under this section shall be equal to the average quantity of the 2003 crop of asparagus produced by producers on the farm.

(d) FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall make available $15,000,000 of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out a program to provide market loss payments to producers of asparagus under this section.

(2) ALLOCATION.—Of the amount made available under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall use—

(A) $7,500,000 to make payments to producers of asparagus for the fresh market; and

(B) $7,500,000 to make payments to producers of asparagus for the processed or frozen market.

SEC. 1853. MUSHROOM PROMOTION, RESEARCH, AND CONSUMER INFORMATION.

(a) REGIONS AND MEMBERS.—Section 1925(b)(2) of the Mushroom Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6104(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''4 regions'' and inserting ''3 regions'';

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''35,000,000 pounds'' and inserting ''50,000,000 pounds''; and

(3) by striking subparagraph (E), and inserting the following:

''(E) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—In addition to the members appointed pursuant to paragraph (1), and subject to the 9-member limitation on members on the Council provided in that paragraph, the Secretary shall appoint additional members to the Council from a region that attains additional pounds of production of mushrooms as follows:

''(i) If the annual production of the region is greater than 110,000,000 pounds, but not more than 180,000,000 pounds, the region shall be represented by 1 additional member.

''(ii) If the annual production of the region is greater than 180,000,000 pounds, but not more than 260,000,000 pounds, the region shall be represented by 2 additional members.

''(iii) If the annual production of the region is greater than 260,000,000 pounds, the region shall be represented by 3 additional members.''.

(b) POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNCIL.—Section 1925(c) of the Mushroom Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6104(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) to develop food safety programs, including good agricultural practices and good handling practices or related activities for mushrooms;''.

SEC. 1854. NATIONAL HONEY BOARD.

Section 7(c) of the Honey Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 4606(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(12) REFERENDUM REQUIREMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, subject to subparagraph (B), the order providing for the establishment and operation of the Honey Board in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph shall continue in force, and the Secretary shall not schedule or conduct any referendum on the continuation or termination of the order, until the Secretary first conducts, at the earliest practicable date, concurrent referenda among all eligible producers, importers, packers, and handlers of honey for the purpose of ascertaining whether eligible producers, importers, packers, and handlers of honey approve of 1 or more orders to establish successor marketing boards for honey.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting concurrent referenda under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall ensure that—

''(i) a referendum of United States honey producers for the establishment of a marketing board solely for United States honey producers is included in the process; and

''(ii) the rights and interests of honey producers, importers, packers, and handlers of honey are protected in the transition to any new marketing board.''.

SEC. 1855. IDENTIFICATION OF HONEY.

Section 203(h) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622(h)) is amended—

(1) by designating the first through sixth sentences as paragraphs (1), (2)(A), (2)(B), (3), (4), and (5), respectively; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) IDENTIFICATION OF HONEY.—The use of a label or advertising material on, or in conjunction with, packaged honey that bears any official certificate of quality, grade mark or statement, continuous inspection

mark or statement, sampling mark or statement, or any combination of the certificates, marks, or statements of the Department of Agriculture shall be considered a deceptive practice that is prohibited under this Act unless there appears legibly and permanently in close proximity to the certificate, mark, or statement, and in at least a comparable size, the 1 or more names of the 1 or more countries of origin of the lot or container of honey, preceded by 'Product of' or other words of similar meaning.''.

SEC. 1856. EXPEDITED MARKETING ORDER FOR HASS AVOCADOS FOR GRADES AND STANDARDS AND OTHER PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall initiate procedures under the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, to determine whether it would be appropriate to establish a Federal marketing order for Hass avocados relating to grades and standards and for other purposes under that Act.

(b) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—

(1) PROPOSAL FOR AN ORDER.—An organization of domestic avocado producers in existence on the date of enactment of this Act may request the issuance of, and submit to the Secretary a proposal for, an order described in subsection (a).

(2) PUBLICATION OF PROPOSAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a proposed order under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall initiate procedures described in subsection (a) to determine whether the proposed order should proceed.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any order issued under this section shall become effective not later than 15 months after the date on which the Secretary initiates procedures under the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937.

Subtitle G—Risk Management

SEC. 1901. DEFINITION OF ORGANIC CROP.

Section 502(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1502(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) and (8) as paragraphs (8) and (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

''(7) ORGANIC CROP.—The term 'organic crop' means an agricultural commodity that is organically produced consistent with section 2103 of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6502).''.

SEC. 1902. GENERAL POWERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 506 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1506) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (d), by striking ''The Corporation'' and inserting ''Subject to section 508(j)(2)(A), the Corporation''; and

(2) by striking subsection (n).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 506 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1506) is amended by redesignating subsections (o), (p), and (q) as subsections (n), (o), and (p), respectively.

(2) Section 521 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1521) is amended by striking the last sentence.

SEC. 1903. REDUCTION IN LOSS RATIO.

(a) PROJECTED LOSS RATIO.—Subsection (n)(2) of section 506 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1506) (as redesignated by section 1902(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''AS OF OCTOBER 1, 1998'';

(2) by striking '', on and after October 1, 1998,''; and

(3) by striking ''1.075'' and inserting ''1.0''.

(b) PREMIUMS REQUIRED.—Section 508(d)(1) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(d)(1)) is amended by striking ''not greater than'' and all that follows and inserting ''not greater than—

''(A) 1.1 through September 30, 1998;

''(B) 1.075 for the period beginning October 1, 1998, and ending on the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007; and

''(C) 1.0 on and after the date of enactment of that Act.''.

SEC. 1904. CONTROLLED BUSINESS INSURANCE.

Section 508(a) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(9) COMMISSIONS.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY.—In this paragraph, the term 'immediate family' means a person's father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandparent, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, the spouse of the foregoing, and the person's spouse.

''(B) PROHIBITION.—No person may receive a commission or share of a commission for any policy or plan of insurance offered under this Act in which the person has a substantial beneficial interest or in which a member of the person's immediate family has a substantial beneficial interest if, in a calendar year, the aggregate of the commissions exceeds 30 percent of the aggregate of all commissions received by the person for any policy or plan of insurance offered under this Act.

''(C) REPORTING.—On the completion of the reinsurance year, any person that received a commission or share of a commission for any policy or plan of insurance offered under this Act in the prior calendar year shall certify to applicable approved insurance providers that the person received the commissions in compliance with this paragraph.

''(D) SANCTIONS.—The requirements and sanctions prescribed in section 515(h) shall apply to the prosecution of a violation of this paragraph.

''(E) APPLICABILITY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Sanctions for violations under this paragraph shall only apply to the person directly responsible for the certification required under subparagraph (C) or the failure to comply with the requirements of this paragraph.

''(ii) PROHIBITION.—No sanctions shall apply with respect to the policy or plans of insurance upon which commissions are received, including the reinsurance for those policies or plans.''.

SEC. 1905. ADMINISTRATIVE FEE.

Section 508(b)(5) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(b)(5)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''$100'' and inserting ''$200''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking ''PAYMENT ON BEHALF OF PRODUCERS'' and inserting ''PAYMENT OF CATASTROPHIC RISK PROTECTION FEE ON BEHALF OF PRODUCERS'';

(B) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking ''or other payment''; and

(ii) by striking ''with catastrophic risk protection or additional coverage'' and inserting ''through the payment of catastrophic risk protection administrative fees'';

(C) by striking clauses (ii) and (vi);

(D) by redesignating clauses (iii), (iv), and (v) as clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv), respectively;

(E) in clause (iii) (as so redesignated), by striking ''A policy or plan of insurance'' and inserting ''Catastrophic risk protection coverage''; and

(F) in clause (iv) (as so redesignated)—

(i) by striking ''or other arrangement under this subparagraph''; and

(ii) by striking ''additional''.

SEC. 1906. TIME FOR PAYMENT.

Section 508 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508) is amended—

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

''(4) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—Effective beginning with the 2012 reinsurance year, a producer that obtains a policy or plan of insurance under this title shall submit the required premium not later than September 30 of the year for which the plan or policy of insurance was obtained.''; and

(2) in subsection (k)(4), by adding at the end the following:

''(D) TIME FOR REIMBURSEMENT.—Effective beginning with the 2012 reinsurance year, the Corporation shall reimburse approved insurance providers and agents for the allowable administrative and operating costs of the providers and agents as soon as practicable after October 1 (but not later than October 31) of the reinsurance year for which reimbursements are earned.''.

SEC. 1907. SURCHARGE PROHIBITION.

Section 508(d) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(d)) (as amended by section 1906(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) SURCHARGE PROHIBITION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Corporation may not require producers to pay a premium surcharge for using scientifically-sound sustainable and organic farming practices and systems.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A surcharge may be required for individual organic crops on the basis of significant, consistent, and systemic increased risk factors (including loss history) demonstrated by published cropping system research (as applied to crop types and regions) and other relevant sources of information.

''(ii) CONSULTATION.—The Corporation shall evaluate the reliability of information described in clause (i) in consultation with independent experts in the field.''.

SEC. 1908. PREMIUM REDUCTION PLAN.

Section 508(e) of Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(e)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) DISCOUNT STUDY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall commission an entity independent of the crop insurance industry (with expertise that includes traditional crop insurance) to study the feasibility of permitting approved insurance providers to provide discounts to producers purchasing crop insurance coverage without undermining the viability of the Federal crop insurance program.

''(B) COMPONENTS.—The study should include—

''(i) an evaluation of the operation of a premium reduction plan that examines—

''(I) the clarity, efficiency, and effectiveness of the statutory language and related regulations;

''(II) whether the regulations frustrated the goal of offering producers upfront, predictable, and reliable premium discount payments; and

''(III) whether the regulations provided for reasonable, cost-effective oversight by the Corporation of premium discounts offered by approved insurance providers, including—

''(aa) whether the savings were generated from verifiable cost efficiencies adequate to offset the cost of discounts paid; and

''(bb) whether appropriate control was exercised to prevent approved insurance providers from preferentially offering the discount to producers of certain agricultural commodities, in certain regions, or in specific size categories;

''(ii) examination of the impact on producers, the crop insurance industry, and profitability from offering discounted crop insurance to producers;

''(iii) examination of implications for industry concentration from offering discounted crop insurance to producers;

''(iv) an examination of the desirability and feasibility of allowing other forms of price competition in the Federal crop insurance program;

''(v) a review of the history of commissions paid by crop insurance providers; and

''(vi) recommendations on—

''(I) potential changes to this title that would address the deficiencies in past efforts to provide discounted crop insurance to producers,

''(II) whether approved insurance providers should be allowed to draw on both administrative and operating reimbursement and underwriting gains to provide discounted crop insurance to producers; and

''(III) any other action that could increase competition in the crop insurance industry that will benefit producers but not undermine the viability of the Federal crop insurance program.

''(C) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.—In developing the request for proposals for the study, the Secretary shall consult with parties in the crop insurance industry (including producers and approved insurance providers and agents, including providers and agents with experience selling discount crop insurance products).

''(D) REVIEW OF STUDY.—The independent entity selected by Secretary under subparagraph (A) shall seek comments from interested stakeholders before finalizing the report of the entity.

''(E) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the results and recommendations of the study.''.

SEC. 1909. DENIAL OF CLAIMS.

Section 508(j)(2)(A) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(j)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting ''on behalf of the Corporation'' after ''approved provider''.

SEC. 1910. MEASUREMENT OF FARM-STORED COMMODITIES.

Section 508(j) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(j)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) MEASUREMENT OF FARM-STORED COMMODITIES.—Beginning with the 2009 crop year, for the purpose of determining the amount of any insured production loss sustained by a producer and the amount of any indemnity to be paid under a plan of insurance—

''(A) a producer may elect, at the expense of the producer, to have the Farm Service Agency measure the quantity of the commodity; and

''(B) the results of the measurement shall be used as the evidence of the quantity of the commodity that was produced.''.

SEC. 1911. REIMBURSEMENT RATE.

Section 508(k)(4) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(k)(4)) (as amended by section 1906(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''Except as provided in subparagraph (B)'' and inserting ''Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) REIMBURSEMENT RATE REDUCTION.—For each of the 2009 and subsequent reinsurance years, the reimbursement rates for administrative and operating costs shall be 2 percentage points below the rates in effect as of the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 for all crop insurance policies used to define loss ratio, except that the reduction shall not apply in a reinsurance year to the total premium written in a State in which the State loss ratio is greater than 1.2.

''(F) REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR AREA POLICIES AND PLANS OF INSURANCE.—Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (E), for each of the 2009 and subsequent reinsurance years, the reimbursement rate for area policies and plans of insurance shall be 17 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio for that reinsurance year.''.

SEC. 1912. RENEGOTIATION OF STANDARD REINSURANCE AGREEMENT.

Section 508(k) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(k)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(8) RENEGOTIATION OF STANDARD REINSURANCE AGREEMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 536 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 1506 note; Public Law 105–185) and section 148 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1506 note; Public Law 106–224), the Corporation may renegotiate the financial terms and conditions of each Standard Reinsurance Agreement—

''(i) following the reinsurance year ending June 30, 2012;

''(ii) once during each period of 5 reinsurance years thereafter; and

''(iii) subject to subparagraph (B), in any case in which the approved insurance providers, as a whole, experience unexpected adverse circumstances, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—If the Corporation renegotiates a Standard Reinsurance Agreement under subparagraph (A)(iii), the Corporation shall notify the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate of the renegotiation.

''(C) CONSULTATION.—The approved insurance providers may confer with each other and collectively with the Corporation during any renegotiation under subparagraph (A).''.

SEC. 1913. CHANGE IN DUE DATE FOR CORPORATION PAYMENTS FOR UNDERWRITING GAINS.

Section 508(k) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(k)) (as amended by section 1912) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(9) DUE DATE FOR PAYMENT OF UNDERWRITING GAINS.—Effective beginning with the 2011 reinsurance year, the Corporation shall make payments for underwriting gains under this title on—

''(A) for the 2011 reinsurance year, October 1, 2012; and

''(B) for each reinsurance year thereafter, October 1 of the following calendar year.''.

SEC. 1914. ACCESS TO DATA MINING INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 515(j)(2) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1515(j)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) ACCESS TO DATA MINING INFORMATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a fee-for-access program under which approved insurance providers pay to the Secretary a user fee in exchange for access to the data mining system established under subparagraph (A) for the purpose of assisting in fraud and abuse detection.

''(ii) PROHIBITION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subclause (II), the Corporation shall not impose a requirement on approved insurance providers to access the data mining system established under subparagraph (A).

''(II) ACCESS WITHOUT FEE.—If the Corporation requires approved insurance providers to access the data mining system established under subparagraph (A), access will be provided without charge to the extent necessary to fulfill the requirements.

''(iii) ACCESS LIMITATION.—In establishing the program under clause (i), the Secretary shall ensure that an approved insurance provider has access only to information relating to the policies or plans of insurance for which the approved insurance provider provides insurance coverage, including any information relating to—

''(I) information of agents and adjusters relating to policies for which the approved insurance provider provides coverage;

''(II) the other policies or plans of an insured that are insured through another approved insurance providers; and

''(III) the policies or plans of an insured for prior crop insurance years.''.

(b) INSURANCE FUND.—Section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1516) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

''(3) DATA MINING SYSTEM.—The Corporation shall use amounts deposited in the insurance fund established under subsection (c) from fees collected under section 515(j)(2)(B) to administer and carry out improvements to the data mining system under that section.''; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) by striking ''and civil'' and inserting ''civil''; and

(B) by inserting ''and fees collected under section 515(j)(2)(B)(i),'' after ''section 515(h),''.

SEC. 1915. PRODUCER ELIGIBILITY.

Section 520(2) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1520(2)) is amended by inserting ''or is a person who raises livestock owned by other persons (that is not covered by insurance under this title by another person)'' after ''sharecropper''.

SEC. 1916. CONTRACTS FOR ADDITIONAL CROP POLICIES.

Section 522(c) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (14); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following:

''(10) ENERGY CROP INSURANCE POLICY.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF DEDICATED ENERGY CROP.—In this subsection, the term 'dedicated energy crop' means an annual or perennial crop that—

''(i) is grown expressly for the purpose of producing a feedstock for renewable biofuel, renewable electricity, or bio-based products; and

''(ii) is not typically used for food, feed, or fiber.

''(B) AUTHORITY.—The Corporation shall offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with qualified entities to carry out research and development regarding a policy to insure dedicated energy crops.

''(C) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Research and development described in subparagraph (B) shall evaluate the effectiveness of risk management tools for the production of dedicated energy crops, including policies and plans of insurance that—

''(i) are based on market prices and yields;

''(ii) to the extent that insufficient data exist to develop a policy based on market prices and yields, evaluate the policies and

plans of insurance based on the use of weather or rainfall indices to protect the interests of crop producers; and

''(iii) provide protection for production or revenue losses, or both.

''(11) AQUACULTURE INSURANCE POLICY.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF AQUACULTURE.—In this subsection:

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'aquaculture' means the propagation and rearing of aquatic species in controlled or selected environments, including shellfish cultivation on grants or leased bottom and ocean ranching.

''(ii) EXCLUSION.—The term 'aquaculture' does not include the private ocean ranching of Pacific salmon for profit in any State in which private ocean ranching of Pacific salmon is prohibited by any law (including regulations).

''(B) AUTHORITY.—The Corporation shall offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with qualified entities to carry out research and development regarding a policy to insure aquaculture operations.

''(C) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Research and development described in subparagraph (B) shall evaluate the effectiveness of risk management tools for the production of fish and other seafood in aquaculture operations, including policies and plans of insurance that—

''(i) are based on market prices and yields;

''(ii) to the extent that insufficient data exist to develop a policy based on market prices and yields, evaluate how best to incorporate insuring of aquaculture operations into existing policies covering adjusted gross revenue; and

''(iii) provide protection for production or revenue losses, or both.

''(12) ORGANIC CROP PRODUCTION COVERAGE IMPROVEMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Corporation shall offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with qualified entities for the development of improvements in Federal crop insurance policies covering organic crops.

''(B) PRICE ELECTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The contracts under subparagraph (A) shall include the development of procedures (including any associated changes in policy terms or materials required for implementation of the procedures) to offer producers of organic crops a price election that would reflect the actual retail or wholesale prices, as appropriate, received by producers for organic crops, as established using data collected and maintained by the Agricultural Marketing Service.

''(ii) DEADLINE.—The development of the procedures required under clause (i) shall be completed not later than the date necessary to allow the Corporation to offer the price election—

''(I) beginning in the 2009 reinsurance year for organic crops with adequate data available; and

''(II) subsequently for additional organic crops as data collection for those organic crops is sufficient, as determined by the Corporation.

''(13) SKIPROW CROPPING PRACTICES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall offer to enter into a contract with a qualified entity to carry out research into needed modifications of policies to insure corn and sorghum produced in the Central Great Plains (as determined by the Agricultural Research Service) through use of skiprow cropping practices.

''(B) RESEARCH.—Research described in subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) review existing research on skiprow cropping practices and actual production history of producers using skiprow cropping practices; and

''(ii) evaluate the effectiveness of risk management tools for producers using skiprow cropping practices, including—

''(I) the appropriateness of rules in existence as of the date of enactment of this paragraph relating to the determination of acreage planted in skiprow patterns; and

''(II) whether policies for crops produced through skiprow cropping practices reflect actual production capabilities.''.

SEC. 1917. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORIZED.—Section 522(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REIMBURSEMENT.—The Corporation shall provide a payment to reimburse an applicant for research and development costs directly related to a policy that—

''(A) is submitted to, and approved by, the Board pursuant to a FCIC reimbursement grant under paragraph (7); or

''(B) is—

''(i) submitted to the Board and approved by the Board under section 508(h) for reinsurance; and

''(ii) if applicable, offered for sale to producers.''.

(b) FCIC REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS.—Section 522(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) FCIC REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS.—

''(A) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Corporation shall provide FCIC reimbursement grants to persons (referred to in this paragraph as 'submitters') proposing to prepare for submission to the Board crop insurance policies and provisions under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 508(h)(1), that apply and are approved for the FCIC reimbursement grants under this paragraph.

''(B) SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall receive and consider applications for FCIC reimbursement grants at least once each year.

''(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—An application to receive a FCIC reimbursement grant from the Corporation shall consist of such materials as the Board may require, including—

''(I) a concept paper that describes the proposal in sufficient detail for the Board to determine whether the proposal satisfies the requirements of subparagraph (C); and

''(II) a description of —

''(aa) the need for the product, including an assessment of marketability and expected demand among affected producers;

''(bb) support from producers, producer organizations, lenders, or other interested parties; and

''(cc) the impact the product would have on producers and on the crop insurance delivery system; and

''(III) a statement that no products are offered by the private sector that provide the same benefits and risk management services as the proposal;

''(IV) a summary of data sources available that demonstrate that the product can reasonably be developed and properly rated; and

''(V) an identification of the risks the proposed product will cover and an explanation of how the identified risks are insurable under this title.

''(C) APPROVAL CONDITIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A majority vote of the Board shall be required to approve an application for a FCIC reimbursement grant.

''(ii) REQUIRED FINDINGS.—The Board shall approve the application if the Board finds that—

''(I) the proposal contained in the application—

''(aa) provides coverage to a crop or region not traditionally served by the Federal crop insurance program;

''(bb) provides crop insurance coverage in a significantly improved form;

''(cc) addresses a recognized flaw or problem in the Federal crop insurance program or an existing product;

''(dd) introduces a significant new concept or innovation to the Federal crop insurance program; or

''(ee) provides coverage or benefits not available from the private sector;

''(II) the submitter demonstrates the necessary qualifications to complete the project successfully in a timely manner with high quality;

''(III) the proposal is in the interests of producers and can reasonably be expected to be actuarially appropriate and function as intended;

''(IV) the Board determines that the Corporation has sufficient available funding to award the FCIC reimbursement grant; and

''(V) the proposed budget and timetable are reasonable.

''(D) PARTICIPATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In reviewing proposals under this paragraph, the Board may use the services of persons that the Board determines appropriate to carry out expert review in accordance with section 508(h).

''(ii) CONFIDENTIALITY.—All proposals submitted under this paragraph shall be treated as confidential in accordance with section 508(h)(4).

''(E) ENTERING INTO AGREEMENT.—Upon approval of an application, the Board shall offer to enter into an agreement with the submitter for the development of a formal submission that meets the requirements for a complete submission established by the Board under section 508(h).

''(F) FEASIBILITY STUDIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In appropriate cases, the Corporation may structure the FCIC reimbursement grant to require, as an initial step within the overall process, the submitter to complete a feasibility study, and report the results of the study to the Corporation, prior to proceeding with further development.

''(ii) MONITORING.—The Corporation may require such other reports as the Corporation determines necessary to monitor the development efforts.

''(G) RATES.—Payment for work performed by the submitter under this paragraph shall be based on rates determined by the Corporation for products—

''(i) submitted under section 508(h); or

''(ii) contracted by the Corporation under subsection (c).

''(H) TERMINATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation or the submitter may terminate any FCIC reimbursement grant at any time for just cause.

''(ii) REIMBURSEMENT.—If the Corporation or the submitter terminates the FCIC reimbursement grant before final approval of the product covered by the grant, the submitter shall be entitled to—

''(I) reimbursement of all eligible costs incurred to that point; or

''(II) in the case of a fixed rate agreement, payment of an appropriate percentage, as determined by the Corporation.

''(iii) DENIAL.—If the submitter terminates development without just cause, the Corporation may deny reimbursement or recover any reimbursement already made.

''(I) CONSIDERATION OF PRODUCTS.—The Board shall consider any product developed under this paragraph and submitted to the Board under the rules the Board has established for products submitted under section 508(h).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 523(b)(10) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1523(b)(10)) is amended by striking ''(other than research and development costs covered by section 522)''.

SEC. 1918. FUNDING FROM INSURANCE FUND.

Section 522(e) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$10,000,000'' and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting ''$7,500,000 for fiscal year 2008 and each subsequent fiscal year'';

(2) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking ''$20,000,000 for'' and all that follows through ''year 2004'' and inserting ''$12,500,000 for fiscal year 2008''; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking ''the Corporation may use'' and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting ''the Corporation may use—

''(A) not more than $5,000,000 for each fiscal year to improve program integrity, including by—

''(i) increasing compliance-related training;

''(ii) improving analysis tools and technology regarding compliance;

''(iii) use of information technology, as determined by the Corporation;

''(iv) identifying and using innovative compliance strategies; and

''(B) any excess amounts to carry out other activities authorized under this section.''.

SEC. 1919. CAMELINA PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 523 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1523) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) CAMELINA PILOT PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with the 2008 crop year, the Corporation shall establish a pilot program under which producers or processors of camelina may propose for approval by the Board policies or plans of insurance for camelina, in accordance with section 508(h).

''(2) DETERMINATION BY BOARD.—The Board shall approve a policy or plan of insurance proposed under paragraph (1) if, as determined by the Board, the policy or plan of insurance—

''(A) protects the interests of producers;

''(B) is actuarially sound; and

''(C) meets the requirements of this title.''.

(b) NONINSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Section 196(a)(2) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) CAMELINA.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—For each of crop years 2008 through 2011, the Secretary shall consider camelina to be an eligible crop for purposes of the noninsured crop disaster assistance program under this section.

''(ii) LIMITATION.—Producers that are eligible to purchase camelina crop insurance, including camelina crop insurance under a pilot program, shall not be eligible for assistance under this section.''.

SEC. 1920. RISK MANAGEMENT EDUCATION FOR BEGINNING FARMERS OR RANCHERS.

Section 524(a) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''paragraph (4)'' and inserting ''paragraph (5)'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the programs established under paragraphs (2) and (3), the Secretary shall place special emphasis on risk management strategies, education, and outreach specifically targeted at—

''(A) beginning farmers or ranchers;

''(B) immigrant farmers or ranchers that are attempting to become established producers in the United States;

''(C) socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers;

''(D) farmers or ranchers that—

''(i) are preparing to retire; and

''(ii) are using transition strategies to help new farmers or ranchers get started; and

''(E) new or established farmers or ranchers that are converting production and marketing systems to pursue new markets.''.

SEC. 1921. AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.

Section 524(b)(4) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)(4)) is amended by adding at end the following:

''(C) COST-SHARING.—The Secretary may provide matching funds to any State described in paragraph (1) that appropriates a portion of the budget of the State to provide financial assistance for producer-paid premiums for crop insurance policies reinsured by the Corporation.''.

SEC. 1922. CROP INSURANCE MEDIATION.

Section 275 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6995) is amended—

(1) by striking ''If an officer'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—If an officer'';

(2) by striking ''With respect to'' and inserting the following:

''(b) FARM SERVICE AGENCY.—With respect to'';

(3) by striking ''If a mediation''; and inserting the following:

''(c) MEDIATION.—If a mediation''; and

(4) in subsection (c) (as so designated)—

(A) by striking ''participant shall be offered'' and inserting ''participant shall—

''(1) be offered''; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: ''; and

''(2) to the maximum extent practicable, be allowed to use both informal agency review and mediation to resolve disputes under that title.''.

SEC. 1923. DROUGHT COVERAGE FOR AQUACULTURE UNDER NONINSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Section 196(c)(2) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''On making'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—On making''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) AQUACULTURE PRODUCERS.—On making a determination described in subsection (a)(3) for aquaculture producers, the Secretary shall provide assistance under this section to aquaculture producers from all losses related to drought.''.

SEC. 1924. INCREASE IN SERVICE FEES FOR NONINSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Section 196(k)(1) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333(k)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''$100'' and inserting ''$200''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking ''$300'' and inserting ''$600''; and

(B) by striking ''$900'' and inserting ''$1,500''.

SEC. 1925. DETERMINATION OF CERTAIN SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION.

Section 9001(d) of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law 110–28; 121 Stat. 211) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (9); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

''(8) SWEET POTATOES.—

''(A) DATA.—In the case of sweet potatoes, any data obtained under a pilot program carried out by the Risk Management Agency shall not be considered for the purpose of determining the quantity of production under the crop disaster assistance program established under this section.

''(B) EXTENSION OF DEADLINE.—If this paragraph is not implemented before the sign-up deadline for the crop disaster assistance program established under this section, the Secretary shall extend the deadline for producers of sweet potatoes to permit sign-up for the program in accordance with this paragraph.''.

SEC. 1926. PERENNIAL CROP REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report containing details about activities and administrative options of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and Risk Management Agency that address issues relating to—

(1) declining yields on the actual production histories of producers; and

(2) declining and variable yields for perennial crops, including pecans.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION

Subtitle A—Definitions

SEC. 2001. DEFINITIONS.

Section 1201(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801(a)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (11), (12) through (15), and (16), (17), and (18) as paragraphs (3) through (12), (15) through (18), and (20), (22), and (23), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER.—The term 'beginning farmer or rancher' has, to the maximum extent practicable, the meaning given the term in section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)), except that the Secretary may include in the definition of the term—

''(A) a fair and reasonable test of net worth; and

''(B) such other criteria as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.'';

(3) by inserting after paragraph (12) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

''(13) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(14) NONINDUSTRIAL PRIVATE FOREST LAND.—The term 'nonindustrial private forest land' means rural land, as determined by the Secretary, that—

''(A) has existing tree cover or is suitable for growing trees; and

''(B) is owned by any nonindustrial private individual, group, association, corporation, Indian tribe, or other private legal entity that has definitive decisionmaking authority over the land.'';

(4) by inserting after paragraph (18) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

''(19) SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER.—The term 'socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher' has the meaning given the term in section 355(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2003(e)).''; and

(5) by inserting after paragraph (20) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

''(21) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'technical assistance' means technical expertise, information, and tools necessary for the conservation of natural resources on land active in agricultural, forestry, or related uses.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'technical assistance' includes—

''(i) technical services provided directly to farmers, ranchers, and other eligible entities, such as conservation planning, technical consultation, and assistance with design and implementation of conservation practices; and

''(ii) technical infrastructure, including activities, processes, tools, and agency functions needed to support delivery of technical services, such as technical standards, resource inventories, training, data, technology, monitoring, and effects analyses.''.

Subtitle B—Highly Erodible Land Conservation

SEC. 2101. REVIEW OF GOOD FAITH DETERMINATIONS; EXEMPTIONS.

Section 1212 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3812) is amended by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

''(f) GRADUATED PENALTIES.—

''(1) INELIGIBILITY.—No person shall become ineligible under section 1211 for program loans, payments, and benefits as a result of the failure of the person to actively apply a conservation plan, if the Secretary determines that the person has acted in good faith and without an intent to violate this subtitle.

''(2) ELIGIBLE REVIEWERS.—A determination of the Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary, under paragraph (1) shall be reviewed by the applicable—

''(A) State Executive Director, with the technical concurrence of the State Conservationist; or

''(B) district director, with the technical concurrence of the area conservationist.

''(3) PERIOD FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—A person who meets the requirements of paragraph (1) shall be allowed a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Secretary, but not to exceed 1 year, during which to implement the measures and practices necessary to be considered to be actively applying the conservation plan of the person.

''(4) PENALTIES.—

''(A) APPLICATION.—This paragraph applies if the Secretary determines that—

''(i) a person who has failed to comply with section 1211 with respect to highly erodible cropland, and has acted in good faith and without an intent to violate section 1211; or

''(ii) the violation—

''(I) is technical and minor in nature; and

''(II) has a minimal effect on the erosion control purposes of the conservation plan applicable to the land on which the violation has occurred.

''(B) REDUCTION.—If this paragraph applies under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall, in lieu of applying the ineligibility provisions of section 1211, reduce program benefits described in section 1211 that the producer would otherwise be eligible to receive in a crop year by an amount commensurate with the seriousness of the violation, as determined by the Secretary.

''(5) SUBSEQUENT CROP YEARS.—Any person whose benefits are reduced for any crop year under this subsection shall continue to be eligible for all of the benefits described in section 1211 for any subsequent crop year if, prior to the beginning of the subsequent crop year, the Secretary determines that the person is actively applying a conservation plan according to the schedule specified in the plan.''.

Subtitle C—Wetland Conservation

SEC. 2201. REVIEW OF GOOD FAITH DETERMINATIONS.

Section 1222(h) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3822(h)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) ELIGIBLE REVIEWERS.—A determination of the Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary, under paragraph (1) shall be reviewed by the applicable—

''(A) State Executive Director, with the technical concurrence of the State Conservationist; or

''(B) district director, with the technical concurrence of the area conservationist.''; and

(3) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by inserting ''be'' before ''actively''.

Subtitle D—Agricultural Resources Conservation Program

CHAPTER 1—COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT

Subchapter A—Comprehensive Conservation Enhancement Program

SEC. 2301. REAUTHORIZATION AND EXPANSION OF PROGRAMS COVERED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1230 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3830) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 1230. COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—During the 1996 through 2012 fiscal years, the Secretary shall establish a comprehensive conservation enhancement program (referred to in this section as 'CCEP') to be implemented through contracts and the acquisition of easements to assist owners and operators of farms, ranches, and nonindustrial private forestland to conserve and enhance soil, water, and related natural resources, including grazing land, wetland, and wildlife habitat.

''(2) MEANS.—The Secretary shall carry out the CCEP by—

''(A) providing for the long-term protection of environmentally-sensitive land; and

''(B) providing technical and financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, and nonindustrial private forest landowners—

''(i) to improve the management and operation of the farms, ranches, and private nonindustrial forest land; and

''(ii) to reconcile productivity and profitability with protection and enhancement of the environment;

''(C) reducing administrative burdens and streamlining application and planning procedures to encourage producer participation; and

''(D) providing opportunities to leverage Federal conservation investments through innovative partnerships with governmental agencies, education institutions, producer groups, and other nongovernmental organizations.

''(3) PROGRAMS.—The CCEP shall consist of—

''(A) the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B;

''(B) the wetlands reserve program established under subchapter C; and

''(C) the healthy forests reserve program established under subchapter D.

''(b) CONTRACTS AND ENROLLMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the CCEP, the Secretary shall enter into contracts with owners and operators and acquire interests in land through easements from owners, as provided in this chapter.

''(2) PRIOR ENROLLMENTS.—Acreage enrolled in the conservation reserve program, wetlands reserve program, or healthy forests reserve program prior to the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 shall be considered to be placed into the CCEP.

''(c) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(1) LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall not enroll more than 25 percent of the cropland in any county in the programs administered under subchapters B and C of this chapter.

''(B) EASEMENTS.—Within the limit described in subparagraph (A), not more than 10 percent of the land described in that subparagraph may be subject to an easement acquired under subchapter C of this chapter.

''(C) EXCLUSION.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall not apply to acres enrolled in the special conservation reserve enhancement program described in section 1234(f)(3).

''(D) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary may exceed the limitation in subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines that—

''(i)(I) the action would not adversely affect the local economy of a county; and

''(II) operators in the county are having difficulties complying with conservation plans implemented under section 1212; or

''(ii)(I) the acreage to be enrolled could not be used for an agricultural purpose as a result of a State or local law, order, or regulation prohibiting water use for agricultural production; and

''(II) enrollment in the program would benefit the acreage enrolled or land adjacent to the acreage enrolled.

''(E) SHELTERBELTS AND WINDBREAKS.—The limitations established under this paragraph shall not apply to cropland that is subject to an easement under chapter 1 or 3 that is used for the establishment of shelterbelts and windbreaks.

''(F) ENROLLMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of a request from a landowner to enroll acreage described in subparagraph (D)(ii) in the program, the Secretary shall enroll the acreage.

''(2) TENANT PROTECTION.—Except for a person who is a tenant on land that is subject to a conservation reserve contract that has been extended by the Secretary, the Secretary shall provide adequate safeguards to protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers, including provisions for sharing, on a fair and equitable basis, in payments under the programs established under this subtitle and subtitles B and C.

''(3) PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BY OTHER SOURCES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the preparation and application of a conservation compliance plan under subtitle B or similar plan required as a condition for assistance from the Department of Agriculture, the Secretary shall permit persons to secure technical assistance from approved sources, as determined by the Secretary, other than the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

''(B) REJECTION.—If the Secretary rejects a technical determination made by a source described in subparagraph (A), the basis of the determination of the Secretary shall be supported by documented evidence.

''(4) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to implement the conservation reserve and wetlands reserve programs established under this chapter.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1243 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3843) is repealed.

(2) Section 1222(g) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3822(g)) is amended by striking ''1243'' and inserting ''1230(c)''.

(3) Section 1231(k)(3)(C)(i) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(k)(3)(C)(i)) is amended by striking ''1243(b)'' and inserting ''1230(c)(1)''.

Subchapter B—Conservation Reserve

SEC. 2311. CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1231(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''; and

(2) by striking ''and wildlife'' and inserting ''wildlife, and pollinator habitat''.

(b) ELIGIBLE LAND.—Section 1231(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''; or'' and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''and'' at the end and inserting ''or''; and

(C) in subparagraph (E), by inserting ''in the case of alfalfa or other forage crops,'' before ''enrollment'';

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) marginal pasture land or hay land that is otherwise ineligible, if the land—

''(A) is to be devoted to native vegetation appropriate to the ecological site; and

''(B) would contribute to the restoration of a long-leaf pine forest or other declining forest ecosystem, as defined by the Secretary; or

''(7) land that is enrolled in the flooded farmland program established under section 1235B.''.

(c) ENROLLMENT.—Section 1231(d) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(d)) is amended by striking ''up to'' and all that follows through ''2007'' and inserting ''up to 39,200,000 acres in the conservation reserve at any 1 time during the 2008 through 2012''.

(d) CONSERVATION PRIORITY AREAS.—Section 1231(f)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(f)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia)''; and

(2) by inserting ''the Prairie Pothole Region, the Grand Lake St. Mary's Watershed, the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer,'' after ''Sound Region,''.

(e) PILOT PROGRAM FOR ENROLLMENT OF WETLAND AND BUFFER ACREAGE IN CONSERVATION RESERVE.—Section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) is amended by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h) PILOT PROGRAM FOR ENROLLMENT OF WETLAND, SHALLOW WATER AREAS, AND BUFFER ACREAGE IN CONSERVATION RESERVE.—

''(1) PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—During the 2008 through 2012 calendar years, the Secretary shall carry out a program in each State under which the Secretary shall enroll eligible acreage described in paragraph (2).

''(B) PARTICIPATION AMONG STATES.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that owners and operators in each State have an equitable opportunity to participate in the pilot program established under this subsection.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ACREAGE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) through (E), an owner or operator may enroll in the conservation reserve under this subsection—

''(i)(I) a wetland (including a converted wetland described in section 1222(b)(1)(A)) that had a cropping history during at least 4 of the immediately preceding 6 crop years; or

''(II) a shallow water area that was devoted to a commercial pond-raised aquaculture operation any year during the period of calendar years 2002 through 2007; and

''(ii) buffer acreage that—

''(I) is contiguous to a wetland or shallow water area described in clause (i);

''(II) is used to protect the wetland or shallow water area described in clause (i); and

''(III) is of such width as the Secretary determines is necessary to protect the wetland or shallow water area described in clause (i) or to enhance the wildlife benefits, taking into consideration and accommodating the farming practices (including the straightening of boundaries to accommodate machinery) used with respect to the cropland that surrounds the wetland or shallow water area.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—Except for a shallow water area described in paragraph (2)(A)(i), an owner or operator may not enroll in the conservation reserve under this subsection—

''(i) any wetland, or land on a floodplain, that is, or is adjacent to, a perennial riverine system wetland identified on the final national wetland inventory map of the Secretary of the Interior; or

''(ii) in the case of an area that is not covered by the final national inventory map, any wetland, or land on a floodplain, that is adjacent to a perennial stream identified on a 1-24,000 scale map of the United States Geological Survey.

''(C) PROGRAM LIMITATIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enroll in the conservation reserve under this subsection not more than—

''(I) 100,000 acres in any 1 State referred to in paragraph (1); and

''(II) not more than a total of 1,000,000 acres.

''(ii) RELATIONSHIP TO PROGRAM MAXIMUM.—Subject to clause (iii), for the purposes of subsection (d), any acreage enrolled in the conservation reserve under this subsection shall be considered acres maintained in the conservation reserve.

''(iii) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ENROLLED ACREAGE.—Acreage enrolled under this subsection shall not affect for any fiscal year the quantity of—

''(I) acreage enrolled to establish conservation buffers as part of the program announced on March 24, 1998 (63 Fed. Reg. 14109); or

''(II) acreage enrolled into the conservation reserve enhancement program announced on May 27, 1998 (63 Fed. Reg. 28965).

''(iv) REVIEW; POTENTIAL INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT ACREAGE.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall—

''(I) conduct a review of the program under this subsection with respect to each State that has enrolled land in the program; and

''(II) notwithstanding clause (i)(I), increase the number of acres that may be enrolled by a State under clause (i)(I) to not more than 150,000 acres, as determined by the Secretary.

''(D) OWNER OR OPERATOR LIMITATIONS.—

''(i) WETLAND.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Except for a shallow water area described in paragraph (2)(A)(i), the maximum size of any wetland described in subparagraph (A)(i) of an owner or operator enrolled in the conservation reserve under this subsection shall be 40 contiguous acres.

''(II) COVERAGE.—All acres described in subclause (I) (including acres that are ineligible for payment) shall be covered by the conservation contract.

''(ii) BUFFER ACREAGE.—The maximum size of any buffer acreage described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of an owner or operator enrolled in the conservation reserve under this subsection shall be determined by the Secretary in consultation with the State Technical Committee.

''(iii) TRACTS.—Except for a shallow water area described in paragraph (2)(A)(i), the maximum size of any eligible acreage described in subparagraph (A) in a tract (as determined by the Secretary) of an owner or operator enrolled in the conservation reserve under this subsection shall be 40 acres.

''(3) DUTIES OF OWNERS AND OPERATORS.—Under a contract entered into under this subsection, during the term of the contract, an owner or operator of a farm or ranch shall agree—

''(A) to restore the hydrology of the wetland within the eligible acreage to the maximum extent practicable, as determined by the Secretary;

''(B) to establish vegetative cover (which may include emerging vegetation in water) on the eligible acreage, as determined by the Secretary;

''(C) to a general prohibition of commercial use of the enrolled land; and

''(D) to carry out other duties described in section 1232.

''(4) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), in return for a contract entered into by an owner or operator under this subsection, the Secretary shall make payments based on rental rates for cropland and provide assistance to the owner or operator in accordance with sections 1233 and 1234.

''(B) CONTINUOUS SIGNUP.—The Secretary shall use continuous signup under section 1234(c)(2)(B) to determine the acceptability of contract offers and the amount of rental payments under this subsection.

''(C) INCENTIVES.—The amounts payable to owners and operators in the form of rental payments under contracts entered into under this subsection shall reflect incentives that are provided to owners and operators to enroll filterstrips in the conservation reserve under section 1234.''.

(f) BALANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCE PURPOSES.—Section 1231(j) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(j)) is amended by striking ''and wildlife'' and inserting ''wildlife, and pollinator''.

(g) DUTIES OF PARTICIPANTS.—Section 1232(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively; and

(B) by inserting before subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(A) approved vegetative cover shall encourage the planting of native species and restoration of biodiversity;'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (10) as paragraphs (6) through (11), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) to undertake active management on the land as needed throughout the term of the contract to implement the conservation plan;''.

(h) MANAGED HARVESTING AND GRAZING.—Section 1232(a)(7) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832(a)(7)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and brood rearing'' after ''habitat during nesting''; and

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''biomass)'' and inserting ''biomass and prescribed grazing for the control of invasive species), if such activity is permitted and consistent with the conservation plan described in subsection (b)(1)(A))''; and

(i) CONSERVATION PLANS.—Section 1232(b)(1)(A) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832(b)(1)(A)) is amended by striking ''contract; and'' and inserting the following: ''contract that are—

''(i) compatible with the conservation and improvement of soil, water, and wildlife and wildlife habitat;

''(ii) clearly described and apply throughout the duration of the contract;

''(iii) actively managed by the owner or operator that entered into the contract; and

''(iv) consistent with local active management conservation measures and practices, as determined by the Secretary; and''.

(j) ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT OFFERS.—Section 1234(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(c)) is amended—

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

''(3) ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT OFFERS.—

''(A) EVALUATION OF OFFERS.—In determining the acceptability of contract offers, the Secretary may take into consideration the extent to which enrollment of the land that is the subject of the contract offer would improve soil resources, water quality, pollinator, fish, or wildlife habitat, or provide other environmental benefits.

''(B) LOCAL PREFERENCE.—In determining the acceptability of contract offers for new enrollments if, as determined by the Secretary, the land would provide at least equivalent conservation benefits to land under competing offers, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, accept an offer from an owner or operator that is a resident of the county in which the land is located or of a contiguous county.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) RENTAL RATES.—

''(A) ANNUAL ESTIMATES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary (acting through the National Agricultural Statistics Service) shall conduct an annual survey of per acre estimates of county average market dryland and irrigated cash rental rates for cropland and pastureland in all counties or equivalent subdivisions within each State that have 20,000 acres or more of cropland and pastureland.

''(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF ESTIMATES.—The estimates derived from the annual survey conducted under subparagraph (A) shall be maintained on a website of the Department of Agriculture for use by the general public.''.

(k) EARLY TERMINATION BY OWNER OR OPERATOR.—Section 1235(e)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3835(e)(1)) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allow a participant to terminate a conservation reserve contract at any time if, as determined by the Secretary—

''(i) the participant entered into a contract under this subchapter before January 1, 1995, and the contract has been in effect for at least 5 years; or

''(ii) in the case of a participant who is disabled (as defined in section 72(m)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) or retired from farming or ranching, the participant has endured financial hardship as a result of the taxation of rental payments received.''.

SEC. 2312. FLOODED FARMLAND PROGRAM.

Subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831a et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1235B. FLOODED FARMLAND PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) CLOSED BASIN LAKE OR POTHOLE.—The term 'closed basin lake or pothole' means a naturally occurring lake, pond, pothole, or group of potholes within a tract that—

''(A) covered, on average, at least 5 acres in surface area during the preceding 3 crop years, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(B) has no natural outlet.

''(2) TRACT.—The term 'tract' has the meaning given the term by the Secretary.

''(b) PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), as part of the conservation reserve program established under this subchapter, the Secretary shall offer to enter into contracts under which the Secretary shall permit the enrollment in the conservation reserve of eligible cropland and grazing land that has been flooded by the natural overflow of a closed basin lake or pothole located within the Prairie Pothole Region of the northern Great Plains priority area (as determined by the Secretary, by regulation).

''(2) EXTENSIONS.—The Secretary may offer to extend a contract entered into under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that conditions persist that make cropland or grazing land covered by the contract and eligible for entry into the program under this section.

''(c) CONTINUOUS SIGNUP.—The Secretary shall offer the program under this section through continuous signup under this subchapter.

''(d) ELIGIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to enter into a contract under subsection (b), the owner shall own land that, as determined by the Secretary—

''(A) during the 3 crop years preceding entry into the contract, was rendered incapable of use for the production of an agricultural commodity or for grazing purposes; and

''(B) prior to the natural overflow of a closed basin lake or pothole caused by a period of precipitation in excess of historical patterns, had been consistently used for the production of crops or as grazing land.

''(2) INCLUSIONS.—Land described in paragraph (1) shall include—

''(A) land that has been flooded as the result of the natural overflow of a closed basin lake or pothole;

''(B) land that has been rendered inaccessible due to flooding as the result of the natural overflow of a closed basin lake or pothole; and

''(C) a reasonable quantity of additional land adjoining the flooded land that would enhance the conservation or wildlife value of the tract, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary may establish—

''(A) reasonable minimum acreage levels for individual parcels of land that may be included in a contract entered into under this section; and

''(B) the location and area of adjoining flooded land that may be included in a contract entered into under this section.

''(e) PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the rate of an annual rental payment under this section, as determined by the Secretary—

''(A) shall be based on the rental rate under this subchapter for cropland, and an appropriate rental rate for pastureland; and

''(B) may be reduced by up to 25 percent, based on the ratio of upland associated with the enrollment of the flooded land.

''(2) EXCLUSIONS.—During the term of a contract entered into under this section, an owner shall not be eligible to participate in or receive benefits for land that is included in the contract under—

''(A) the Federal crop insurance program established under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.);

''(B) the noninsured crop assistance program established under section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333); or

''(C) any Federal agricultural crop disaster assistance program.

''(f) RELATIONSHIP TO AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY PROGRAMS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary, by regulation, shall provide for the preservation of cropland base, allotment history, and payment yields applicable to land that was rendered incapable of use for the production of an agricultural commodity or for grazing purposes as the result of the natural overflow of a closed basin lake or pothole.

''(2) TERMINATION OF CONTRACT.—On termination of a contract under this section, the Secretary shall adjust the cropland base, allotment history, and payment yields for land covered by the contract to ensure equitable treatment of the land relative to program payment yields of comparable land in the county that was not flooded as a result of the natural overflow of a closed basin lake or pothole and was capable of remaining in agricultural production.

''(g) USE OF LAND.—An owner that has entered into a contract with the Secretary under this section shall take such actions as are necessary to avoid degrading any wildlife habitat on land covered by the contract that has naturally developed as a result of the natural overflow of a closed basin lake or pothole.''.

SEC. 2313. WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM.

Subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831a et seq.) (as amended by section 2312) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1235C. WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—As part of the conservation reserve program established under this subchapter, the Secretary shall carry out a program to provide to owners and operators who have entered into contracts under this subchapter and established softwood pine stands, for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, assistance to carry out, on the acreage of the owner or operator enrolled in the program under this subchapter, activities that improve the condition of the enrolled land for the benefit of wildlife.

''(b) SCOPE OF PROGRAM.—In carrying out the program under this section, the Secretary shall determine—

''(1) the amount and rate of payments (including incentive payments and cost-sharing payments) to be made to owners and operators who participate in the program to ensure the participation of those owners and operators;

''(2) the areas in each of the States in which owners and operators referred to in subsection (a) are located that should be given priority under the program, based on the need in those areas for changes in the condition of land to benefit wildlife; and

''(3) the management strategies and practices (including thinning, burning, seeding, establishing wildlife food plots, and such other practices that have benefits for wildlife as are approved by the Secretary) that may be carried out by owners and operators under the program.

''(c) AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An owner or operator described in subsection (a) that seeks to receive assistance under this section shall enter into an agreement with the Secretary that—

''(A) describes the management strategies and practices referred to in subsection (b)(3) that will be carried out by the owner or operator under the agreement;

''(B) describes measures to be taken by the owner or operator to ensure active but flexible management of acreage covered by the agreement;

''(C) requires the owner or operator to submit to periodic monitoring and evaluation by wildlife or forestry agencies of the State in which land covered by the agreement is located; and

''(D) contains such other terms or conditions as the Secretary may require.

''(2) TERM; INCLUSION IN CONTRACT.—An agreement entered into under this section shall have a term of not more than 5 years.

''(d) PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may establish or identify and, as appropriate, require owners and operators participating in the program under this section to work cooperatively with, partnerships among the Secretary and State, local, and nongovernmental organizations.

''(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COST SHARING.—The Secretary may provide to owners and operators participating in the program under this section, and members of partnerships described in subsection (d)—

''(1) technical assistance for use in carrying out an activity covered by an agreement described in subsection (c); and

''(2) a payment for use in covering a percentage of the costs of carrying out each such activity that does not exceed the applicable amount and rate determined by the Secretary under subsection (b)(1).

''(f) TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.—The program under this section shall terminate on September 30, 2011.''.

Subchapter C—Wetlands Reserve Program

SEC. 2321. WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM.

Section 1237 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) ENROLLMENT CONDITIONS.—

''(1) ANNUAL ENROLLMENT.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall enroll 250,000 acres in each fiscal year, with no enrollments beginning in fiscal year 2013.

''(2) METHODS OF ENROLLMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall enroll acreage into the wetlands reserve program through the use of—

''(i) permanent easements;

''(ii) 30-year easements;

''(iii) restoration cost-share agreements; or

''(iv) any combination of the options described in clauses (i) through (iii).

''(B) ACREAGE OWNED BY INDIAN TRIBES.—In the case of acreage owned by an Indian tribe, the Secretary shall enroll acreage into the wetlands reserve program through the use of—

''(i) a 30-year contract (the value of which shall be equivalent to the value of a 30-year easement);

''(ii) restoration cost-share agreements; or

''(iii) any combination of the options described in clauses (i) and (ii).''; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''2007 calendar'' and inserting ''2012 fiscal''.

SEC. 2322. EASEMENTS AND AGREEMENTS.

(a) TERMS OF EASEMENT.—Section 1237A(b)(2)(B) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837a(b)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by striking ''; and'' and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) to meet habitat needs of specific wildlife species; and''.

(b) COMPENSATION.—Section 1237A(f) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837a(f)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by striking ''Compensation'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Compensation''; and

(B) by striking ''agreed to'' and all that follows through ''encumbered by the easement'' and inserting ''determined under paragraph (4)'';

(2) in the second sentence, by striking ''Lands'' and inserting the following:

''(2) BIDS.—Land'';

(3) by striking the third sentence and inserting the following:

''(3) PAYMENTS.—Compensation may be provided in not more than 30 annual payments of equal or unequal size, as agreed to by the owner and the Secretary''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) METHOD FOR DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION.—Effective on the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall pay the lowest amount of compensation for a conservation easement, as determined by comparison of—

''(A) the fair market value of the land based on—

''(i) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practices; or

''(ii) an area-wide market analysis or survey, as determined by the Secretary;

''(B) a geographical cap, as established through a process prescribed in regulations promulgated by the Secretary; and

''(C) the offer made by the landowner.''.

(c) WETLANDS RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 1237A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) WETLANDS RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into 1 or more agreements with a State (including a political subdivision or agency of a State), nongovernmental organization, or Indian tribe to carry out a special wetlands reserve enhancement program that the Secretary determines would advance the purposes of this subchapter.

''(2) RESERVED RIGHTS.—Under the wetlands reserve enhancement program, the Secretary may use unique wetlands reserve agreements that may include certain compatible uses as reserved rights in the warranty easement deed restriction, if using those agreements is determined by the Secretary to be—

''(A) consistent with the long-term wetland protection and enhancement goals for which the easement was established; and

''(B) in accordance with a conservation plan.''.

(d) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2010, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that evaluates the implications of the long-term nature of conservation easements granted under section 1237A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837a) on resources of the Department of Agriculture.

(2) INCLUSIONS.—The report shall include—

(A) data relating to the number and location of conservation easements granted under that section that the Secretary holds or has a significant role in monitoring or managing;

(B) an assessment of the extent to which the oversight of the conservation easement agreements impacts the availability of resources, including technical assistance;

(C) an assessment of the uses and value of agreements with partner organizations; and

(D) any other relevant information relating to costs or other effects that would be helpful to the Committees.

SEC. 2323. PAYMENTS.

Section 1237D(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837d(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''The total'' and inserting ''Subject to section 1244(i), the total''

(B) by striking ''easement payments'' and inserting ''payments'';

(C) by striking ''person'' and inserting ''individual''; and

(D) by inserting ''or under 30-year contracts or restoration agreements'' before the period at the end; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''Easement payments'' and inserting ''Payments''; and

(B) by striking ''the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, or the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.)'' and inserting ''the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–127; 110 Stat. 888), or the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–171; 116 Stat. 134)''.

Subchapter D—Healthy Forests Reserve Program

SEC. 2331. HEALTHY FORESTS RESERVE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Subchapter D—Healthy Forests Reserve Program

''SEC. 1237M. ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTHY FORESTS RESERVE PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish the healthy forests reserve program for the purpose of restoring and enhancing forest ecosystems—

''(1) to promote the recovery of threatened and endangered species;

''(2) to improve biodiversity; and

''(3) to enhance carbon sequestration.

''(b) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall carry out the healthy forests reserve program in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce.

''SEC. 1237N. ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT OF LANDS IN PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, shall describe and define forest ecosystems that are eligible for enrollment in the healthy forests reserve program.

''(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for enrollment in the healthy forests reserve program, land shall be—

''(1) private land the enrollment of which will restore, enhance, or otherwise measurably increase the likelihood of recovery of a species listed as endangered or threatened under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533); and

''(2) private land the enrollment of which will restore, enhance, or otherwise measurably improve the well-being of species that—

''(A) are not listed as endangered or threatened under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533); but

''(B) are candidates for such listing, State-listed species, or special concern species.

''(c) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—In enrolling land that satisfies the criteria under subsection (b), the Secretary shall give additional consideration to land the enrollment of which will—

''(1) improve biological diversity; and

''(2) increase carbon sequestration.

''(d) ENROLLMENT BY WILLING OWNERS.—The Secretary shall enroll land in the healthy forests reserve program only with the consent of the owner of the land.

''(e) METHODS OF ENROLLMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Land may be enrolled in the healthy forests reserve program in accordance with—

''(A) a 10-year cost-share agreement;

''(B) a 30-year easement; or

''(C) a permanent easement.

''(2) PROPORTION.—The extent to which each enrollment method is used shall be based on the approximate proportion of owner interest expressed in that method in comparison to the other methods.

''(3) ACREAGE OWNED BY INDIAN TRIBES.—In the case of acreage owned by an Indian tribe, the Secretary may enroll acreage into the healthy forests reserve program through the use of—

''(A) a 30-year contract (the value of which shall be equivalent to the value of a 30-year easement);

''(B) a 10-year cost-share agreement; or

''(C) any combination of the options described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

''(f) ENROLLMENT PRIORITY.—

''(1) SPECIES.—The Secretary shall give priority to the enrollment of land that provides the greatest conservation benefit to—

''(A) primarily, species listed as endangered or threatened under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533); and

''(B) secondarily, species that—

''(i) are not listed as endangered or threatened under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533); but

''(ii) are candidates for such listing, State-listed species, or special concern species.

''(2) COST-EFFECTIVENESS.—The Secretary shall also consider the cost-effectiveness of each agreement or easement, and associated restoration plans, so as to maximize the environmental benefits per dollar expended.

''SEC. 1237O. RESTORATION PLANS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Land enrolled in the healthy forests reserve program shall be subject to a restoration plan, to be developed jointly by the landowner and the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Interior.

''(b) PRACTICES.—The restoration plan shall require such restoration practices as are necessary to restore and enhance habitat for—

''(1) species listed as endangered or threatened under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533); and

''(2) animal or plant species before the species reach threatened or endangered status, such as candidate, State-listed species, and special concern species.

''SEC. 1237P. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

''(a) PERMANENT EASEMENTS.—In the case of land enrolled in the healthy forests reserve program using a permanent easement, the Secretary shall pay to the owner of the land an amount equal to not less than 75 percent, nor more than 100 percent, of (as determined by the Secretary)—

''(1) the fair market value of the enrolled land during the period the land is subject to the easement, less the fair market value of the land encumbered by the easement; and

''(2) the actual costs of the approved conservation practices or the average cost of approved practices carried out on the land during the period in which the land is subject to the easement.

''(b) 30-YEAR EASEMENT OR CONTRACT.—In the case of land enrolled in the healthy forests reserve program using a 30-year easement or contract, the Secretary shall pay the owner of the land an amount equal to not more than (as determined by the Secretary)—

''(1) 75 percent of the fair market value of the land, less the fair market value of the land encumbered by the easement or contract; and

''(2) 75 percent of the actual costs of the approved conservation practices or 75 percent of the average cost of approved practices.

''(c) 10-YEAR AGREEMENT.—In the case of land enrolled in the healthy forests reserve program using a 10-year cost-share agreement, the Secretary shall pay the owner of the land an amount equal to not more than (as determined by the Secretary)—

''(1) 50 percent of the actual costs of the approved conservation practices; or

''(2) 50 percent of the average cost of approved practices.

''(d) ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary may accept and use contributions of non-Federal funds to make payments under this section.

''SEC. 1237Q. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide landowners with technical assistance to assist the owners in complying with the terms of plans (as included in agreements or easements) under the healthy forests reserve program.

''(b) TECHNICAL SERVICE PROVIDERS.—The Secretary may request the services of, and enter into cooperative agreements with, individuals or entities certified as technical service providers under section 1242, to assist the Secretary in providing technical assistance necessary to develop and implement the healthy forests reserve program.

''SEC. 1237R. PROTECTIONS AND MEASURES.

''(a) PROTECTIONS.—In the case of a landowner that enrolls land in the program and whose conservation activities result in a net conservation benefit for listed, candidate, or other species, the Secretary shall make available to the landowner safe harbor or similar assurances and protection under—

''(1) section 7(b)(4) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536(b)(4)); or

''(2) section 10(a)(1) of that Act (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(1)).

''(b) MEASURES.—If protection under subsection (a) requires the taking of measures that are in addition to the measures covered by the applicable restoration plan agreed to under section 1237O, the cost of the additional measures, as well as the cost of any permit, shall be considered part of the restoration plan for purposes of financial assistance under section 1237P.

''SEC. 1237S. INVOLVEMENT BY OTHER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

''In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary may consult with—

''(1) nonindustrial private forest landowners;

''(2) other Federal agencies;

''(3) State fish and wildlife agencies;

''(4) State forestry agencies;

''(5) State environmental quality agencies;

''(6) other State conservation agencies; and

''(7) nonprofit conservation organizations.

''SEC. 1237T. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subchapter such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking title V (16 U.S.C. 6571 et seq.); and

(2) by redesignating title VI and section 601 (16 U.S.C. 6591) as title V and section 501, respectively.

CHAPTER 2—COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM

Subchapter A—General Provisions

SEC. 2341. COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM.

Subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3830 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''CHAPTER 6—COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM

''Subchapter A—Comprehensive Stewardship Incentives Program

''SEC. 1240T. COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a comprehensive stewardship incentives program (referred to in this chapter as 'CSIP') to—

''(A) promote coordinated efforts within conservation programs in this chapter to address resources of concern, as identified at the local level;

''(B) encourage the adoption of conservation practices, activities and management measures; and

''(C) promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals.

''(2) MEANS.—The Secretary shall carry out CSIP by—

''(A) identifying resources of concern at a local level as described in subsection (b)(4);

''(B) entering into contracts with owners and operators of agricultural and nonindustrial private forest land to—

''(i) address natural resource concerns;

''(ii) meet regulatory requirements; or

''(iii) achieve and maintain new conservation practices, activities and management measures; and

''(C) providing technical assistance.

''(3) PROGRAMS.—CSIP shall consist of—

''(A) the conservation stewardship program; and

''(B) the environmental quality incentives program.

''(4) DEFINITION OF RESOURCE OF CONCERN.—In this chapter, the term 'resource of concern' means—

''(A) a specific resource concern on agricultural or nonindustrial private forest land that—

''(i) is identified by the Secretary in accordance with subsection (b)(4);

''(ii) represents a significant conservation concern in the State to which agricultural activities are contributing; and

''(iii) is likely to be addressed successfully through the implementation of conservation practices, activities, and management measures by owners and operators of agricultural and nonindustrial private forest land; or

''(B) a specific resource concern on agricultural or nonindustrial private forest land that is the subject of mandatory environmental requirements that apply to a producer under Federal, State, or local law.

''(b) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out CSIP, the Secretary shall ensure that the conservation programs under this chapter are managed in a coordinated manner.

''(2) PLANS.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, avoid duplication in the conservation plans required under this chapter and comparable conservation and regulatory programs, including a permit acquired under an approved water or air quality regulatory program.

''(3) TENANT PROTECTION.—The Secretary shall provide adequate safeguards to protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers, including provision for sharing, on a fair and equitable basis, in payments under the programs established under this chapter.

''(4) IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES OF CONCERN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that resources of concern are identified at the State level in consultation with the State Technical Committee.

''(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall identify not more than 5 resources of concern in a particular watershed or other appropriate region or area within a State.

''(5) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 the Secretary shall issue regulations to implement the programs established under this chapter.

''Subchapter B—Conservation Stewardship Program

''SEC. 1240U. PURPOSES.

''The purpose of the conservation stewardship program is to promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals, and to optimize environmental benefits, by assisting producers—

''(1) in promoting conservation and improving resources of concern (including soil, water, and energy conservation, soil, water, and air quality, biodiversity, fish, wildlife and pollinator habitat, and related resources of concern, as defined by the Secretary) by providing flexible assistance to install, improve, and maintain conservation systems,

practices, activities, and management measures on agricultural land (including cropland, grazing land, and wetland) while sustaining production of food and fiber;

''(2) in making beneficial, cost-effective changes to conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures carried out on agricultural and forest land relating to—

''(A) cropping systems;

''(B) grazing management systems;

''(C) nutrient management associated with livestock and crops;

''(D) forest management;

''(E) fuels management;

''(F) integrated pest management;

''(G) irrigation management;

''(H) invasive species management;

''(I) energy conservation; or

''(J) other management-intensive issues;

''(3) in complying with Federal, State, tribal, and local requirements concerning—

''(A) soil, water, and air quality;

''(B) fish, wildlife, and pollinator habitat; and

''(C) surface water and groundwater conservation;

''(4) in avoiding, to the maximum extent practicable, the need for resource and regulatory programs by protecting resources of concern and meeting environmental quality criteria established by Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies; and

''(5) by encouraging, consolidating, and streamlining conservation planning and regulatory compliance processes to reduce administrative burdens on producers and the cost of achieving environmental goals.

''SEC. 1240V. DEFINITIONS.

''In this chapter:

''(1) COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PLAN.—The term 'comprehensive conservation plan' means a plan produced by following the planning process outlined in the applicable National Planning Procedures Handbook of the Department of Agriculture with regard to all applicable resources of concern.

''(2) CONTRACT OFFER.—The term 'contract offer' means an application submitted by a producer that seeks to address 1 or more resources of concern with the assistance of the program.

''(3) ENHANCEMENT PAYMENT.—The term 'enhancement payment' means a payment described in section 1240X(d).

''(4) ELIGIBLE LAND.—The term 'eligible land' means land described in section 1240X(b).

''(5) LIVESTOCK.—The term 'livestock' means dairy cattle, beef cattle, laying hens, broilers, turkeys, swine, sheep, goats, ducks, ratites, shellfish, alpacas, bison, catfish, managed pollinators, and such other animals and fish as are determined by the Secretary.

''(6) MANAGEMENT INTENSITY.—The term 'management intensity' means the degree, scope, and comprehensiveness of conservation systems, practices, activities, or management measures adopted by a producer to improve and sustain the condition of a resource of concern.

''(7) PAYMENT.—The term 'payment' means financial assistance provided to a producer under the program to compensate the producers for incurred costs associated with planning, materials, installation, labor, management, maintenance, technical assistance, and training, the value of risk, and income forgone by the producer, as applicable, including—

''(A) enhancement payments;

''(B) CSP supplemental payments; and

''(C) other payments provided under this chapter.

''(8) PRACTICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'practice' means 1 or more measures that improve or sustain a resource of concern.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'practice' includes—

''(i) structural measures, vegetative measures, and land management measures, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(ii) planning activities needed to improve or sustain a resource of concern, including implementation of—

''(I) a comprehensive conservation plan; and

''(II) a comprehensive nutrient management plan.

''(9) PRODUCER.—The term 'producer' means an individual who is an owner, operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper that—

''(A) derives income from, and controls, the production or management of an agricultural commodity, livestock, or nonindustrial forest land regardless of ownership;

''(B) shares in the risk of producing any crop or livestock; and

''(C)(i) is entitled to share in the crop or livestock available for marketing from a farm (or would have shared had the crop or livestock been produced); or

''(ii) is a custom feeder or contract grower.

''(10) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the conservation stewardship program established under this chapter.

''(11) RESOURCE-CONSERVING CROP.—The term 'resource-conserving crop' means—

''(A) a perennial grass;

''(B) a legume grown for use as forage, seed for planting, or green manure;

''(C) a legume-grass mixture;

''(D) a small grain grown in combination with a grass or legume, whether interseeded or planted in succession;

''(E) a winter annual oilseed crop that provides soil protection; and

''(F) such other plantings as the Secretary determines to be appropriate for a particular area.

''(12) RESOURCE-CONSERVING CROP ROTATION.—The term 'resource-conserving crop rotation' means a crop rotation that—

''(A) includes at least 1 resource-conserving crop;

''(B) reduces erosion;

''(C) improves soil fertility and tilth;

''(D) interrupts pest cycles; and

''(E) in applicable areas, reduces depletion of soil moisture (or otherwise reduces the need for irrigation).

''(13) RESOURCE-SPECIFIC INDICES.—The term 'resource-specific indices' means indices developed by the Secretary that measure or estimate the expected level of resource and environmental outcomes of the conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures employed by a producer to address a resource of concern on an agricultural operation.

''(14) STEWARDSHIP CONTRACT.—The term 'stewardship contract' means a contract entered into under the conservation stewardship program to carry out the programs and activities described in this chapter.

''(15) STEWARDSHIP THRESHOLD.—The term 'stewardship threshold' means the level of natural resource conservation and environmental management required, as determined by the Secretary—

''(A) to maintain, conserve, and improve the quality or quantity of a resource of concern reflecting at a minimum, the resource management system quality criteria described in the handbooks of the Natural Resource Conservation Service, if available and appropriate; or

''(B) in the case of a resource of concern that is the subject of a Federal, State, or local regulatory requirement, to meet the higher of—

''(i) the standards that are established by the requirement for the resource of concern; or

''(ii) standards reflecting the resource management system quality criteria described in the handbooks of the Natural Resource Conservation Service, if available and appropriate.

''SEC. 1240W. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.

''The Secretary shall establish and, for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, carry out a conservation stewardship program to assist producers in improving environmental quality by addressing resources of concern in a comprehensive manner through—

''(1) the addition of conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures; and

''(2) the active management, maintenance, and improvement of existing, and adoption of new, conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures.

''SEC. 1240X. ELIGIBILITY.

''(a) ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS.—

''(1) GENERAL PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the conservation stewardship program, a producer shall—

''(A) submit to the Secretary for approval a contract offer to participate in the program;

''(B) agree to receive technical services, either directly from the Secretary or, at the option of the producer, from an approved third party under section 1242(b)(3);

''(C) enter into a contract with the Secretary, as described in subsection (c); and

''(D) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the producer—

''(i) is addressing resources of concern relating to both soil and water to at least the stewardship threshold; and

''(ii) is adequately addressing other resources of concern applicable to the agricultural operation, as determined by the Secretary.

''(b) ELIGIBLE LAND.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), private agricultural land that is eligible for enrollment in the program includes—

''(A) cropland (including vineyards and orchards);

''(B) pasture land;

''(C) rangeland;

''(D) other agricultural land used for the production of livestock;

''(E) land used for agroforestry;

''(F) land used for aquaculture;

''(G) riparian areas adjacent to otherwise eligible land;

''(H) land under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe (as determined by the Secretary);

''(I) public land, if failure to enroll the land in the program would defeat the purposes of the program on private land that is an integral part of the operation enrolled or offered to be enrolled in the program by the producer;

''(J) State and school owned land that is under the effective control of a producer; and

''(K) other agricultural land (including cropped woodland and marshes) that the Secretary determines is vulnerable to serious threats to resources of concern.

''(2) EXCLUSIONS.—

''(A) LAND ENROLLED IN OTHER CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.—The following land is not eligible for enrollment in the program:

''(i) Land enrolled in the conservation reserve program under subchapter B of chapter 1.

''(ii) Land enrolled in the wetlands reserve program established under subchapter C of chapter 1.

''(B) CONVERSION TO CROPLAND.—With regard to the program, land used for crop production after May 13, 2002, that had not been planted, considered to be planted, or devoted to crop production for at least 4 of the 6 years preceding that date (except for land

enrolled in the conservation reserve program or that has been maintained using long-term crop rotation practices, as determined by the Secretary) shall not be the basis for any payment under the program.

''(3) ECONOMIC USES.—The Secretary shall not restrict economic uses of land covered by a program contract (including buffers and other partial field conservation practices) that comply with the agreement and comprehensive conservation plan, or other applicable law.

''(c) CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—After a determination by the Secretary that a producer is eligible to participate in the program, and on acceptance of the contract offer of the producer, the Secretary shall enter into a contract with the producer to enroll the land to be covered by the contract.

''(2) AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS.—All acres of all agricultural operations, whether or not contiguous, that are under the effective control of a producer within a particular watershed or region (or in a contiguous watershed or region) of a State and constitute a cohesive management unit, as determined by the Secretary, at the time the producer enters into a stewardship contract shall be covered by the stewardship contract, other than land the producer has enrolled in the conservation reserve program or the wetlands reserve program.

''(3) RESOURCES OF CONCERN.—Each stewardship contract shall, at a minimum, meet or exceed the stewardship threshold for at least 1 additional resource of concern by the end of the stewardship contract through—

''(A) the installation and adoption of additional conservation systems, practices, activities, or management measures; and

''(B) the active management and improvement of conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures in place at the operation of the producer at the time the contract offer is accepted by the Secretary.

''(4) TERMS.—A contract entered into under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) describe the land covered by the contract;

''(B) describe the practices or technical services from an approved third party, to be implemented on eligible land of the producer;

''(C) state the amount of payments (determined in accordance with subsection (f)) the Secretary agrees to make to the producer each year of the contract;

''(D) describe existing conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures the producer agrees to maintain, manage, and improve during the term of the stewardship contract in order to meet and exceed the appropriate stewardship threshold for the resources of concern;

''(E) describe the additional conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures the producer agrees to plan, install, maintain, and manage during the term of the stewardship contract in order to meet and exceed the appropriate stewardship threshold for the appropriate resource or resources of concern;

''(F) if applicable, describe the on-farm conservation research, demonstration, training, or pilot project activities the producer agrees to undertake during the term of the contract;

''(G) if applicable, describe the on-farm monitoring and evaluation activities the producer agrees to undertake during the term of the contract relating to—

''(i) a comprehensive conservation plan; or

''(ii) conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures; and

''(H) include such other provisions as the Secretary determines are necessary to ensure that the purposes of the program are achieved.

''(5) ON-FARM RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION, TRAINING, OR PILOT PROJECTS.—The Secretary may approve a stewardship contract that includes—

''(A) on-farm conservation research, demonstration, and training activities; and

''(B) pilot projects for evaluation of new technologies or innovative conservation practices.

''(6) DURATION.—A contract under this chapter shall have a term of 5 years.

''(7) EVALUATION OF CONTRACT OFFERS.—In evaluating contract offers made by producers to enter into contracts under the program, the Secretary shall—

''(A) prioritize applications based on—

''(i) the level of conservation treatment on all resources of concern at the time of application, based on the initial scores received by the producer on applicable resource-specific indices;

''(ii) the degree to which the proposed conservation treatment effectively increases the level of performance on applicable resource-specific indices or the level of management intensity with which the producer addresses the designated resources of concern;

''(iii) the extent to which all resources of concern will exceed the stewardship threshold level by the end of the contract period;

''(iv) the extent to which resources of concern in addition to resources of concern will be addressed to meet and exceed the stewardship threshold level by the end of the contract period;

''(v) the extent to which the producer proposes to address the goals and objectives of State, regional, and national fish and wildlife conservation plans and initiatives;

''(vi) whether the proposed conservation treatment reflects the multiple natural resource and environmental benefits of conservation-based farming systems, including resource-conserving crop rotations, advanced integrated pest management, and managed rotational grazing; and

''(vii) whether the application includes land transitioning out of the conservation reserve program, on the condition that the land is maintained in a grass-based system and would help meet habitat needs for fish and wildlife;

''(B) evaluate the extent to which the anticipated environmental benefits from the contract would be provided in the most cost-effective manner, relative to other similarly beneficial contract offers;

''(C) reward higher levels of environmental performance and management intensity;

''(D) develop criteria for use in evaluating applications that will ensure that national, State, and local conservation priorities are effectively addressed;

''(E) evaluate the extent to which the environmental benefits expected to result from the contract complement other conservation efforts in the watershed or region; and

''(F) provide opportunities to agricultural producers that have not previously participated in Federal conservation programs, including beginning farmers and ranchers and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

''(8) TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—

''(i) VOLUNTARY TERMINATION.—The producer may terminate a contract entered into with the Secretary under this chapter if the Secretary determines that the termination is in the public interest.

''(ii) INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION.—The Secretary may terminate a contract under this chapter if the Secretary determines that the producer violated the contract.

''(B) REPAYMENT.—If a contract is terminated, the Secretary may—

''(i) allow the producer to retain payments already received under the contract if—

''(I) the producer has complied with the terms and conditions of the contract; and

''(II) the Secretary determines that allowing the producer to retain the payments is consistent with the purposes of the program;

''(ii) require repayment, in whole or in part, of payments already received; and

''(iii) assess liquidated damages, if doing so is consistent with the purposes of the program.

''(C) TRANSFER OR CHANGE OF INTEREST IN LAND SUBJECT TO A CONTRACT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the transfer, or change in the interest, of a producer in land subject to a contract under this chapter shall result in the termination of the contract.

''(ii) TRANSFER OF DUTIES AND RIGHTS.—Clause (i) shall not apply if—

''(I) within a reasonable period of time (as determined by the Secretary) after the date of the transfer or change in the interest in land, the transferee of the land provides written notice to the Secretary that all duties and rights under the contract have been transferred to, and assumed by, the transferee; and

''(II) the transferee meets the eligibility requirements of this subchapter.

''(9) MODIFICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may allow a producer to modify a contract before the expiration of the contract if the Secretary determines that failure to modify the contract would significantly interfere with achieving the purposes of the program.

''(B) PARTICIPATION IN OTHER PROGRAMS.—If appropriate payment reductions and other adjustments (as determined by the Secretary) are made to the contract of a producer, the producer may remove land enrolled in the conservation stewardship program for enrollment in the conservation reserve program, wetlands reserve program, or other conservation programs, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) CHANGES IN SIZE OF OPERATION.—The Secretary shall allow a producer to modify a stewardship contract before the expiration of the stewardship contract if the agricultural operation of the producer has reduced or enlarged in size to reflect the new acreage total.

''(D) NEW ACREAGE.—With respect to acreage added to the agricultural operation of a producer after entering into a stewardship contract, a producer may elect to not add the acreage to the stewardship contract during the term of the current stewardship contract, except that such additional acreage shall be included in any contract renewal.

''(E) CHANGES IN PRODUCTION.—The Secretary shall allow a producer to modify a stewardship contract before the expiration of the stewardship contract if—

''(i) the producer has a change in production that requires a change to scheduled conservation practices and activities; and

''(ii) the Secretary determines that—

''(I) all relevant conservation standards will be maintained or improved; and

''(II) there is no increase in total payment under the stewardship contract.

''(10) EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF PRODUCER.—The Secretary shall include in each contract a provision to ensure that a producer shall not be considered in violation of the contract for failure to comply with the contract due to circumstances beyond the control of the producer, including a disaster or related weather, pest, disease, or other similar condition, as determined by the Secretary.

''(11) COORDINATION WITH ORGANIC CERTIFICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this chapter, the Secretary shall establish a transparent and producer-friendly means by which producers may coordinate and simultaneously certify eligibility under—

''(i) a stewardship contract; and

''(ii) the national organic production program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.).

''(B) PROGRAMMATIC CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary shall identify and implement programmatic considerations, including conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures, technical assistance, evaluation of contract offers, enhancement payments, on-farm research, demonstration, training, and pilot projects, and data management, through which to maximize the purposes of the program by enrolling producers who are certified under the national organic production program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.).

''(12) RENEWAL.—At the end of a stewardship contract of a producer, the Secretary shall allow the producer to renew the stewardship contract for an additional 5-year period if the producer—

''(A) demonstrates compliance with the terms of the existing contract, including a demonstration that the producer has complied with the schedule for the implementation of additional conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures included in the stewardship contract and is addressing the designated resources of concern to a level that meets and exceeds the stewardship threshold; and

''(B) agrees to implement and maintain such additional conservation practices and activities as the Secretary determines to be necessary and feasible to achieve higher levels of performance on applicable resource-specific indices or higher levels of management intensity with which the producer addresses the resources of concern.

''(d) ENHANCEMENT PAYMENTS.—

''(1) LOWER PAYMENTS.—In evaluating applications and making payments under this chapter, the Secretary shall not assign a higher priority to any application because the applicant is willing to accept a lower payment than the applicant would otherwise be entitled to receive.

''(2) EVALUATION OF CONTRACT OFFERS.—Nothing in this subsection relieves the Secretary of the obligation, in evaluating applications for payments, to evaluate and prioritize the applications in accordance with subsection (e)(4)), including the requirement for contracts to be cost-effective.

''(3) LOWEST-COST ALTERNATIVES.—In determining the eligibility of a conservation system, practice, activity, or management measure for a payment under this subsection, the Secretary shall require, to the maximum extent practicable, that the lowest-cost alternatives be used to achieve the purposes of the contract, as determined by the Secretary.

''(4) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—Payments under this subsection shall be made in such amounts and in accordance with such time schedule as is agreed on and specified in the contract.

''(5) ACTIVITIES QUALIFYING FOR PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—To receive an enhancement payment under this subsection, a producer shall agree—

''(i) to implement additional conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures and maintain, manage, and improve existing conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures in order to maintain and improve the level of performance of the producer, as determined by applicable resource-specific indices, or the level of management intensity of the producer with respect to resources of concern in order to meet and exceed the stewardship threshold for resources of concern; and

''(ii) to maintain, and make available to the Secretary at such times as the Secretary may request, appropriate records demonstrating the effective and timely implementation of the stewardship contract.

''(B) COMPENSATION.—Subject to subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall provide an enhancement payment to a producer to compensate the producer for—

''(i) ongoing implementation, active management, and maintenance of conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures in place on the operation of the producer at the time the contract offer of the producer is accepted; and

''(ii) installation and adoption of additional conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures or improvements to conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures in place on the operation of the producer at the time the contract offer is accepted.

''(C) ADJUSTMENTS.—A payment under subparagraph (B) shall be adjusted to reflect—

''(i) management intensity; or

''(ii) resource-specific indices, in a case in which those indices have been developed and implemented.

''(D) ON-FARM RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION, TRAINING, AND PILOT PROJECT PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide an additional enhancement payment to a producer who opts to participate as part of the stewardship contract in an on-farm conservation research, demonstration, training or pilot project certified by the Secretary to compensate the producer for the cost of participation.

''(E) RESTRICTION ON STRUCTURAL PRACTICES.—For purposes of the conservation stewardship program, structural practices shall be eligible for payment only if the structural practices are integrated with and essential to support site-specific management activities that are part of an implemented management system designed to address 1 or more resources of concern.

''(6) EXCLUSIONS.—An enhancement payment to a producer under this subsection shall not be provided for the design, construction, or maintenance of animal waste storage or treatment facilities or associated waste transport or transfer devices for animal feeding operations.

''(7) TIMING OF PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make enhancement payments as soon as practicable after October 1 of each fiscal year.

''(B) ADDITIONAL SYSTEMS, PRACTICES, ACTIVITIES, AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES.—The Secretary shall make enhancement payments to compensate producers for installation and adoption of additional conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures or improvements to existing conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures at the time at which the systems, practices, activities, and measures or improvements are installed and adopted.

''(8) RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION, TRAINING, AND PILOT PROJECT PAYMENT LIMITATIONS.—An enhancement payment for research, demonstration, training and pilot projects may not exceed $25,000 for each 5-year term of the stewardship contract (excluding funding arrangements with federally recognized Indian tribes or Alaska Native Corporations).

''(e) CSP SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide additional payments to producers that, in participating in the conservation stewardship program, agree to adopt resource-conserving crop rotations to achieve optimal crop rotations as appropriate for the land of the producers.

''(2) OPTIMAL CROP ROTATIONS.—The Secretary shall determine whether a resource-conserving crop rotation is an optimal crop rotation eligible for additional payments under paragraph (1), based on whether the resource-conserving crop rotation is designed to optimize natural resource conservation and production benefits, including—

''(A) increased efficiencies in pesticide, fertilizer, and energy use; and

''(B) improved disease management.

''(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a payment described in paragraph (1), a producer shall agree to adopt and maintain optimal resource-conserving crop rotations for the term of the contract.

''(4) RATE.—The Secretary shall provide payments under this subsection at a rate that encourages producers to adopt optimal resource-conserving crop rotations.

''(f) LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS.—Subject to section 1244(i), an individual or entity may not receive, directly or indirectly, payments under this subchapter that, in the aggregate, exceed $240,000 for all contracts entered into under the conservation stewardship program during any 6-year period.

''(g) DUTIES OF PRODUCERS.—In order to receive assistance under this chapter, a producer shall—

''(1) implement the terms of the contract approved by the Secretary;

''(2) not conduct any practices on the covered land that would defeat the purposes of the program;

''(3) on the violation of a term or condition of the contract at any time the producer has control of the land—

''(A) if the Secretary determines that the violation warrants termination of the contract—

''(i) forfeit all rights to receive payments under the contract; and

''(ii) refund to the Secretary all or a portion of the payments received by the owner or operator under the contract, including any interest on the payments or liquidated damages, as determined by the Secretary;

''(B) if the Secretary determines that the violation does not warrant termination of the contract, refund to the Secretary, or accept adjustments to, the payments provided to the owner or operator, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate; or

''(C) comply with a combination of the remedies authorized by subparagraphs (A) and (B), as the Secretary determines to be appropriate;

''(4) on the transfer of the right and interest of the producer in land subject to the contract (unless the transferee of the right and interest agrees with the Secretary to assume all obligations of the contract) refund any cost-share payments, incentive payments, and stewardship payments received under the program, as determined by the Secretary;

''(5) supply information as required by the Secretary to determine compliance with the contract and requirements of the program; and

''(6) comply with such additional provisions as the Secretary determines are necessary to carry out the contract.

''(h) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To achieve the conservation and environmental goals of a contract under this chapter, to the extent appropriate, the Secretary shall—

''(A) provide to a producer information and training to aid in implementation of the conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures covered by the contract;

''(B) develop agreements with governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private entities to facilitate the provision of technical and administrative assistance and services;

''(C) make the program available to eligible producers on a continuous enrollment basis;

''(D) when identifying biodiversity or fish and wildlife as a resource of concern for a particular watershed or other appropriate region or area within a State, ensure that the identification—

''(i) is specific with respect to particular species or habitat; and

''(ii) would further the goals and objectives of State, regional, and national fish and wildlife conservation plans and initiatives;

''(E) provide technical assistance and payments for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012;

''(F) maintain contract and payment data relating to the conservation stewardship program in a manner that provides detailed and segmented data and allows for quantification of the amount of payments made to producers for—

''(i) the installation and adoption of additional conservation systems, practices, activities, or management measures;

''(ii) participating in research, demonstration, training, and pilot projects;

''(iii) the development, monitoring, and evaluation of comprehensive conservation plans; and

''(iv) the maintenance and active management of conservation systems, practices, activities, and management measures, and the improvement of conservation practices, in place on the operation of the producer on the date on which the contract offer is accepted by the Secretary;

''(G) develop resource-specific indices for purposes of determining eligibility and payments; and

''(H) establish and publicize design protocols and application procedures for individual producer and collaborative on-farm research, demonstration, training, and pilot projects.

''(2) SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCERS.—The Secretary shall ensure that outreach and technical assistance are available and program specifications are appropriate to enable specialty crop producers to participate in the conservation stewardship program.

''(3) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this chapter and ending on September 30, 2017, with respect to eligible land of producers participating in the program, the Secretary shall—

''(A) to the maximum extent practicable, enroll an additional 13,273,000 acres for each fiscal year, but not to exceed 79,638,000 acres;

''(B) implement the program nationwide to make the program available to producers meeting the eligibility requirements in each county;

''(C) to the maximum extent practicable, manage the program to achieve a national average annual cost per acre of $19, which shall include the costs of all financial assistance, technical assistance, and any other expenses associated with enrollment or participation in the program of those acres; and

''(D) establish a minimum contract value, to ensure equity for small acreage farms, including specialty crop and organic producers.

''(i) ACRE ALLOCATION.—

''(1) INITIAL ALLOCATIONS TO STATES.—In making allocations of acres to States to enroll in the conservation stewardship program, to the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall allocate to each State a number of acres equal to the proportion that—

''(A) the number of acres of eligible land in the State; bears to

''(B) the number of acres of eligible land in all States.

''(2) MINIMUM ACRE ALLOCATION.—Of the acres allocated for each fiscal year, no State shall have allocated fewer than the lesser of—

''(A) 20,000 acres; or

''(B) 2.2 percent of the number of acres of eligible land in the State.

''(3) REALLOCATION TO STATES.—For any fiscal year, acres not obligated under this subsection by a date determined by the Secretary through rulemaking shall be reallocated to each State that—

''(A) has obligated 100 percent of the initial allocation of the State; and

''(B) requests additional acres.

''SEC. 1240Y. REGULATIONS.

''Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this chapter, the Secretary shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out the program, including regulations that—

''(1) provide for adequate safeguards to protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers, including provision for sharing payments, on a fair and equitable basis;

''(2) prescribe such other rules as the Secretary determines to be necessary to ensure a fair and reasonable application of the program; and

''(3) to the maximum extent practicable, eliminate duplication of planning activities under the program and comparable conservation programs.''.

Subchapter B—Environmental Quality Incentives Program

SEC. 2351. PURPOSES.

Section 1240 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', forest management,'' after ''agricultural production'';

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting '', forest land,'' after ''grazing land''; and

(B) by inserting ''pollinators,'' after ''wetland),''; and

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting ''fuels management, forest management,'' after ''grazing management,''; and

(B) by inserting ''and forested'' after ''agricultural''.

SEC. 2352. DEFINITIONS.

(a) ELIGIBLE LAND.—Section 1240A(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838aa–1(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''commodities or livestock'' and inserting ''commodities, livestock, or forest-related products''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking clause (v) and inserting the following:

''(v) nonindustrial private forest land;'';

(B) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (vii); and

(C) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

''(vi) land used for pond-raised aquaculture production; and''.

(b) LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICE.—Section 1240A(3) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838aa–1(3)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The term'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term'';

(2) by inserting ''fuels management, forest management,'' after ''grazing management''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) FOREST MANAGEMENT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), forest management practices may include activities that the Secretary determines are necessary—

''(i) to improve water, soil, or air quality;

''(ii) to restore forest biodiversity;

''(iii) to control invasive species;

''(iv) to improve wildlife habitat; or

''(v) to achieve conservation priorities identified in an applicable forest resource assessment and plan.''.

(c) PRACTICE.—Section 1240A(5) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838aa–1(5)) is amended by inserting ''conservation planning practices,'' after ''land management practices,''.

(d) CUSTOM FEEDING BUSINESS.—Section 1240A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838aa–1) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) PRODUCER.—The term 'producer' includes a custom feeding business and a contract grower or finisher.''.

(e) STRUCTURAL PRACTICE.—Paragraph (7)(A) of section 1240A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838aa–1) (as redesignated by subsection (d)(1)) is amended by inserting ''firebreak, fuelbreak,'' after ''constructed wetland,''.

SEC. 2353. ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 1240B(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''2010'' and inserting ''2012''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting ''conservation plan or'' after ''develops a''.

(b) PRACTICES AND TERM.—Section 1240B(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''conservation planning practices,'' after ''land management practices,''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking ''10'' and inserting ''5''.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION.—Section 1240B of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c);

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS OR RANCHERS AND BEGINNING FARMERS OR RANCHERS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a producer that is a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher or a beginning farmer or rancher, the Secretary may increase the amount that would otherwise be provided to the producer under paragraph (1) to—

''(I) not more than 90 percent; and

''(II) not less than 15 percent above the otherwise applicable rate.

''(ii) ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—Not more than 30 percent of the amount determined under clause (i) may be provided in advance for the purpose of purchasing materials or contracting.'';

(B) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) OTHER PAYMENTS.—A producer shall not be eligible for cost-share payments for practices on eligible land under the program if the producer receives cost-share payments or other benefits for the same practice on the same land under another program.''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) GUARANTEED LOAN ELIGIBILITY.—Notwithstanding section 333(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1983(1)), with respect to the cost of a

loan, a producer with an application that meets the standards for a cost-share payment under this subsection but that is not approved by the Secretary shall receive priority consideration for a guaranteed loan under section 304 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 1924).'';

(3) in subsection (e), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) SPECIAL RULE.—In determining the amount and rate of incentive payments, the Secretary may accord great significance to a practice that promotes residue, nutrient, air quality, pest, or predator deterrence, including practices to deter predator species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), gray wolves, grizzly bears, and black bears.'';

(4) in subsection (g), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012'';

(5) by redesignating subsections (d) through (h) as subsections (c) through (g), respectively; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(h) WATER CONSERVATION OR IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY PRACTICE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide technical assistance, cost-share payments, and incentive payments to a producer for a water conservation or irrigation practice.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In providing assistance and payments to producers for a water conservation or irrigation practice, the Secretary may give priority to applications in which—

''(A) there is an improvement in surface flows or a reduction in the use of groundwater in the agricultural operation of the producer, consistent with the law of the State in which the operation of the producer is located; or

''(B) the producer agrees not to use any associated water savings to bring new land, other than incidental land needed for efficient operations, under irrigated production, unless the producer is participating in a watershed-wide project that will effectively conserve water, as determined by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 2354. EVALUATION OF OFFERS AND PAYMENTS.

Section 1240C of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–3) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) improve conservation practices in place on the operation of the producer at the time the contract offer is accepted; and''.

SEC. 2355. DUTIES OF PRODUCERS.

Section 1240D(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–4(2)) is amended by striking ''farm or ranch'' and inserting ''farm, ranch, or forest land''.

SEC. 2356. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM PLAN.

Section 1240E(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–5(a)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', or an entity described in section 1244(e) acting on behalf of producers,'' after ''producer'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) in the case of forest land, is consistent with a forest management plan that is approved by the Secretary, which may include—

''(A) a forest stewardship plan described in section 5 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103a);

''(B) another practice plan approved by the State forester; or

''(C) another plan determined appropriate by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 2357. LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS.

Section 1240G of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–7) is amended—

(1) by striking ''An individual'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 1244(i), an individual''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of an entity described in section 1244(e), the limitation established under this section shall apply to each participating producer and not to the entity described in section 1244(e).''.

SEC. 2358. CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS.

Section 1240H of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–8) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may pay the cost of competitive grants that leverage Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection through the program by—

''(1) stimulating the development of innovative technologies; and

''(2) transferring those technologies to agricultural and nonindustrial private forest land in production.''; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2)(A) implement innovative conservation technologies, such as market systems for pollution reduction and practices for the storing of carbon in the soil;

''(B) provide a mechanism for transferring those technologies to agricultural and nonindustrial private forest land in production; and

''(C) increase environmental and resource conservation benefits through specialty crop production; and''.

SEC. 2359. GROUND AND SURFACE WATER CONSERVATION.

Section 1240I of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–9) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 1240I. GROUND AND SURFACE WATER CONSERVATION.

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

''(1) to improve irrigation systems;

''(2) to enhance irrigation efficiencies;

''(3) to assist producers in converting to—

''(A) the production of less water-intensive agricultural commodities; or

''(B) dryland farming;

''(4) to improve water storage capabilities through measures such as water banking and groundwater recharge and other related activities;

''(5) to mitigate the effects of drought;

''(6) to enhance fish and wildlife habitat associated with irrigation systems, including pivot corners and areas with irregular boundaries;

''(7) to conduct resource condition assessment and modeling relating to water conservation;

''(8) to assist producers in developing water conservation plans; and

''(9) to promote any other measures that improve groundwater and surface water conservation, as determined by the Secretary.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) PARTNER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'partner' means an entity that enters into a partnership agreement with the Secretary to carry out water conservation activities on a regional scale.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'partner' includes—

''(i) an agricultural or silvicultural producer association or other group of producers;

''(ii) a State or unit of local government, including an irrigation company and a water district and canal company; or

''(iii) a federally recognized Indian tribe.

''(2) PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT.—The term 'partnership agreement' means a cooperative or contribution agreement entered into between the Secretary and a partner.

''(3) REGIONAL WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITY.—The term 'regional water conservation activity' means a water conservation activity carried out on a regional or other appropriate level, as determined by the Secretary, to benefit agricultural land.

''(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—In carrying out the program under this chapter, the Secretary shall promote ground and surface water conservation—

''(1) by providing cost-share assistance and incentive payments to producers to carry out water conservation activities with respect to the agricultural operations of producers; and

''(2) by working cooperatively with partners, in accordance with subsection (d), on a regional level to benefit working agricultural land.

''(d) PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into partnership agreements to meet the objectives of the program under this chapter.

''(2) APPLICATIONS.—An application to the Secretary to enter into an agreement under paragraph (1) shall include—

''(A) a description of—

''(i) the geographical area;

''(ii) the current conditions;

''(iii) the water conservation objectives to be achieved; and

''(iv) the expected level of participation by producers;

''(B) a description of the partners collaborating to achieve the project objectives and the roles, responsibilities, and capabilities of each partner;

''(C) a description of—

''(i) the program resources requested from the Secretary; and

''(ii) the non-Federal resources that will be leveraged by the Federal contribution; and

''(D) other such elements as the Secretary considers necessary to adequately evaluate and competitively select applications for award.

''(e) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—

''(1) WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES BY PRODUCERS.—The Secretary shall select water conservation projects proposed by producers according to applicable requirements under the environmental quality incentives program established under this chapter.

''(2) REGIONAL WATER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) COMPETITIVE PROCESS.—The Secretary shall conduct a competitive process to select the regional water conservation activities for funding under this section.

''(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—In carrying out the process, the Secretary shall make public the criteria used in evaluating applications.

''(C) PRIORITY.—The Secretary may give a higher priority to proposals from partners that—

''(i) include high percentages of agricultural land and producers in a region or other appropriate area;

''(ii) result in high levels of on-the-ground water conservation activities;

''(iii) significantly enhance agricultural activity and related economic development;

''(iv) allow for monitoring and evaluation; and

''(v) assist producers in meeting Federal, State and local regulatory requirements.

''(D) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that resources made available for regional water conservation activities under this section are delivered in accordance with applicable program rules.

''(f) EASTERN SNAKE PLAIN AQUIFER PILOT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of amounts made available under subsection (h), the Secretary shall reserve $2,000,000, to remain available until expended, for regional water conservation activities in the Eastern Snake Aquifer Region.

''(2) APPROVAL.—The Secretary may approve regional water conservation activities under this subsection that address, in whole or in part, water quality issues.

''(g) CONSISTENCY WITH STATE LAW.—Any water conservation activity conducted under this section shall be consistent with applicable State water law.

''(h) FUNDING.—

''(1) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, in addition to amounts made available under section 1241(a) to carry out this chapter, the Secretary shall use $60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(2) LIMITATION.—None of the funds made available for regional water conservation activities under this section may be used to pay for the administrative expenses of partners.''.

SEC. 2360. ORGANIC CONVERSION.

The Food Security Act of 1985 is amended by inserting after section 1240I (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–9) the following:

''SEC. 1240J. ORGANIC CONVERSION.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM.—The term 'national organic program' means the national organic program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et. seq.).

''(2) ORGANIC SYSTEM PLAN.—The term 'organic system plan' means an organic plan approved under the national organic program.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Under the environmental quality incentives program established under this chapter, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall establish a program under which the Secretary shall provide cost-share and incentive payments to producers to promote conservation practices and activities for production systems undergoing conversion on some or all of the operations of the producer to organic production in accordance with the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.).

''(c) ORGANIC CONVERSION COST-SHARE AND INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide organic conversion cost-share and incentive payments to producers that—

''(1) are converting to organic production systems, including producers with existing certified organic production for conversion to organic production of land and livestock not previously certified organic; and

''(2) enter into contracts with the Secretary for eligible practices and activities described in subsection (d).

''(d) ELIGIBLE PRACTICES AND ACTIVITIES.—Producers may use funds made available under subsection (c) for—

''(1) practices and activities during conversion to certified organic production that—

''(A) are required by, or consistent with, an approved organic system plan; and

''(B) protect resources of concern, as identified by the Secretary;

''(2) technical services, including the costs of developing an approved organic system plan; and

''(3) such other measures as the Secretary determines to be appropriate and consistent with an approved organic system plan.

''(e) ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS.—To be eligible to receive cost-share and incentive payments under this section, a producer shall agree—

''(1) to develop and carry out conservation and environmental activities that—

''(A) are required by, or consistent with, an approved organic system plan; and

''(B) protect resources of concern, as identified by the Secretary;

''(2) to receive technical and educational assistance from the Secretary or from an organization, institute, or consultant with a cooperative agreement with the Secretary relating to—

''(A) the development of an organic system plan and the implementation of conservation practices and activities that are part of an organic system plan; or

''(B) other aspects of an organic system plan, including marketing, credit, business, and risk management plans; and

''(3) to submit annual verification by a certifying entity accredited by the Secretary to determine the compliance of the producer with organic certification requirements.

''(f) TERM.—A contract under this section shall have a term of—

''(1) not less than 3 years; and

''(2) not more than 4 years.

''(g) LIMITATIONS ON PAYMENTS.—As part of the payment limitation described in section 1240G, an individual or entity may not receive, directly or indirectly, cost-share or incentive payments under this section—

''(1) for a period of more than 4 years; or

''(2) that, in the aggregate and exclusive of technical assistance, exceed—

''(A) $20,000 per year; or

''(B) a total amount of $80,000.

''(h) TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS.—The Secretary may cancel or otherwise nullify a contract entered into under this section if the Secretary determines the producers are not pursuing organic certification.''.

SEC. 2361. CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

The Food Security Act of 1985 is amended by inserting after section 1240J (as added by section 2360) the following:

''SEC. 1240K. CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITION OF CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED.—In this section, the term 'Chesapeake Bay watershed' includes all tributaries, backwaters, and side channels (including watersheds) draining into the Chesapeake Bay.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall use the authorities granted under the environmental quality incentives program established under this chapter to address natural resource concerns relating to agricultural and nonindustrial private forest land in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

''(c) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use $165,000,000 to carry out this section for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

CHAPTER 3—FARMLAND PROTECTION

Subchapter A—Farmland Protection Program

SEC. 2371. FARMLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1238H of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838h) is amended—

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

''(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means—

''(A) any agency of any State or local government or an Indian tribe (including a farmland protection board or land resource council established under State law); or

''(B) any organization that—

''(i) is organized for, and at all times since the formation of the organization has been operated principally for, 1 or more of the conservation purposes specified in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 170(h)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

''(ii) is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of that Code that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code; and

''(iii) is—

''(I) described in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 509(a) of that Code; or

''(II) described in section 509(a)(3), and is controlled by an organization described in section 509(a)(2), of that Code.''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking clauses (i) and (ii) and inserting the following:

''(i) has prime, unique, or other productive soil;

''(ii) contains historical or archaeological resources; or

''(iii) furthers a State or local policy consistent with the purposes of the program.''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (iv), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) by striking clause (v) and inserting the following:

''(v) forest land that—

''(I) contributes to the economic viability of an agricultural operation; or

''(II) serves as a buffer to protect an agricultural operation from development; and

''(vi) land that is incidental to land described in clauses (i) through (v), if the incidental land is determined by the Secretary to be necessary for the efficient administration of a conservation easement.''.

(b) FARMLAND PROTECTION.—Section 1238I of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838i) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''purchase conservation easements'' and all the follows through the end of the subsection and inserting ''enter into cooperative agreements with eligible entities for the eligible entities to purchase permanent conservation easements or other interests in eligible land for the purpose of protecting the agricultural use and related conservation values of the land by limiting incompatible nonagricultural uses of the land.'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish the terms and conditions of any cooperative agreement entered into under this subchapter under which the eligible entity shall use funds provided by the Secretary.

''(2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—A cooperative agreement shall, at a minimum—

''(A) specify the qualifications of the eligible entity to carry out the responsibilities of the eligible entity under the program, including acquisition and management policies and procedures that ensure the long-term integrity of the conservation easement protections;

''(B) subject to subparagraph (C), identify a specific project or a range of projects funded under the agreement;

''(C) allow, upon mutual agreement of the parties, substitution of qualified projects that are identified at the time of substitution;

''(D) specify the manner in which the eligible entity will evaluate and report the use of funds to the Secretary;

''(E) allow the eligible entity flexibility to use the terms and conditions of the eligible entity for conservation easements and other purchases of interests in land, except that—

''(i) subject to clause (ii), each easement shall include a limitation on the total quantity of impervious surface of not more than—

''(I) 20 percent of the first 10 acres;

''(II) 5 percent of the next 90 acres; and

''(III) 1 percent of any additional acres; and

''(ii) the Secretary may waive a limitation under clause (i) after a determination by the Secretary that the eligible entity has in place a requirement that provides substantially-similar protection consistent with agricultural activities regarding the impervious surfaces to be allowed for any conservation easement or other interest in land purchases using funds provided under the program;

''(F) require appraisals of acquired interests in eligible land that comply with, at the option of the eligible entity—

''(i) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice; or

''(ii) other industry-approved standard, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(G) allow as part of the share of the eligible entity of the cost to purchase a conservation easement or other interest in eligible land described in subsection (a), that an eligible entity may include a charitable donation or qualified conservation contribution (as defined by section 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), from the private landowner from which the conservation easement will be purchased.

''(c) COST SHARING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the Secretary may provide a share of the purchase price of a conservation easement or other interest in land acquired by an eligible entity under the program.

''(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF FAIR MARKET VALUE.—The Secretary shall not pay more than 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the acquisition under this subsection.

''(3) MINIMUM SHARE BY ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The eligible entity shall be required to provide a share of the cost under this subsection in an amount that is not less than the lesser of—

''(A) ½ of the purchase price of the acquisition;

''(B) if the landowner has made a donation of 25 percent or less of the appraised fair market value of the acquisition, an amount that, when combined with the donation, equals the amount of the payment by the Secretary; or

''(C) if the landowner has made a donation of more than 25 percent of the appraised fair market value of the acquisition, ⅓ of the purchase price of the acquisition.

''(d) PROTECTION OF FEDERAL INVESTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the terms of an easement acquired by the eligible entity provides protection for the Federal investment through an executory limitation by the Federal Government.

''(2) RELATIONSHIP TO FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.—The inclusion of a Federal executory limitation described in paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) not be considered the Federal acquisition of real property; and

''(B) not trigger any Federal appraisal or other real property requirements, including the Federal standards and procedures for land acquisition.''; and

(4) in subsection (f) (as redesignated by paragraph (2)), by striking ''COST SHARING.—'' and all that follows through ''BIDDING DOWN.—'' and inserting ''BIDDING DOWN.—''.

Subchapter B—Grassland Reserve Program

SEC. 2381. GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM.

Subchapter C of chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838n et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

''Subchapter C—Grassland Reserve Program

''SEC. 1238N. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subchapter:

''(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means—

''(A) any agency of any State or local government or an Indian tribe (including a farmland protection board or land resource council established under State law); or

''(B) any organization that—

''(i) is organized for, and at all times since the formation of the organization has been operated principally for, 1 or more of the conservation purposes specified in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 170(h)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

''(ii) is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of that Code that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code; and

''(iii) is—

''(I) described in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 509(a) of that Code; or

''(II) described in section 509(a)(3), and is controlled by an organization described in section 509(a)(2), of that Code.

''(2) ELIGIBLE LAND.—The term 'eligible land' means private land that—

''(A) is grassland, rangeland, land that contains forbs, or shrub land (including improved rangeland and pastureland) for which grazing is the predominant use;

''(B) is located in an area that has been historically dominated by grassland, forbs, or shrub land, and the land potentially could provide habitat for animal or plant populations of significant ecological value if the land—

''(i) is retained in the current use of the land;

''(ii) is restored to a natural condition;

''(iii) contains historical or archeological resources;

''(iv) would further the goals and objectives of State, regional, and national fish, and wildlife conservation plans and initiatives; or

''(v) is incidental to land described in clauses (i) through (iv), if the incidental land is determined by the Secretary to be necessary for the efficient administration of an agreement or conservation easement.

''(3) PERMANENT CONSERVATION EASEMENT.—The term 'permanent conservation easement' means a conservation easement that is—

''(A) a permanent easement; or

''(B) in a State that imposes a maximum duration for easements, an easement for the maximum duration allowed under State law.

''SEC. 1238O. GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a grassland reserve program through which the Secretary shall provide payments and technical assistance to landowners to assist in restoring and conserving eligible land described in section 1238N(2).

''(b) ENROLLMENT OF LAND.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enroll eligible land in the program through—

''(A) an easement or contract described in paragraph (2); or

''(B) a cooperative agreement with an eligible entity.

''(2) OPTIONS.—Eligible land enrolled in the program shall be subject to—

''(A) a 30-year contract;

''(B) a 30-year conservation easement; or

''(C) a permanent conservation easement.

''(3) ENROLLMENT OF CONSERVATION RESERVE ACREAGE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Eligible land enrolled in the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 may be enrolled into permanent conservation easements under this subchapter if—

''(i) the Secretary determines that the eligible land—

''(I) is of high ecological value; and

''(II) would be under significant threat of conversion to other uses if the conservation reserve program contract were terminated; and

''(ii) the landowner agrees to the enrollment.

''(B) MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT.—The number of acres of conservation reserve program land enrolled under this paragraph in a calendar year shall not exceed the number of acres that could be funded by 10 percent of the total amount of funds available for this section for a fiscal year.

''(C) PROHIBITION ON DUPLICATE PAYMENTS.—Eligible land enrolled in the program shall no longer be eligible for payments under the conservation reserve program.

''(c) RESTORATION AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into a restoration agreement with a landowner, as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

''(d) CONSERVATION EASEMENT TITLE.—The title holder of a conservation easement obtained under this subchapter may be—

''(1) the Secretary; or

''(2) an eligible entity.

''SEC. 1238P. DUTIES.

''(a) DUTIES OF LANDOWNERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To become eligible to enroll eligible land through the grant of a conservation easement, the landowner shall—

''(A) create and record an appropriate deed restriction in accordance with applicable State law;

''(B) provide proof of clear title to the underlying fee interest in the eligible land that is subject of the conservation easement;

''(C) provide a written statement of consent to the easement signed by persons holding a security interest or any vested interest in the land;

''(D) grant the conservation easement to the Secretary or an eligible entity; and

''(E) comply with the terms of the conservation easement and any associated restoration agreement.

''(2) RESTORATION AGREEMENT.—If a restoration agreement is required by the Secretary, the landowner shall develop and implement a restoration plan.

''(b) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—

''(1) EVALUATION OF OFFERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish criteria to evaluate and rank applications for easements and contracts under this subchapter.

''(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing the criteria, the Secretary shall emphasize support for—

''(i) grazing operations;

''(ii) plant and animal biodiversity;

''(iii) grassland, land that contains forbs, and shrubland under the greatest threat of conversion; and

''(iv) other considerations, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) PRIORITY.—In evaluating offers under this subchapter, the Secretary may give priority to applications that—

''(i) include a cash contribution from the eligible entity submitting the application; or

''(ii) leverage resources from other sources.

''(2) COMPENSATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—

''(i) EASEMENTS AND CONTRACTS.—In return for the granting of an easement, the Secretary shall provide to the landowner an amount that is equal to—

''(I) in the case of a permanent easement, the fair market value of the land less the grazing value of the land encumbered by the easement; and

''(II) in the case of a 30-year easement or 30-year contract, 30 percent of the fair market value of the land less the grazing value of the land for the period during which the land is encumbered by the easement.

''(ii) RESTORATION AGREEMENTS.—In making cost-share payments for restoration agreements, the Secretary shall make payments to the landowner—

''(I) in the case of a permanent easement, in an amount that is not less than 90, but not more than 100, percent of the eligible costs; and

''(II) in the case of a 30-year easement or 30-year contract, in an amount that is not less than 50, but not more than 75, percent of the eligible costs.

''(B) DELIVERY OF PAYMENTS.—

''(i) PAYMENT SCHEDULE.—Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, payments may be provided pursuant to an easement, contract, or other agreement, in not more than 30 annual payments, and in an equal or unequal amounts, as agreed to by the Secretary and the landowner.

''(ii) PAYMENTS TO OTHERS.—If an owner that is entitled to a payment under this subchapter dies, becomes incompetent, is otherwise unable to receive the payment, or is succeeded by another person who renders or completes the required performance, the Secretary shall make the payment, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary and without regard to any other provision of law, in such manner as the Secretary determines is fair and reasonable after considering all the circumstances.

''(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—If a restoration agreement is required by the Secretary, the Secretary shall provide technical assistance to comply with the terms and conditions of the restoration agreement.

''SEC. 1238Q. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

''(a) TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EASEMENT OR CONTRACTS.—An easement or contract under this subchapter shall—

''(1) permit—

''(A) common grazing practices, including maintenance and necessary cultural practices, on the land in a manner that is consistent with maintaining the viability of grassland, forb, and shrub species appropriate to that locality;

''(B) haying, mowing, or harvesting for seed production, subject to appropriate restrictions during the nesting season for birds in the local area that are in significant decline or are conserved in accordance with Federal or State law, as determined by the State Conservationist; and

''(C) fire presuppression, rehabilitation, and construction of fire breaks and fences (including placement of the posts necessary for fences);

''(2) prohibit—

''(A) the production of crops (other than hay), fruit trees, vineyards, or any other agricultural commodity that is inconsistent with maintaining grazing land; and

''(B) except as permitted under a restoration plan, the conduct of any other activity that would be inconsistent with maintaining grazing land covered by the easement or agreement; and

''(3) include such additional provisions as the Secretary determines are appropriate to carry out or facilitate the administration of this subchapter.

''(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish the terms and conditions of any cooperative agreement entered into under this subchapter under which the eligible entity shall use funds provided by the Secretary.

''(2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—A cooperative agreement shall, at a minimum—

''(A) specify the qualification of the eligible entity to carry out the responsibilities of the eligible entity under the program, including acquisition, monitoring, enforcement, and management policies and procedures that ensure the long-term integrity of the conservation easement protections;

''(B) subject to subparagraph (C), identify a specific project or a range of projects funded under the agreement;

''(C) allow, upon mutual agreement of the parties, substitution of qualified projects that are identified at the time of substitution;

''(D) specify the manner in which the eligible entity will evaluate and report the use of funds to the Secretary;

''(E) allow the eligible entity flexibility to develop and use terms and conditions for conservation easements and other purchases of interest in eligible land, if the Secretary finds the terms and conditions consistent with the purposes of the program and adequate to achieve and permit effective enforcement of the conservation purposes of the conservation easements or other interests;

''(F) require appraisals of acquired interests in eligible land that comply with a method approved by industry;

''(G) if applicable, allow as part of the share of the eligible entity of the cost to purchase a conservation easement or other interest in eligible land described in section 1238O(b), that an eligible entity may include a charitable donation or qualified conservation contribution (as defined by section 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), from the private landowner for which the conservation easement will be purchased; and

''(H) provide for a schedule of payments to an eligible entity, as agreed to by the Secretary and the eligible entity, over a term of not to exceed 30 years.

''(3) PROTECTION OF FEDERAL INVESTMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the terms of an easement acquired by the eligible entity provides protection for the Federal investment through an executory limitation by the Federal government.

''(B) RELATIONSHIP TO FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.—The inclusion of an executory limitation described in subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) not be considered the Federal acquisition of real property; and

''(ii) not trigger any Federal appraisal or other real property requirements, including the Federal standards and procedures for land acquisition.

''(C) TERMS OF RESTORATION AGREEMENT.—A restoration agreement shall contain—

''(i) a statement of the conservation measures and practices that will be undertaken in regard to the eligible land subject to the conservation easement;

''(ii) restrictions on the use of the eligible land subject to the conservation easement; and

''(iii) a statement of the respective duties of the Secretary, landowner, and eligible entity, as appropriate.

''(c) VIOLATION.—If a violation occurs of the terms or conditions of a conservation easement, contract, cooperative agreement or restoration agreement entered into under this section—

''(1) the conservation easement, contract, cooperative agreement, or restoration agreement shall remain in force; and

''(2) the Secretary may require the owner or entity to refund all or part of any payments received by the owner under this subchapter, with interest on the payments as determined appropriate by the Secretary.''.

CHAPTER 4—OTHER CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

SEC. 2391. CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM.

Subchapter A of chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 is amended by adding after section 1238C (16 U.S.C. 3838c) the following:

''SEC. 1238D. PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—This subchapter, and the terms and conditions of the conservation security program, shall continue to apply to conservation security contracts entered into as of the date before the date of enactment of this section.

''(b) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall make payments under this subchapter with respect to conservation security contracts described in subsection (a) during the term of the contracts.

''(c) PROHIBITION ON NEW CONTRACTS.—A conservation security contract may not be entered into or renewed under this subchapter as of the date of enactment of this section.

''(d) LIMITATION.—A contract described in subsection (a) may not be administered under the regulations issued under section 1240Y.''.

SEC. 2392. CONSERVATION OF PRIVATE GRAZING LAND.

Section 1240M(e) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb(e)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 2393. REAUTHORIZATION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

Section 1240N of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking ''COST-SHARE'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and incentive'' after ''cost-share''; and

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking ''15 percent'' and inserting ''25 percent''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PLANS AND INITIATIVES.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that would further the goals and objectives of State, regional, and national fish and wildlife conservation plans and initiatives.

''(e) DURATION OF PROGRAM.—Using funds made available under section 1241(a)(7), the Secretary shall carry out the program during each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 2394. GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM.

Section 1240O of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–2) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 2395. GREAT LAKES BASIN PROGRAM FOR SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL.

Section 1240P(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–3(c)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 2396. FARM VIABILITY PROGRAM.

Section 1238J(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838j(b)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 2397. DISCOVERY WATERSHED DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Chapter 5 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1240Q. DISCOVERY WATERSHED DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a demonstration program in not less than 30 small watersheds in

States of the Upper Mississippi River basin to identify and promote the most cost-effective and efficient approaches to reducing the loss of nutrients to surface waters.

''(b) PURPOSE.—The demonstration program shall demonstrate in small watersheds performance-based and market-based approaches—

''(1) to reduce the loss of nutrients to surface waters from agricultural land; and

''(2) to monitor the cost-effectiveness of management practices designed to reduce the loss of nutrients to surface waters from agricultural land.

''(c) PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may establish or identify, as appropriate, partnerships to select the watersheds and to encourage cooperative effort among the Secretary and State, local, and nongovernmental organizations.

''(d) SELECTION OF SMALL WATERSHEDS.—In selecting small watersheds for participation in the program, the Secretary shall consider the extent to which—

''(1) reducing nutrient losses to surface water in the small watershed would be likely to result in measurable improvements in water quality in the small watershed;

''(2) a demonstration project would use innovative approaches to attract a high level of producer participation in the small watershed to ensure success;

''(3) a demonstration project could be implemented through a third party, including a producer organization, farmer cooperative, conservation district, water utility, agency of State or local government, conservation organization, or other organization with appropriate expertise;

''(4) a demonstration project would leverage funding from State, local, and private sources;

''(5) a demonstration project would demonstrate market-based approaches to nutrient losses to surface waters;

''(6) baseline data related to water quality and agricultural practices and contributions from nonagricultural sources as relevant in the small watershed has been collected or could be readily collected; and

''(7) water quality monitoring infrastructure is in place or could reasonably be put in place in the small watershed.

''(e) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Funding provided for the program under subsection(f) shall be used in not less than 30 small watersheds—

''(A) to provide technical assistance;

''(B) to provide and assess financial incentives to agricultural producers implementing conservation practices that reduce nutrient losses to surface waters;

''(C) to monitor the performance and costs of alternative nutrient management techniques, including soil tests, stalk tests, cover crops, soil amendments, buffers, and tillage practices; and

''(D) to share the cost of data collection, monitoring, and analysis.

''(2) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds made available to carry out the program for each fiscal year may be used for administrative expenses.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.''.

SEC. 2398. EMERGENCY LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of subtitle D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb et seq.) (as amended by section 2386) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1240R. EMERGENCY LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—In this section, the term 'eligible recipient' means—

''(1) an organization that is eligible for technical assistance and cost-share payments under this section and assists working agricultural land and nonindustrial private forest land, including—

''(A) a community-based association; and

''(B) a city, county, or regional government, including a watershed council and a conservation district; and

''(2) an individual who is eligible for technical assistance and cost-share payments under this section, including—

''(A) a producer;

''(B) a rancher;

''(C) an operator;

''(D) a nonindustrial private forest landowner; and

''(E) a landlord on working agricultural land.

''(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the emergency landscape restoration program is to rehabilitate watersheds, nonindustrial private forest land, and working agricultural land adversely affected by natural catastrophic events, by—

''(1) providing a source of assistance for restoration of the land back to a productive state;

''(2) preventing further impairment of land and water, including prevention through the purchase of floodplain easements; and

''(3) providing further protection of natural resources.

''(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting through the Natural Resources Conservation Service, shall carry out an emergency landscape restoration program under which technical assistance and cost-share payments are made available to eligible recipients to carry out remedial activities to restore landscapes damaged by—

''(1) fire;

''(2) drought;

''(3) flood;

''(4) hurricane force or excessive winds;

''(5) ice storms or blizzards; or

''(6) other resource-impacting natural events, as determined by the Secretary.

''(d) PRIORITIZATION.—The Secretary shall provide the highest priority for those activities that protect human health and safety.

''(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COST-SHARE PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance and cost-share payments in amounts of up to 75 percent of the cost of remedial activities described in paragraph (2) to rehabilitate watersheds, nonindustrial private forest land, and working agricultural land.

''(2) REMEDIAL ACTIVITIES.—Remedial activities that are eligible for technical assistance and cost-share payments under this section include—

''(A) removal of debris from streams, agricultural land, and nonindustrial forest land, including—

''(i) the restoration of natural hydrology; and

''(ii) the removal of barriers for aquatic species;;

''(B) restoration of destabilized streambanks;

''(C) establishment of cover on critically eroding land;

''(D) restoration of fences;

''(E) construction of conservation structures;

''(F) provision of water for livestock in drought situations;

''(G) rehabilitation of farm or ranch land;

''(H) restoration of damaged nonindustrial private forest land, including—

''(i) the removal of damaged standing trees and downed timber; and

''(ii) site preparation, tree planting, direct seeding, and firebreaks;

''(I) the carrying out of emergency water conservation measures;

''(J) restoration of wildlife habitat and corridors;

''(K) livestock carcass removal and disposal; and

''(L) such other remedial activities as are determined by the Secretary.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

''(g) TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATION OF EMERGENCY LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on the date of enactment of this section and ending on the termination date described in paragraph (2), to ensure that technical assistance, cost-share payments, and other payments continue to be administered in an orderly manner until the date on which final regulations are promulgated to implement the emergency landscape restoration program, the Secretary shall, to the extent the terms and conditions of the programs described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) are consistent with the emergency landscape restoration program, continue to—

''(A) provide technical assistance, cost-share payments, and other payments under the terms and conditions of—

''(i) the emergency conservation program established under title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.); and

''(ii) the emergency watershed protection program established under section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2203); and

''(B) use for those purposes—

''(i) any funds made available under those programs; and

''(ii) as the Secretary determines to be necessary, any funds made available to carry out the emergency landscape restoration program.

''(2) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Secretary to carry out paragraph (1) shall terminate on the effective date of final regulations to implement the emergency landscape restoration program.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Effective on the effective date of final regulations to implement the emergency landscape restoration program under section 1240R of the Food Security Act of 1985 (as added by subsection (a)), title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is repealed.

(2) Section 1211(a)(3)(C) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811(a)(3)(C)) is amended by inserting ''section 1240R or'' after ''a payment under''.

(3) Section 1221(b)(3)(C) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3821(b)(3)(C)) is amended by inserting ''section 1240R or'' after ''A payment under''.

SEC. 2399. VOLUNTARY PUBLIC ACCESS AND HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

Chapter 5 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb et seq.) (as amended by section 2387(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1240S. VOLUNTARY PUBLIC ACCESS AND HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a voluntary public access program under which States and tribal governments may apply for grants to encourage owners and operators of privately-held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make that land available for access by the public for wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting or fishing under programs administered by the States and tribal governments.

''(b) APPLICATIONS.—In submitting applications for a grant under the program, a State or tribal government shall describe—

''(1) the benefits that the State or tribal government intends to achieve by encouraging public access to private farm and ranch land for—

''(A) hunting and fishing; and

''(B) to the maximum extent practicable, other recreational purposes; and

''(2) the methods that will be used to achieve those benefits.

''(c) PRIORITY.—In approving applications and awarding grants under the program, the Secretary shall give priority to States and tribal governments that propose—

''(1) to maximize participation by offering a program the terms of which are likely to meet with widespread acceptance among landowners;

''(2) to ensure that land enrolled under the State or tribal government program has appropriate wildlife habitat;

''(3) to strengthen wildlife habitat improvement efforts on land enrolled in a special conservation reserve enhancement program described in section 1234(f)(3) by providing incentives to increase public hunting and other recreational access on that land;

''(4) to use additional Federal, State, tribal government, or private resources in carrying out the program; and

''(5) to make available to the public the location of land enrolled.

''(d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this section preempts a State or tribal government law (including any State or tribal government liability law).

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section.''.

Subtitle E—Funding and Administration

SEC. 2401. FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION.

Section 1241(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''; and

(2) by striking paragraphs (3) through (7) and inserting the following:

''(3) The conservation security program under subchapter A of chapter 2, using $2,317,000,000 to administer contracts entered into as of the day before the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, to remain available until expended.

''(4) The conservation stewardship program under subchapter B of chapter 6.

''(5) The farmland protection program under subchapter B of chapter 2, using, to the maximum extent practicable, $97,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(6) The grassland reserve program under subchapter C of chapter 2, using, to the maximum extent practicable, $240,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(7) The environmental quality incentives program under chapter 4, using, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(A) $1,270,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009; and

''(B) $1,300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012.

''(8) The wildlife habitat incentives program under section 1240N, using, to the maximum extent practicable, $85,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(9) The voluntary public access program under section 1240S, using, to the maximum extent practicable, $20,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 2402. REGIONAL EQUITY.

Section 1241 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) REGIONAL EQUITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Before April 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall give priority for funding under the conservation programs under subtitle D and the agricultural management assistance program under section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) (excluding the conservation reserve program under subchapter B of chapter 1 and the wetlands reserve program under subchapter C of chapter 1) to approved applications in any State that has not received, for the fiscal year, an aggregate amount of at least $15,000,000 for those conservation programs.

''(e) SPECIFIC FUNDING ALLOCATIONS.—In determining the specific funding allocations for each State under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider the respective demand for each program in each State.

''(f) ALLOCATIONS REVIEW AND UPDATE.—

''(1) REVIEW.—Not later than January 1, 2012, the Secretary shall conduct a review of conservation program allocation formulas to determine the sufficiency of the formulas in accounting for State-level economic factors, level of agricultural infrastructure, or related factors that affect conservation program costs.

''(2) UPDATE.—The Secretary shall improve conservation program allocation formulas as necessary to ensure that the formulas adequately reflect the costs of carrying out the conservation programs.''.

SEC. 2403. CONSERVATION ACCESS.

Section 1241 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841) (as amended by section 2402) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) CONSERVATION ACCESS.—

''(1) ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE FARMERS OR RANCHERS.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE FARMER OR RANCHER.—In this paragraph, the term 'eligible farmer or rancher' means a farmer or rancher that, as determined by the Secretary—

''(i) derives or expects to derive more than 50 percent of the annual income of the farmer or rancher from agriculture (not including payments under the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D); and

''(ii) is—

''(I) a beginning farmer or rancher (as defined in section 343 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991)), except that in determining whether the farmer or rancher qualifies as a beginning farmer or rancher, the Secretary may—

''(aa) employ a fair and reasonable test of net worth; and

''(bb) use such other criteria as the Secretary determines to be appropriate; or

''(II) a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher (as defined in section 355(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2003(e)).

''(B) ASSISTANCE.—In the case of each program described in subsection (a), except as provided in paragraph (2), for each fiscal year in which funding is made available for the program, 10 percent of the funds available for the fiscal year shall be used by the Secretary to assist eligible farmers or ranchers.

''(2) ACREAGE PROGRAMS.—In the case of the conservation reserve and wetlands reserve programs, 10 percent of the acreage authorized to be enrolled in any fiscal year shall be used to assist eligible farmers or ranchers.

''(3) REPOOLING.—In any fiscal year, amounts not obligated under this subsection by a date determined by the Secretary shall be available for payments and technical assistance to all persons eligible for payments or technical assistance in that fiscal year under the program for which the amounts were originally made available under this title.

''(4) CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS.—Funding under paragraph (1) for conservation innovation grants under section 1240H may, in addition to purposes described in subsection (b) of that section, be used for—

''(A) technology transfer;

''(B) farmer-to-farmer workshops; and

''(C) demonstrations of innovative conservation practices.

''(5) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall offer, to the maximum extent practicable, higher levels of technical assistance to beginning farmers or ranchers and socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers than are otherwise made available to producers participating in programs under this title.

''(6) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may develop and implement cooperative agreements with entities (including government agencies, extension entities, nongovernmental and community-based organizations, and educational institutions) with expertise in addressing the needs of beginning farmers or ranchers and socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers to provide technical assistance, comprehensive conservation planning education, and sustainable agriculture training.''.

SEC. 2404. DELIVERY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 1242 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3842) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 1242. DELIVERY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

''(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT.—In this section, the term 'eligible participant' means—

''(1) an agricultural producer;

''(2) an eligible entity;

''(3) an eligible landowner; and

''(4) an interested organization.

''(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of technical assistance authorized by this title is to provide eligible participants with consistent, science-based, site-specific practices designed to achieve conservation objectives on land active in agricultural, forestry, or related uses.

''(c) PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance under this title to an eligible participant—

''(1) directly;

''(2) through a contract or agreement with a third-party provider; or

''(3) at the option of the eligible participant, through a payment, as determined by the Secretary, to the eligible participant for an approved third-party provider, if available.

''(d) CERTIFICATION OF THIRD-PARTY PROVIDERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall continue to carry out the technical service provider program established under regulations promulgated under subsection (b)(1) (as in existence on the day before the date of enactment of this subsection).

''(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the technical service provider program shall be to increase the availability and range of technical expertise available to farmers, ranchers, and eligible landowners to plan and implement conservation measures.

''(3) EXPERTISE.—In promulgating regulations to carry out this subsection, the Secretary shall—

''(A) ensure that persons with expertise in the technical aspects of conservation planning, watershed planning, and environmental engineering (including commercial entities, nonprofit entities, State or local governments or agencies, and other Federal agencies) are eligible to become approved providers of the technical assistance; and

''(B) to the maximum extent practicable—

''(i) provide national criteria for the certification of technical service providers; and

''(ii) approve any unique certification standards established at the State level.

''(4) SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) FUNDING.—Effective for fiscal year 2008 and each subsequent fiscal year, funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation that are made available to carry out each of the programs specified in section 1241 shall be available for the provision of technical assistance from third-party providers under this section.

''(B) CONTRACT TERM.—A contract under this section shall have a term that—

''(i) at a minimum, is equal to the period—

''(I) beginning on the date on which the contract is entered into; and

''(II) ending on the date that is 1 year after the date on which all activities in the contract have been completed;

''(ii) does not exceed 3 years; and

''(iii) can be renewed, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) REVIEW OF CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall—

''(i) review certification requirements for third-party providers; and

''(ii) make any adjustments considered necessary by the Secretary to improve participation.

''(D) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary may include in activities eligible for payment to a third-party provider—

''(i) education and outreach to eligible participants; and

''(ii) administrative services necessary to support conservation program implementation.

''(e) AVAILABILITY OF TECHNICAL SERVICES.—

''(1) AVAILABILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the programs under this title and the agricultural management assistance program under section 524 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524), the Secretary shall make technical services available to all eligible participants who are installing an eligible practice.

''(B) TECHNICAL SERVICE CONTRACTS.—In any case in which financial assistance is not requested or is not provided under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may enter into a technical service contract with the applicable eligible participant for the purposes of assisting in the planning, design, or installation of an eligible practice.

''(2) REVIEW OF CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(i) review conservation practice standards, including engineering design specifications, in effect on the date of enactment of this subsection;

''(ii) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, the completeness and relevance of the standards to local agricultural, forestry, and natural resource needs, including specialty crops, native and managed pollinators, bioenergy crop production, forestry, and such other needs as are determined by the Secretary; and

''(iii) ensure that the standards provide for the optimal balance between meeting site-specific conservation needs and minimizing risks of design failure and associated costs of construction and installation.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the assessment under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consult with agricultural producers, crop consultants, cooperative extension and land grant universities, nongovernmental organizations, and other qualified entities.

''(C) EXPEDITED REVISION OF STANDARDS.—If the Secretary determines under subparagraph (A) that revisions to the conservation practice standards, including engineering design specifications, are necessary, the Secretary shall establish an administrative process for expediting the revisions.

''(3) ADDRESSING CONCERNS OF SPECIALITY CROP, ORGANIC, AND PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRODUCERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(i) to the maximum extent practicable, fully incorporate specialty crop production, organic crop production, and precision agriculture into the conservation practice standards; and

''(ii) provide for the appropriate range of conservation practices and resource mitigation measures available to specialty crop, organic, and precision agriculture producers.

''(B) AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that adequate technical assistance is available for the implementation of conservation practices by specialty crop, organic, and precision agriculture producers through Federal conservation programs.

''(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out clause (i), the Secretary shall develop—

''(I) programs that meet specific needs of specialty crop, organic, and precision agriculture producers through cooperative agreements with other agencies and nongovernmental organizations; and

''(II) program specifications that allow for innovative approaches to engage local resources in providing technical assistance for planning and implementation of conservation practices.''.

SEC. 2405. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.

(a) STREAMLINED APPLICATION PROCESS.—Section 1244 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3844) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) STREAMLINED APPLICATION PROCESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out each conservation program under this title, the Secretary shall ensure that the application process used by producers and landowners is streamlined to minimize complexity and eliminate redundancy.

''(2) REVIEW AND STREAMLINING.—

''(A) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall carry out a review of the application forms and processes for each conservation program covered by this subsection.

''(B) STREAMLINING.—On completion of the review the Secretary shall revise application forms and processes, as necessary, to ensure that—

''(i) all required application information is essential for the efficient, effective, and accountable implementation of conservation programs;

''(ii) conservation program applicants are not required to provide information that is readily available to the Secretary through existing information systems of the Department of Agriculture;

''(iii) information provided by the applicant is managed and delivered efficiently for use in all stages of the application process, or for multiple applications; and

''(iv) information technology is used effectively to minimize data and information input requirements.

''(3) IMPLEMENTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a written notification of completion of the requirements of this subsection.''.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—Section 1244 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3844) (as amended by subsection (a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) COOPERATION REGARDING PROTECTION.—In the case of a landowner who enrolls land in a conservation program authorized under this title that results in a net conservation benefit for a listed, candidate, or other species, the Secretary shall cooperate at the request of the landowner with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, as appropriate, to make available to the landowner safe harbor or similar assurances and protections under sections 7(b)(4) and 10(a), as applicable, of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536(b)(4), 1539(a)).

''(e) ELIGIBILITY OF PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out a conservation program administered by the Secretary, the Secretary shall accept applications from, and shall provide cost-share and incentive payments and other assistance to, producers who elect to apply through an organization that represents producers and of which producers make up a majority of the governing body, if the Secretary determines that—

''(A) the full objective of the proposed activity, practice, or plan cannot be realized without the participation of all or substantially all of the producers in the affected area; and

''(B) the benefits achieved through the proposed activity, practice, or plan are likely to be greater and to be delivered more cost-effectively if provided through a single organization with related conservation expertise and management experience.

''(2) LIMITATION.—Any applicable payment limitation shall apply to each participating producer and not to the organization described in paragraph (1).

''(f) PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out a program under subtitle D, the Secretary may designate special projects, as recommended if appropriate by the State Executive Director of the Conservationist, after consultation with the State technical committee, to enhance assistance provided to multiple producers to address conservation issues relating to agricultural and nonindustrial private forest management and production.

''(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of special projects carried out under this subsection shall be to achieve statewide or regional conservation objectives by—

''(A) encouraging producers to cooperate in the installation and maintenance of conservation practices that affect multiple agricultural operations;

''(B) encouraging producers to cooperate in meeting applicable Federal, State, and local regulatory requirements regarding natural resources and the environment;

''(C) encouraging producers to share information and technical and financial resources;

''(D) facilitating cumulative conservation benefits in geographic areas; and

''(E) promoting the development and demonstration of innovative conservation methods.

''(3) ELIGIBLE PARTNERS.—State and local government entities (including irrigation and water districts and canal companies), Indian tribes, farmer cooperatives, institutions of higher education, nongovernmental organizations, and producer associations shall be eligible to apply under this subsection.

''(4) SPECIAL PROJECT APPLICATION.—To apply for designation under paragraph (1), partners shall submit an application to the Secretary that includes—

''(A) a description of the geographic area, the current conditions, the conservation objectives to be achieved through the special

project, and the expected level of participation by agricultural and nonindustrial private forest landowners;

''(B) a description of the partners collaborating to achieve the project objectives and the roles, responsibilities, and capabilities of the partners;

''(C) a description of the program resources requested from the Secretary, in relevant units, and the non-Federal resources that will be leveraged by the Federal contribution; and

''(D) such other information as the Secretary considers necessary.

''(5) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into multiyear agreements with partners to facilitate the delivery of conservation program resources in a manner to achieve the purposes described in paragraph (2).

''(B) PROJECT SELECTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a competitive process to select projects funded under this subsection.

''(ii) FACTORS CONSIDERED.—In conducting the process described in clause (i), the Secretary shall make public factors to be considered in evaluating applications.

''(iii) PRIORITY.—The Secretary may give priority to applications based on the highest percentage of—

''(I) producers involved;

''(II) on-the-ground conservation to be implemented;

''(III) non-Federal resources to be leveraged; and

''(IV) other factors, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary and partners shall provide appropriate technical and financial assistance to producers participating in a special project in an amount determined by the Secretary to be necessary to achieve the purposes described in paragraph (2).

''(D) FLEXIBILITY.—The Secretary may adjust elements of the programs under this title to better reflect unique local circumstances and purposes, if the Secretary determines that such adjustments are necessary to achieve the purposes of this subsection.

''(E) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that resources made available under this subsection are delivered in accordance with applicable program rules.

''(ii) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may establish additional requirements beyond applicable program rules in order to effectively implement this subsection.

''(6) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO REGIONAL WATER ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS.—

''(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

''(i) ELIGIBLE PARTNER.—The term 'eligible partner' means—

''(I) an eligible partner identified in paragraph (3); and

''(II) a water or wastewater agency of a State.

''(ii) ELIGIBLE PROJECT.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The term 'eligible project' means a project that is specifically targeted to improve water quality or quantity in an area.

''(II) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'eligible project' includes a project that involves—

''(aa) resource condition assessment and modeling;

''(bb) water quality, water quantity, or water conservation plan development;

''(cc) management system and environmental monitoring and evaluation;

''(dd) cost-share restoration or enhancement;

''(ee) incentive payments for land management practices;

''(ff) easement purchases;

''(gg) conservation contracts with landowners;

''(hh) improved irrigation systems;

''(ii) water banking and other forms of water transactions;

''(jj) groundwater recharge;

''(kk) stormwater capture; and

''(ll) other water-related activities that the Secretary determines will help to achieve the water quality or water quantity benefits identified in the agreement in subparagraph (E) on land described in paragraph (1).

''(B) REGIONAL WATER ENHANCEMENT PROCEDURES.—With respect to proposals for eligible projects by eligible partners, the Secretary shall establish specific procedures (to be known collectively as 'regional water enhancement procedures') in accordance with this paragraph.

''(C) MEANS.—Regional water enhancement activities in a particular region shall be carried out through a combination of—

''(i) multiyear agreements between the Secretary and eligible partners;

''(ii) other regional water enhancement activities carried out by the Secretary; and

''(iii) regional water enhancement activities carried out by eligible partners through other means.

''(D) MULTIYEAR AGREEMENTS WITH ELIGIBLE PARTNERS.—

''(i) SOLICITATION OF PROPOSALS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall invite prospective eligible partners to submit proposals for regional water enhancement projects.

''(ii) ELEMENTS OF PROPOSALS.—To be eligible for consideration for participation in the program, a proposal submitted by an eligible partner shall include—

''(I) identification of the exact geographic area for which the partnership is proposed, which may be based on—

''(aa) a watershed (or portion of a watershed);

''(bb) an irrigation, water, or drainage district;

''(cc) the service area of an irrigation water delivery entity; or

''(dd) some other geographic area with characteristics that make the area suitable for landscape-wide program implementation;

''(II) identification of the water quality or water quantity issues that are of concern in the area;

''(III) a method for determining a baseline assessment of water quality, water quantity, and other related resource conditions in the region;

''(IV) a detailed description of the proposed water quality or water quantity improvement activities to be undertaken in the area, including an estimated timeline and program resources for every activity; and

''(V) a description of the performance measures to be used to gauge the effectiveness of the water quality or water quantity improvement activities.

''(iii) SELECTION OF PROPOSALS.—The Secretary shall award multiyear agreements competitively, with priority given, as determined by the Secretary, to selecting proposals that—

''(I) have the highest likelihood of improving the water quality or quantity issues of concern for the area;

''(II) involve multiple stakeholders and will ensure the highest level of participation by producers and landowners in the area through performance incentives to encourage adoption of specific practices in specific locations;

''(III) will result in the inclusion of the highest percentage of working agricultural land in the area;

''(IV) will result in the highest percentage of on-the-ground activities as compared to administrative costs;

''(V) will provide the greatest contribution to sustaining or enhancing agricultural or silvicultural production in the area; and

''(VI) include performance measures that will allow post-activity conditions to be satisfactorily measured to gauge overall effectiveness.

''(iv) DURATION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Multiyear agreements under this subsection shall be for a period not to exceed 5 years.

''(II) EARLY TERMINATION.—The Secretary may terminate a multiyear agreement before the end of the agreement if the Secretary determines that performance measures are not being met.

''(E) AGREEMENTS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary awards an agreement under subparagraph (D), the Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the eligible partner that, at a minimum, contains—

''(i) a description of the respective duties and responsibilities of the Secretary and the eligible partner in carrying out the activities in the area; and

''(ii) the criteria that the Secretary will use to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the regional water enhancement activities funded by the multiyear agreement in improving the water quality or quantity conditions of the region relative to the performance measures in the proposal.

''(F) CONTRACTS WITH OTHER PARTIES.—An agreement awarded under subparagraph (D) may provide for the use of third-party providers (including other eligible partners) to undertake specific regional water enhancement activities in a region on a contractual basis with the Secretary or the eligible partner.

''(G) CONSULTATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—With respect to areas in which a Federal or State agency is, or will be, undertaking other water quality or quantity-related activities, the Secretary and the eligible partner may consult with the Federal or State agency in order to—

''(i) coordinate activities;

''(ii) avoid duplication; and

''(iii) ensure that water quality or quantity improvements attributable to the other activities are taken into account in the evaluation of the Secretary under subparagraph (E)(ii).

''(H) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall ensure that, to the extent that producers and landowners are individually participating in other programs under subtitle D in a region in which a regional water enhancement project is in effect, any improvements to water quality or water quantity attributable to the individual participation are included in the evaluation criteria developed under subparagraph (E)(ii).

''(I) CONSISTENCY WITH STATE LAW.—Any water quality or water quantity improvement activity undertaken under this paragraph shall be consistent with State water laws.

''(7) FUNDING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not more than 5 percent of the funds made available for conservation programs under subtitle D for each fiscal year under section 1241(a) to carry out activities that are authorized under this subsection.

''(B) PARTNERS.—Overhead or administrative costs of partners may not be covered by funds provided through this subsection.

''(C) UNUSED FUNDING.—Any funds made available for a fiscal year under subparagraph (A) that are not obligated by April 1 of the fiscal year may be used to carry out other activities under conservation programs under subtitle D during the fiscal year in which the funding becomes available.

''(g) ACCURACY OF PAYMENTS.—Immediately after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall implement policies and procedures to ensure proper payment of farm program benefits to producers participating in conservation easement programs and correct other management deficiencies identified in Report No. 50099–11–SF issued by the Department of Agriculture Office of Inspector General in August 2007.

''(h) COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE.—For each conservation program under this title, the Secretary shall develop procedures—

''(1) to monitor compliance with program requirements by landowners and eligible entities;

''(2) to measure program performance;

''(3) to demonstrate whether the long-term conservation benefits of the program are being achieved; and

''(4) to coordinate activities described in this subsection with the national conservation program authorized under section 5 of the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (16 U.S.C. 2004).

''(i) DIRECT ATTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS.—In implementing payment limitations for any program under this title, the Secretary shall issue such regulations as are necessary to ensure that the total amount of payments are attributed to an individual by taking into account the direct and indirect ownership interests of the individual in an entity that is eligible to receive the payments.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1234 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(3)(B), by striking ''(f)(4)'' and inserting ''(f)(3)''; and

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''The total'' and inserting ''Subject to section 1244(i), the total''; and

(ii) by striking ''a person'' and inserting ''an individual'';

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively.

SEC. 2406. CONSERVATION PROGRAMS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MARKETS.

Subtitle E of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1245. CONSERVATION PROGRAMS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MARKETS.

''(a) FRAMEWORK.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a framework to facilitate the participation of farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners in emerging environmental services markets.

''(2) PROCESS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall use a collaborative process that includes representatives of—

''(A) farm, ranch, and forestry interests;

''(B) financial institutions involved in environmental services trading;

''(C) institutions of higher education with relevant expertise or experience;

''(D) nongovernmental organizations with relevant expertise or experience;

''(E) government agencies of relevant jurisdiction, including—

''(i) the Department of Commerce;

''(ii) the Department of Energy;

''(iii) the Department of the Interior;

''(iv) the Department of Transportation;

''(v) the Environmental Protection Agency; and

''(vi) the Corps of Engineers; and

''(F) other appropriate interests, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF STANDARD.—In this paragraph, the term 'standard' means a technical guideline that outlines accepted, science-based methods to quantify the environmental services benefits from agricultural and forest conservation and land management practices, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) FRAMEWORK REQUIREMENTS.—In establishing the framework under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

''(i) establish uniform standards;

''(ii) design accounting procedures to quantify environmental services benefits that would assist farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners in using the uniform standards to establish certifications, as defined in emerging environmental services markets;

''(iii) establish—

''(I) a protocol to report environmental services benefits; and

''(II) a registry to report and maintain the benefits for future use in emerging environmental services markets; and

''(iv) establish a process to verify that a farmer, rancher, or forest landowner that reports and maintains an environmental services benefit in the registry described in clause (iii)(II) has implemented the reported conservation or land management activity.

''(C) THIRD-PARTY SERVICE PROVIDERS.—In developing the process described in subparagraph (B)(iv), the Secretary shall consider the role of third-party service providers.

''(4) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate and leverage activities in existence on the date of enactment of this section in agriculture and forestry relating to emerging environmental services markets.

''(5) PRIORITY.—In establishing the framework under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to providing assistance to farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners participating in carbon markets.

''(b) AUTHORITY TO DELEGATE.—The Secretary may delegate any responsibility under this section to a relevant agency or office, as determined by the Secretary.

''(c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) STATUS OF COLLABORATIVE PROCESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate information on the status of the collaborative process under subsection (a)(2).

''(2) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the committees of Congress described in paragraph (1) an interim report that—

''(A) describes the adequacy of existing research and methods to quantify environmental services benefits;

''(B) proposes methods—

''(i) to establish technical guidelines, accounting procedures, and reporting protocols; and

''(ii) to structure the registry; and

''(C) includes recommendations for actions to remove barriers for farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners to participation, reporting, registration, and verification relating to environmental services markets.

''(3) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the committees of Congress described in paragraph (1) a report that describes—

''(A) the progress of the Secretary in meeting the requirements described in subsection (a)(3)(B);

''(B) the rates of participation of farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners in emerging environmental services markets; and

''(C) any recommendations of the Secretary relating to reauthorization of this section.

''(d) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

Subtitle F—State Technical Committees

SEC. 2501. STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES.

(a) STANDARDS.—Section 1261 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3861(c)) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) STANDARDS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall develop—

''(1) standard operating procedures to standardize the operations of State technical committees; and

''(2) standards to be used by the State technical committees in the development of technical guidelines under section 1262(b) for the implementation of the conservation provisions of this title.''.

(b) COMPOSITION.—Section 1261(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3861(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

''(1) the Natural Resources Conservation Service;

''(2) the Farm Service Agency;'';

(2) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

''(5) Rural Development agencies;'';

(3) in paragraph (11), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(4) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) nonindustrial private forest land owners.''.

(c) FACA REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1262(e) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3862(e)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The committees'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The committees''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) LOCAL WORKING GROUPS.—For purposes of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), any local working group established under this subtitle shall be considered to be a subcommittee of the applicable State technical committee.''.

Subtitle G—Other Authorities

SEC. 2601. AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.

Section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''Idaho'' after ''Delaware''; and

(2) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking ''2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 2602. AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION EXPERIENCED SERVICES PROGRAM.

The Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 307. AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION EXPERIENCED SERVICES PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law relating to Federal grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts, there is established in the Department the agriculture conservation experienced services program (referred to in this section as the 'ACE program').

''(2) AUTHORIZATION.—Under the ACE program, the Secretary may offer to enter into agreements with nonprofit private agencies

and organizations eligible to receive grants for the applicable fiscal year under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) to use the talents of individuals who are age 55 or older, to provide conservation technical assistance in support of the administration of conservation-related programs and authorities administered by the Secretary.

''(3) FUNDING.—Agreements described in paragraph (2) may be carried out using funds made available to carry out—

''(A) the environmental quality incentives program of the comprehensive stewardship incentives program established under subchapter A of chapter 6 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985;

''(B) the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.); or

''(C) title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056).

''(b) DETERMINATION.—Prior to entering into an agreement described in subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall determine that the agreement would not—

''(1) result in the displacement of individuals employed by the Department, including partial displacement through reduction of nonovertime hours, wages, or employment benefits;

''(2) result in the use of an individual covered by this section for a job or function in a case in which a Federal employee is in a layoff status from the same or a substantially-equivalent job or function with the Department; or

''(3) affect existing contracts for services.

''(c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may make available to individuals providing technical assistance under an agreement authorized by this section appropriate conservation technical tools, including the use of agency vehicles necessary to carry out technical assistance in support of the conservation-related programs affected by the ACE program.''.

SEC. 2603. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT.—

(1) PREVENTION OF SOIL EROSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The first section of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590a) is amended—

(i) by striking ''That it'' and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

''It''; and

(ii) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''and thereby to preserve natural resources,'' and inserting ''to preserve soil, water, and related resources, promote soil and water quality,''.

(B) POLICIES AND PURPOSES.—Section 7(a)(1) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590g(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''fertility'' and inserting ''and water quality and related resources''.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 10 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590j) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.

''In this Act:

''(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term 'agricultural commodity' means—

''(A) an agricultural commodity; and

''(B) any regional or market classification, type, or grade of an agricultural commodity.

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'technical assistance' means technical expertise, information, and tools necessary for the conservation of natural resources on land active in agricultural, forestry, or related uses.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'technical assistance' includes—

''(i) technical services provided directly to farmers, ranchers, and other eligible entities, such as conservation planning, technical consultation, and assistance with design and implementation of conservation practices; and

''(ii) technical infrastructure, including activities, processes, tools, and agency functions needed to support delivery of technical services, such as technical standards, resource inventories, training, data, technology, monitoring, and effects analyses.''.

(b) SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES CONSERVATION ACT OF 1977.—

(1) CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.—Section 2 of the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (16 U.S.C. 2001) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking ''base, of the'' and inserting ''base of the''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking ''(3)'' and all that follows through ''Since individual'' and inserting the following:

''(3) Appraisal and inventory of resources, assessment and inventory of conservation needs, evaluation of the effects of conservation practices, and analyses of alternative conservation programs are basic to effective soil, water, and related natural resource conservation.

''(4) Since individual''.

(2) CONTINUING APPRAISAL OF SOIL, WATER, AND RELATED RESOURCES.—Section 5 of the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (16 U.S.C. 2004) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) data on conservation plans, conservation practices planned or implemented, environmental outcomes, economic costs, and related matters under conservation programs administered by the Secretary.'';

(B) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e);

(C) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) EVALUATION OF APPRAISAL.—In conducting the appraisal described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall concurrently solicit and evaluate recommendations for improving the appraisal, including the content, scope, process, participation in, and other elements of the appraisal, as determined by the Secretary.''; and

(D) in subsection (e) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B)), by striking ''December 31, 1979'' and all that follows through ''December 31, 2005'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010, December 31, 2015, December 31, 2020, and December 31, 2025''.

(3) SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM.—Section 6 of the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (16 U.S.C. 2005) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (d);

(B) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) EVALUATION OF EXISTING CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.—In evaluating existing conservation programs, the Secretary shall emphasize demonstration, innovation, and monitoring of specific program components in order to encourage further development and adoption of practices and performance-based standards.

''(c) IMPROVEMENT TO PROGRAM.—In developing a national soil and water conservation program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall solicit and evaluate recommendations for improving the program, including the content, scope, process, participation in, and other elements of the program, as determined by the Secretary.''; and

(C) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), by striking ''December 31, 1979'' and all that follows through ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2011, December 31, 2016, December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2026''.

(4) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 7 of the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (16 U.S.C. 2006) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 7. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

''(a) APPRAISAL.—Not later than the date on which Congress convenes in 2011, 2016, 2021, and 2026, the President shall transmit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate the appraisal developed under section 5 and completed prior to the end of the previous year.

''(b) PROGRAM AND STATEMENT OF POLICY.—Not later than the date on which Congress convenes in 2012, 2017, 2022, and 2027, the President shall transmit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate—

''(1) the initial program or updated program developed under section 6 and completed prior to the end of the previous year;

''(2) a detailed statement of policy regarding soil and water conservation activities of the Department of Agriculture; and

''(3) a special evaluation of the status, conditions, and trends of soil quality on cropland in the United States that addresses the challenges and opportunities for reducing soil erosion to tolerance levels.

''(c) IMPROVEMENTS TO APPRAISAL AND PROGRAM.—Not later than the date on which Congress convenes in 2012, the Secretary shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate a report describing the plans of the Department of Agriculture for improving the resource appraisal and national conservation program required under this Act, based on the recommendations received under sections 5(d) and 6(c).''.

(5) TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.—Section 10 of the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (16 U.S.C. 2009) is amended by striking ''2008'' and inserting ''2028''.

SEC. 2604. SMALL WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM.

Section 14 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012) is amended by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 2605. RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) LOCALLY LED PLANNING PROCESS.—Section 1528 of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3451) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''planning process'' and inserting ''locally led planning process'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (9) and (8), respectively, and moving those paragraphs so as to appear in numerical order;

(3) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''(8) PLANNING PROCESS'' and inserting ''(8) LOCALLY LED PLANNING PROCESS''; and

(B) by striking ''council'' and inserting ''locally led council''.

(b) AUTHORIZED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 1528(13) of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3451(13)) is amended by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D) and inserting the following:

''(C) providing assistance for the implementation of area plans and projects; and

''(D) providing services that involve the resources of Department of Agriculture programs in a local community, as defined in the locally led planning process.''.

(c) IMPROVED PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 1531 of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3454) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (4) as clauses (i) through (iv), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) by striking ''In carrying'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) COORDINATOR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To improve the provision of technical assistance to councils under this subtitle, the Secretary shall designate for each council an individual to be the coordinator for the council.

''(2) RESPONSIBILITY.—A coordinator for a council shall be directly responsible for the provision of technical assistance to the council.''.

(d) PROGRAM EVALUATION.—Section 1534 of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3457) is repealed.

SEC. 2606. NATIONAL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION FOUNDATION.

(a) ADVISORY FUNCTIONS.—Section 353 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 5802) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3), by striking ''agencies'' and inserting ''agencies, individuals,''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) ADVISORY FUNCTIONS.—Notwithstanding the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), the Foundation may provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary.''.

(b) GIFTS, DEVISES, AND BEQUESTS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—Section 354 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 5803) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) GIFTS, DEVISES, AND BEQUESTS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Prior to the appointment and initial meeting of the members of the Board and after the initial meeting of the Board, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Foundation—

''(A) accept, receive, and hold nonmonetary gifts, devises, or bequests of personal property; and

''(B) accept and receive monetary gifts, devises, or bequests.

''(2) HELD IN TRUST.—Gifts, devises, or bequests of monetary and nonmonetary personal property shall—

''(A) be held in trust for the Foundation; and

''(B) shall not be—

''(i) considered gifts to the United States; or

''(ii) used for the benefit of the United States.

''(3) TREASURY ACCOUNT.—The Secretary shall deposit monetary gifts, devises, and bequests to the Foundation in a special interest-bearing account in the Treasury of the United States.

''(4) INITIAL GIFTS, DEVISES, AND BEQUESTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may use initial gifts, devises, or bequests received prior to the first meeting of the Board for any necessary expenses and activities related to the first meeting of the Board.

''(B) TRANSFER.—Except with respect to any amounts expended under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall, at the first meeting of the Board, transfer to the Foundation all gifts, devises, or bequests received prior to the first meeting of the Board.''.

(c) OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—Section 355(b)(1) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 5804(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Foundation—'' and all that follows through ''shall not,'' in subparagraph (A) and inserting ''Foundation shall not'';

(2) by striking ''employee; and'' and inserting ''employee.''; and

(3) by striking subparagraph (B).

(d) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—Section 356 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement Reform Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 5805) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(7), by striking ''State or local'' and inserting ''Federal, State, or local''; and

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) by striking ''A gift'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A gift''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) TAX STATUS.—A gift, devise, or bequest to the Foundation shall be treated as a gift, devise, or bequest to an organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.''.

(e) ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND SUPPORT.—Section 356 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement Reform Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 5806) is amended by striking ''1996 through 1998'' and inserting ''2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 2607. DESERT TERMINAL LAKES.

Section 2507 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (43 U.S.C. 2211 note; Public Law 107-171) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(a)'' and all that follows through ''the Secretary of Agriculture'' and inserting the following: ''Subject to paragraph (1) of section 207 of Public Law 108–7 (117 Stat. 146), notwithstanding paragraph (3) of that section, on the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary of Agriculture''; and

(2) by striking subsection (b).

SEC. 2608. CROP INSURANCE INELIGIBILITY RELATING TO CROP PRODUCTION ON NATIVE SOD.

(a) FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE.—Section 508 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(o) CROP INSURANCE INELIGIBILITY RELATING TO CROP PRODUCTION ON NATIVE SOD.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF NATIVE SOD.—In this subsection, the term 'native sod' means land—

''(A) on which the plant cover is composed principally of native grasses, grasslike plants, forbs, or shrubs suitable for grazing and browsing; and

''(B) that has never been used for production of an agricultural commodity.

''(2) INELIGIBILITY.—Native sod acreage on which an agricultural commodity is planted for which a policy or plan of insurance is available under this title shall be ineligible for benefits under this Act.''.

(b) NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—Section 196(a) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4) PROGRAM INELIGIBILITY RELATING TO CROP PRODUCTION ON NATIVE SOD.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF NATIVE SOD.—In this paragraph, the term 'native sod' means land—

''(i) on which the plant cover is composed principally of native grasses, grasslike plants, forbs, or shrubs suitable for grazing and browsing; and

''(ii) that has never been used for production of an agricultural commodity.

''(B) INELIGIBILITY.—Native sod acreage on which an agricultural commodity is planted for which a policy or plan of Federal crop insurance is available shall be ineligible for benefits under this section.''.

(c) CROPLAND REPORT.—

(1) BASELINE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the cropland acreage in each county and State, and the change in cropland acreage from the preceding year in each county and State, beginning with calendar year 1995 and including that information for the most recent year for which that information is available.

(2) ANNUAL UPDATES.—Not later than January 1, 2008, and each January 1 thereafter through January 1, 2012, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

(A) the cropland acreage in each county and State as of the date of submission of the report; and

(B) the change in cropland acreage from the preceding year in each county and State.

SEC. 2609. HIGH PLAINS WATER STUDY.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no person shall become ineligible for any program benefits under this Act or an amendment made by this Act solely as a result of participating in a 1-time study of recharge potential for the Ogallala Aquifer in the High Plains of the State of Texas.

SEC. 2610. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.

Section 17(d) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136o(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Administrator'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXPENSES.—Any expenses incurred by an employee of the Environmental Protection Agency who participates in any international technical, economic, or policy review board, committee, or other official body that is meeting in relation to an international treaty shall be paid by the Department of State.''.

SEC. 2611. USE OF FUNDS IN BASIN FUNDS FOR SALINITY CONTROL ACTIVITIES UPSTREAM OF IMPERIAL DAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202(a) of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act (43 U.S.C. 1592(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) BASIN STATES PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A Basin States Program that the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, shall implement to carry out salinity control activities in the Colorado River Basin using funds made available under section 205(f).

''(B) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Advisory Council, shall carry out this paragraph using funds described in subparagraph (A) directly or by providing grants, grant commitments, or advance funds to Federal or non-Federal entities under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may require.

''(C) ACTIVITIES.—Funds described in subparagraph (A) shall be used to carry out, as determined by the Secretary—

''(i) cost-effective measures and associated works to reduce salinity from saline springs, leaking wells, irrigation sources, industrial sources, erosion of public and private land, or other sources;

''(ii) operation and maintenance of salinity control features constructed under the Colorado River Basin salinity control program; and

''(iii) studies, planning, and administration of salinity control activities.

''(D) REPORT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days before implementing the program established under this paragraph, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a planning report that describes the proposed implementation of the program.

''(ii) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary may not expend funds to implement the program established under this paragraph before the expiration of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Secretary submits the report, or any revision to the report, under clause (i).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 202 of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act (43 U.S.C. 1592) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''program'' and inserting ''programs''; and

(B) in subsection (b)(4)—

(i) by striking ''program'' and inserting ''programs''; and

(ii) by striking ''and (6)'' and inserting ''(6), and (7)''.

(2) Section 205 of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act (43 U.S.C. 1595) is amended by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

''(f) UPFRONT COST SHARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning on the date of enactment of this paragraph, subject to paragraph (3), the cost share obligations required by this section shall be met through an upfront cost share from the Basin Funds, in the same proportions as the cost allocations required under subsection (a), as provided in paragraph (2).

''(2) BASIN STATES PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall expend the required cost share funds described in paragraph (1) through the Basin States Program for salinity control activities established under section 202(a)(7).

''(3) EXISTING SALINITY CONTROL ACTIVITIES.—The cost share contribution required by this section shall continue to be met through repayment in a manner consistent with this section for all salinity control activities for which repayment was commenced prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph.''.

SEC. 2612. GREAT LAKES COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Great Lakes Commission created by article IV of the Great Lakes Basin Compact (Public Law 90–419; 82 Stat. 415), and in cooperation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of the Army, may carry out the Great Lakes basin program for soil erosion and sediment control (referred to in this section as the ''program'') to assist in implementing the recommendations of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes.

(b) ASSISTANCE.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary may—

(1) provide project demonstration grants, provide technical assistance, and carry out information and education programs to improve water quality in the Great Lakes basin by reducing soil erosion and improving sediment control; and

(2) provide a priority for projects and activities that—

(A) directly reduce soil erosion or improve sediment control;

(B) reduce soil loss in degraded rural watersheds; or

(C) improve hydrologic conditions in urban watersheds.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2012.

SEC. 2613. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE ACT.

(a) PESTICIDE REGISTRATION SERVICE FEES.—Section 33 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136w–8) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(7)—

(A) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may exempt from, or waive a portion of, the registration service fee for an application for minor uses for a pesticide.''; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by inserting ''or exemption'' after ''waiver''; and

(B) in subparagraph (E)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''WAIVER'' and inserting ''EXEMPTION'';

(ii) by striking ''waive the registration service fee for an application'' and inserting ''exempt an application from the registration service fee''; and

(iii) in clause (ii), by striking ''waiver'' and inserting ''exemption''; and

(2) in subsection (m)(2), by striking ''2008'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on October 1, 2007.

TITLE III—TRADE

Subtitle A—Food for Peace Act

SEC. 3001. SHORT TITLE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691 note; 104 Stat. 3633) is amended by striking ''Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954'' and inserting ''Food for Peace Act''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each provision of law described in paragraph (2) is amended—

(A) by striking ''Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954'' each place it appears and inserting ''Food for Peace Act''; and

(B) in each section heading, by striking ''**AGRICULTURAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1954**'' each place it appears and inserting ''**FOOD FOR PEACE ACT**''.

(2) PROVISIONS OF LAW.—The provisions of law referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

(A) The Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Public Law 97–98; 95 Stat. 1213).

(B) The Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.).

(C) Section 9(a) of the Military Construction Codification Act (7 U.S.C. 1704c).

(D) Section 201 of the Africa: Seeds of Hope Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 1721 note; Public Law 105–385).

(E) The Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f–1 et seq.).

(F) The Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o).

(G) Section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o–1).

(H) Sections 605B and 606C of the Act of August 28, 1954 (commonly known as the ''Agricultural Act of 1954'') (7 U.S.C. 1765b, 1766b).

(I) Section 206 of the Agricultural Act of 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1856).

(J) The Agricultural Competitiveness and Trade Act of 1988 (7 U.S.C. 5201 et seq.).

(K) The Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.).

(L) The Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635 et seq.).

(M) Section 301 of title 13, United States Code.

(N) Section 8 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1537).

(O) Section 604 of the Enterprise for the Americas Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 2077).

(P) Section 5 of the International Health Research Act of 1960 (22 U.S.C. 2103).

(Q) The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.).

(R) The Horn of Africa Recovery and Food Security Act (22 U.S.C. 2151 note; Public Law 102–274).

(S) Section 105 of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455).

(T) Section 35 of the Foreign Military Sales Act (22 U.S.C. 2775).

(U) The Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5401 et seq.).

(V) Section 1707 of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 6006).

(W) The Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (22 U.S.C. 6021 et seq.).

(X) Section 902 of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7201).

(Y) Chapter 553 of title 46, United State Code.

(Z) Section 4 of the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act (50 U.S.C. 98c).

(AA) The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–624; 104 Stat. 3359).

(BB) Section 738 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–387; 114 Stat 1549A-34).

(c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any Federal, State, tribal, or local law (including regulations) to the ''Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954'' shall be considered to be a reference to the ''Food for Peace Act''.

SEC. 3002. UNITED STATES POLICY.

Section 2 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1691) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4); and

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively.

SEC. 3003. FOOD AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

Section 3(b) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1691a(b)) is amended by striking ''(b)'' and all that follows through paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

''(1) in negotiations with other countries at the Food Aid Convention, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, and other appropriate venues, the President shall—

''(A) seek commitments of higher levels of food aid by donors in order to meet the legitimate needs of developing countries;

''(B) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that humanitarian nongovernmental organizations, recipient country governments, charitable bodies, and international organizations shall continue—

''(i) to be eligible to receive resources based on assessments of need conducted by those organizations and entities; and

''(ii) to implement food aid programs in agreements with donor countries; and

''(C) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that options for providing food aid for emergency and nonemergency, or chronic, needs shall not be subject to limitation, including in-kind commodities, provision of funds for commodity procurement, and monetization of commodities, on the condition that the provision of those commodities or funds—

''(i) is based on assessments of need and intended to benefit the food security of or otherwise assist recipients, and

''(ii) is provided in a manner that avoids disincentives to local agricultural production and marketing and with minimal potential for disruption of commercial markets; and''.

SEC. 3004. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.

(a) Title I of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) is amended in the title heading, by striking ''**TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**'' and inserting ''**ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND FOOD SECURITY**''.

(b) Section 101 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1701) is amended in the section heading, by striking ''**TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**'' and inserting ''**ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND FOOD SECURITY**''.

SEC. 3005. AGREEMENTS REGARDING ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES AND PRIVATE ENTITIES.

Section 102 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1702) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively; and

(2) by striking subsection (c).

SEC. 3006. USE OF LOCAL CURRENCY PAYMENTS.

Section 104(c) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1704(c)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', through agreements with recipient governments, private voluntary organizations, and cooperatives,'' after ''developing country'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) the improvement of the trade capacity of the recipient country.'';

(3) by striking paragraphs (1), (3), (4), (5), and (6); and

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (7), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4), respectively.

SEC. 3007. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

Section 201 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721) is amended—

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

''(1) address famine and respond to emergency food needs arising from man-made and natural disasters;'';

(2) in paragraph (5), by inserting ''food security and support'' after ''promote''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) protect livelihoods, provide safety nets for food insecure populations, and encourage participation in educational, training, and other productive activities.''.

SEC. 3008. PROVISION OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.

Section 202 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1722) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking ''may not deny a request for funds'' and inserting ''may not use as a sole rationale for denying a request for funds'';

(2) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''Of the funds made available in'' and inserting ''Of the total amount of funds made available from all sources for''; and

(ii) by striking ''not less than 5 percent nor more than 10 percent'' and inserting ''not less than 7.5 percent'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) meeting specific administrative, management, personnel, programmatic, and operational activities, and internal transportation and distribution costs for carrying out new and existing programs in foreign countries under this title; and''

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) improving and implementing methodologies for food aid programs, including needs assessments, monitoring, and evaluation.''; and

(3) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h) FOOD AID QUALITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall use funds made available for fiscal year 2008 and subsequent fiscal years to carry out this title—

''(A) to assess the types and quality of agricultural commodities and products donated for food aid;

''(B) to adjust products and formulations as necessary to cost-effectively meet nutrient needs of target populations; and

''(C) to pretest prototypes.

''(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Administrator—

''(A) shall carry out this subsection in consultation with and through an independent entity with proven impartial expertise in food aid commodity quality enhancements;

''(B) may enter into contracts to obtain the services of such an entity; and

''(C) shall consult with the Food Aid Consultative Group on how to carry out this subsection.

''(3) REPORTS.—The Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Agriculture and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate—

''(A) a report that describes the activities of the Administrator in carrying out paragraph (1) for fiscal year 2008; and

''(B) an annual report that describes the progress of the Administrator in addressing food aid quality issues.''.

SEC. 3009. MICROENTERPRISE ACTIVITIES.

Section 203(d)(2) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C.1723(d)(2)) is amended by inserting '', including activities involving microenterprise and village banking,'' after ''other developmental activities''.

SEC. 3010. LEVELS OF ASSISTANCE.

Section 204(a)(1) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1724(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3011. FOOD AID CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

Section 205 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1725) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by inserting at the end the following:

''(7) representatives from the maritime transportation sector involved in transporting agricultural commodities overseas for programs under this Act.'';

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking ''In preparing'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In preparing'';

(B) by striking ''The Administrator'' and inserting the following:

''(2) BIANNUAL CONSULTATION.—The Administrator''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) CONSULTATION FOR DRAFT REGULATIONS.—In addition to the meetings required under paragraph (2), the Administrator shall consult and meet with the Group—

''(A) before issuing the draft regulations to carry out the program described in section 209; and

''(B) during the public comment period relating to those draft regulations.''; and

(3) in subsection (f), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3012. ADMINISTRATION.

Section 207 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1726a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking ''must be met for the approval of such proposal'' and inserting ''should be considered for a proposal in a future fiscal year'';

(2) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (3);

(3) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) TIMELY PROVISION OF COMMODITIES.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary, shall develop procedures that ensure expedited processing of commodity call forwards in order to provide commodities overseas in a timely manner and to the extent feasible, according to planned delivery schedules.'';

(4) in subsection (e)(2), by striking ''December 1'' and inserting ''June 1''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) PROGRAM OVERSIGHT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds made available to carry out this title may be used to pay the expenses of the United States Agency for International Development associated with program monitoring, evaluation, assessments, food aid data collection, and food aid information management and commodity reporting systems.

''(2) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C) and notwithstanding any other provision of law, in carrying out administrative and management activities related to the implementation of programs under this title, the Administrator may contract with 1 or more individuals for personal service to be performed in recipient countries or neighboring countries.

''(B) PROHIBITION.—Individuals contracting with the Administrator under subparagraph (A) shall not be considered to be employees of the United States Government for the purpose of any law administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

''(C) PERSONAL SERVICE.—Subparagraph (A) does not limit the ability of the Administrator to contract with individuals for personal service under section 202(a).

''(g) INDIRECT SUPPORT COSTS TO THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in providing assistance under this title, the Administrator may make contributions to the World Food Program of the United Nations to the extent that the contributions are made in accordance with the rules and regulations of that program for indirect cost rates.

''(2) REPORT.—The Administrator shall submit the Committees on Agriculture and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate an annual report on the level of the contribution and the reasons for the level.

''(h) INDIRECT SUPPORT COSTS TO COOPERATING SPONSORS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator may pay to a private voluntary organization or cooperative indirect costs associated with any funds received or generated for programs, costs, or activities under this title, on the condition that the indirect costs are consistent with Office of Management and Budget cost principles.

''(i) PROJECT REPORTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In submitting project reports to the Administrator, a private voluntary organization or cooperative shall provide a copy of the report in such form as is necessary for the report to be displayed for

public use on the website of the United States Agency for International Development.

''(2) CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.—An organization or cooperative described in paragraph (1) may omit any confidential information from the copy of the report submitted for public display under that paragraph.''.

SEC. 3013. ASSISTANCE FOR STOCKPILING AND RAPID TRANSPORTATION, DELIVERY, AND DISTRIBUTION OF SHELF-STABLE PREPACKAGED FOODS.

Section 208(f) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1726b(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''$3,000,000'' and inserting ''$8,000,000''; and

(2) by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3014. PILOT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL PURCHASE.

Title II of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 209. PILOT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL PURCHASE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ELIGIBLE COMMODITY.—Notwithstanding section 402(2), the term 'eligible commodity' means an agricultural commodity, or the product of an agricultural commodity, that is produced in—

''(A) the recipient country;

''(B) a low-income, developing country near the recipient country; or

''(C) Africa.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION.—The term 'eligible organization' means—

''(A) an organization that is—

''(i) described in section 202(d); and

''(ii) subject to guidelines promulgated to carry out this section, including United States audit requirements that are applicable to non-governmental organizations; or

''(B) an intergovernmental organization, if the organization agrees to be subject to all requirements of this section, including any regulations promulgated or guidelines issued by the Administrator to carry out this section.

''(3) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term 'pilot program' means the pilot program established under subsection (b).

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Notwithstanding section 407(c)(1)(A), the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary, shall establish a field-based pilot program for local and regional purchases of eligible commodities in accordance with this section.

''(c) PURPOSES.—Eligible commodities under the pilot program shall be used solely—

''(1) to address severe food shortages caused by sudden events, including—

''(A) earthquakes, floods, and other unforeseen crises; or

''(B) human-made crises, such as conflicts;

''(2) to prevent or anticipate increasing food scarcity as the result of slow-onset events, such as drought, crop failures, pests, economic shocks, and diseases that result in an erosion of the capacity of communities and vulnerable populations to meet food needs;

''(3) to address recovery, resettlement, and reconstruction following 1 or more disasters or emergencies described in paragraph (1) or (2); and

''(4) to protect and improve livelihoods and food security, provide safety nets for food insecure or undernourished populations, and encourage participation in education and other productive activities.

''(d) PROCUREMENT.—Subject to subsections (a), (b), (f), and (h) of section 403, eligible commodities under the pilot program shall for emergency situations be procured through the most effective 1 or more approaches or methodologies that are likely to expedite the provision of food aid to affected populations.

''(e) REVIEW OF PRIOR LOCAL CASH PURCHASE EXPERIENCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall initiate the process to commission an external review of local cash purchase projects conducted before the date of enactment of this section by other donor countries, private voluntary organizations, and the World Food Program of the United Nations.

''(2) USE OF REVIEW.—The Administrator shall use the results of the review to develop—

''(A) proposed guidelines under subsection (j); and

''(B) requests for applications under subsection (f).

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Agriculture and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report containing the results of the review.

''(f) GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—After the promulgation of final guidelines under subsection (j), the Administrator may seek applications from and provide grants to eligible organizations to carry out the pilot program.

''(2) COMPLETION REQUIREMENT.—As a condition of receiving a grant under the pilot program, an eligible organization shall agree—

''(A) to complete all projects funded through the grant not later than September 30, 2011; and

''(B) to provide information about the results of the project in accordance with subsection (i).

''(3) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Other requirements for submission of proposals for consideration under this title shall apply to the submission of an application for a grant under this section.

''(g) PROJECT DIVERSITY.—In selecting projects to fund under the pilot program, the Administrator shall select a diversity of projects, including—

''(1) at least 1 project for each of the situations described in subsection (c);

''(2) at least 1 project carried out jointly with a project using agricultural commodities produced in the United States under this title;

''(3) at least 1 project carried out jointly with a project funded through grassroots efforts by agricultural producers through eligible United States organizations;

''(4) projects in both food surplus and food deficit regions, using regional procurement for food deficit regions; and

''(5) projects in diverse geographical regions, with most, but not all, projects located in Africa.

''(h) INFORMATION REQUIRED IN APPLICATIONS.—In submitting an application under this section, an eligible organization shall—

''(1) request funding for up to 3 years; and

''(2) include in the application—

''(A) a description of the target population through a needs assessment and sufficient information to demonstrate that the situation is a situation described in subsection (c);

''(B) an assurance that the local or regional procurement—

''(i) is likely to expedite the provision of food aid to the affected population; and

''(ii) would meet the requirements of subsection (d);

''(C) a description of—

''(i) the quantities and types of eligible commodities that would be procured;

''(ii) the rationale for selecting those eligible commodities; and

''(iii) how the eligible commodities could be procured and delivered in a timely manner;

''(D) an analysis of the potential impact of the purchase of eligible commodities on the production, pricing, and marketing of the same and similar agricultural commodities in the country and localities in which the purchase will take place;

''(E) a description of food quality and safety assurance measures; and

''(F) a monitoring and evaluation plan that ensures collection of sufficient data—

''(i) to determine the full cost of procurement, delivery, and administration;

''(ii) to report on the agricultural production, marketing, and price impact of the local or regional purchases, including the impact on low-income consumers; and

''(iii) to provide sufficient information to support the completion of the report described in subsection (i).

''(i) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION AND REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall—

''(A) arrange for an independent evaluation of the pilot program; and

''(B) provide access to all records and reports for the completion of the evaluation.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Agriculture and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

''(A) includes the analysis and findings of the independent evaluation;

''(B) assesses whether the requirements of this section have been met;

''(C) describes for each of the relevant markets in which the commodities were purchased—

''(i) prevailing and historic supply, demand, and price movements;

''(ii) impact on producer and consumer prices;

''(iii) government market interferences and other donor activities that may have affected the supply and demand in the area in which the local or regional purchase took place; and

''(iv) the quantities and types of eligible commodities procured in each market, the time frame for procurement, and the complete costs of the procurement (including procurement, storage, handling, transportation, and administrative costs);

''(D) assesses the impact of different methodologies and approaches on local and regional agricultural producers (including large and small producers), markets, low-income consumers, and program recipients;

''(E) assesses the time elapsed from initiation of the procurement process to delivery;

''(F) compares different methodologies used in terms of—

''(i) the benefits to local agriculture;

''(ii) the impact on markets and consumers;

''(iii) the time for procurement and delivery;

''(iv) quality and safety assurances; and

''(v) implementation costs; and

''(G) to the extent adequate information is available, includes a comparison of the different methodologies used by other donors to make local and regional purchases, including purchases conducted through the World Food Program of the United Nations.

''(j) GUIDELINES.—Prior to approving projects or the procurement of eligible commodities under this section, not later than 1

year after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall issue guidelines to carry out this section.

''(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2011, the Administrator may use to carry out this section not more than $25,000,000 of funds made available to carry out this title, to remain available until expended.

''(2) LIMITATION.—No funds may be made available to carry out the pilot program unless the minimum tonnage requirements of section 204(a) are met.''.

SEC. 3015. GENERAL AUTHORITIES AND REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1731) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a);

(2) redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (a) and (b), respectively; and

(3) in subsection (b) (as so redesignated), by striking ''(b)(1)'' and inserting ''(a)(1)''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 406(a) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736(a)) is amended by striking ''(that have been determined to be available under section 401(a))''.

(2) Subsection (e)(1) of the Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o(e)(1)) is amended by striking ''determined to be available under section 401 of the Food for Peace Act''.

SEC. 3016. USE OF COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.

Section 406(b)(2) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736(b)(2)) is amended by inserting '', including the costs of carrying out section 415'' before the semicolon.

SEC. 3017. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

Section 407 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(4)—

(A) by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012'';

(B) by striking ''$2,000,000'' and inserting ''$4,000,000''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) NONEMERGENCY OR MULTIYEAR AGREEMENTS.—Annual resource requests for ongoing nonemergency or multiyear agreements under title II shall be finalized not later than October 1 of the fiscal year in which the agricultural commodities will be shipped under the agreement.''; and

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by inserting '', and the amount of funds, tonnage levels, and types of activities for nonemergency programs under title II'' before the semicolon;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting '', and a general description of the projects and activities implemented'' before the semicolon; and

(iii) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''achieving food security'' and inserting ''reducing food insecurity''; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''shall submit'' and inserting the following: ''shall—

''(A) submit'';

(ii) by striking ''January 15'' and inserting ''April 1''; and

(iii) by striking ''of the Senate''. and inserting the following: ''of the Senate; and

''(B) make the reports available to the public by electronic and other means.''.

SEC. 3018. EXPIRATION DATE.

Section 408 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736b) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3019. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 412 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) MINIMUM LEVEL OF NONEMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE.—For each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, of the amounts made available to carry out emergency and nonemergency food assistance programs under title II, not less than $600,000,000 for each of those fiscal years shall be obligated and expended for nonemergency food assistance programs under title II.''.

SEC. 3020. MICRONUTRIENT FORTIFICATION PROGRAMS.

Section 415 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736g–2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Not later than September 30, 2003, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary'' and inserting ''Not later than September 30, 2008, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by adding ''and'' after the semicolon at the end; and

(ii) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

''(B) assess and apply technologies and systems to improve and ensure the quality, shelf life, bioavailability, and safety of fortified food aid agricultural commodities, and products of those agricultural commodities, that are provided to developing countries, using recommendations included in the report entitled 'Micronutrient Compliance Review of Fortified Public Law 480 Commodities', published in October 2001, with implementation by an independent entity with proven impartial experience and expertise in food aid commodity quality enhancements.'';

(2) by striking subsection (b) and redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively; and

(3) in subsection (c) (as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3021. GERMPLASM CONSERVATION.

Title IV of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1731 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 417. GERMPLASM CONSERVATION.

''(a) CONTRIBUTION.—The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall contribute funds to endow the Global Crop Diversity Trust (referred to in this section as the 'Trust') to assist in the conservation of genetic diversity in food crops through the collection and storage of the germplasm of food crops in a manner that provides for—

''(1) the maintenance and storage of seed collections;

''(2) the documentation and cataloguing of the genetics and characteristics of conserved seeds to ensure efficient reference for researchers, plant breeders, and the public;

''(3) building the capacity of seed collection in developing countries;

''(4) making information regarding crop genetic data publicly available for researchers, plant breeders, and the public (including through the provision of an accessible Internet website);

''(5) the operation and maintenance of a back-up facility in which are stored duplicate samples of seeds, in the case of natural or man-made disasters; and

''(6) oversight designed to ensure international coordination of those actions and efficient, public accessibility to that diversity through a cost-effective system.

''(b) UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTION LIMIT.—The aggregate contributions of funds of the Federal Government provided to the Trust shall not exceed 25 percent of the total of the funds contributed to the Trust from all sources.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $60,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 3022. JOHN OGONOWSKI AND DOUG BEREUTER FARMER-TO-FARMER PROGRAM.

Section 501 of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1737) is amended by striking ''2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012''.

Subtitle B—Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 and Related Statutes

SEC. 3101. NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION PARTICIPATION IN THE RESOLUTION OF TRADE DISPUTES.

Section 104 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5604) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Secretary shall'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION PARTICIPATION IN THE RESOLUTION OF TRADE DISPUTES.—The Secretary shall permit United States nongovernmental organizations to participate as part of the United States delegation attending formal sessions of dispute resolution panels involving United States agriculture under the auspices of the World Trade Organization if—

''(1) the 1 or more other members of the World Trade Organization involved in the dispute are expected to include private sector representatives in the delegations of the members to the sessions;

''(2) the United States nongovernmental organization has submitted public comments through the Federal Register that support the position of the United States Government in the case; and

''(3) the United States nongovernmental organization will provide for representation at the session a cleared adviser who is a member of the agricultural policy advisory committee or an agricultural technical advisory committee established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).''.

SEC. 3102. EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM.

(a) REPEAL OF SUPPLIER CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM AND INTERMEDIATE EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM.—Section 202 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5622) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''The Commodity'' and inserting ''Subject to paragraph (2), the Commodity''; and

(B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

''(2) TENURE.—Beginning with the 2013 fiscal year, credit terms described in paragraph (1) may not exceed a 180-day period.'';

(2) by striking subsections (b) and (c);

(3) by redesignating subsections (d) through (l) as subsections (b) through (j), respectively; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(k) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF LONG TERM.—In this subsection, the term 'long term' means a period of 10 or more years.

''(2) GUARANTEES.—In administering the export credit guarantees authorized under this section, the Secretary shall—

''(A) maximize the export sales of agricultural commodities;

''(B) maximize the export credit guarantees that are made available and used during the course of a fiscal year;

''(C) develop an approach to risk evaluation that facilitates accurate country risk designations and timely adjustments to the designations (on an ongoing basis) in response to material changes in country risk conditions, with ongoing opportunity for input and evaluation from the private sector;

''(D) adjust risk-based guarantees as necessary to ensure program effectiveness and United States competitiveness; and

''(E) work with industry to ensure that risk-based fees associated with the guarantees cover, but do not exceed, the operating costs and losses over the long term.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 is amended—

(1) in section 202 (7 U.S.C. 5622)—

(A) in subsection (b)(4) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(3)), by striking '', consistent with the provisions of subsection (c)'';

(B) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(3))—

(i) by striking ''(1)'' and all that follows through ''The Commodity'' and inserting ''The Commodity''; and

(ii) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) in subsection (g)(2) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(3)), by striking ''subsections (a) and (b)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)''; and

(2) in section 211, by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAMS.—The Commodity Credit Corporation shall make available for each of fiscal years 1996 through 2012 not less than $5,500,000,000 in credit guarantees under section 202(a).''.

SEC. 3103. MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM.

(a) ORGANIC COMMODITIES.—Section 203(a) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5623(a)) is amended by inserting after ''agricultural commodities'' the following: ''(including commodities that are organically produced (as defined in section 2103 of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6502)))''.

(b) FUNDING.—Section 211(c)(1)(A) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5641(c)(1)(A)) is amended by striking '', and $200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 and 2007'' and inserting ''$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 and 2007, $210,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, $220,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, $230,000,000 for fiscal year 2010, $240,000,000 for fiscal year 2011, and $200,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and each subsequent fiscal year''.

SEC. 3104. EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 301 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5651) is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 is amended—

(1) in title III, by striking the title heading and inserting the following:

''TITLE III—BARRIERS TO EXPORTS'';

(2) by redesignating section 302 as section 301;

(3) by striking section 303;

(4) in section 401 (7 U.S.C. 5661)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''section 201, 202, or 301'' and inserting ''section 201 or 202''; and

(B) in subsection (b), by striking ''sections 201, 202, and 301'' and inserting ''sections 201 and 202''; and

(5) in section 402(a)(1) (7 U.S.C. 5662(a)(1)), by striking ''sections 201, 202, 203, and 301'' and inserting ''sections 201, 202, and 203''.

SEC. 3105. VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION OF CHILD LABOR STATUS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS.

Section 414 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5674) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) REDUCING CHILD LABOR AND FORCED LABOR.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) CHILD LABOR.—The term 'child labor' means the worst forms of child labor as defined in International Labor Convention 182, the Convention Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, done at Geneva on June 17, 1999.

''(B) FORCED LABOR.—The term 'forced labor' means all work or service—

''(i) that is exacted from any individual under menace of any penalty for non-performance of the work or service, and for which the individual does not offer himself or herself voluntarily, by coercion, debt bondage, involuntary servitude (as those terms are defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)); and

''(ii) by 1 or more individuals who, at the time of production, were being subjected to a severe form of trafficking in persons (as that term is defined in that section).

''(2) DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARD SET OF PRACTICES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Labor, shall develop a standard set of practices for the production of agricultural commodities that are imported, sold, or marketed in the United States in order to reduce the likelihood that the agricultural commodities are produced with the use of forced labor or child labor.

''(B) REQUIREMENT.—The standard set of practices shall be developed in accordance with the requirements of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).

''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall, with respect to the standard set of practices developed under paragraph (2), promulgate proposed regulations that shall, at a minimum, establish a voluntary certification program to enforce this subsection by—

''(A) requiring agricultural commodity traceability and inspection at all stages of the supply chain;

''(B) allowing for multistakeholder participation in the certification process;

''(C) providing for annual onsite inspection by a certifying agent, who shall be certified in accordance with the International Organization for Standardization Guide 65, of each affected worksite and handling operation;

''(D) incorporating a comprehensive conflict of interest policy for certifying agents, in accordance with section 2116(h) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6515(h)); and

''(E) providing an anonymous grievance procedure that—

''(i) is accessible by third parties to allow for the identification of new or continuing violations of the regulations; and

''(ii) provides protections for whistleblowers.

''(4) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, a report on the development and implementation of the standard set of practices under this subsection.''.

SEC. 3106. FOREIGN MARKET DEVELOPMENT COOPERATOR PROGRAM.

Section 703(a) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5723(a)) is amended by striking ''amount of $34,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007'' and inserting ''amount of—

''(1) $39,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009;

''(2) $44,500,000 for fiscal year 2010; and

''(3) $34,500,000 for fiscal year 2011 and each subsequent fiscal year.''.

SEC. 3107. FOOD FOR PROGRESS ACT OF 1985.

The Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o) is amended—

(1) by striking ''2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012'';

(2) in subsection (b)(5)—

(A) by striking subparagraphs (A), (B), and (F);

(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting ''and'' after the semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a period; and

(D) by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C), respectively; and

(3) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) FUNDING LIMITATIONS.—With respect to eligible commodities made available under section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1431(b)), unless authorized in advance in appropriation Acts—

''(A) for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010, no funds of the Corporation in excess of $48,000,000 (exclusive of the cost of eligible commodities) may be used to carry out this section; and

''(B) for fiscal year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, no funds of the Corporation in excess of $40,000,000 (exclusive of the cost of eligible commodities) may be used to carry out this section.''.

SEC. 3108. MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM.

Section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by inserting ''in the Department of Agriculture'' after ''establish a program'';

(2) in subsections (c)(2)(B), (f)(1), (h), (i), and (l)(1) by striking ''President'' each place it appears and inserting ''Secretary'';

(3) in subsection (d), by striking ''The President shall designate 1 or more Federal agencies'' and inserting ''The Secretary shall'';

(4) in paragraph (f)(2), by striking ''implementing agency'' and inserting ''Secretary''; and

(5) in subsection (l)(2), by striking ''such sums'' and all that follows through ''2007'' and inserting ''$300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012''.

Subtitle C—Miscellaneous

SEC. 3201. BILL EMERSON HUMANITARIAN TRUST.

Section 302 of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''a trust stock'' and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting the following: ''a trust of commodities, for use as described in subsection (c), to consist of—

''(1) quantities equivalent to not more than 4,000,000 metric tons of commodities; or

''(2) any combination of funds and commodities equivalent to not more than 4,000,000 metric tons of commodities.'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking ''replenish'' each place it appears and inserting ''reimburse''; and

(II) by striking ''replenished'' and inserting ''reimbursed''; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

''(D) funds made available—

''(i) under paragraph (2)(B);

''(ii) as a result of an exchange of any commodity held in the trust for an equivalent amount of funds from—

''(I) the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.);

''(II) the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program established under section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o–1); or

''(III) the market, if the Secretary determines that such a sale of the commodity on

the market will not unduly disrupt domestic markets; and

''(iii) in the course of management of the trust or to maximize the value of the trust, in accordance with subsection (d)(3).''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''replenish'' and inserting ''reimburse'';

(ii) in clause (i)—

(I) by striking ''2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012'';

(II) by striking ''(c)(2)'' and inserting ''(c)(1)''; and

(III) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(iii) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) from funds accrued through the management of the trust under subsection (d).'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

''(1) RELEASES FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF EMERGENCY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In this paragraph, the term 'emergency' means an urgent situation—

''(I) in which there is clear evidence that an event or series of events described in clause (ii) has occurred—

''(aa) that causes human suffering or imminently threatens human lives or livelihoods; and

''(bb) for which a government concerned has not the means to remedy; or

''(II) created by a demonstrably abnormal event or series of events that produces dislocation in the lives of residents of a country or region of a country on an exceptional scale.

''(ii) EVENT OR SERIES OF EVENTS.—An event or series of events referred to in clause (i) includes 1 or more of—

''(I) a sudden calamity, such as an earthquake, flood, locust infestation, or similar unforeseen disaster;

''(II) a human-made emergency resulting in—

''(aa) a significant influx of refugees;

''(bb) the internal displacement of populations; or

''(cc) the suffering of otherwise affected populations;

''(III) food scarcity conditions caused by slow-onset events, such as drought, crop failure, pest infestation, and disease, that result in an erosion of the ability of communities and vulnerable populations to meet food needs; and

''(IV) severe food access or availability conditions resulting from sudden economic shocks, market failure, or economic collapse, that result in an erosion of the ability of communities and vulnerable populations to meet food needs.

''(B) RELEASES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Any funds or commodities held in the trust may be released to provide assistance under title II of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.)—

''(I) to meet emergency needs, including during the period immediately preceding the emergency;

''(II) to respond to an emergency; or

''(III) for recovery and rehabilitation after an emergency.

''(ii) PROCEDURE.—Subject to subparagraph (B), a release under clause (i) shall be carried out in the same manner, and pursuant to the same authority as provided in title II of that Act.

''(C) INSUFFICIENCY OF OTHER FUNDS.—The funds and commodities held in the trust shall be made immediately available on a determination by the Administrator that funds available for emergency needs under title II of that Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) for a fiscal year are insufficient to meet emergency needs during the fiscal year.''; and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (5) as paragraphs (2) through (4), respectively;

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively, and indenting the subparagraphs appropriately;

(B) by striking the subsection designation and heading and all that follows through ''provide—'' and inserting the following:

''(d) MANAGEMENT OF TRUST.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide for the management of eligible commodities and funds held in the trust in a manner that is consistent with maximizing the value of the trust, as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) ELIGIBLE COMMODITIES.—The Secretary shall provide—'';

(C) in paragraph (2) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B))—

(i) in subparagraph (B) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (C) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) for the management of price risks associated with commodities held or potentially held in the trust.''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) FUNDS.—

''(A) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall maximize the value of funds held in the trust, to the maximum extent practicable.

''(B) RELEASES ON EMERGENCY.—If any commodity is released from the trust in the case of an emergency under subsection (c), the Secretary shall transfer to the trust funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation in an amount equal to, as determined by the Secretary, the amount of storage charges that will be saved by Commodity Credit Corporation due to the emergency release.

''(C) EXCHANGES.—If any commodity held in the trust is exchanged for funds under subsection (b)(1)(D)(ii)—

''(i) the funds shall be held in the trust until the date on which the funds are released in the case of an emergency under subsection (c); and

''(ii) the Secretary shall transfer to the trust funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation in an amount equal to, as determined by the Secretary, the amount of storage charges that will be saved by Commodity Credit Corporation due to the exchange.

''(D) INVESTMENT.—The Secretary—

''(i) may invest funds held in the trust in any short-term obligation of the United States or any other low-risk short-term instrument or security insured by the Federal Government in which a regulated insurance company may invest under the laws of the District of Columbia; and

''(ii) shall not invest any funds held in the trust in real estate.'';

(5) in subsection (f)(2)(A), by striking ''replenish'' and inserting ''reimburse''; and

(6) in subsection (h)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''replenish'' and inserting ''reimburse''; and

(B) in each of paragraphs (1) and (2), by striking ''2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3202. EMERGING MARKETS AND FACILITY GUARANTEE LOAN PROGRAM.

Section 1542 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5622 note; Public Law 101–624) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the first sentence, by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(B) by striking ''A portion'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A portion'';

(C) in the second sentence, by striking ''The Commodity Credit Corporation'' and inserting the following:

''(2) PRIORITY.—The Commodity Credit Corporation''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) CONSTRUCTION WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive any applicable requirements relating to the use of United States goods in the construction of a proposed facility, if the Secretary determines that—

''(A) goods from the United States are not available; or

''(B) the use of goods from the United States is not practicable.

''(4) TERM OF GUARANTEE.—A facility payment guarantee under this subsection shall be for a term that is not more than the lesser of—

''(A) the term of the depreciation schedule of the facility assisted; or

''(B) 20 years.''; and

(3) in subsection (d)(1)(A)(i) by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3203. BIOTECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROGRAM.

Section 1543A(d) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5679(d)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 3204. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE RESOLUTION OF TRADE DISPUTES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide monitoring, analytic support, and other technical assistance to limited resource persons that are involved in trading agricultural commodities, as determined by the Secretary, to reduce trade barriers to the persons.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

TITLE IV—NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Subtitle A—Food and Nutrition Program

PART I—RENAMING OF FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

SEC. 4001. RENAMING OF FOOD STAMP PROGRAM.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—The first section of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 note; Public Law 88–525) is amended by striking ''Food Stamp Act of 1977'' and inserting ''Food and Nutrition Act of 2007''.

(b) PROGRAM.—The Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) (as amended by subsection (a)) is amended by striking ''food stamp program'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition program''.

PART II—IMPROVING PROGRAM BENEFITS

SEC. 4101. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN MILITARY PAYMENTS FROM INCOME.

Section 5(d) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(d) Household'' and inserting ''(d) EXCLUSIONS FROM INCOME.—Household'';

(2) by striking ''only (1) any'' and inserting ''only—

''(1) any'';

(3) by indenting each of paragraphs (2) through (18) so as to align with the margin of paragraph (1) (as amended by paragraph (1));

(4) by striking the comma at the end of each of paragraphs (1) through (16) and inserting a semicolon;

(5) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''like (A) awarded'' and inserting ''like—

''(A) awarded'';

(B) by striking ''thereof, (B) to'' and inserting ''thereof;

''(B) to''; and

(C) by striking ''program, and (C) to'' and inserting ''program; and

''(C) to'';

(6) in paragraph (11), by striking ''), or (B) a'' and inserting ''); or

''(B) a'';

(7) in paragraph (17), by striking '', and'' at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(8) in paragraph (18), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(9) by adding at the end the following:

''(19) any additional payment under chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, or otherwise designated by the Secretary to be appropriate for exclusion under this paragraph, that is received by or from a member of the United States Armed Forces deployed to a designated combat zone, if the additional pay—

''(A) is the result of deployment to or service in a combat zone; and

''(B) was not received immediately prior to serving in a combat zone.''.

SEC. 4102. STRENGTHENING THE FOOD PURCHASING POWER OF LOW-INCOME AMERICANS.

Section 5(e)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking ''not less than $134'' and all that follows through the end of the clause and inserting the following: ''not less than—

''(I) for fiscal year 2008, $140, $239, $197, and $123, respectively; and

''(II) for fiscal year 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter, an amount that is equal to the amount from the previous fiscal year adjusted to the nearest lower dollar increment to reflect changes for the 12-month period ending on the preceding June 30 in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor, for items other than food.'';

(2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''not less than $269'' and all that follows through the end of the clause and inserting the following: ''not less than—

''(I) for fiscal year 2008, $281; and

''(II) for fiscal year 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter, an amount that is equal to the amount from the previous fiscal year adjusted to the nearest lower dollar increment to reflect changes for the 12-month period ending on the preceding June 30 in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor, for items other than food.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) REQUIREMENT.—Each adjustment under subparagraphs (A)(ii)(II) and (B)(ii)(II) shall be based on the unrounded amount for the prior 12-month period.''.

SEC. 4103. SUPPORTING WORKING FAMILIES WITH CHILD CARE EXPENSES.

Section 5(e)(3)(A) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(3)(A)) is amended by striking '', the maximum allowable level of which shall be $200 per month for each dependent child under 2 years of age and $175 per month for each other dependent,''.

SEC. 4104. ENCOURAGING RETIREMENT AND EDUCATION SAVINGS AMONG FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS.

(a) ALLOWABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES.—Section 5(g) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(g)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(g)(1) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(g) ALLOWABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES.—

''(1) TOTAL AMOUNT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(2) in subparagraph (A) (as designated by paragraph (1))—

(A) by striking ''$2,000'' and inserting ''$3,500 (as adjusted in accordance with subparagraph (B))''; and

(B) by striking ''$3,000'' and inserting ''$4,500 (as adjusted in accordance with subparagraph (B))''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on October 1, 2007, and each October 1 thereafter, the amounts in subparagraph (A) shall be adjusted and rounded down to the nearest $250 to reflect changes for the 12-month period ending the preceding June in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

''(ii) REQUIREMENT.—Each adjustment under clause (i) shall be based on the unrounded amount for the prior 12-month period.''.

(b) EXCLUSION OF RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS FROM ALLOWABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5(g)(2)(B)(v) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(g)(2)(B)(v)) is amended by striking ''or retirement account (including an individual account)'' and inserting ''account''.

(2) MANDATORY AND DISCRETIONARY EXCLUSIONS.—Section 5(g) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) EXCLUSION OF RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS FROM ALLOWABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES.—

''(A) MANDATORY EXCLUSIONS.—The Secretary shall exclude from financial resources under this subsection the value of—

''(i) any funds in a plan, contract, or account, described in sections 401(a), 403(a), 403(b), 408, 408A, 457(b), and 501(c)(18) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the value of funds in a Federal Thrift Savings Plan account as provided in section 8439 of title 5, United States Code; and

''(ii) any retirement program or account included in any successor or similar provision that may be enacted and determined to be exempt from tax under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(B) DISCRETIONARY EXCLUSIONS.—The Secretary may exclude from financial resources under this subsection the value of any other retirement plans, contracts, or accounts (as determined by the Secretary).''.

(c) EXCLUSION OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTS FROM ALLOWABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES.—Section 5(g) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(g)) (as amended by subsection (b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(8) EXCLUSION OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTS FROM ALLOWABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES.—

''(A) MANDATORY EXCLUSIONS.—The Secretary shall exclude from financial resources under this subsection the value of any funds in a qualified tuition program described in section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or in a Coverdell education savings account under section 530 of that Code.

''(B) DISCRETIONARY EXCLUSIONS.—The Secretary may exclude from financial resources under this subsection the value of any other education programs, contracts, or accounts (as determined by the Secretary).''.

SEC. 4105. FACILITATING SIMPLIFIED REPORTING.

Section 6(c)(1)(A) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2015(c)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''reporting by'' and inserting ''reporting'';

(2) in clause (i), by inserting ''for periods shorter than 4 months by'' before ''migrant'';

(3) in clause (ii), by inserting ''for periods shorter than 4 months by'' before ''households''; and

(4) in clause (iii), by inserting ''for periods shorter than 1 year by'' before ''households''.

SEC. 4106. ACCRUAL OF BENEFITS.

Section 7(i) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2016(i)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(12) RECOVERING ELECTRONIC BENEFITS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A State agency shall establish a procedure for recovering electronic benefits from the account of a household due to inactivity.

''(B) BENEFIT STORAGE.—A State agency may store recovered electronic benefits offline in accordance with subparagraph (D), if the household has not accessed the account after 6 months.

''(C) BENEFIT EXPUNGING.—A State agency shall expunge benefits that have not been accessed by a household after a period of 12 months.

''(D) NOTICE.—A State agency shall—

''(i) send notice to a household the benefits of which are stored under subparagraph (B); and

''(ii) not later than 48 hours after request by the household, make the stored benefits available to the household.''.

SEC. 4107. ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYED ADULTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2015(o)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking ''3 months'' and inserting ''6 months''; and

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking subparagraph (C).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on October 1, 2008.

SEC. 4108. TRANSITIONAL BENEFITS OPTION.

Section 11(s)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020(s)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''benefits to a household''; and inserting ''benefits—

''(A) to a household'';

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) at the option of the State, to a household with children that ceases to receive cash assistance under a State-funded public assistance program.''.

SEC. 4109. MINIMUM BENEFIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2017(a)) is amended by striking ''$10 per month'' and inserting ''10 percent of the thrifty food plan for a household containing 1 member''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect on October 1, 2008.

SEC. 4110. AVAILABILITY OF COMMODITIES FOR THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(a) PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES'' and all that follows through ''through 2007'' and inserting the following:

''(a) PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) AMOUNTS.—In addition to the amounts made available under paragraph (1), for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter, from amounts made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall use to carry out this subsection $110,000,000.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

PART III—IMPROVING PROGRAM OPERATIONS

SEC. 4201. TECHNICAL CLARIFICATION REGARDING ELIGIBILITY.

Section 6(k) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2015(k)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) by striking ''No member'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—No member''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall issue consistent procedures—

''(A) to define the terms 'fleeing' and 'actively seeking' for purposes of this subsection; and

''(B) to ensure that State agencies use consistent procedures that disqualify individuals whom law enforcement authorities are actively seeking for the purpose of holding criminal proceedings against the individual.''.

SEC. 4202. ISSUANCE AND USE OF PROGRAM BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2016) is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through ''subsection (j)) shall be'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 7. ISSUANCE AND USE OF PROGRAM BENEFITS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (i), EBT cards shall be'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''(b) Coupons'' and inserting the following:

''(b) USE.—Benefits''; and

(B) by striking the second proviso;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''(c) Coupons'' and inserting the following:

''(c) DESIGN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—EBT cards'';

(B) in the first sentence, by striking ''and define their denomination''; and

(C) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

''(2) PROHIBITION.—The name of any public official shall not appear on any EBT card.'';

(4) by striking subsection (d);

(5) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''; and

(B) by striking ''coupon issuers'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefit issuers'';

(6) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(B) by striking ''coupon issuer'' and inserting ''benefit issuers'';

(C) by striking ''section 11(e)(20)'' and inserting ''section 11(e)(19).''; and

(D) by striking ''and allotments'';

(7) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following:

''(g) ALTERNATIVE BENEFIT DELIVERY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines, in consultation with the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture, that it would improve the integrity of the food and nutrition program, the Secretary shall require a State agency to issue or deliver benefits using alternative methods.

''(2) NO IMPOSITION OF COSTS.—The cost of documents or systems that may be required by this subsection may not be imposed upon a retail food store participating in the food and nutrition program.

''(3) DEVALUATION AND TERMINATION OF ISSUANCE OF PAPER COUPONS.—

''(A) COUPON ISSUANCE.—Effective on the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, no State shall issue any coupon, stamp, certificate, or authorization card to a household that receives food and nutrition benefits under this Act.

''(B) EBT CARDS.—Effective beginning on the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, only an EBT card issued under subsection (i) shall be eligible for exchange at any retail food store.

''(C) DE-OBLIGATION OF COUPONS.—Coupons not redeemed during the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 shall—

''(i) no longer be an obligation of the Federal Government; and

''(ii) not be redeemable.'';

(8) in subsection (h)(1), by striking ''coupons'' and inserting ''benefits'';

(9) in subsection (j)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), by striking ''printing, shipping, and redeeming coupons'' and inserting ''issuing and redeeming benefits''; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking ''coupon'' and inserting ''benefit'';

(10) in subsection (k)—

(A) by striking ''coupons in the form of'' each place it appears and inserting ''program benefits in the form of'';

(B) by striking ''a coupon issued in the form of'' each place it appears and inserting ''program benefits in the form of''; and

(C) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''subsection (i)(11)(A)'' and inserting ''subsection (h)(11)(A)''; and

(11) by redesignating subsections (e) through (k) as subsections (d) through (j), respectively.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2012) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''coupons'' and inserting ''benefits'';

(B) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) BENEFIT.—The term 'benefit' means the value of food and nutrition assistance provided to a household by means of—

''(1) an electronic benefit transfer under section 7(i); or

''(2) other means of providing assistance, as determined by the Secretary.'';

(C) in subsection (c), in the first sentence, by striking ''authorization cards'' and inserting ''benefits'';

(D) in subsection (d), by striking ''or access device'' and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting a period;

(E) in subsection (e)—

(i) by striking ''(e) 'Coupon issuer' means'' and inserting the following:

''(e) BENEFIT ISSUER.—The term 'benefit issuer' means''; and

(ii) by striking ''coupons'' and inserting ''benefits'';

(F) in subsection (g)(7), by striking ''subsection (r)'' and inserting ''subsection (j)'';

(G) in subsection (i)(5)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''subsection (r)'' and inserting ''subsection (j)''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''coupons'' and inserting ''benefits'';

(H) in subsection (j), by striking ''(as that term is defined in subsection (p))'';

(I) in subsection (k)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking ''subsection (u)(1)'' and inserting ''subsection (r)(1)'';

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''subsections (g)(3), (4), (5), (7), (8), and (9) of this section'' and inserting ''paragraphs (3), (4), (5), (7), (8), and (9) of subsection (k)''; and

(iii) in paragraph (3), by striking ''subsection (g)(6) of this section'' and inserting ''subsection (k)(6)'';

(J) in subsection (t), by inserting '', including point of sale devices,'' after ''other means of access'';

(K) in subsection (u), by striking ''(as defined in subsection (g))''; and

(L) by adding at the end the following:

''(v) EBT CARD.—The term 'EBT card' means an electronic benefit transfer card issued under section 7(i).''; and

(M) by redesignating subsections (a) through (v) as subsections (b), (d), (f), (g), (e), (h), (k), (l), (n), (o), (p), (q), (s), (t), (u), (v), (c), (j), (m), (a), (r), and (i), respectively, and moving so as to appear in alphabetical order.

(2) Section 4(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2013(a)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''; and

(B) by striking ''Coupons issued'' and inserting ''benefits issued''.

(3) Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''section 3(i)(4)'' and inserting ''section 3(n)(4)'';

(B) in subsection (h)(3)(B), in the second sentence, by striking ''section 7(i)'' and inserting ''section 7(h)''; and

(C) in subsection (i)(2)(E), by striking '', as defined in section 3(i) of this Act,''.

(4) Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2015) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''coupons or authorization cards'' and inserting ''program benefits''; and

(ii) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''; and

(B) in subsection (d)(4)(L), by striking ''section 11(e)(22)'' and inserting ''section 11(e)(19)''.

(5) Section 7(f) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2016(f)) is amended by striking ''including any losses'' and all that follows through ''section 11(e)(20),''.

(6) Section 8 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2017) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by striking '', whether through coupons, access devices, or otherwise''; and

(B) in subsections (e)(1) and (f), by striking ''section 3(i)(5)'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 3(n)(5)''.

(7) Section 9 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2018) is amended—

(A) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(B) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''coupon business'' and inserting ''benefit transactions''; and

(ii) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) AUTHORIZATION PERIODS.—The Secretary shall establish specific time periods during which authorization to accept and redeem benefits shall be valid under the food and nutrition program.''; and

(C) in subsection (g), by striking ''section 3(g)(9)'' and inserting ''section 3(k)(9)''.

(8) Section 10 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2019) is amended—

(A) by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through ''Regulations'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 10. REDEMPTION OF PROGRAM BENEFITS.

''Regulations'';

(B) by striking ''section 3(k)(4) of this Act'' and inserting ''section 3(p)(4)'';

(C) by striking ''section 7(i)'' and inserting ''section 7(h)''; and

(D) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''.

(9) Section 11 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020) is amended—

(A) in subsection (d)—

(i) by striking ''section 3(n)(1) of this Act'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 3(t)(1)''; and

(ii) by striking ''section 3(n)(2) of this Act'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 3(t)(2)'';

(B) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (8)(E), by striking ''paragraph (16) or (20)(B)'' and inserting ''paragraph (15) or (18)(B)'';

(ii) by striking paragraphs (15) and (19);

(iii) by redesignating paragraphs (16) through (18) and (20) through (25) as paragraphs (15) through (17) and (18) through (23), respectively; and

(iv) in paragraph (17) (as so redesignated), by striking ''(described in section 3(n)(1) of this Act)'' and inserting ''described in section 3(t)(1)'';

(C) in subsection (h), by striking ''coupon or coupons'' and inserting ''benefits'';

(D) by striking ''coupon'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefit'';

(E) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(F) in subsection (q), by striking ''section 11(e)(20)(B)'' and inserting ''subsection (e)(18)(B)''

(10) Section 13 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2022) is amended by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''.

(11) Section 15 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2024) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''coupons'' and inserting ''benefits'';

(B) in subsection (b)(1)—

(i) by striking ''coupons, authorization cards, or access devices'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(ii) by striking ''coupons or authorization cards'' and inserting ''benefits''; and

(iii) by striking ''access device'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefit'';

(C) in subsection (c), by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(D) in subsection (d), by striking ''Coupons'' and inserting ''Benefits'';

(E) by striking subsections (e) and (f);

(F) by redesignating subsections (g) and (h) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively; and

(G) in subsection (e) (as so redesignated), by striking ''coupon, authorization cards or access devices'' and inserting ''benefits''.

(12) Section 16(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025(a)) is amended by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''.

(13) Section 17 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2026) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(2), by striking ''coupon'' and inserting ''benefit'';

(B) in subsection (b)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (iv)—

(aa) in subclause (I), inserting ''or otherwise providing benefits in a form not restricted to the purchase of food'' after ''of cash'';

(bb) in subclause (III)(aa), by striking ''section 3(i)'' and inserting ''section 3(n)''; and

(cc) in subclause (VII), by striking ''section 7(j)'' and inserting ''section 7(i)''; and

(II) in clause (v)—

(aa) by striking ''countersigned food coupons or similar''; and

(bb) by striking ''food coupons'' and inserting ''EBT cards''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C)(i)(I), by striking ''coupons'' and inserting ''EBT cards'';

(C) in subsection (f), by striking ''section 7(g)(2)'' and inserting ''section 7(f)(2)''; and

(D) in subsection (j), by striking ''coupon'' and inserting ''benefit''.

(14) Section 19(a)(2)(A)(ii) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2028(a)(2)(A)(ii)) is amended by striking ''section 3(o)(4)'' and inserting ''section 3(u)(4)''.

(15) Section 21 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2030) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)(2)(G)(i), by striking ''and (19)'' and inserting ''(and (17)'';

(B) in subsection (d)(3), by striking ''food coupons'' and inserting ''EBT cards''; and

(C) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''EBT cards''.

(16) Section 22 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2031) is amended—

(A) by striking ''food coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(B) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''; and

(C) in subsection (g)(1)(A), by striking ''coupon'' and inserting ''benefits''.

(17) Section 26(f)(3) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2035(f)(3)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''subsections (a) through (g)'' and inserting ''subsections (a) through (f)''; and

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''(16), (18), (20), (24), and (25)'' and inserting ''(15), (17), (18), (22), and (23)''.

(c) CONFORMING CROSS-REFERENCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) USE OF TERMS.—Each provision of law described in subparagraph (B) is amended (as applicable)—

(i) by striking ''coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(ii) by striking ''coupon'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefit'';

(iii) by striking ''food coupons'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits'';

(iv) in each section heading, by striking ''**FOOD COUPONS**'' each place it appears and inserting ''**BENEFITS**'';

(v) by striking ''food stamp coupon'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefit''; and

(vi) by striking ''food stamps'' each place it appears and inserting ''benefits''.

(B) PROVISIONS OF LAW.—The provisions of law referred to in subparagraph (A) are the following:

(i) Section 2 of Public Law 103–205 (7 U.S.C. 2012 note; 107 Stat. 2418).

(ii) Section 1956(c)(7)(D) of title 18, United States Code.

(iii) Titles II through XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).

(iv) Section 401(b)(3) of the Social Security Amendments of 1972 (42 U.S.C. 1382e note; Public Law 92–603).

(v) The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

(vi) Section 802(d)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8011(d)(2)(A)(i)(II)).

(2) DEFINITION REFERENCES.—

(A) Section 2 of Public Law 103–205 (7 U.S.C. 2012 note; 107 Stat. 2418) is amended by striking ''section 3(k)(1)'' and inserting ''section 3(p)(1)''.

(B) Section 205 of the Food Stamp Program Improvements Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 2012 note; Public Law 103–225) is amended by striking ''section 3(k) of such Act (as amended by section 201)'' and inserting ''section 3(p) of that Act''.

(C) Section 115 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (21 U.S.C. 862a) is amended—

(i) by striking ''section 3(h)'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 3(l)''; and

(ii) in subsection (e)(2), by striking ''section 3(m)'' and inserting ''section 3(s)''.

(D) Section 402(a) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(a)) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (2)(F)(ii), by striking ''section 3(r)'' and inserting ''section 3(j)''; and

(ii) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking ''section 3(h)'' and inserting ''section 3(l)''.

(E) Section 3803(c)(2)(C)(vii) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 3(h)'' and inserting ''section 3(l)''.

(F) Section 303(d)(4) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 503(d)(4)) is amended by striking ''section 3(n)(1)'' and inserting ''section 3(t)(1)''.

(G) Section 404 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 604) is amended by striking ''section 3(h)'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 3(l)''.

(H) Section 531 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 654) is amended by striking ''section 3(h)'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 3(l)''.

(I) Section 802(d)(2)(A)(i)(II) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8011(d)(2)(A)(i)(II)) is amended by striking ''(as defined in section 3(e) of such Act)''.

(d) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any Federal, State, tribal, or local law (including regulations) to a ''coupon'', ''authorization card'', or other access device provided under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) shall be considered to be a reference to a ''benefit'' provided under that Act.

SEC. 4203. CLARIFICATION OF SPLIT ISSUANCE.

Section 7(h) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2016(h)) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any procedure established under paragraph (1) shall—

''(i) not reduce the allotment of any household for any period; and

''(ii) ensure that no household experiences an interval between issuances of more than 40 days.

''(B) MULTIPLE ISSUANCES.—The procedure may include issuing benefits to a household in more than 1 issuance only when a benefit correction is necessary.''.

SEC. 4204. STATE OPTION FOR TELEPHONIC SIGNATURE.

Section 11(e)(2)(C) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)(2)(C)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Nothing in this Act'' and inserting the following:

''(C) ELECTRONIC AND AUTOMATED SYSTEMS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) STATE OPTION FOR TELEPHONIC SIGNATURE.—A State agency may establish a system by which an applicant household may sign an application through a recorded verbal assent over the telephone.

''(iii) REQUIREMENTS.—A system established under clause (ii) shall—

''(I) record for future reference the verbal assent of the household member and the information to which assent was given;

''(II) include effective safeguards against impersonation, identity theft, and invasions of privacy;

''(III) not deny or interfere with the right of the household to apply in writing;

''(IV) promptly provide to the household member a written copy of the completed application, with instructions for a simple procedure for correcting any errors or omissions;

''(V) comply with paragraph (1)(B);

''(VI) satisfy all requirements for a signature on an application under this Act and other laws applicable to the food and nutrition program, with the date on which the household member provides verbal assent considered as the date of application for all purposes; and

''(VII) comply with such other standards as the Secretary may establish.''.

SEC. 4205. PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.

Section 11(e)(8) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)(8)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking ''limit'' and inserting ''prohibit''; and

(B) by striking ''to persons'' and all that follows through ''State programs'';

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (E) as subparagraphs (B) through (F), respectively;

(3) by inserting before subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(A) the safeguards shall permit—

''(i) the disclosure of such information to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of the provisions of this Act, regulations issued pursuant to this Act, Federal assistance programs, or federally-assisted State programs; and

''(ii) the subsequent use of the information by persons described in clause (i) only for such administration or enforcement;''; and

(4) in subparagraph (F) (as so redesignated) by inserting ''or subsection (u)'' before the semicolon at the end.

SEC. 4206. STUDY ON COMPARABLE ACCESS TO FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE FOR PUERTO RICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a study of the feasibility and effects of including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in the definition of the term ''State'' under section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2012), in lieu of providing block grants under section 19 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 2028).

(b) INCLUSIONS.—The study shall include—

(1) an assessment of the administrative, financial management, and other changes that would be necessary for the Commonwealth to establish a comparable food and nutrition program, including compliance with appropriate program rules under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq,), such as—

(A) benefit levels under section 3(o) of that Act (7 U.S.C. 3012(o));

(B) income eligibility standards under sections 5(c) and 6 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 2014(c), 2015); and

(C) deduction levels under section 5(e) of that Act (7 U.S.C. 2014(e));

(2) an estimate of the impact on Federal and Commonwealth benefit and administrative costs;

(3) an assessment of the impact of the program on low-income Puerto Ricans, as compared to the program under section 19 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 2028);

(4) such other matters as the Secretary considers to be appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the results of the study conducted under this section.

(d) FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2008, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out this section $1,000,000, to remain available until expended.

(2) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out this section the funds transferred under paragraph (1), without further appropriation.

SEC. 4207. CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE.

Section 11 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the certification of applicant households for the food and nutrition program, there shall be no discrimination by reason of race, sex, religious creed, national origin, or political affiliation.

''(2) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—The administration of the program by a State agency shall be consistent with the rights of households under the following laws (including implementing regulations):

''(A) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.).

''(B) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794).

''(C) The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).

''(D) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.).''.

SEC. 4208. EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND JOB RETENTION.

Section 6(d)(4) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2015(d)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause (viii); and

(B) by inserting after clause (vi) the following:

''(vii) Programs intended to ensure job retention by providing job retention services, if the job retention services are provided for a period of not more than 90 days after an individual who received employment and training services under this paragraph gains employment.''; and

(2) in subparagraph (F), by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) Any individual voluntarily electing to participate in a program under this paragraph shall not be subject to the limitations described in clauses (i) and (ii).''.

SEC. 4209. CODIFICATION OF ACCESS RULES.

Section 11(e)(1)) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''shall (A) at'' and inserting ''shall—

''(A) at''; and

(2) by striking ''and (B) use'' and inserting ''and

''(B) comply with regulations of the Secretary requiring the use of''.

SEC. 4210. EXPANDING THE USE OF EBT CARDS AT FARMERS' MARKETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010, the Secretary shall make grants to pay 100 percent of the costs of eligible entities approved by the Secretary to carry out projects to expand the number of farmers' markets that accept EBT cards by—

(1) providing equipment and training necessary for farmers' markets to accept EBT cards;

(2) educating and providing technical assistance to farmers and farmers' market operators about the process and benefits of accepting EBT cards; or

(3) other activities considered to be appropriate by the Secretary.

(b) LIMITATION.—A grant under this section—

(1) may not be made for the ongoing cost of carrying out any project; and

(2) shall only be provided to eligible entities that demonstrate a plan to continue to provide EBT card access at 1 or more farmers' markets following the receipt of the grant.

(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be—

(1) a State agency administering the food and nutrition program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(2) a State agency or local government; or

(3) a private nonprofit entity that coordinates farmers' markets in a State in cooperation with a State or local government.

(d) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The Secretary—

(1) shall develop criteria to select eligible entities to receive grants under this section; and

(2) may give preference to any eligible entity that consists of a partnership between a government entity and a nongovernmental entity.

(e) MANDATORY FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2007, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out this section $5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

(2) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out this section the funds transferred under paragraph (1), without further appropriation.

SEC. 4211. REVIEW OF MAJOR CHANGES IN PROGRAM DESIGN.

Section 11 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) STATE RESPONSIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The State agency of each participating State shall have responsibility for certifying applicant households and issuing EBT cards.

''(2) LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.—The responsibility of the agency of the State government shall not be affected by whether the program is operated on a State-administered or county-administered basis, as provided under section 3(t)(1).

''(3) RECORDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State agency shall keep such records as may be necessary to determine whether the program is being conducted in compliance with this Act (including regulations issued under this Act).

''(B) INSPECTION AND AUDIT.—Records described in subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) be available for inspection and audit at any reasonable time;

''(ii) subject to subsection (e)(8), be available for review in any action filed by a household to enforce any provision of this Act (including regulations issued under this Act); and

''(iii) be preserved for such period of not less than 3 years as may be specified in regulations.

''(4) REVIEW OF MAJOR CHANGES IN PROGRAM DESIGN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop standards for identifying major changes in the operations of a State agency, including—

''(i) large or substantially-increased numbers of low-income households that do not live in reasonable proximity to an office performing the major functions described in subsection (e);

''(ii) substantial increases in reliance on automated systems for the performance of responsibilities previously performed by personnel described in subsection (e)(6)(B);

''(iii) changes that potentially increase the difficulty of reporting information under subsection (e) or section 6(c); and

''(iv) changes that may disproportionately increase the burdens on any of the types of households described in subsection (e)(2)(A).

''(B) NOTIFICATION.—If a State agency implements a major change in operations, the State agency shall—

''(i) notify the Secretary; and

''(ii) collect such information as the Secretary shall require to identify and correct any adverse effects on program integrity or access, including access by any of the types of households described in subsection (e)(2)(A).''.

SEC. 4212. PRESERVATION OF ACCESS AND PAYMENT ACCURACY.

Section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025) is amended by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following:

''(g) COST SHARING FOR COMPUTERIZATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the Secretary is authorized to pay to each State agency the amount provided under subsection (a)(6) for the costs incurred by the State agency in the planning, design, development, or installation of 1 or more automatic data processing and information retrieval systems that the Secretary determines—

''(A) would assist in meeting the requirements of this Act;

''(B) meet such conditions as the Secretary prescribes;

''(C) are likely to provide more efficient and effective administration of the food and nutrition program;

''(D) would be compatible with other systems used in the administration of State programs, including the program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

''(E) would be tested adequately before and after implementation, including through pilot projects in limited areas for major systems changes as determined under rules promulgated by the Secretary, data from which shall be thoroughly evaluated before the Secretary approves the system to be implemented more broadly; and

''(F) would be operated in accordance with an adequate plan for—

''(i) continuous updating to reflect changed policy and circumstances; and

''(ii) testing the effect of the system on access for eligible households and on payment accuracy.

''(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not make payments to a State agency under paragraph (1) to the extent that the State agency—

''(A) is reimbursed for the costs under any other Federal program; or

''(B) uses the systems for purposes not connected with the food and nutrition program.''.

SEC. 4213. NUTRITION EDUCATION.

(a) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE NUTRITION EDUCATION.—Section 4(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2013(a)) is amended in the first sentence by inserting ''and through an approved State plan, nutrition education'' after ''an allotment''.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Section 11 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020(f) is amended by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

''(f) NUTRITION EDUCATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—State agencies may implement a nutrition education program for individuals eligible for program benefits that promotes healthy food choices consistent with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341).

''(2) DELIVERY OF NUTRITION EDUCATION.—State agencies may deliver nutrition education directly to eligible persons or through agreements with the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, including through the expanded food and nutrition education under section 3(d) of the Act of May 8, 1914 (7 U.S.C. 343(d)), and other State and community health and nutrition providers and organizations.

''(3) NUTRITION EDUCATION STATE PLANS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A State agency that elects to provide nutrition education under this subsection shall submit a nutrition education State plan to the Secretary for approval.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall—

''(i) identify the uses of the funding for local projects; and

''(ii) conform to standards established by the Secretary through regulations or guidance.

''(C) REIMBURSEMENT.—State costs for providing nutrition education under this subsection shall be reimbursed pursuant to section 16(a).

''(4) NOTIFICATION.—To the maximum extent practicable, State agencies shall notify applicants, participants, and eligible program participants of the availability of nutrition education under this subsection.''.

PART IV—IMPROVING PROGRAM INTEGRITY

SEC. 4301. MAJOR SYSTEMS FAILURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 13(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2022(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) OVER ISSUANCES CAUSED BY SYSTEMIC STATE ERRORS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that a State agency over issued benefits to a substantial number of households in a fiscal year as a result of a major systemic error by the State agency, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may prohibit the State agency from collecting these over issuances from some or all households.

''(B) PROCEDURES.—

''(i) INFORMATION REPORTING BY STATES.—Every State agency shall provide to the Secretary all information requested by the Secretary concerning the issuance of benefits to households by the State agency in the applicable fiscal year.

''(ii) FINAL DETERMINATION.—After reviewing relevant information provided by a State agency, the Secretary shall make a final determination—

''(I) whether the State agency over issued benefits to a substantial number of households as a result of a systemic error in the applicable fiscal year; and

''(II) as to the amount of the over issuance in the applicable fiscal year for which the State agency is liable.

''(iii) ESTABLISHING A CLAIM.—Upon determining under clause (ii) that a State agency has over issued benefits to households due to a major systemic error determined under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall establish a claim against the State agency equal to the value of the over issuance caused by the systemic error.

''(iv) ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Administrative and judicial review, as provided in section 14, shall apply to the final determinations by the Secretary under clause (ii).

''(v) REMISSION TO THE SECRETARY.—

''(I) DETERMINATION NOT APPEALED.—If the determination of the Secretary under clause (ii) is not appealed, the State agency shall, as soon as practicable, remit to the Secretary the dollar amount specified in the claim under clause (iii).

''(II) DETERMINATION APPEALED.—If the determination of the Secretary under clause (ii) is appealed, upon completion of administrative and judicial review under clause (iv), and a finding of liability on the part of the State, the appealing State agency shall, as soon as practicable, remit to the Secretary a dollar amount subject to the finding of the administrative and judicial review.

''(vi) ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF COLLECTION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—If a State agency fails to make a payment under clause (v) within a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may reduce any amount due to the State agency under any other provision of this Act by the amount due.

''(II) ACCRUAL OF INTEREST.—During the period of time determined by the Secretary to be reasonable under subclause (I), interest in the amount owed shall not accrue.

''(vii) LIMITATION.—Any liability amount established under section 16(c)(1)(C) shall be reduced by the amount of the claim established under this subparagraph.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 14(a)(6) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2023(a)(6)) is amended by striking ''pursuant to section'' and inserting ''pursuant to section 13(b)(5) and''.

SEC. 4302. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY.

Section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(1) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY.—In this subsection, the term 'biometric identification technology' means a technology that provides an automated method to identify an individual based on physical characteristics, such as fingerprints or retinal scans.

''(2) ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS.—The Secretary may not pay a State agency any amount for administrative costs for the development, purchase, administration, or other costs associated with the use of biometric identification technology unless the State agency has, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers appropriate—

''(A) provided to the Secretary an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the use of the proposed biometric identification technology to detect fraud in carrying out the food and nutrition program;

''(B) demonstrated to the Secretary that the analysis is—

''(i) statistically valid; and

''(ii) based on appropriate and valid assumptions for the households served by the food and nutrition program;

''(C) demonstrated to the Secretary that—

''(i) the proposed biometric identification technology is cost-effective in reducing fraud; and

''(ii) there are no other technologies or fraud-detection methods that are at least as cost-effective in carrying out the purposes of the proposed biometric identification system; and

''(D) demonstrated to the Secretary that no information produced by or used in the biometric information technology system will be made available or used for any purpose other than a purpose allowed under section 11(e)(8).

''(3) STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall establish uniform standards for the evaluation of cost-effectiveness analyses submitted to the Secretary under paragraph (2).''.

SEC. 4303. CIVIL PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATION OF RETAIL FOOD STORES AND WHOLESALE FOOD CONCERNS.

Section 12 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2021) is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through the end of subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''SEC. 12. CIVIL PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATION OF RETAIL FOOD STORES AND WHOLESALE FOOD CONCERNS.

''(a) DISQUALIFICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An approved retail food store or wholesale food concern that violates a provision of this Act or a regulation under this Act may be—

''(A) disqualified for a specified period of time from further participation in the food and nutrition program; or

''(B) assessed a civil penalty of up to $100,000 for each violation.

''(2) REGULATIONS.—Regulations promulgated under this Act shall provide criteria for the finding of a violation of, the suspension or disqualification of, and the assessment of a civil penalty against, a retail food store or wholesale food concern on the basis

of evidence that may include facts established through on-site investigations, inconsistent redemption data, or evidence obtained through a transaction report under an electronic benefit transfer system.'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''(b) Disqualification'' and inserting the following:

''(b) PERIOD OF DISQUALIFICATION.—Subject to subsection (c), a disqualification'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''of no less than six months nor more than five years'' and inserting ''not to exceed 5 years'';

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''of no less than twelve months nor more than ten years'' and inserting ''not to exceed 10 years'';

(D) in paragraph (3)(B)—

(i) by inserting ''or a finding of the unauthorized redemption, use, transfer, acquisition, alteration, or possession of EBT cards'' after ''concern'' the first place it appears; and

(ii) by striking ''civil money penalties'' and inserting ''civil penalties''; and

(E) by striking ''civil money penalty'' each place it appears and inserting ''civil penalty'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''(c) The action'' and inserting the following:

''(c) CIVIL PENALTY AND REVIEW OF DISQUALIFICATION AND PENALTY DETERMINATIONS.—

''(1) CIVIL PENALTY.—In addition to a disqualification under this section, the Secretary may assess a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed $100,000 for each violation.

''(2) REVIEW.—The action''; and

(B) in paragraph (2) (as designated by subparagraph (A)), by striking ''civil money penalty'' and inserting ''civil penalty'';

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking ''(d)'' and all that follows through ''. The Secretary shall'' and inserting the following:

''(d) CONDITIONS OF AUTHORIZATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of authorization to accept and redeem benefits, the Secretary may require a retail food store or wholesale food concern that, pursuant to subsection (a), has been disqualified for more than 180 days, or has been subjected to a civil penalty in lieu of a disqualification period of more than 180 days, to furnish a collateral bond or irrevocable letter of credit for a period of not more than 5 years to cover the value of benefits that the store or concern may in the future accept and redeem in violation of this Act.

''(2) COLLATERAL.—The Secretary also may require a retail food store or wholesale food concern that has been sanctioned for a violation and incurs a subsequent sanction regardless of the length of the disqualification period to submit a collateral bond or irrevocable letter of credit.

''(3) BOND REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall'';

(B) by striking ''If the Secretary finds'' and inserting the following

''(4) FORFEITURE.—If the Secretary finds''; and

(C) by striking ''Such store or concern'' and inserting the following:

''(5) HEARING.—A store or concern described in paragraph (4)'';

(5) in subsection (e), by striking ''civil money penalty'' each place it appears and inserting ''civil penalty''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(h) FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture, shall establish procedures under which the processing of program benefit redemptions for a retail food store or wholesale food concern may be immediately suspended pending administrative action to disqualify the retail food store or wholesale food concern.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Under the procedures described in paragraph (1), if the Secretary, in consultation with the Inspector General, determines that a retail food store or wholesale food concern is engaged in flagrant violations of this Act (including regulations promulgated under this Act), unsettled program benefits that have been redeemed by the retail food store or wholesale food concern—

''(A) may be suspended; and

''(B)(i) if the program disqualification is upheld, may be subject to forfeiture pursuant to subsection (g); or

''(ii) if the program disqualification is not upheld, shall be released to the retail food store or wholesale food concern.

''(3) NO LIABILITY FOR INTEREST.—The Secretary shall not be liable for the value of any interest on funds suspended under this subsection.''.

SEC. 4304. FUNDING OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 16(h)(1)(A) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025(h)(1)(A)) is amended in subparagraph (A), by striking ''to remain available until expended'' and inserting ''to remain available for 2 fiscal years''.

(b) RESCISSION OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds provided under section 16(h)(1)(A) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025(h)(1)(A)) for any fiscal year before the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2007, shall be rescinded on the date of enactment of this Act, unless obligated by a State agency before that date.

SEC. 4305. ELIGIBILITY DISQUALIFICATION.

Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Assistance Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2015) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(p) DISQUALIFICATION FOR OBTAINING CASH BY DESTROYING FOOD AND COLLECTING DEPOSITS.—Any person who has been found by a State or Federal court or administrative agency or in a hearing under subsection (b) to have intentionally obtained cash by purchasing products with food and nutrition benefits that have containers that require return deposits, discarding the product, and returning the container for the deposit amount shall be ineligible for benefits under this Act for such period of time as the Secretary shall prescribe by regulation.

''(q) DISQUALIFICATION FOR SALE OF FOOD PURCHASED WITH FOOD AND NUTRITION BENEFITS.—Subject to any requirements established by the Secretary, any person who has been found by a State or Federal court or administrative agency or in a hearing under subsection (b) to have intentionally sold any food that was purchased using food and nutrition benefits shall be ineligible for benefits under this Act for such period of time as the Secretary shall prescribe by regulation.''.

PART V—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4401. DEFINITION OF STAPLE FOODS.

Subsection (r) of section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2012) (as redesignated by section 4202(b)(1)(M)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(r)(1) Except'' and inserting the following:

''(r) STAPLE FOODS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except''; and

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

''(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The term 'staple foods' does not include accessory food items, such as coffee, tea, cocoa, carbonate and uncarbonated drinks, candy, condiments, and spices, or dietary supplements.

''(3) DEPTH OF STOCK.—The Secretary may issue regulations to define depth of stock to ensure that stocks of staple foods are available on a continuous basis.''.

SEC. 4402. ACCESSORY FOOD ITEMS.

Section 9(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2018(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4) ACCESSORY FOOD ITEMS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall promulgate proposed regulations providing that a dietary supplement shall not be considered an accessory food item unless the dietary supplement—

''(i) contains folic acid or calcium in accordance with sections 101.72 and 101.79 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph); and

''(ii) is a multivitamin-mineral supplement that—

''(I) provides at least ⅔ of the essential vitamins and minerals at 100 percent of the daily value levels, as determined by the Food and Drug Administration; and

''(II) does not exceed the daily upper limit for those nutrients for which an established daily upper limit has been determined by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

''(B) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall promulgate final regulations in accordance with subparagraph (A).

''(C) PURCHASE OF DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS.—No dietary supplements may be purchased using benefits under this Act until the earlier of—

''(i) the date on which the Secretary promulgates final regulations under subparagraph (B); or

''(ii) the date on which the Secretary certifies a voluntary system of labeling for the ready and accurate identification of eligible dietary supplements, as developed by the Secretary in consultation with the dietary supplement industry and dietary supplement retailers.''.

SEC. 4403. PILOT PROJECTS TO EVALUATE HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROMOTION IN THE FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM.

Section 17 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2026) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(k) PILOT PROJECTS TO EVALUATE HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROMOTION IN THE FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers to be appropriate, pilot projects to develop and test methods—

''(A) of using the food and nutrition program to improve the dietary and health status of households participating in the food and nutrition program; and

''(B) to reduce overweight, obesity, and associated co-morbidities in the United States.

''(2) PROJECTS.—Pilot projects carried out under paragraph (1) may include projects to determine whether healthier food purchases by and healthier diets among households participating in the food and nutrition program result from projects that—

''(A) increase the food and nutrition assistance purchasing power of the participating households by providing increased food and nutrition assistance benefit allotments to the participating households;

''(B) increase access to farmers markets by participating households through the electronic redemption of food and nutrition assistance at the farmers markets;

''(C) provide incentives to authorized food and nutrition program vendors to increase

the availability of healthy foods to participating households;

''(D) subject authorized food and nutrition program vendors to stricter vendor requirements with respect to carrying and stocking healthy foods;

''(E) provide incentives at the point of purchase to encourage participating households to purchase fruits, vegetables, or other healthy foods; or

''(F) provide to participating households integrated communication and education programs, including the provision of funding for a portion of a school based nutrition coordinator to implement a broad nutrition action plan and parent nutrition education programs in elementary schools, separately or in combination with pilot projects carried out under subparagraphs (A) through (E).

''(3) DURATION.—A pilot project carried out under this subsection shall have a term of not more than 5 years.

''(4) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—

''(A) EVALUATIONS.—

''(i) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide for an independent evaluation of each pilot project under this subsection that measures the impact of the pilot program on health and nutrition as described in paragraph (1).

''(II) REQUIREMENT.—The independent evaluation under subclause (I) shall use rigorous methodologies, particularly random assignment or other methods that are capable of producing scientifically-valid information regarding which activities are effective.

''(ii) COSTS.—The Secretary may use funds provided to carry out this section to pay costs associated with monitoring and evaluating each pilot project.

''(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the last day of fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter until the completion of the last evaluation under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that includes a description of—

''(i) the status of each pilot project;

''(ii) the results of the evaluation completed during the previous fiscal year; and

''(iii) to the maximum extent practicable—

''(I) the impact of the pilot project on appropriate health, nutrition, and associated behavioral outcomes among households participating in the pilot project;

''(II) baseline information relevant to the stated goals and desired outcomes of the pilot project; and

''(III) equivalent information about similar or identical measures among control or comparison groups that did not participate in the pilot project.

''(5) FUNDING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Out of any funds made available under section 18, the Secretary shall use $50,000,000 to carry out this section, to remain available until expended.

''(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Of funds made available under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall use not more than $25,000,000 to carry out a pilot project described in paragraph (2)(E).''.

SEC. 4404. BILL EMERSON NATIONAL HUNGER FELLOWS AND MICKEY LELAND INTERNATIONAL HUNGER FELLOWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 28. BILL EMERSON NATIONAL HUNGER FELLOWS AND MICKEY LELAND INTERNATIONAL HUNGER FELLOWS.

''(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the 'Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows and Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows Program Act of 2007'.

''(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

''(1) there is a critical need for compassionate individuals who are committed to assisting people who suffer from hunger to initiate and administer solutions to the hunger problem;

''(2) Bill Emerson, the distinguished late Representative from the 8th District of Missouri, demonstrated—

''(A) his commitment to solving the problem of hunger in a bipartisan manner;

''(B) his commitment to public service; and

''(C) his great affection for the institution and ideals of the United States Congress;

''(3) George T. (Mickey) Leland, the distinguished late Representative from the 18th District of Texas, demonstrated—

''(A) his compassion for those in need;

''(B) his high regard for public service; and

''(C) his lively exercise of political talents;

''(4) the special concern that Mr. Emerson and Mr. Leland demonstrated during their lives for the hungry and poor was an inspiration for others to work toward the goals of equality and justice for all;

''(5) these 2 outstanding leaders maintained a special bond of friendship regardless of political affiliation and worked together to encourage future leaders to recognize and provide service to others; and

''(6) it is especially appropriate to honor the memory of Mr. Emerson and Mr. Leland by creating a fellowship program to develop and train the future leaders of the United States to pursue careers in humanitarian service.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(1) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means the head of the Congressional Hunger Center.

''(2) FELLOW.—The term 'fellow' means—

''(A) a Bill Emerson Hunger Fellow; or

''(B) Mickey Leland Hunger Fellow

''(3) FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS.—The term 'Fellowship Programs' means the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program and the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program established under subsection (d)(1).

''(d) FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program and the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program.

''(2) PURPOSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The purposes of the Fellowship Programs are—

''(i) to encourage future leaders of the United States—

''(I) to pursue careers in humanitarian and public service;

''(II) to recognize the needs of low-income people and hungry people;

''(III) to provide assistance to people in need; and

''(IV) to seek public policy solutions to the challenges of hunger and poverty;

''(ii) to provide training and development opportunities for such leaders through placement in programs operated by appropriate organizations or entities; and

''(iii) to increase awareness of the importance of public service.

''(B) BILL EMERSON HUNGER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—The purpose of the Bill Emerson Hunger Fellowship Program is to address hunger and poverty in the United States.

''(C) MICKEY LELAND HUNGER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—The purpose of the Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowship Program is to address international hunger and other humanitarian needs.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall offer to enter into a contract with the Congressional Hunger Center to administer the Fellowship Programs.

''(B) TERMS OF CONTRACT.—The terms of the contract entered into under subparagraph (A), including the length of the contract and provisions for the alteration or termination of the contract, shall be determined by the Secretary in accordance with this section.

''(e) FELLOWSHIPS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall make available Bill Emerson Hunger Fellowships and Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowships in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) CURRICULUM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Fellowship Programs shall provide experience and training to develop the skills necessary to train fellows to carry out the purposes described in subsection (d)(2), including—

''(i) training in direct service programs for the hungry and other anti-hunger programs in conjunction with community-based organizations through a program of field placement; and

''(ii) providing experience in policy development through placement in a governmental entity or nongovernmental, nonprofit, or private sector organization.

''(B) WORK PLAN.—To carry out subparagraph (A) and assist in the evaluation of the fellowships under paragraph (6), the Director shall, for each fellow, approve a work plan that identifies the target objectives for the fellow in the fellowship, including specific duties and responsibilities relating to those objectives.

''(3) PERIOD OF FELLOWSHIP.—

''(A) BILL EMERSON HUNGER FELLOW.—A Bill Emerson Hunger Fellowship awarded under this section shall be for not more than 15 months.

''(B) MICKEY LELAND HUNGER FELLOW.—A Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowship awarded under this section shall be for not more than 2 years.

''(4) SELECTION OF FELLOWS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Fellowships shall be awarded pursuant to a nationwide competition established by the Director.

''(B) QUALIFICATIONS.—A successful program applicant shall be an individual who has demonstrated—

''(i) an intent to pursue a career in humanitarian services and outstanding potential for such a career;

''(ii) leadership potential or actual leadership experience;

''(iii) diverse life experience;

''(iv) proficient writing and speaking skills;

''(v) an ability to live in poor or diverse communities; and

''(vi) such other attributes as are considered to be appropriate by the Director.

''(5) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A fellow shall receive—

''(i) a living allowance during the term of the Fellowship; and

''(ii) subject to subparagraph (B), an end-of-service award.

''(B) REQUIREMENT FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF FELLOWSHIP.—Each fellow shall be entitled to receive an end-of-service award at an appropriate rate for each month of satisfactory service completed, as determined by the Director.

''(C) TERMS OF FELLOWSHIP.—A fellow shall not be considered an employee of—

''(i) the Department of Agriculture;

''(ii) the Congressional Hunger Center; or

''(iii) a host agency in the field or policy placement of the fellow.

''(D) RECOGNITION OF FELLOWSHIP AWARD.—

''(i) EMERSON FELLOW.—An individual awarded a fellowship from the Bill Emerson Hunger Fellowship shall be known as an 'Emerson Fellow'.

''(ii) LELAND FELLOW.—An individual awarded a fellowship from the Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowship shall be known as a 'Leland Fellow'.

''(6) EVALUATIONS AND AUDITS.—Under terms stipulated in the contract entered into under subsection (d)(3), the Director shall—

''(A) conduct periodic evaluations of the Fellowship Programs; and

''(B) arrange for annual independent financial audits of expenditures under the Fellowship Programs.

''(f) AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), in carrying out this section, the Director may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of services or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of facilitating the work of the Fellowship Programs.

''(2) LIMITATION.—Gifts, bequests, or devises of money and proceeds from sales of other property received as gifts, bequests, or devises shall be used exclusively for the purposes of the Fellowship Programs.

''(g) REPORT.—The Director shall annually submit to the Secretary of Agriculture, the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

''(1) describes the activities and expenditures of the Fellowship Programs during the preceding fiscal year, including expenditures made from funds made available under subsection (h); and

''(2) includes the results of evaluations and audits required by subsection (f).

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this section, to remain available until expended.''.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 4404 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (2 U.S.C. 1161) is repealed.

SEC. 4405. HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DOMESTIC HUNGER GOAL.—The term ''domestic hunger goal'' means—

(A) the goal of reducing hunger in the United States to at or below 2 percent by 2010; or

(B) the goal of reducing food insecurity in the United States to at or below 6 percent by 2010.

(2) EMERGENCY FEEDING ORGANIZATION.—The term ''emergency feeding organization'' has the meaning given the term in section 201A of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7501).

(3) FOOD SECURITY.—The term ''food security'' means the state in which an individual has access to enough food for an active, healthy life.

(4) HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES GOAL.—The term ''hunger-free communities goal'' means any of the 14 goals described in the H. Con. Res. 302 (102nd Congress).

(b) HUNGER REPORTS.—

(1) STUDY.—

(A) TIMELINE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall conduct a study of major matters relating to the problem of hunger in the United States, as determined by the Secretary.

(ii) UPDATE.—Not later than 5 years after the date on which the study under clause (i) is conducted, the Secretary shall update the study.

(B) MATTERS TO BE ASSESSED.—The matters to be assessed by the Secretary in the study and update under this paragraph shall include—

(i) data on hunger and food insecurity in the United States;

(ii) measures carried out during the previous year by Federal, State, and local governments to achieve domestic hunger goals and hunger-free communities goals; and

(iii) measures that could be carried out by Federal, State, and local governments to achieve domestic hunger goals and hunger-free communities goals.

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Secretary shall develop recommendations on—

(A) removing obstacles to achieving domestic hunger goals and hunger-free communities goals; and

(B) otherwise reducing domestic hunger.

(3) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the President and Congress—

(A) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, a report that contains—

(i) a detailed statement of the results of the study, or the most recent update to the study, conducted under paragraph (1)(A); and

(ii) the most recent recommendations of the Secretary under paragraph (2); and

(B) not later than 5 years after the date of submission of the report under subparagraph (A), an update of the report.

(c) HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES COLLABORATIVE GRANTS.—

(1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this subsection, the term ''eligible entity'' means a public food program service provider or a nonprofit organization, including but not limited to an emergency feeding organization, that demonstrates the organization has collaborated, or will collaborate, with 1 or more local partner organizations to achieve at least 1 hunger-free communities goal.

(2) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not more than 55 percent of any funds made available under subsection (f) to make grants to eligible entities to pay the Federal share of the costs of an activity described in paragraph (4).

(B) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out an activity under this subsection shall not exceed 80 percent.

(C) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

(i) CALCULATION.—The non-Federal share of the cost of an activity under this subsection may be provided in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or services.

(ii) SOURCES.—Any entity may provide the non-Federal share of the cost of an activity under this subsection through a State government, a local government, or a private source.

(3) APPLICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under this subsection, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at the time and in the manner and accompanied by any information the Secretary may require.

(B) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) identify any activity described in paragraph (4) that the grant will be used to fund;

(ii) describe the means by which an activity identified under clause (i) will reduce hunger in the community of the eligible entity;

(iii) list any partner organizations of the eligible entity that will participate in an activity funded by the grant;

(iv) describe any agreement between a partner organization and the eligible entity necessary to carry out an activity funded by the grant; and

(v) if an assessment described in paragraph (4)(A) has been performed, include—

(I) a summary of that assessment; and

(II) information regarding the means by which the grant will help reduce hunger in the community of the eligible entity.

(C) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities that—

(i) demonstrate in the application of the eligible entity that the eligible entity makes collaborative efforts to reduce hunger in the community of the eligible entity; and

(ii)(I) serve communities in which the rates of food insecurity, hunger, poverty, or unemployment are demonstrably higher than national average rates;

(II) provide evidence of long-term efforts to reduce hunger in the community;

(III) provide evidence of public support for the efforts of the eligible entity; or

(IV) demonstrate in the application of the eligible entity a commitment to achieving more than 1 hunger-free communities goal.

(4) USE OF FUNDS.—

(A) ASSESSMENT OF HUNGER IN THE COMMUNITY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity in a community that has not performed an assessment described in clause (ii) may use a grant received under this subsection to perform the assessment for the community.

(ii) ASSESSMENT.—The assessment referred to in clause (ii) shall include—

(I) an analysis of the problem of hunger in the community served by the eligible entity;

(II) an evaluation of any facility and any equipment used to achieve a hunger-free communities goal in the community;

(III) an analysis of the effectiveness and extent of service of existing nutrition programs and emergency feeding organizations; and

(IV) a plan to achieve any other hunger-free communities goal in the community.

(B) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity in a community that has submitted an assessment to the Secretary shall use a grant received under this subsection for any fiscal year for activities of the eligible entity, including—

(i) meeting the immediate needs of people in the community served by the eligible entity who experience hunger by—

(I) distributing food;

(II) providing community outreach; or

(III) improving access to food as part of a comprehensive service;

(ii) developing new resources and strategies to help reduce hunger in the community;

(iii) establishing a program to achieve a hunger-free communities goal in the community, including—

(I) a program to prevent, monitor, and treat children in the community experiencing hunger or poor nutrition; or

(II) a program to provide information to people in the community on hunger, domestic hunger goals, and hunger-free communities goals; and

(iv) establishing a program to provide food and nutrition services as part of a coordinated community-based comprehensive service.

(d) HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS.—

(1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this subsection, the term ''eligible entity'' means an emergency feeding organization (as defined in section 201A(4) of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7501(4))).

(2) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not more than 45 percent of any funds made available under subsection (f) to make grants to eligible entities to pay the Federal share of the costs of an activity described in paragraph (4).

(B) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out an activity under this subsection shall not exceed 80 percent.

(3) APPLICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under this subsection, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at the time and in the manner and accompanied by any information the Secretary may require.

(B) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) identify any activity described in paragraph (4) that the grant will be used to fund; and

(ii) describe the means by which an activity identified under clause (i) will reduce hunger in the community of the eligible entity.

(C) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities the applications of which demonstrate 2 or more of the following:

(i) The eligible entity serves a community in which the rates of food insecurity, hunger, poverty, or unemployment are demonstrably higher than national average rates.

(ii) The eligible entity serves a community that has carried out long-term efforts to reduce hunger in the community.

(iii) The eligible entity serves a community that provides public support for the efforts of the eligible entity.

(iv) The eligible entity is committed to achieving more than 1 hunger-free communities goal.

(4) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall use a grant received under this subsection for any fiscal year to carry out activities of the eligible entity, including—

(A) constructing, expanding, or repairing a facility or equipment to support hunger relief agencies in the community;

(B) assisting an emergency feeding organization in the community in obtaining locally-produced produce and protein products; and

(C) assisting an emergency feeding organization in the community to process and serve wild game.

(e) REPORT.—If funds are made available under subsection (f), not later than September 30, 2012, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing—

(1) each grant made under this section, including—

(A) a description of any activity funded by such a grant; and

(B) the degree of success of each activity funded by such a grant in achieving hunger-free communities goals; and

(2) the degree of success of all activities funded by grants under this section in achieving domestic hunger goals.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 4406. STATE PERFORMANCE ON ENROLLING CHILDREN RECEIVING PROGRAM BENEFITS FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than June 30 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that assesses the effectiveness of each State in enrolling school-aged children in households receiving program benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) (referred to in this section as ''program benefits'') for free school meals using direct certification.

(b) SPECIFIC MEASURES.—The assessment of the Secretary of the performance of each State shall include—

(1) an estimate of the number of school-aged children, by State, who were members of a household receiving program benefits at any time in July, August, or September of the prior year;

(2) an estimate of the number of school-aged children, by State, who were directly certified as eligible for free lunches under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), based on receipt of program benefits, as of October 1 of the prior year; and

(3) an estimate of the number of school-aged children, by State, who were members of a household receiving program benefits at any time in July, August, or September of the prior year who were not candidates for direct certification because on October 1 of the prior year the children attended a school operating under the special assistance provisions of section 11(a)(1) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1759a) that is not operating in a base year.

(c) PERFORMANCE INNOVATIONS.—The report of the Secretary shall describe best practices from States with the best performance or the most improved performance from the previous year.

Subtitle B—Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

SEC. 4501. ASSESSING THE NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF THE FDPIR FOOD PACKAGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2013) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Distribution of commodities, with or without the food and nutrition program, shall be made whenever a request for concurrent or separate food program operations, respectively, is made by a tribal organization.

''(2) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), in the event of distribution on all or part of an Indian reservation, the appropriate agency of the State government in the area involved shall be responsible for the distribution.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION BY TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—If the Secretary determines that a tribal organization is capable of effectively and efficiently administering a distribution described in paragraph (1), then the tribal organization shall administer the distribution.

''(C) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary shall not approve any plan for a distribution described in paragraph (1) that permits any household on any Indian reservation to participate simultaneously in the food and nutrition program and the distribution of federally donated foods.

''(3) DISQUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS.—An individual who is disqualified from participation in the food distribution program on Indian reservations under this subsection is not eligible to participate in the food and nutrition program under this Act.

''(4) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary is authorized to pay such amounts for administrative costs and distribution costs on Indian reservations as the Secretary finds necessary for effective administration of such distribution by a State agency or tribal organization.

''(5) BISON MEAT.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may purchase bison meat for recipients of food distributed under this subsection, including bison meat from—

''(A) Native American bison producers; and

''(B) producer–owned cooperatives of bison ranchers.

''(6) TRADITIONAL FOOD FUND.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary shall establish a fund for use in purchasing traditional foods for recipients of food distributed under this subsection.

''(B) SURVEY.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary shall—

''(i) survey participants of the food distribution program on Indian reservations established under this subsection to determine which traditional foods are most desired by those participants; and

''(ii) purchase or offer to purchase those traditional foods that may be procured cost-effectively.

''(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this paragraph $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

(b) FDPIR FOOD PACKAGE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

(1) how the Secretary derives the process for determining the food package under the food distribution program on Indian reservations established under section 4(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2013(b)) (referred to in this subsection as the ''food package'');

(2) the extent to which the food package—

(A) addresses the nutritional needs of low-income Americans compared to the food and nutrition program, particularly for very low-income households;

(B) conforms (or fails to conform) to the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341);

(C) addresses (or fails to address) the nutritional and health challenges that are specific to Native Americans; and

(D) is limited by distribution costs or challenges of infrastructure;

(3) any plans of the Secretary to revise and update the food package to conform with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans, including any costs associated with the planned changes; and

(4) if the Secretary does not plan changes to the food package, the rationale of the Secretary for retaining the food package.

Subtitle C—Administration of Emergency Food Assistance Program and Commodity Supplemental Food Program

SEC. 4601. EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE.

(a) STATE PLAN.—Section 202A of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7503) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) PLANS.—To receive commodities under this Act, every 3 years, a State shall submit to the Secretary an operation and administration plan for the provision of assistance under this Act.''.

(b) DONATED WILD GAME.—Section 204(a)(1) of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7508(a)(1)) is amended in the first sentence by inserting ''and donated wild game'' before the period at the end.

SEC. 4602. COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM.

Section 5 of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note; Public Law 93–86) is amended by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following:

''(g) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), the Secretary may not require a State or local agency to prioritize assistance to a particular group of individuals that are—

''(1) low-income persons aged 60 and older; or

''(2) women, infants, and children.''.

Subtitle D—Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

SEC. 4701. EXCLUSION OF BENEFITS IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007'' and inserting

''fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (e), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—In addition to the amounts made available under subsection (a), for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter, of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary of Agriculture shall use $10,000,000 to expand the program established under this section.''; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (c) (as redesignated by paragraph (2)) the following:

''(d) EXCLUSION OF BENEFITS IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER PROGRAMS.—The value of any benefit provided under the program under this section shall not be taken into consideration in determining the eligibility of an individual for any other Federal or State assistance program.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4702. PROHIBITION ON COLLECTION OF SALES TAX.

Section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007) is amended by inserting after subsection (d) (as added by section 4701(a)(4)) the following:

''(e) PROHIBITION ON COLLECTION OF SALES TAX.—A State that collects any sales tax on the purchase of food using a benefit provided under the program under this section shall not be eligible to participate in the program.''.

Subtitle E—Reauthorization of Federal Food Assistance Programs

SEC. 4801. FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM.

(a) GRANTS FOR SIMPLE APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION SYSTEMS AND IMPROVED ACCESS TO BENEFITS.—Section 11(t)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020(t)(1)) is amended by striking ''For each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007'' and inserting ''For fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''.

(b) FUNDING OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.—Section 16(h)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025(h)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(vii), by striking ''for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''; and

(2) in subparagraph (E)(i), by striking ''for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''.

(c) REDUCTIONS IN PAYMENTS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 16(k)(3) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025(k)(3)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subparagraph (A), by striking ''for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2007'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''through fiscal year 2007''.

(d) CASH PAYMENT PILOT PROJECTS.—Section 17(b)(1)(B)(vi) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2026(b)(1)(B(vi)) is amended by striking ''through October 1, 2007''.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 18(a)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2027(a)(1)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2007'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''.

(f) CONSOLIDATED BLOCK GRANTS FOR PUERTO RICO AND AMERICAN SAMOA.—Section 19(a)(2)(A)(ii) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2028(a)(2)(A)(ii)) by striking ''for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''.

(g) ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS.—Section 25 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2034) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''; and

(2) in subsection (h)(4), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 4802. COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION.

(a) EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE.—Section 204(a)(1) of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7508(a)(1)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''$60,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2007'' and inserting ''$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''.

(b) COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM.—Section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note; Public Law 93–86) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''years 1991 through 2007'' and inserting ''year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''.

(c) COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM.—Section 5 of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note; Public Law 93–86) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007'' and inserting ''fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking ''(B) FISCAL YEARS 2004 THROUGH 2007.—'' and all that follows through ''2007'' and inserting the following:

''(B) SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS.—For fiscal year 2004 and each subsequent fiscal year''; and

(2) in subsection (d)(2), by striking ''each of the fiscal years 1991 through 2007'' and inserting ''fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter''.

(d) DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS COMMODITIES TO SPECIAL NUTRITION PROJECTS.—Section 1114(a)(2)(A) of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 1431e(2)(A)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 4803. NUTRITION INFORMATION AND AWARENESS PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 4403(f) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3171 note; Public Law 107–171) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

Subtitle F—Miscellaneous

SEC. 4901. PURCHASES OF LOCALLY GROWN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Section 9(j) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(j)) is amended to read as follows:

''(j) PURCHASES OF LOCALLY GROWN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) encourage institutions receiving funds under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables, to the maximum extent practicable and appropriate;

''(2) advise institutions participating in a program described in paragraph (1) of the policy described in that paragraph and post information concerning the policy on the website maintained by the Secretary; and

''(3) allow institutions receiving funds under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), including the Department of Defense, to use a geographic preference for the procurement of locally grown fruits and vegetables.''.

SEC. 4902. HEALTHY FOOD EDUCATION AND PROGRAM REPLICABILITY.

Section 18(i) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(i)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(C), by inserting ''promotes healthy food education in the school curriculum and'' before ''incorporates'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) ADMINISTRATION.—In providing grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that can be replicated in schools.''.

SEC. 4903. FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act is amended by inserting after section 18 (42 U.S.C. 1769) the following:

''SEC. 19. FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For the school year beginning July 2008 and each subsequent school year, the Secretary shall provide grants to States to carry out a program to make free fresh fruits and vegetables available in elementary schools (referred to in this section as the 'program').

''(b) PROGRAM.—A school participating in the program shall make free fresh fruits and vegetables available to students throughout the school day (or at such other times as are considered appropriate by the Secretary) in 1 or more areas designated by the school.

''(c) FUNDING TO STATES.—

''(1) MINIMUM GRANT.—The Secretary shall provide to each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia an annual grant in an amount equal to 1 percent of the funds made available for a fiscal year to carry out the program.

''(2) ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—Of the funds remaining after grants are made under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall allocate additional funds to each State that is operating a school lunch program under section 4 based on the proportion that—

''(A) the population of the State; bears to

''(B) the population of the United States.

''(d) SELECTION OF SCHOOLS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In selecting schools to participate in the program, each State shall—

''(A) ensure that each school chosen to participate in the program is a school—

''(i) except as provided in paragraph (2), in which not less than 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced price meals under this Act; and

''(ii) that submits an application in accordance with subparagraph (C); and

''(B) to the maximum extent practicable, give the highest priority to schools with the highest proportion of children who are eligible for free or reduced price meals under this Act;

''(C) solicit applications from interested schools that include—

''(i) information pertaining to the percentage of students enrolled in the school submitting the application who are eligible for free or reduced price school lunches under this Act;

''(ii) a certification of support for participation in the program signed by the school food manager, the school principal, and the district superintendent (or equivalent positions, as determined by the school); and

''(iii) such other information as may be requested by the Secretary;

''(D) give priority to schools that submit a plan for implementation of the program that includes a partnership with 1 or more entities that provide non-Federal resources (including entities representing the fruit and vegetable industry) for—

''(i) the acquisition, handling, promotion, or distribution of fresh and dried fruits and fresh vegetables; or

''(ii) other support that contributes to the purposes of the program;

''(E) give priority to schools that provide evidence of efforts to integrate activities carried out under this section with other efforts to promote sound health and nutrition, reduce overweight and obesity, or promote physical activity; and

''(F) ensure that each school selected is an elementary school.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) of paragraph (1)(A) shall not apply to a State if the State does not have a sufficient number of schools that meet the requirement of that clause.

''(3) CONSORTIA.—A consortia of schools may apply for funding under this section.

''(e) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the program, a school shall widely publicize within the school the availability of free fresh fruits and vegetables under the program.

''(f) PER-STUDENT GRANT.—The per-student grant provided to a school under this section shall be—

''(1) determined by a State agency; and

''(2) not less than $50, nor more than $75, annually.

''(g) LIMITATION.—To the maximum extent practicable, each State agency shall ensure that in making available to students the fruits and vegetables provided under this section, schools participating in the program offer the fruits and vegetables separately from meals otherwise provided at the school under this Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).

''(h) SCHOOLS ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS.—The Secretary shall ensure that not less than 100 of the schools chosen to participate in the program are schools operated on Indian reservations.

''(i) EVALUATION AND REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of the program, including a determination as to whether children experienced, as a result of participating in the program—

''(A) increased consumption of fruits and vegetables;

''(B) other dietary changes, such as decreased consumption of less nutritious foods; and

''(C) such other outcomes as are considered appropriate by the Secretary.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2011, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, a report that describes the results of the evaluation under paragraph (1).

''(j) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out this section—

''(A) on October 1, 2007, $225,000,000; and

''(B) on October 1, 2008, and each October 1 thereafter, the amount made available for the preceding fiscal year, as adjusted to reflect changes for the 12-month period ending the preceding June 30 in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor, for items other than food.

''(2) EVALUATION FUNDING.—On October 1, 2007, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out the evaluation required under subsection (i), $3,000,000, to remain available until expended.

''(3) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out this section any funds transferred for that purpose, without further appropriation.

''(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to any other amounts made available to carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to expand the program established under this section.

''(5) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Of funds made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary may use not more than $500,000 for the administrative costs of carrying out the program.

''(6) REALLOCATION.—

''(A) AMONG STATES.—The Secretary may reallocate any amounts made available to carry out this section that are not obligated or expended by a date determined by the Secretary.

''(B) WITHIN STATES.—A State that receives a grant under this section may reallocate any amounts made available under the grant that are not obligated or expended by a date determined by the Secretary.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 18 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (g); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (h) through (k) as subsections (g) through (j), respectively.

SEC. 4904. BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) Federal law requires that commodities and products purchased with Federal funds be, to the maximum extent practicable, of domestic origin;

(2) Federal Buy American statutory requirements seek to ensure that purchases made with Federal funds benefit domestic producers; and

(3) the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) requires the use of domestic food products for all meals served under the school lunch program, including food products purchased with local funds.

(b) BUY AMERICAN STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary should undertake training, guidance, and enforcement of the various Buy American statutory requirements and regulations in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, including requirements of—

(1) the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.); and

(2) the Department of Defense fresh fruit and vegetable distribution program.

SEC. 4905. MINIMUM PURCHASES OF FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS THROUGH SECTION 32 TO SUPPORT DOMESTIC NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) MINIMUM FUNDING FOR PURCHASES OF FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS.—In lieu of the purchases of fruits, vegetables, and nuts required by section 10603 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 612c–4), the Secretary shall purchase fruits, vegetables, and nuts for the purpose of providing nutritious foods for use in domestic nutrition assistance programs, using, of the funds made available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), the following amounts:

(1) $390,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

(2) $393,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(3) $399,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

(4) $403,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

(5) $406,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and each fiscal year thereafter.

(b) FORM OF PURCHASES.—Fruits, vegetables, and nuts may be purchased under this section in frozen, canned, dried, or fresh form.

(c) VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS.—The Secretary may offer value-added products containing fruits, vegetables, or nuts under this section, taking into consideration—

(1) whether demand exists for the value-added product; and

(2) the interests of entities that receive fruits, vegetables, and nuts under this section.

SEC. 4906. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO RENAMING OF FOOD STAMP PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) Section 4 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2013) is amended in the section heading by striking ''FOOD STAMP PROGRAM'' and inserting ''FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM''.

(2) Section 5(h)(2)(A) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2014(h)(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''Food Stamp Disaster Task Force'' and inserting ''Food and Nutrition Disaster Task Force''.

(3) Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2015) is amended—

(A) in subsection (d)(3), by striking ''eligible for food stamps'' and inserting ''eligible to receive food and nutrition assistance'';

(B) in subsection (g), by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(C) in subsection (j), in the subsection heading, by striking ''FOOD STAMP'' and inserting ''FOOD AND NUTRITION''; and

(D) in subsection (o)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(ii) in paragraph (6)—

(I) in subparagraph (A)—

(aa) in clause (i), by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(bb) in clause (ii)—

(AA) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking ''a food stamp recipient'' and inserting ''a member of a household that receives food and nutrition assistance''; and

(BB) by striking ''food stamp benefits'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(II) in subparagraphs (D) and (E), by striking ''food stamp recipients'' each place it appears and inserting ''members of households that receive food and nutrition assistance''.

(4) Section 7 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2016) (as amended by section 4202(a)(11)) is amended—

(A) in subsection (h)—

(i) in paragraph (3)(B)(ii), by striking ''food stamp households'' and inserting ''households receiving food and nutrition assistance''; and

(ii) in paragraph (7), by striking ''food stamp issuance'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance issuance''; and

(B) in subsection (j)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance benefits''; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking ''food stamp retail'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance retail''.

(5) Section 9(b)(1) of that Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2018(b)(1)) is amended by striking ''food stamp households'' and inserting ''households that receive food and nutrition assistance''.

(6) Section 11 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2020) (as amended by section 4202(b)(9)(B)(III)) is amended—

(A) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''food stamp offices'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance offices''; and

(II) in subparagraph (B)—

(aa) in clause (iii), by striking ''food stamp office'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance office'';

(bb) in clause (v)(II), by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(cc) in clause (vii), by striking ''food stamp offices'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance offices'';

(ii) in paragraph (14), by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(iii) in paragraph (15), by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(iv) in paragraph (23)—

(I) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''Simplified Food Stamp Program'' and inserting ''Simplified Food and Nutrition Assistance Program''; and

(II) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(B) in subsection (k), by striking ''may issue, upon request by the State agency, food stamps'' and inserting ''may provide, on request by the State agency, food and nutrition assistance'';

(C) in subsection (l), by striking ''food stamp participation'' and inserting ''food and nutrition program participation'';

(D) in subsections (q) and (r), in the subsection headings, by striking ''FOOD STAMPS'' each place it appears and inserting ''FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE'';

(E) in subsection (s), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(F) in subsection (t)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''food stamp application'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance application''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''.

(7) Section 14(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2023(b)) is amended by striking ''food stamp allotments'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''.

(8) Section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2025) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(4), by striking ''food stamp informational activities'' and inserting ''informational activities relating to the food and nutrition program'';

(B) in subsection (c)(9)(C), by striking ''food stamp caseload'' and inserting ''the caseload under the food and nutrition program''; and

(C) in subsection (h)(1)(E)(i), by striking ''food stamp recipients'' and inserting ''households receiving food and nutrition assistance''.

(9) Section 17 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2026) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(2), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance benefits'';

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(II) in subparagraph (B)—

(aa) in clause (ii)(II), by striking ''food stamp recipients'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance recipients'';

(bb) in clause (iii)(I), by striking ''the State's food stamp households'' and inserting ''the number of households in the State receiving food and nutrition assistance''; and

(cc) in clause (iv)(IV)(bb), by striking ''food stamp deductions'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance deductions'';

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(iii) in paragraph (3)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''food stamp employment'' and inserting ''food and nutrition program employment'';

(II) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''food stamp recipients'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance recipients'';

(III) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(IV) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance benefits'';

(C) in subsection (c), by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(D) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(ii) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''food stamp allotments'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(II) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking ''food stamp benefit'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''; and

(iii) in paragraph (3)(E), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(E) in subsections (e) and (f), by striking ''food stamp benefits'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(F) in subsection (g), in the first sentence, by striking ''receipt of food stamp'' and inserting ''receipt of food and nutrition assistance''; and

(G) in subsection (j), by striking ''food stamp agencies'' and inserting ''food and nutrition program agencies''.

(10) Section 18(a)(3)(A)(ii) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2027(a)(3)(A)(ii)) is amended by striking ''food stamps'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''.

(11) Section 21(d)(3) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2030(d)(3)) is amended by striking ''food stamp benefits'' and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance''.

(12) Section 22 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2031) is amended—

(A) in the section heading, by striking ''FOOD STAMP PORTION OF MINNESOTA FAMILY INVESTMENT PLAN'' and inserting ''FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PORTION OF MINNESOTA FAMILY INVESTMENT PROJECT'';

(B) in subsections (b)(12) and (d)(3), by striking ''the Food Stamp Act, as amended,'' each place it appears and inserting ''this Act''; and

(C) in subsection (g)(1), by striking ''the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.)'' and inserting ''this Act''.

(13) Section 26 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2035) is amended—

(A) in the section heading, by striking ''SIMPLIFIED FOOD STAMP PROGRAM'' and inserting ''SIMPLIFIED FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM''; and

(B) in subsection (b), by striking ''simplified food stamp program'' and inserting ''simplified food and nutrition program''.

(b) CONFORMING CROSS-REFERENCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each provision of law described in paragraph (2) is amended (as applicable)—

(A) by striking ''food stamp program'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition program'';

(B) by striking ''Food Stamp Act of 1977'' each place it appears and inserting ''Food and Nutrition Act of 2007'';

(C) by striking ''Food Stamp Act'' each place it appears and inserting ''Food and Nutrition Act of 2007'';

(D) by striking ''food stamp'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(E) by striking ''food stamps'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(F) in each applicable title, subtitle, chapter, subchapter, and section heading, by striking ''**FOOD STAMP**'' each place it appears and inserting ''**FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**'';

(G) in each applicable subsection and appropriations heading, by striking ''**FOOD STAMP**'' each place it appears and inserting ''**FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**'';

(H) in each applicable heading other than a title, subtitle, chapter, subchapter, section, subsection, or appropriations heading, by striking ''FOOD STAMP'' each place it appears and inserting ''FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE'';

(I) in each applicable title, subtitle, chapter, subchapter, and section heading, by striking ''food stamps'' each place it appears and inserting ''food and nutrition assistance'';

(J) in each applicable subsection and appropriations heading, by striking ''FOOD STAMPS'' each place it appears and inserting ''FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE''; and

(K) in each applicable heading other than a title, subtitle, chapter, subchapter, section, subsection, or appropriations heading, by striking ''FOOD STAMPS'' each place it appears and inserting ''FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE''.

(2) PROVISIONS OF LAW.—The provisions of law referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

(A) The Hunger Prevention Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–435; 102 Stat. 1645).

(B) The Food Stamp Program Improvements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–225; 108 Stat. 106).

(C) Title IV of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–171; 116 Stat. 305).

(D) Section 2 of Public Law 103–205 (7 U.S.C. 2012 note).

(E) Section 807(b) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (7 U.S.C. 2014 note; Public Law 100–77).

(F) The Electronic Benefit Transfer Interoperability and Portability Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–171; 114 Stat. 3).

(G) Section 502(b) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 2025 note; Public Law 105–185).

(H) The National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.).

(I) The Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7501 et seq.).

(J) The Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(K) Section 8119 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1999 (10 U.S.C. 113 note; Public Law 105–262).

(L) The Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Act of 1993 (15 U.S.C. 5901 et seq.).

(M) Title 18, United States Code.

(N) The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

(O) The Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(P) Section 650 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2000 (26 U.S.C. 7801 note; Public Law 106–58).

(Q) The Wagner-Peysner Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.).

(R) The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.).

(S) Title 31, United States Code.

(T) Title 37, United States Code.

(U) The Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.).

(V) Titles II through XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).

(W) Section 406 of the Family Support Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–485; 102 Stat. 2400).

(X) Section 232 of the Social Security Act Amendments of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 1314a).

(Y) The United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.).

(Z) The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

(AA) The Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).

(BB) The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

(CC) Section 208 of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4728).

(DD) The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

(EE) The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.).

(FF) Section 658K of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858i).

(GG) The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

(HH) Public Law 95–348 (92 Stat. 487).

(II) The Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Public Law 97–98; 95 Stat. 1213).

(JJ) The Disaster Assistance Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–387; 102 Stat. 924).

(KK) The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–624; 104 Stat. 3359).

(LL) The Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (Public Law 101–625; 104 Stat. 4079).

(MM) Section 388 of the Persian Gulf Conflict Supplemental Authorization and Personnel Benefits Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–25; 105 Stat. 98).

(NN) The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act Amendments of 1991 (Public Law 102–237; 105 Stat. 1818).

(OO) The Act of March 26, 1992 (Public Law 102–265; 106 Stat. 90).

(PP) Public Law 105–379 (112 Stat. 3399).

(QQ) Section 101(c) of the Emergency Supplemental Act, 2000 (Public Law 106–246; 114 Stat. 528).

(c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any Federal, State, tribal, or local law (including regulations) to the ''food stamp program'' established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) shall be considered to be a reference to the ''food and nutrition program'' established under that Act.

SEC. 4907. EFFECTIVE AND IMPLEMENTATION DATES.

(a) GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as otherwise provided in this title, this title and the amendments made by this title take effect on April 1, 2008.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO PROGRAM BENEFITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A State agency may implement the amendments made by part II of subtitle A beginning on a date (as determined by the State agency) during the period beginning on April 1, 2008, and ending on October 1, 2008.

(2) CERTIFICATION PERIOD.—At the option of a State agency, the State agency may implement 1 or more of the amendments made by sections 4103 and 4104 for a certification period that begins not earlier than the implementation date determined by the State under paragraph (1).

SEC. 4908. APPLICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title or amendments made by this title, the amendments made by the provisions described in subsection (b) shall be in effect during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act (or such other effective date as is otherwise provided in this title) and ending on September 30, 2012.

(b) PROVISIONS.—The provisions referred to in subsection (a) are—

(1) section 4101;

(2) section 4102;

(3) section 4103;

(4) section 4104;

(5) section 4107;

(6) section 4108;

(7) section 4109;

(8) section 4110(a)(2);

(9) section 4208;

(10) section 4701(a)(3);

(11) section 4801(g); and

(12) section 4903.

TITLE V—CREDIT

Subtitle A—Farm Ownership Loans

SEC. 5001. DIRECT LOANS.

Section 302 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1922) is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through ''(a) The Secretary is authorized to'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 302. PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR REAL ESTATE LOANS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may''; and

(2) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting '', taking into consideration all farming experience of the applicant, without regard to any lapse between farming experiences'' after ''farming operations''.

SEC. 5002. PURPOSES OF LOANS.

Section 303(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1923(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(F) refinancing guaranteed farm ownership loans of qualified beginning farmers and ranchers under this subtitle that were used to carry out purposes described in subparagraphs (A) through (E).''.

SEC. 5003. SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION.

Section 304 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1924) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''or conversion to a certified organic farm in accordance with the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.)'' after ''systems'';

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) the implementation of 1 or more practices under the environmental quality section of the comprehensive stewardship incentives program established under subchapter A of chapter 6 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985; and''; and

(2) by striking subsections (b) and (c) and inserting the following:

''(b) PRIORITY.—In making or guaranteeing loans under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to—

''(1) qualified beginning farmers or ranchers and socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers;

''(2) owners or tenants who use the loans to convert to sustainable or organic agricultural production systems;

''(3) producers who use the loans to build conservation structures or establish conservation practices to comply with section 1212 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3812); and

''(4) producers who have a certification from the Natural Resources Conservation Service issued pursuant to section 1240B(d) of the Food Security Act of 1985.''.

SEC. 5004. LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNT OF FARM OWNERSHIP LOANS.

Section 305(a)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1925(a)(2)) is amended by striking ''$200,000'' and inserting ''$300,000''.

SEC. 5005. DOWN PAYMENT LOAN PROGRAM.

Section 310E of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1935) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting ''and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers'' after ''ranchers'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) PRINCIPAL.—

''(A) PURCHASE PRICE OF $500,000 OR LESS.—Each loan made under this section for a purchase price that is $500,000 or less, shall be in an amount that does not exceed 45 percent of the lesser of—

''(i) the purchase price; or

''(ii) the appraised value of the farm or ranch to be acquired.

''(B) PURCHASE PRICE GREATER THAN $500,000.—Each loan made under this section for a purchase price that is greater than $500,000, shall be in an amount that does not exceed 45 percent of the lesser of—

''(i) $500,000; or

''(ii) the appraised value of the farm or ranch to be acquired.'';

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) INTEREST RATE.—The interest rate on any loan made by the Secretary under this section shall be a rate equal to the greater of—

''(A) the difference obtained by subtracting 400 basis points from the interest rate for regular farm ownership loans under this subtitle; or

''(B) 2 percent.''; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking ''15'' and inserting ''20'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''10 percent'' and inserting ''5 percent'';

(B) by striking paragraph (2);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2); and

(D) in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), by striking ''15-year'' and inserting ''20-year''; and

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking the ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) establish annual performance goals to promote the use of the down payment loan program and other joint financing participation loans as the preferred choice for direct real estate loans made by any lender to a qualified beginning farmer or rancher or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher.''.

SEC. 5006. BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER CONTRACT LAND SALES PROGRAM.

Section 310F of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1936) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 310F. BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER CONTRACT LAND SALES PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary shall, in accordance with each condition described in subsection (b), provide a prompt payment guarantee for any loan made by a private seller of farmland or ranch land to a qualified beginning farmer or rancher on a contract land sale basis.

''(b) CONDITIONS FOR GUARANTEE.—To receive a guarantee for a loan by the Secretary under subsection (a)—

''(1) the qualified beginning farmer or rancher shall—

''(A) on the date on which the contract land sale that is the subject of the loan is complete, own and operate the farmland or ranch land that is the subject of the contract land sale;

''(B) on the date on which the contract land sale that is the subject of the loan is commenced—

''(i) have a credit history that—

''(I) includes a record of satisfactory debt repayment, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(II) is acceptable to the Secretary; and

''(ii) demonstrate to the Secretary that the qualified beginning farmer or rancher is unable to obtain sufficient credit without a guarantee to finance any actual need of the qualified beginning farmer or rancher at a reasonable rate or term;

''(2) the loan made by the private seller of farmland or ranch land to the qualified beginning farmer or rancher on a contract land sale basis shall meet applicable underwriting criteria, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(3) to carry out the loan—

''(A) a commercial lending institution shall agree to serve as an escrow agent; or

''(B) the private seller of farmland or ranch land, in cooperation with the qualified beginning farmer or rancher, shall use an appropriate alternate arrangement, as determined by the Secretary.

''(c) LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) DOWN PAYMENT.—The Secretary shall not guarantee a loan made by a private seller of farmland or ranch land to a qualified beginning farmer or rancher under subsection (a) if the contribution of the qualified beginning farmer or rancher to the down payment for the farmland or ranch land that is the subject of the contract land sale would be an amount less than 5 percent of the purchase price of the farmland or ranch land.

''(2) MAXIMUM PURCHASE PRICE.—The Secretary shall not guarantee a loan made by a private seller of farmland or ranch land to a qualified beginning farmer or rancher under subsection (a) if the purchase price or the appraisal value of the farmland or ranch land that is the subject of the contract land sale is an amount greater than $500,000.

''(d) PERIOD OF GUARANTEE.—The Secretary shall guarantee a loan made by a private seller of farmland or ranch land to a qualified beginning farmer or rancher under subsection (a) for a 10-year period beginning on the date on which the Secretary guarantees the loan.

''(e) PROMPT PAYMENT GUARANTEE.—The Secretary shall provide to a private seller of farmland or ranch land who makes a loan to a qualified beginning farmer or rancher that is guaranteed by the Secretary, a prompt payment guarantee, which shall cover—

''(1) 3 amortized annual installments; or

''(2) an amount equal to 3 annual installments (including an amount equal to the total cost of any tax and insurance incurred during the period covered by the annual installments).''.

Subtitle B—Operating Loans

SEC. 5101. FARMING EXPERIENCE AS ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT.

Section 311 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1941) is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and all that follows through ''(a) The Secretary is authorized to'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 311. PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may'';

(2) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting '', taking into consideration all farming experience of the applicant, without regard to any lapse between farming experiences'' after ''farming operations''; and

(3) in subsection (c)(1)(C), by striking ''6'' and inserting ''7''.

SEC. 5102. LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNT OF OPERATING LOANS.

Section 313(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1943(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''$200,000'' and inserting ''$300,000''.

SEC. 5103. LIMITATION ON PERIOD BORROWERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GUARANTEED ASSISTANCE.

Section 319 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1949) is repealed.

Subtitle C—Administrative Provisions

SEC. 5201. BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS PILOT PROGRAM.

The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act is amended by adding after section 333A (7 U.S.C. 1983a) the following:

''SEC. 333B. BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS PILOT PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—The term 'demonstration program' means a demonstration program carried out by a qualified entity under the pilot program established in subsection (b)(1).

''(2) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT.—The term 'eligible participant' means a qualified beginning farmer or rancher that—

''(A) lacks significant financial resources or assets; and

''(B) has an income that is less than—

''(i) 80 percent of the median income of the area in which the eligible participant is located; or

''(ii) 200 percent of the most recent annual Federal Poverty Income Guidelines published by the Department of Health and Human Services for that area.

''(3) INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT.—The term 'individual development account' means a savings account described in subsection (b)(4)(A).

''(4) QUALIFIED ENTITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified entity' means—

''(i) 1 or more organizations—

''(I) described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

''(II) exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code; or

''(ii) a State, local, or tribal government submitting an application jointly with an organization described in clause (i).

''(B) NO PROHIBITION ON COLLABORATION.—An organization described in subparagraph (A)(i) may collaborate with a financial institution or for-profit community development corporation to carry out the purposes of this section.

''(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a pilot program to be known as the 'New Farmer Individual Development Accounts Pilot Program' under which the Secretary shall work through qualified entities to establish demonstration programs—

''(A) of at least 5 years in duration; and

''(B) in at least 15 States.

''(2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall operate the pilot program through, and in coordination with the farm loan programs of, the Farm Service Agency.

''(3) RESERVE FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each demonstration program shall establish a reserve fund consisting of a non-Federal match of 25 percent of the total amount of the grant awarded to the demonstration program under this section.

''(B) FEDERAL FUNDS.—After a demonstration program has deposited in the reserve fund the non-Federal matching funds described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall provide to the demonstration program for deposit in the reserve fund the total amount of the grant awarded under this section.

''(C) USE OF FUNDS.—Of funds deposited in a reserve fund under subparagraphs (A) and (B), a demonstration program—

''(i) may use up to 20 percent for administrative expenses; and

''(ii) shall use the remainder to make matching awards described in paragraph (4)(B)(ii)(I).

''(D) INTEREST.—Any interest earned on amounts in a reserve fund established under subparagraph (A) may be used as additional matching funds for, or to administer, the demonstration program.

''(E) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary shall implement guidance regarding the investment requirements of reserve funds established under this paragraph.

''(4) INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A qualified entity receiving a grant under this section shall establish and administer an individual development account for each eligible participant.

''(B) CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to receive funds under this section from a qualified entity, each eligible participant shall enter into a contract with a qualified entity under which—

''(i) the eligible participant shall agree—

''(I) to deposit a certain amount of funds of the eligible participant in a personal savings account, as prescribed by the contractual agreement between the eligible participant and the qualified entity; and

''(II) to use the funds described in subclause (I) only for 1 or more eligible expenditures described in paragraph (5)(A); and

''(ii) the qualified entity shall agree—

''(I) to deposit not later than 1 month after a deposit described in clause (i)(I) at least a 100-percent, and up to a 300-percent, match of that amount into the individual development account established for the eligible participant;

''(II) with uses of funds proposed by the eligible participant; and

''(III) to complete qualified financial training.

''(C) LIMITATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A qualified entity administering a demonstration program may provide not more than $9,000 for each fiscal year in matching funds to any eligible participant.

''(ii) TREATMENT OF AMOUNT.—An amount provided under clause (i) shall not be considered to be a gift or loan for mortgage purposes.

''(D) INTEREST.—Any interest earned on amounts in an individual development account shall be compounded with amounts otherwise deposited in the individual development account.

''(5) ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible expenditure described in this subparagraph is an expenditure—

''(i) to purchase farmland or make a down payment on an accepted purchase offer for farmland;

''(ii) to make mortgage payments for up to 180 days after the date of purchase of farmland;

''(iii) to purchase farm equipment or production, storage, or marketing infrastructure or buy into an existing value-added business;

''(iv) to purchase breeding stock or fruit or nut trees or trees to harvest for timber;

''(v) to pay training or mentorship expenses to facilitate specific entrepreneurial agricultural activities; and

''(vi) for other similar expenditures, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) TIMING.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible expenditure may be made at any time during the 2-year period beginning on the date on which the last matching funds are provided under paragraph (4)(B)(ii)(I).

''(ii) UNEXPENDED FUNDS.—Funds remaining in an individual development account after the period described in clause (i) shall revert to the reserve fund of the demonstration program.

''(C) PROHIBITION.—An eligible participant that uses funds in an individual development account for an eligible expenditure described in subparagraph (A)(viii) shall not be eligible to receive funds for a substantially similar purpose (as determined by the Secretary) under the national organic program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.).

''(c) APPLICATIONS.—

''(1) ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall—

''(A) publicly announce the availability of funding under this section for demonstration programs; and

''(B) ensure that applications to carry out demonstration programs are widely available to qualified entities.

''(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this section, a qualified entity may submit to the Secretary an application to carry out a demonstration program.

''(3) CRITERIA.—In considering whether to approve an application to carry out a demonstration program, the Secretary shall assess—

''(A) the degree to which the demonstration program described in the application is likely to aid eligible participants in successfully pursuing new farming opportunities;

''(B) the experience and ability of the qualified entity to responsibly administer the project;

''(C) the experience and ability of the qualified entity in recruiting, educating, and assisting eligible participants to increase economic independence and pursue or advance farming opportunities;

''(D) the aggregate amount of direct funds from non-Federal public sector and private sources that are formally committed to the demonstration program as matching contributions;

''(E) the adequacy of the plan for providing information relevant to an evaluation of the demonstration program; and

''(F) such other factors as the Secretary considers to be appropriate.

''(4) PREFERENCES.—In considering an application to conduct a demonstration program under this part, the Secretary shall give preference to an application from a qualified entity that demonstrates—

''(A) a track record of serving clients targeted by the program, including, as appropriate, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers; and

''(B) expertise in dealing with financial management aspects of farming.

''(5) APPROVAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, in accordance with this section, the Secretary shall, on a competitive basis, approve such applications to conduct demonstration programs as the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(B) DIVERSITY.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that approved applications involve demonstration programs for a range of geographic areas and diverse populations.

''(6) TERM OF AUTHORITY.—If the Secretary approves an application to carry out a demonstration program, the Secretary shall authorize the applying qualified entity to carry out the project for a period of 5 years, plus an additional 2 years for the making of eligible expenditures in accordance with subsection (b)(5)(B).

''(d) GRANT AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For each year during which a demonstration program is carried out under this section, the Secretary shall make a grant to the qualified entity authorized to carry out the demonstration program.

''(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The aggregate amount of grant funds provided to a demonstration program carried out under this section shall not exceed $300,000.

''(e) REPORTS.—

''(1) ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the end of the calendar year in which the Secretary authorizes a qualified entity to carry out a demonstration program, and annually thereafter until the conclusion of the demonstration program, the qualified entity shall prepare an annual report that includes, for the period covered by the report—

''(i) an evaluation of the progress of the demonstration program;

''(ii) information about the demonstration program and eligible participants;

''(iii) the number and characteristics of individuals that have made 1 or more deposits into an individual development account;

''(iv) the amounts in the reserve fund established with respect to the program;

''(v) the amounts deposited in the individual development accounts;

''(vi) the amounts withdrawn from the individual development accounts and the purposes for which the amounts were withdrawn;

''(vii) the balances remaining in the individual development accounts;

''(viii) such other information as the Secretary may require.

''(B) SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.—A qualified entity shall submit each report required under subparagraph (A) to the Secretary.

''(2) REPORTS BY THE SECRETARY.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which all demonstration programs under this section are concluded, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a final report that describes the results and findings of all reports and evaluations carried out under this section.

''(f) REGULATIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may promulgate regulations to ensure that the program includes provisions for—

''(1) the termination of demonstration programs;

''(2) control of the reserve funds in the case of such a termination;

''(3) transfer of demonstration programs to other qualified entities; and

''(4) remissions from a reserve fund to the Secretary in a case in which a demonstration program is terminated without transfer to a new qualified entity.

''(g) FUNDING.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(2) ADMINISTRATION AND TRAINING.—Of the total funds made available under paragraph (1) and in addition to any other available funds, not more than 10 percent may be used by the Secretary—

''(A) to administer the pilot program; and

''(B) to provide training, or hire 1 or more consultants to provide training, to instruct qualified entities in carrying out demonstration programs, including payment of reasonable costs incurred with respect to that training for—

''(i) staff or consultant travel;

''(ii) lodging;

''(iii) meals; and

''(iv) materials.''.

SEC. 5202. INVENTORY SALES PREFERENCES; LOAN FUND SET-ASIDES.

(a) INVENTORY SALES PREFERENCES.—Section 335(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1985(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting ''; SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER'' after ''OR RANCHER'';

(ii) in clause (i), by inserting '' or a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''or rancher'';

(iii) in clause (ii), by inserting ''or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''or rancher'';

(iv) in clause (iii), by inserting ''or a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''or rancher''; and

(v) in clause (iv), by inserting ''and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers'' after ''and ranchers''; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting ''or a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''or rancher'';

(2) in paragraph (5)(B)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) in the clause heading, by inserting ''; SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER'' after ''OR RANCHER'';

(ii) by inserting ''or a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''a beginning farmer or rancher''; and

(iii) by inserting ''or the socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''the beginning farmer or rancher''; and

(B) in clause (ii)—

(i) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by inserting ''or a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''or rancher''; and

(ii) in subclause (II), by inserting ''or the socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''or rancher''; and

(3) in paragraph (6)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''or a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher'' after ''or rancher''; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) in clause (i)(I), by inserting ''and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers'' after ''and ranchers''; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by inserting ''or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers'' after ''or ranchers''.

(b) LOAN FUND SET-ASIDES.—Section 346(b)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1994(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) in subclause (I), by striking ''70 percent'' and inserting ''an amount that is not less than 75 percent of the total amount''; and

(ii) in subclause (II)—

(I) in the subclause heading, by inserting ''; JOINT FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS'' after ''PAYMENT LOANS'';

(II) by striking ''60 percent'' and inserting ''an amount not less than ⅔ of the amount''; and

(III) by inserting ''and joint financing arrangements under section 307(a)(3)(D)'' after ''section 310E''; and

(B) in clause (ii)(III), by striking ''2003 through 2007, 35 percent'' and inserting ''2008 through 2012, an amount that is not less than 50 percent of the total amount''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking ''25 percent'' and inserting ''an amount that is not less than 40 percent of the total amount''.

SEC. 5203. TRANSITION TO PRIVATE COMMERCIAL OR OTHER SOURCES OF CREDIT.

Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act is amended by inserting after section 344 (7 U.S.C. 1992) the following:

''SEC. 345. TRANSITION TO PRIVATE COMMERCIAL OR OTHER SOURCES OF CREDIT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In making or insuring a farm loan under subtitle A or B, the Secretary shall establish a plan and promulgate regulations (including performance criteria) that promote the goal of transitioning borrowers to private commercial credit and other sources of credit in the shortest practicable period of time.

''(b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall integrate and coordinate the transition policy described in subsection (a) with—

''(1) the borrower training program established by section 359;

''(2) the loan assessment process established by section 360;

''(3) the supervised credit requirement established by section 361;

''(4) the market placement program established by section 362; and

''(5) other appropriate programs and authorities, as determined by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 5204. LOAN AUTHORIZATION LEVELS.

Section 346(b)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1994(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''$3,796,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007'' and inserting ''$4,226,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012''; and

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''$770,000,000'' and inserting ''$1,200,000,000'';

(B) in clause (i), by striking ''$205,000,000'' and inserting ''$350,000,000''; and

(C) in clause (ii), by striking ''$565,000,000'' and inserting ''$850,000,000''.

SEC. 5205. INTEREST RATE REDUCTION PROGRAM.

Section 351(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1999(a)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''AND AVAILABILITY'' after ''ESTABLISHMENT'';

(2) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—The program established under paragraph (1) shall be available with respect to new guaranteed operating loans or guaranteed operating loans restructured under this title after the date of enactment of this paragraph that meet the requirements of subsection (b).''.

SEC. 5206. DEFERRAL OF SHARED APPRECIATION RECAPTURE AMORTIZATION.

Section 353(e)(7)(D) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2001(e)(7)(D)) is amended—

(1) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting ''AND DEFERRAL'' after ''REAMORTIZATION''; and

(2) in clause (ii)—

(A) by redesignating subclause (II) as subclause (III); and

(B) by inserting after subclause (I) the following:

''(II) TERM OF DEFERRAL.—The term of a deferral under this subparagraph shall not exceed 1 year.''.

SEC. 5207. RURAL DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, AND FARM LOAN PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.

Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act is amended by inserting after section 364 (7 U.S.C. 2006f) the following:

''SEC. 365. RURAL DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, AND FARM LOAN PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.

''The Secretary may not complete a study of, or enter into a contract with a private party to carry out, without specific authorization in a subsequent Act of Congress, a competitive sourcing activity of the Secretary, including support personnel of the Department of Agriculture, relating to rural development, housing, or farm loan programs.''.

Subtitle D—Farm Credit

SEC. 5301. AUTHORITY TO PASS ALONG COST OF INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1.12(b) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2020(b)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''Each Farm'' and inserting the following;

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Farm''; and

(2) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

''(2) COMPUTATION.—The assessment on any association or other financing institution described in paragraph (1) for any period shall be computed in an equitable manner, as determined by the Corporation.''.

(b) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—Section 5.58(10) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–7(10)) is amended by inserting ''and section 1.12(b)'' after ''part''.

SEC. 5302. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Section 3.3(b) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2124(b)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''per'' and inserting ''par''.

SEC. 5303. CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMAN.

Section 5.8(a) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2242(a)) is amended in the fifth sentence by inserting ''by and with the advice and consent of the Senate,'' after ''designated by the President,''.

SEC. 5304. PREMIUMS.

(a) AMOUNT IN FUND NOT EXCEEDING SECURE BASE AMOUNT.—Section 5.55(a) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a—4(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (3)''; and

(ii) by striking ''annual'' ; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) through (D) and inserting the following:

''(A) the average outstanding insured obligations issued by the bank for the calendar year, after deducting from the obligations the percentages of the guaranteed portions of loans and investments described in paragraph (2), multiplied by 0.0020; and

''(B) the product obtained by multiplying—

''(i) the sum of—

''(I) the average principal outstanding for the calendar year on loans made by the bank that are in nonaccrual status; and

''(II) the average amount outstanding for the calendar year of other-than-temporarily impaired investments made by the bank; by

''(ii) 0.0010.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (4);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) DEDUCTIONS FROM AVERAGE OUTSTANDING INSURED OBLIGATIONS.—The average outstanding insured obligations issued by the bank for the calendar year referred to in paragraph (1)(A) shall be reduced by deducting from the obligations the sum of (as determined by the Corporation)—

''(A) 90 percent of each of —

''(i) the average principal outstanding for the calendar year on the guaranteed portions of Federal government-guaranteed loans made by the bank that are in accrual status; and

''(ii) the average amount outstanding for the calendar year of the guaranteed portions of Federal government-guaranteed investments made by the bank that are not permanently impaired; and

''(B) 80 percent of each of—

''(i) the average principal outstanding for the calendar year on the guaranteed portions of State government-guaranteed loans made by the bank that are in accrual status; and

''(ii) the average amount outstanding for the calendar year of the guaranteed portions of State government-guaranteed investments made by the bank that are not permanently impaired.'';

(5) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking ''annual''; and

(6) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated by paragraph (3))—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by inserting ''OR INVESTMENTS'' after ''LOANS''; and

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''As used'' and all that follows through ''guaranteed—'' and inserting ''In this section, the term ''government-guaranteed'', when applied to a loan or an investment, means a loan, credit, or investment, or portion of a loan, credit, or investments, that is guaranteed—''.

(b) AMOUNT IN FUND EXCEEDING SECURE BASE AMOUNT.—Section 5.55(b) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–4(b)) is amended by striking ''annual''.

(c) SECURE BASE AMOUNT.—Section 5.55(c) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–4(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''For purposes'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes'';

(2) by striking ''(adjusted downward'' and all that follows through ''by the Corporation)'' and inserting ''(as adjusted under paragraph (2))''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) ADJUSTMENT.—The aggregate outstanding insured obligations of all insured System banks under paragraph (1) shall be adjusted downward to exclude an amount equal to the sum of (as determined by the Corporation)—

''(A) 90 percent of each of—

''(i) the guaranteed portions of principal outstanding on Federal government-guaranteed loans in accrual status made by the banks; and

''(ii) the guaranteed portions of the amount of Federal government-guaranteed investments made by the banks that are not permanently impaired; and

''(B) 80 percent of each of—

''(i) the guaranteed portions of principal outstanding on State government-guaranteed loans in accrual status made by the banks; and

''(ii) the guaranteed portions of the amount of State government-guaranteed investments made by the banks that are not permanently impaired.''.

(d) DETERMINATION OF LOAN AND INVESTMENT AMOUNTS.—Section 5.55(d) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–4(d)) is amended—

(1) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''PRINCIPAL OUTSTANDING'' and inserting ''LOAN AND INVESTMENT AMOUNTS'';

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''For the purpose'' and all that follows through ''made—'' and inserting ''For the purpose of subsections (a) and (c), the principal outstanding on all loans made by an insured System bank, and the amount outstanding on all investments made by an insured System bank, shall be determined based on—'';

(3) by inserting ''all loans or investments made'' before ''by'' the first place it appears in each of paragraph (1), (2), and (3); and

(4) in paragraphs (1) and (2), by inserting ''or investments'' after ''that is able to make such loans'' each place it appears.

(e) ALLOCATION TO SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS OF EXCESS RESERVES.—Section 5.55(e) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–4(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking ''the average secure base amount for the calendar year (as calculated on an average daily balance basis)'' and inserting ''the secure base amount'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) there shall be credited to the Allocated Insurance Reserves Account of each insured System bank an amount that bears the same ratio to the total amount (less any amount credited under subparagraph (A)) as—

''(i) the average principal outstanding for the calendar year on insured obligations issued by the bank (after deducting from the principal the percentages of the guaranteed portions of loans and investments described in subsection (a)(2)); bears to

''(ii) the average principal outstanding for the calendar year on insured obligations issued by all insured System banks (after deducting from the principal the percentages of the guaranteed portions of loans and investments described in subsection (a)(2)).''; and

(3) in paragraph (6)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''beginning more'' and all that follows through ''January 1, 2005'';

(ii) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) subject to subparagraph (D), pay to each insured System bank, in a manner determined by the Corporation, an amount equal to the balance in the Allocated Insurance Reserves Account of the System bank; and''; and

(iii) in clause (ii)—

(I) by striking ''subparagraphs (C), (E), and (F)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (C) and (E)''; and

(II) by striking '', of the lesser of—'' and all that follows through the end of subclause (II) and inserting ''at the time of the termination of the Financial Assistance Corporation, of the balance in the Allocated Insurance Reserves Account established under paragraph (1)(B).'';

(B) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking ''(in addition to the amounts described in subparagraph (F)(ii))''; and

(ii) by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

''(iii) TERMINATION OF ACCOUNT.—On disbursement of amount equal to $56,000,000, the Corporation shall—

''(I) close the Account established under paragraph (1)(B); and

''(II) transfer any remaining funds in the Account to the remaining Allocated Insurance Reserves Accounts in accordance with paragraph (4)(B) for the calendar year in which the transfer occurs.''.

(C) by striking subparagraph (F).

SEC. 5305. CERTIFICATION OF PREMIUMS.

(a) FILING CERTIFIED STATEMENT.—Section 5.56 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–5) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) FILING CERTIFIED STATEMENT.—On a date to be determined in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors of the Corporation, each insured System bank that became insured before the beginning of the period for which premiums are being assessed (referred to in this section as the 'period') shall file with the Corporation a certified statement showing—

''(1) the average outstanding insured obligations for the period issued by the bank;

''(2)(A) the average principal outstanding for the period on the guaranteed portion of Federal government-guaranteed loans that are in accrual status; and

''(B) the average amount outstanding for the period of Federal government-guaranteed investments that are not permanently impaired (as defined in section 5.55(a)(4));

''(3)(A) the average principal outstanding for the period on State government-guaranteed loans that are in accrual status; and

''(B) the average amount outstanding for the period of State government-guaranteed investments that are not permanently impaired (as defined in section 5.55(a)(4));

''(4)(A) the average principal outstanding for the period on loans that are in nonaccrual status; and

''(B) the average amount outstanding for the period of other-than-temporarily impaired investments; and

''(5) the amount of the premium due the Corporation from the bank for the period.''.

(b) PREMIUM PAYMENTS.—Section 5.56 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–5(c)) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) PREMIUM PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), each insured System bank shall pay to the Corporation the premium payments required under subsection (a), not more frequently than once in each calendar quarter, in such manner and at such 1 or more times as the Board of Directors shall prescribe.

''(2) PREMIUM AMOUNT.—The amount of the premium shall be established not later than 60 days after filing the certified statement specifying the amount of the premium.''.

(c) SUBSEQUENT PREMIUM PAYMENTS.—Section 5.56 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2277a–5) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d); and

(2) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d).

SEC. 5306. RURAL UTILITY LOANS.

(a) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED LOAN.—Section 8.0(9) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2279aa(9)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(iii), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) that is a loan, or an interest in a loan, for an electric or telephone facility by a cooperative lender to a borrower that has received, or is eligible to receive, a loan under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.).''.

(b) GUARANTEE OF QUALIFIED LOANS.—Section 8.6(a)(1) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2279aa–6(a)(1)) is amended by inserting ''applicable'' before ''standards'' each place it appears in subparagraphs (A) and (B)(i).

(c) STANDARDS FOR QUALIFIED LOANS.—Section 8.8 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2279aa–8) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking the first sentence and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall establish underwriting, security appraisal, and repayment standards for qualified loans taking into account the nature, risk profile, and other differences between different categories of qualified loans.

''(2) SUPERVISION, EXAMINATION, AND REPORT OF CONDITION.—The standards shall be subject to the authorities of the Farm Credit Administration under section 8.11.''; and

(B) in the last sentence, by striking ''In establishing'' and inserting the following:

''(3) MORTGAGE LOANS.—In establishing'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''with respect to loans secured by agricultural real estate'' after ''subsection (a)''; and

(B) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by striking ''borrower'' the first place it appears and inserting ''farmer or rancher''; and

(ii) by striking ''site'' and inserting ''farm or ranch'';

(3) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting ''secured by agricultural real estate'' after ''A loan'';

(4) by striking subsection (d); and

(5) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d).

(d) RISK-BASED CAPITAL LEVELS.—Section 8.32(a)(1) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2279bb–1(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''With respect'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) RURAL UTILITY LOANS.—With respect to securities representing an interest in, or obligation backed by, a pool of qualified loans described in section 8.0(9)(C) owned or guaranteed by the Corporation, losses occur at a rate of default and severity reasonably related to risks in electric and telephone facility loans (as applicable), as determined by the Director.''.

SEC. 5307. EQUALIZATION OF LOAN-MAKING POWERS OF CERTAIN DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Farm Credit Act of 1971 is amended by inserting after section 7.6 (12 U.S.C. 2279b) the following:

''SEC. 7.7. EQUALIZATION OF LOAN-MAKING POWERS OF CERTAIN DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

''(a) EQUALIZATION OF LOAN-MAKING POWERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) FEDERAL LAND BANK OR CREDIT ASSOCIATION.—Subject to paragraph (2), any association that under its charter has title II lending authority and that owns, is owned by, or is under common ownership with, a Federal land bank association authorized as of January 1, 2007, to make long-term loans under title I in the geographic area described in subsection (b) may make short- and intermediate-term loans and otherwise operate as a production credit association under title II in the geographic area.

''(B) PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATIONS.—Subject to paragraph (2), any association that under its charter has title I lending authority and that owns, is owned by, or is under common ownership with, a production credit association authorized as of January 1, 2007, to make short- and intermediate-term loans under title II in the geographic area described in subsection (b) may make long-term loans and otherwise operate as a Federal land bank association or Federal land credit association under title I in the geographic area.

''(C) FARM CREDIT BANK.—The Farm Credit Bank with which any association had a written financing agreement as of January 1, 2007, may make loans and extend other similar financial assistance with respect to, and may purchase, any loans made under the new authority provided under subparagraph (A) or (B) by an association that owns, is owned by, or is under common ownership with, the association.

''(2) REQUIRED APPROVALS.—An association may exercise the additional authority provided for in paragraph (1) only after the exercise of the authority is approved by—

''(A) the board of directors of the association; and

''(B) a majority of the voting stockholders of the association (or, if the association is a subsidiary of another association, the voting stockholders of the parent association) voting, in person or by proxy, at a duly authorized meeting of stockholders.

''(b) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies only to associations the chartered territory of which is in the geographic area served by the Federal intermediate credit bank that merged with a Farm Credit Bank under section 410(e)(1) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (12 U.S.C. 2011 note; Public Law 100–233).''.

(b) CHARTER AMENDMENTS.—Section 5.17(a) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2252(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(15)(A) Approve amendments to the charters of institutions of the Farm Credit System to implement the equalization of loan-making powers of a Farm Credit System association under section 7.7.

''(B) Amendments described in subparagraph (A) to the charters of an association and the related Farm Credit Bank shall be approved by the Farm Credit Administration on the date on which the Farm Credit Administration receives all approvals required by section 7.7(a)(2).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 5.17(a)(2) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2252(a)(2)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''(2)(A)'' and inserting ''(2)''; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C).

(2) Section 410(e)(1)(A)(iii) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (12 U.S.C. 2011 note; Public Law 100–233) is amended by inserting ''(other than section 7.7 of that Act)'' after ''(12 U.S.C. 2001 et seq.)''.

(3) Section 401(b) of the Farm Credit Banks and Associations Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 2011 note; Public Law 102–552) is amended—

(A) by inserting ''(other than section 7.7 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971)'' after ''provision of law''; and

(B) by striking '', subject to such limitations'' and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting a period.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on January 1, 2009.

Subtitle E—Miscellaneous

SEC. 5401. LOANS TO PURCHASERS OF HIGHLY FRACTIONED LAND.

The first section of Public Law 91–229 (25 U.S.C. 488) is amended—

(1) by striking ''That the Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. LOANS TO PURCHASERS OF HIGHLY FRACTIONED LAND.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) HIGHLY FRACTIONATED LAND.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of Agriculture may make and insure loans in accordance with section 309 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1929) to eligible purchasers of highly fractionated land pursuant to section 205(c) of the Indian Land Consolidation Act (25 U.S.C. 2204(c)).

''(2) EXCLUSION.—Section 4 shall not apply to trust land, restricted tribal land, or tribal corporation land that is mortgaged in accordance with paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 5402. DETERMINATION ON MERITS OF PIGFORD CLAIMS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CONSENT DECREE.—The term ''consent decree'' means the consent decree in the case of Pigford v. Glickman, approved by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia on April 14, 1999.

(2) PIGFORD CLAIM.—The term ''Pigford claim'' means a discrimination complaint, as defined by section 1(h) of the consent decree and documented under section 5(b) of the consent decree.

(3) PIGFORD CLAIMANT.—The term ''Pigford claimant'' means an individual who previously submitted a late-filing request under section 5(g) of the consent decree.

(b) DETERMINATION ON MERITS.—Any Pigford claimant who has not previously obtained a determination on the merits of a Pigford claim may, in a civil action brought in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, obtain that determination.

(c) LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), all payments or debt relief (including any limitation on foreclosure under subsection (g)) shall be made exclusively from funds made available under subsection (h).

(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The total amount of payments and debt relief pursuant to an action commenced under subsection (b) shall not exceed $100,000,000.

(d) INTENT OF CONGRESS AS TO REMEDIAL NATURE OF SECTION.—It is the intent of Congress that this section be liberally construed so as to effectuate its remedial purpose of giving a full determination on the merits for each Pigford claim denied that determination.

(e) LOAN DATA.—

(1) REPORT TO PERSON SUBMITTING PETITION.—Not later than 60 days after the Secretary receives notice of a complaint filed by a claimant under subsection (b), the Secretary shall provide to the claimant a report on farm credit loans made within the claimant's county or adjacent county by the Department during the period beginning on January 1 of the year preceding the year or years covered by the complaint and ending on December 31 of year following such year or years. Such report shall contain information on all persons whose application for a loan was accepted, including—

(A) the race of the applicant;

(B) the date of application;

(C) the date of the loan decision;

(D) the location of the office making the loan decision; and

(E) all data relevant to the process of deciding on the loan.

(2) NO PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The reports provided pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not contain any information that would identify any person that applied for a loan from the Department of Agriculture.

(f) EXPEDITED RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZED.—Any person filing a complaint under this Act for discrimination in the application for, or making or servicing of, a farm loan, at his or her discretion, may seek liquidated damages of $50,000, discharge of the debt that was incurred under, or affected by, the discrimination that is the subject of the person's complaint, and a tax payment in the amount equal to 25 percent of the liquidated damages and loan principal discharged, in which case—

(1) if only such damages, debt discharge, and tax payment are sought, the complainant shall be able to prove his or her case by substantial evidence (as defined in section 1(1) of the consent decree); and

(2) the court shall decide the case based on a review of documents submitted by the complainant and defendant relevant to the issues of liability and damages.

(g) LIMITATION ON FORECLOSURES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may not begin acceleration on or foreclosure of a loan if the borrower is a Pigford claimant and, in an appropriate administrative proceeding, makes a prima facie case that the foreclosure is related to a Pigford claim.

(h) FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available for payments and debt relief in satisfaction of claims against the United States under subsection (b) and for any actions under subsection (g) $100,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to funds made available under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 5403. SENSE OF THE SENATE RELATING TO CLAIMS BROUGHT BY SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS OR RANCHERS.

It is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary should resolve all claims and class actions brought against the Department of Agriculture by socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers (as defined in section 355(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2003(e)), including Native American, Hispanic, and female farmers or ranchers, based on racial, ethnic, or gender discrimination in farm program participation in an expeditious and just manner.

SEC. 5404. ELIGIBILITY OF EQUINE FARMERS AND RANCHERS FOR EMERGENCY LOANS.

Section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''farmers, ranchers'' and inserting ''farmers or ranchers (including equine farmers or ranchers)''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking ''farming, ranching,'' and inserting ''farming or ranching (including equine farming or ranching)''.

TITLE VI—RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT

Subtitle A—Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act

SEC. 6001. WATER, WASTE DISPOSAL, AND WASTEWATER FACILITY GRANTS.

Section 306(a)(2)(B)(vii) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(2)(B)(vii)) is amended, by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6002. RURAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY GRANTS.

Section 306(a)(11)(D) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(11)(D)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6003. CHILD DAY CARE FACILITY GRANTS, LOANS, AND LOAN GUARANTEES.

Section 306(a)(19) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(19)) is amended by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

''(C) CHILD DAY CARE FACILITIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use for the costs of grants, loans, and loan guarantees to pay the Federal share of the cost of developing and constructing day care facilities for children in rural areas, as determined by the Secretary, $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

''(ii) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FUNDING AND AUTHORITIES.—The funds and authorities made available under this subparagraph shall be in addition to other funds and authorities relating to development and construction of rural day care facilities.''.

SEC. 6004. RURAL WATER AND WASTEWATER CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM.

Section 306(a)(22) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(22)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''2002 (115 Stat. 719)'' and inserting ''2008''; and

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2003'' and inserting ''$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008''.

SEC. 6005. MULTIJURISDICTIONAL REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 306(a)(23)(E) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(23)(E)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6006. RURAL HOSPITAL LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES.

Section 306(a)(24) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(24)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) RURAL HOSPITALS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use for the costs of loans and loan guarantees to pay the Federal share of the cost of rehabilitating or improving hospitals that have not more than 100 acute beds in rural areas, as determined by the Secretary, $50,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

''(ii) PRIORITY.—In making loans and loan guarantees under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall give priority to hospitals for—

''(I) the provision of facilities to improve and install patient care, health quality outcomes, and health information technology, including computer hardware and software, equipment for electronic medical records, handheld computer technology, and equipment that improves interoperability; or

''(II) the acquisition of equipment and software purchased collectively in a cost effective manner to address technology needs.

''(iii) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FUNDING AND AUTHORITIES.—The funds and authorities made available under this subparagraph shall be in addition to other funds and authorities relating to rehabilitation and improvement of hospitals described in clause (i).''.

SEC. 6007. TRIBAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

Section 306(a)(25) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(25)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''75 percent'' and inserting ''95 percent''; and

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6008. COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS AND GRANTS FOR FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES AND OUTLYING AREAS.

Section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(26) COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS AND GRANTS FOR FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES AND OUTLYING AREAS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), of the amount that is made available for each fiscal year for each of the community facility loan and grant programs established under paragraphs (1), (19), (20), (21), and (25), the Secretary shall allocate 0.5 percent of the amount for making loans or grants (as applicable) under the program to eligible entities that are located in freely associated States or outlying areas (as those terms are defined in section 1121(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6331(c)) that are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and are otherwise covered by this Act.

''(B) REALLOCATION.—If the Secretary determines that a sufficient number of applications for loans or grants for a program described in subparagraph (A) have not been received from eligible entities for a fiscal year during the 180-day period beginning on October 1 of the fiscal year, the Secretary shall reallocate any unused funds to make loans or grants (as applicable) under the program to eligible entities that are located in States.''.

SEC. 6009. PRIORITY FOR COMMUNITY FACILITY LOAN AND GRANT PROJECTS WITH HIGH NON-FEDERAL SHARE.

Section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)) (as amended by section 6008) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(27) PRIORITY FOR COMMUNITY FACILITY LOAN AND GRANT PROJECTS WITH HIGH NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—In carrying out the community facility loan and grant programs established under paragraphs (1), (19), (20), (21), and (25), the Secretary shall give priority to projects that will be carried out with a non-Federal share of funds that is substantially greater than the minimum requirement, as determined by the Secretary by regulation.''.

SEC. 6010. SEARCH GRANTS.

Section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)) (as amended by section 6009) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(28) APPLICATIONS FILED BY ELIGIBLE COMMUNITIES.—

''(A) ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.—In this paragraph, the term 'eligible community' means a community that, as determined by the Secretary—

''(i) has a population of 2,500 or fewer inhabitants; and

''(ii) is financially distressed.

''(B) APPLICATIONS.—In the case of water and waste disposal and wastewater facilities grant programs authorized under this title, the Secretary may accept applications from eligible communities for grants for feasibility study, design, and technical assistance.

''(C) TERMS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the terms of the grant programs described in subparagraph (B) shall apply to the applications described in that subparagraph.

''(ii) EXCEPTIONS.—Grants made pursuant to applications described in subparagraph (B)—

''(I) shall fund up to 100 percent of eligible project costs; and

''(II) shall be subject to the least documentation requirements practicable.

''(iii) PROCESSING.—The Secretary shall process applications received under subparagraph (B) in the same manner as other similar grant applications.

''(D) FUNDING.—In addition to any other funds made available for technical assistance, the Secretary may use to carry out this paragraph not more than 4 percent of the total amount of funds made available for a fiscal year for water, waste disposal, and essential community facilities.''.

SEC. 6011. EMERGENCY AND IMMINENT COMMUNITY WATER ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 306A(i)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926a(i)(2)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6012. WATER SYSTEMS FOR RURAL AND NATIVE VILLAGES IN ALASKA.

Section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''make grants to the State'' and inserting ''make grants to—

''(1) the State'';

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) the Denali Commission to improve solid waste disposal sites that are contaminating, or threaten to contaminate, rural drinking water supplies in the State of Alaska.'';

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''the State of Alaska'' and inserting ''a grantee'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the subsection heading by striking ''WITH THE STATE OF ALASKA''; and

(B) by striking ''the State of Alaska'' and inserting ''the appropriate grantee under subsection (a)''; and

(4) in subsection (d)(1), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6013. GRANTS TO DEVELOP WELLS IN RURAL AREAS.

(a) GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, REFURBISHING, AND SERVICING OF INDIVIDUALLY-OWNED HOUSEHOLD WATER WELL SYSTEMS IN RURAL AREAS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH LOW OR MODERATE INCOMES.—Section 306E(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926e(d)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(b) GRANTS TO DEVELOP AREA WELLS IN ISOLATED AREAS.—Subtitle A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act is amended by inserting after section 306E (7 U.S.C. 1926e) the following:

"SEC. 306F. GRANTS TO DEVELOP AREA WELLS IN ISOLATED AREAS.

''(a) DEFINITION OF ISOLATED AREA.—In this section, the term 'isolated area' means an area—

''(1) in which the development of a traditional water system is not financially practical due to—

''(A) the distances or geography of the area; and

''(B) the limited number of households present to be served; and

''(2) that is not part of a city of more than 1,000 inhabitants.

''(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary may make grants to nonprofit organizations to develop and construct household, shared, and community water wells in isolated rural areas.

''(c) PRIORITY IN AWARDING GRANTS.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants that have demonstrated experience in developing safe and similar projects including household, shared, and community wells in rural areas.

''(d) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on receipt of a grant under this section, the water from wells funded under this section shall be tested annually for water quality, as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) RESULTS.—The results of tests under paragraph (1) shall be made available to—

''(A) the users of the wells; and

''(B) the appropriate State agency.

''(e) LIMITATION.—The amount of a grant under this section shall not exceed the lesser of—

''(1) $50,000; or

''(2) the amount that is 75 percent of the cost of a single well and associated system.

''(f) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary may not award grants under this section in any area in which a majority of the users of a proposed well have a household income that is greater than the nonmetropolitan median household income of the State or territory, as determined by the Secretary.

''(g) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 10 percent of the amount of a grant made under this section may be used to pay administrative expenses associated with providing project assistance, as determined by the Secretary.

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6014. COOPERATIVE EQUITY SECURITY GUARANTEE.

Section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by inserting ''and private investment funds that invest primarily in cooperative organizations'' after ''or nonprofit''; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting'', including guarantees described in paragraph (3)(A)(ii)'' before the period at the end;

(B) in paragraph (3)(A)—

(i) by striking ''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(A) ELIGIBILITY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) EQUITY.—The Secretary may guarantee a loan made for the purchase of preferred stock or similar equity issued by a cooperative organization or a fund that invests primarily in cooperative organizations, if the guarantee significantly benefits 1 or more entities eligible for assistance under subsection (a)(1), as determined by the Secretary.''; and

(C) in paragraph (8)(A)(ii), by striking ''a project—'' and all that follows through the end of subclause (II) and inserting ''a project that—

''(I)(aa) is in a rural area; and

''(bb) provides for the value-added processing of agricultural commodities; or

''(II) significantly benefits 1 or more entities eligible for assistance under subsection (a)(1), as determined by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 6015. RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 310B(e)(5) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)(5)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''a nationally coordinated, regionally or Statewide operated project'' and inserting ''activities to promote and assist the development of cooperatively- and mutually-owned businesses'';

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''to promote and assist the development of cooperatively- and mutually-owned businesses'' before the semicolon;

(3) by striking subparagraph (D);

(4) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (D);

(5) in subparagraph (D) (as so redesignated), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(6) by inserting after subparagraph (D) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(E) demonstrate a commitment to—

''(i) networking with and sharing the results of the efforts of the center with other cooperative development centers and other organizations involved in rural economic development efforts; and

''(ii) developing multiorganization and multistate approaches to addressing the cooperative and economic development needs of rural areas; and'';

(7) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''providing greater than'' and inserting ''providing''.

(b) AUTHORITY TO AWARD MULTIYEAR GRANTS.—Section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)) is amended by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) GRANT PERIOD.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A grant awarded to a center that has received no prior funding under this subsection shall be made for a period of 1 year.

''(B) MULTIYEAR GRANTS.—If the Secretary determines it to be in the best interest of the program, the Secretary shall award grants for a period of more than 1 year, but not more than 3 years, to a center that has successfully met the goals described in paragraph (3) in providing services under this subsection, as determined by the Secretary.''.

(c) AUTHORITY TO EXTEND GRANT PERIOD.—Section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (7), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (8), (9), and (12), respectively; and

(2) inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

''(7) AUTHORITY TO EXTEND GRANT PERIOD.—The Secretary may extend for 1 additional 12-month period the period in which a grantee may use a grant made under this subsection.''.

(d) COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (9) (as redesignated by subsection (c)(1)) the following:

''(10) COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall enter into a cooperative research agreement with 1 or more qualified academic institutions in each fiscal year to conduct research on the national economic effects of all types of cooperatives.''.

(e) ADDRESSING NEEDS OF MINORITY COMMUNITIES.—Section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (10) (as added by subsection (d)) the following:

''(11) ADDRESSING NEEDS OF MINORITY COMMUNITIES.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED.—In this paragraph, the term 'socially disadvantaged' has the meaning given the term in section 355(e).

''(B) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If the total amount appropriated under paragraph (12) for a fiscal year exceeds $7,500,000, the Secretary shall reserve an amount equal to 20 percent of the total amount appropriated for grants for cooperative development centers, individual cooperatives, or groups of cooperatives that serve socially disadvantaged communities, a majority of the boards of directors or governing boards of which are comprised of socially disadvantaged individuals.

''(ii) INSUFFICIENT APPLICATIONS.—To the extent that the Secretary determines that funds reserved under clause (i) would not be used for grants described in that clause due to insufficient applications for the grants, the Secretary shall use the funds as otherwise authorized by this subsection.''.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Paragraph (12) of section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)) (as redesignated by subsection (c)(1)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6016. GRANTS TO BROADCASTING SYSTEMS.

Section 310B(f)(3) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(f)(3)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6017. LOCALLY-PRODUCED AGRICULTURAL FOOD PRODUCTS.

Section 310B(g) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(9) LOCALLY-PRODUCED AGRICULTURAL FOOD PRODUCTS.—

''(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

''(i) LOCALLY-PRODUCED AGRICULTURAL FOOD PRODUCT.—The term 'locally-produced agricultural food product' means any agricultural product raised, produced, and distributed in—

''(I) the locality or region in which the final agricultural product is marketed, so that the total distance that the agricultural product is transported is less than 300 miles from the origin of the agricultural product; or

''(II) the State in which the agricultural product is produced.

''(ii) UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY.—The term 'underserved community' means a community (including an urban or rural community and an Indian tribal community) that has, as determined by the Secretary—

''(I) limited access to affordable, healthy foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables, in grocery retail stores or farmer-to-consumer direct markets or a high incidence of a diet-related disease as compared to the national average, including obesity; and

''(II) a high rate of hunger or food insecurity or a high poverty rate.

''(B) LOAN AND LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service in coordination with the Administration of the Agricultural Marketing Service, shall make or guarantee loans to individuals, cooperatives, businesses, and other entities to establish and facilitate enterprises that process, distribute, aggregate, store, and market locally-produced agricultural food products.

''(ii) REQUIREMENT.—The recipient of a loan or loan guarantee under clause (i) shall agree to make a reasonable effort, as determined by the Secretary, to work with retail and institutional facilities to which the recipient sells locally-produced agricultural food products to inform the consumers of the retail or institutional facilities that the consumers are purchasing or consuming locally-produced agricultural food products.

''(iii) PRIORITY.—In making or guaranteeing a loan under clause (i), the Secretary shall give priority to—

''(I) projects that support community development and farm and ranch income by marketing, distributing, storing, aggregating, or processing a locally-produced agricultural food product; and

''(II) projects that have components benefitting underserved communities.

''(iv) RETAIL OR INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES.—The Secretary may allow recipients of loans or loan guarantees under clause (i) to provide up to $250,000 in loan or loan guarantee funds per retail or institutional facility for an underserved community in a rural or nonrural area to help retail facilities—

''(I) to modify and update the facilities to accommodate locally-produced agricultural food products; and

''(II) to provide outreach to consumers about the sale of locally-produced agricultural food products.

''(v) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes projects carried out using loans or loan guarantees made under clause (i), including—

''(I) the characteristics of the communities served by the projects; and

''(II) benefits of the projects.

''(vi) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, the Secretary shall reserve not less than 5 percent of the funds made available to carry out this subsection to carry out this subparagraph.

''(II) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds reserved under subclause (I) for a fiscal year shall be reserved until April 1 of the fiscal year.''.

SEC. 6018. CENTER FOR HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT.

Paragraph (9) of section 310B(g) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)) (as added by section 6017) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) CENTER FOR HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Agricultural Marketing Service, shall establish and support a Center for Healthy Food Access and Enterprise Development.

''(ii) DUTIES.—The Center established under clause (i) shall contract with 1 or more nonprofit entities to provide technical assistance and disseminate information to food wholesalers and retailers concerning best practices for the aggregating, storage, processing, and marketing of locally-produced agricultural food products.

''(iii) DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall establish the Center not later than 180 days after the date on which funds are made available under clause (iv).

''(iv) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subparagraph $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6019. APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FOR RURAL AREAS.

Section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FOR RURAL AREAS PROGRAM.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF NATIONAL NONPROFIT AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION.—In this subsection, the term 'national nonprofit agricultural assistance institution' means an organization that—

''(A) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under 501(a) of that Code;

''(B) has staff and offices in multiple regions of the United States;

''(C) has experience and expertise in operating national sustainable agriculture technical assistance programs; and

''(D) provides the technical assistance through toll-free hotlines, 1 or more websites, publications, and workshops.

''(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a national appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program to assist agricultural producers that are seeking information to help the agricultural producers—

''(A) reduce input costs;

''(B) conserve energy resources;

''(C) diversify operations through new energy crops and energy generation facilities; and

''(D) expand markets for the agricultural commodities produced by the producers through use of practices involving sustainable agriculture.

''(3) IMPLEMENTATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out the program under this subsection by making a grant to, or offering to enter into a cooperative agreement with, a national nonprofit agricultural assistance organization.

''(B) GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant made, or cooperative agreement entered into, under subparagraph (A) shall provide 100 percent of the cost of providing information described in paragraph (2).

''(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6020. RURAL ECONOMIC AREA PARTNERSHIP ZONES.

Section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932) (as amended by section 6019) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(j) RURAL ECONOMIC AREA PARTNERSHIP ZONES.—For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this subsection and ending on September 30, 2012, the Secretary shall carry out rural economic area partnership zones in the States of New York, North Dakota, and Vermont, in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in the memorandums of agreement entered into by the Secretary for the rural economic area partnership zones, except as otherwise provided in this subsection.''.

SEC. 6021. DEFINITIONS.

(a) RURAL AREA.—Section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (13) and inserting the following:

''(13) RURAL AND RURAL AREA.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the terms 'rural' and 'rural area' mean any area other than—

''(i) a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants, except that, for all activities under programs in the rural development mission area within the areas of the County of Honolulu, Hawaii, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Secretary may designate any portion of the areas as a rural area or eligible rural community that the Secretary determines is not urban in character, other than any area included in the Honolulu Census Designated Place or the San Juan Census Designated Place;

''(ii) any urbanized area (as defined by the Bureau of the Census) contiguous and adjacent to a city or town described in clause (i); and

''(iii) any collection of census blocks contiguous to each other (as defined by the Bureau of the Census) that—

''(I) is adjacent to a city or town described in clause (i) or an urbanized area described in clause (ii); and

''(II) has a housing density that the Secretary estimates is greater than 200 housing units per square mile, except that an applicant may appeal the estimate based on actual data for the area.

''(B) WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL GRANTS AND DIRECT AND GUARANTEED LOANS.—For the purpose of water and waste disposal grants and direct and guaranteed loans provided under paragraphs (1), (2), and (24) of section 306(a), the terms 'rural' and 'rural area' mean any area other than—

''(i) an area described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) a city, town, or unincorporated area that has a population of greater than 10,000 inhabitants.

''(C) COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS AND GRANTS.—For the purpose of community facility direct and guaranteed loans and grants under paragraphs (1), (19), (20), (21), and (24) of section 306(a), the terms 'rural' and 'rural area' mean any area other than—

''(i) an area described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) a city, town, or unincorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants.''.

(b) ADDITIONAL TERMS.—Section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(14) SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE.—The term 'sustainable agriculture' means an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will, over the long-term—

''(A) satisfy human food and fiber needs;

''(B) enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agriculture economy depends;

''(C) make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls;

''(D) sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and

''(E) enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.

''(15) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The term 'technical assistance' means managerial, financial, operational, and scientific analysis and consultation to assist an individual or entity (including a borrower or potential borrower under this title)—

''(A) to identify and evaluate practices, approaches, problems, opportunities, or solutions; and

''(B) to assist in the planning, implementation, management, operation, marketing, or maintenance of projects authorized under this title.''.

SEC. 6022. RURAL MICROENTERPRISE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as amended by section 5207) is amended by inserting after section 365 the following:

''SEC. 366. RURAL MICROENTERPRISE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(2) LOW- OR MODERATE-INCOME INDIVIDUAL.—The term 'low- or moderate-income individual' means an individual with an income (adjusted for family size) of not more than 80 percent of the national median income.

''(3) MICROCREDIT.—The term 'microcredit' means a business loan or loan guarantee of not more than $50,000 that is provided to a rural microenterprise.

''(4) MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION.—The term 'microenterprise development organization' means an organization that—

''(A) is—

''(i) a nonprofit entity;

''(ii) an Indian tribe, the tribal government of which certifies to the Secretary that no microenterprise development organization or microenterprise development program exists under the jurisdiction of the Indian tribe; or

''(iii) for the purpose of subsection (b), a public institution of higher education;

''(B) provides training and technical assistance to rural microenterprises;

''(C) facilitates access to capital or another service described in subsection (b) for rural microenterprises; and

''(D) has a demonstrated record of delivering services to economically disadvantaged microenterprises, or an effective plan to develop a program to deliver microenterprise services to rural microenterprises effectively, as determined by the Secretary.

''(5) RURAL CAPACITY BUILDING SERVICE.—The term 'rural capacity building service' means a service provided to an organization that—

''(A) is, or is in the process of becoming, a microenterprise development organization; and

''(B) serves rural areas for the purpose of enhancing the ability of the organization to provide training, technical assistance, and other services relating to rural development.

''(6) RURAL MICROENTERPRISE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'rural microenterprise' means an individual described in subparagraph (B) who is unable to obtain sufficient training, technical assistance, or

microcredit other than under this section, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) DESCRIPTION.—An individual described in this subparagraph is—

''(i) a self-employed individual located in a rural area; or

''(ii) an owner and operator, or prospective owner and operator, of a business entity located in a rural area with not more than 10 full-time-equivalent employees.

''(7) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

''(b) RURAL MICROENTERPRISE PROGRAM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a rural microenterprise program.

''(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the rural microenterprise program shall be to provide low- or moderate-income individuals with—

''(A) the skills necessary to establish new rural microenterprises; and

''(B) continuing technical and financial assistance as individuals and business starting or operating rural microenterprises.

''(3) GRANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make a grant under the rural microenterprise program to microenterprise development organizations—

''(i) to provide training, operational support, business planning assistance, market development assistance, and other related services to rural microenterprises, with an emphasis on rural microenterprises that —

''(I) are composed of low- or moderate-income individuals; or

''(II) are in areas that have lost population;

''(ii) to assist in researching and developing the best practices in delivering training, technical assistance, and microcredit to rural microenterprises; and

''(iii) to carry out such other projects and activities as the Secretary determines to be consistent with the purposes of this section.

''(B) DIVERSITY.—In making grants under this paragraph, the Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that grant recipients include microenterprise development organizations—

''(i) of varying sizes; and

''(ii) that serve racially- and ethnically-diverse populations.

''(C) COST SHARING.—

''(i) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out using funds from a grant made under this paragraph shall be 75 percent.

''(ii) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the cost of a project described in clause (i) may be provided—

''(I) in cash (including through fees, grants (including community development block grants), and gifts); or

''(II) as in-kind contributions.

''(4) RURAL MICROLOAN PROGRAM.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—In carrying out the rural microenterprise program, the Secretary may carry out a rural microloan program.

''(B) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the rural microloan program shall be to provide technical and financial assistance to rural microenterprises that—

''(i) are composed of low- or moderate-income individuals; or

''(ii) are in areas that have lost population.

''(C) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—In carrying out the rural microloan program, the Secretary may—

''(i) make direct loans to microentrerprise development organizations for the purpose of making fixed interest rate microloans to startup, newly established, and growing rural microenterprises; and

''(ii) in conjunction with those loans, provide technical assistance grants in accordance with subparagraph (E) to those microentrerprise development organizations.

''(D) LOAN DURATION; INTEREST RATES; CONDITIONS.—

''(i) LOAN DURATION.—A direct loan made by the Secretary under this paragraph shall be for a term not to exceed 20 years.

''(ii) APPLICABLE INTEREST RATE.—A direct loan made by the Secretary under this paragraph shall bear an annual interest rate of 1 percent.

''(iii) LOAN LOSS RESERVE FUND.—The Secretary shall require each microentrerprise development organization that receives a direct loan under this paragraph to—

''(I) establish a loan loss reserve fund; and

''(II) maintain the reserve fund in an amount equal to at least 5 percent of the outstanding balance of such loans owed by the microentrerprise development organization, until all obligations owed to the Secretary under this paragraph are repaid.

''(iv) DEFERRAL OF INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL.—The Secretary shall permit the deferral of payments on principal and interest due on a loan made under this paragraph during the 2-year period beginning on the date on which the loan is made.

''(E) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT AMOUNTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, each microentrerprise development organization that receives a direct loan under this paragraph shall be eligible to receive a technical assistance grant to provide marketing, management, and technical assistance to rural microenterprises that are borrowers or potential borrowers under this subsection.

''(ii) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—Each microenterprise development organization that receives a direct loan under this paragraph shall receive an annual technical assistance grant in an amount equal to not more than 25 percent of the total outstanding balance of microloans made by the microenterprise development organization under this paragraph, as of the date of provision of the technical assistance grant.

''(iii) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of any grant made to a microentrerprise development organization under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall require the microentrerprise development organization to match not less than 15 percent of the total amount of the grant.

''(II) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the cost of a project described in subclause (I) may be provided—

''(aa) in cash; or

''(bb) as indirect costs or in-kind contributions.

''(c) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 10 percent of a grant received by a microentrerprise development organization for a fiscal year under this section may be used to pay administrative expenses.

''(d) FUNDING.—

''(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

''(B) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amount made available by subparagraph (A) for fiscal year 2008—

''(i) not less than $25,000,000 shall be available for use in carrying out subsection (b)(3); and

''(ii) not less than $15,000,000 shall be available for use in carrying out subsection (b)(4), of which not more than $7,000,000 shall be used for the cost of direct loans.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to amounts made available under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6023. ARTISANAL CHEESE CENTERS.

Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act is amended by inserting after section 366 (as added by section 6022) the following:

''SEC. 367. ARTISANAL CHEESE CENTERS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish artisanal cheese centers to provide educational and technical assistance relating to the manufacture and marketing of artisanal cheese by small- and medium-sized producers and businesses.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6024. NATIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP.

Section 378 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008m) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(1), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''; and

(2) in subsection (h), by striking ''the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this section'' and inserting ''September 30, 2012''.

SEC. 6025. HISTORIC BARN PRESERVATION.

Section 379A(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008o(c)) is amended—

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

''(2) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A grant under this subsection may be made to an eligible applicant for a project—

''(i) to rehabilitate or repair a historic barn;

''(ii) to preserve a historic barn; and

''(iii) to identify, document, survey, and conduct research on a historic barn or historic farm structure to develop and evaluate appropriate techniques or best practices for protecting historic barns.

''(B) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give the highest funding priority to grants for projects described in subparagraph (A)(iii).''; and

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6026. GRANTS FOR NOAA WEATHER RADIO TRANSMITTERS.

Section 379B(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008p(d)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6027. GRANTS TO TRAIN FARM WORKERS IN NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND TO TRAIN FARM WORKERS IN SPECIALIZED SKILLS NECESSARY FOR HIGHER VALUE CROPS.

Section 379C(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008q(c)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6028. GRANTS FOR EXPANSION OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN RURAL AREAS.

Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1981 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 379E. GRANTS FOR EXPANSION OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN RURAL AREAS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY.—The term 'individual with a disability' means an

individual with a disability (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)).

''(2) INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—The term 'individuals with disabilities' means more than 1 individual with a disability.

''(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make grants to nonprofit organizations, or to a consortium of nonprofit organizations, to expand and enhance employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities in rural areas.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a nonprofit organization or consortium of nonprofit organizations shall have—

''(1) a significant focus on serving the needs of individuals with disabilities;

''(2) demonstrated knowledge and expertise in—

''(A) employment of individuals with disabilities; and

''(B) advising private entities on accessibility issues involving individuals with disabilities;

''(3) expertise in removing barriers to employment for individuals with disabilities, including access to transportation, assistive technology, and other accommodations;

''(4) existing relationships with national organizations focused primarily on the needs of rural areas;

''(5) affiliates in a majority of the States; and

''(6) a close working relationship with the Department of Agriculture.

''(d) USES.—A grant received under this section may be used only to expand or enhance—

''(1) employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities in rural areas by developing national technical assistance and education resources to assist small businesses in a rural area to recruit, hire, accommodate, and employ individuals with disabilities; and

''(2) self-employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for individuals with disabilities in a rural area.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6029. DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY.

(a) HEALTH CARE SERVICES.—Section 382C of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009aa–2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) HEALTH CARE SERVICES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, the Secretary may award a grant to the Delta Health Alliance for the development of health care services, health education programs, and health care job training programs fields, and for the development and expansion of public health-related facilities, in the Mississippi Delta region to address longstanding and unmet health needs in the Mississippi Delta region.

''(2) USE.—As a condition of the receipt of the grant, the Delta Health Alliance shall use the grant to fund projects and activities described in paragraph (1), based on input solicited from local governments, public health care providers, and other entities in the Mississippi Delta region.

''(3) FEDERAL INTEREST IN PROPERTY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with respect to the use of grant funds provided under this subsection for a project involving the construction or major alteration of property, the Federal interest in the property shall terminate on the earlier of—

''(A) the date that is 1 year after the date of the completion of the project; or

''(B) the date on which the Federal Government is compensated for the proportionate interest of the Federal Government in the property, if the use of the property changes or the property is transferred or sold.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 382M(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009aa–12(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(c) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 382N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009aa–13) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(d) DELTA REGION AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.—Section 379D(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008r(b)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6030. NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL AUTHORITY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 383B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009bb–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

''(4) FAILURE TO CONFIRM.—

''(A) FEDERAL MEMBER.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a Federal member described in paragraph (2)(A) has not been confirmed by the Senate by not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Authority may organize and operate without the Federal member.

''(B) INDIAN CHAIRPERSON.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a chairperson of an Indian Tribe described in paragraph (2)(C) has not been confirmed by the Senate by not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the leaders of the Indian tribes in the region may select that member.'';

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''to establish priorities and'' and inserting ''for multistate cooperation to advance the economic and social well-being of the region and to''

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking ''local development districts,'' and inserting ''regional and local development districts or organizations, regional boards established under subtitle I,'';

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking ''cooperation;'' and inserting ''cooperation for—

''(i) renewable energy development and transmission;

''(ii) transportation planning and economic development;

''(iii) information technology;

''(iv) movement of freight and individuals within the region;

''(v) federally-funded research at institutions of higher education; and

''(vi) conservation land management;'';

(D) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) enhance the capacity of, and provide support for, multistate development and research organizations, local development organizations and districts, and resource conservation districts in the region;''; and

(E) in paragraph (7), by inserting ''renewable energy,'' after ''commercial,''.

(3) in subsection (f)(2), by striking ''the Federal cochairperson'' and inserting ''a cochairperson'';

(4) in subsection (g)(1), by striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting the following:

''(A) for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009, 100 percent;

''(B) for fiscal year 2010, 75 percent; and

''(C) for fiscal year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, 50 percent.''.

(b) INTERSTATE COOPERATION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND EFFICIENCY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act is amended—

(A) by redesignating sections 383C through 383N (7 U.S.C. 2009bb–2 through 2009bb–13) as sections 383D through 383O, respectively; and

(B) by inserting after section 383B (7 U.S.C. 2009bb–1) the following:

''SEC. 383C. INTERSTATE COOPERATION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND EFFICIENCY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall provide assistance to States in developing regional plans to address multistate economic issues, including plans—

''(1) to develop a regional transmission system for movement of renewable energy to markets outside the region,

''(2) to assist in the harmonization of transportation policies and regulations that impact the interstate movement of goods and individuals, including the establishment of a Northern Great Plains Regional Transportation Working Group;

''(3) to encourage and support interstate collaboration on federally-funded research that is in the national interest; and

''(4) to establish a Regional Working Group on Agriculture Development and Transportation.

''(b) ECONOMIC ISSUES.—The multistate economic issues referred to in subsection (a) shall include—

''(1) renewable energy development and transmission;

''(2) transportation planning and economic development;

''(3) information technology;

''(4) movement of freight and individuals within the region;

''(5) federally-funded research at institutions of higher education; and

''(6) conservation land management.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 383B(c)(3)(B) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009bb–1(c)(3)(B)) is amended by striking ''383I'' and inserting ''383J''.

(B) Section 383D(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by paragraph (1)(A)) is amended by striking ''383I'' and inserting ''383J''.

(C) Section 383E of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as so redesignated) is amended—

(i) in subsection (b)(1), by striking ''383F(b)'' and inserting ''383G(b)''; and

(ii) in subsection (c)(2)(A), by striking ''383I'' and inserting ''383J''.

(D) Section 383G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as so redesignated) is amended—

(i) in subsection (b)—

(I) in paragraph (1), by striking ''383M'' and inserting ''383N''; and

(II) in paragraph (2), by striking ''383D(b)'' and inserting ''383E(b)'';

(ii) in subsection (c)(2)(A), by striking ''383E(b)'' and inserting ''383F(b)''; and

(iii) in subsection (d)—

(I) by striking ''383M'' and inserting ''383N''; and

(II) by striking ''383C(a)'' and inserting ''383D(a)''.

(E) Section 383J(c)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as so redesignated) is amended by striking ''383H'' and inserting ''383I''.

(c) ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.—Section 383D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''transportation and telecommunication'' and inserting ''transportation, renewable energy transmission, and telecommunication''; and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as paragraphs (2) and (1), respectively, and moving those paragraphs so as to appear in numerical order; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking ''the activities in the following order or priority'' and inserting ''the following activities''.

(d) SUPPLEMENTS TO FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS.—Section 383E(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended by striking '', including local development districts,''.

(e) MULTISTATE AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS AND ORGANIZATIONS AND NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS INC.—Section 383F of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and inserting ''**MULTISTATE AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS AND ORGANIZATIONS AND NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS INC.**'';

(2) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) DEFINITION OF MULTISTATE AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OR ORGANIZATION.—In this section, the term 'multistate and local development district or organization' means an entity—

''(1) that—

''(A) is a planning district in existence on the date of enactment of this subtitle that is recognized by the Economic Development Administration of the Department of Commerce; or

''(B) is—

''(i) organized and operated in a manner that ensures broad-based community participation and an effective opportunity for other nonprofit groups to contribute to the development and implementation of programs in the region;

''(ii) a nonprofit incorporated body organized or chartered under the law of the State in which the entity is located;

''(iii) a nonprofit agency or instrumentality of a State or local government;

''(iv) a public organization established before the date of enactment of this subtitle under State law for creation of multijurisdictional, area-wide planning organizations;

''(v) a nonprofit agency or instrumentality of a State that was established for the purpose of assisting with multistate cooperation; or

''(vi) a nonprofit association or combination of bodies, agencies, and instrumentalities described in clauses (ii) through (v); and

''(2) that has not, as certified by the Federal cochairperson—

''(A) inappropriately used Federal grant funds from any Federal source; or

''(B) appointed an officer who, during the period in which another entity inappropriately used Federal grant funds from any Federal source, was an officer of the other entity.

''(b) GRANTS TO MULTISTATE, LOCAL, OR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS AND ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority may make grants for administrative expenses under this section to multistate, local, and regional development districts and organizations.

''(2) CONDITIONS FOR GRANTS.—

''(A) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The amount of any grant awarded under paragraph (1) shall not exceed 80 percent of the administrative expenses of the regional or local development district or organization receiving the grant.

''(B) MAXIMUM PERIOD.—No grant described in paragraph (1) shall be awarded for a period greater than 3 years.

''(3) LOCAL SHARE.—The contributions of a regional or local development district or organization for administrative expenses may be in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including space, equipment, and services.''; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''DUTIES'' and inserting ''AUTHORITIES''; and

(B) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''shall'' and inserting ''may''.

(f) DISTRESSED COUNTIES AND AREAS AND NONDISTRESSED COUNTIES.—Section 383G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking ''75'' and inserting ''50'';

(2) by striking subsection (c);

(3) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c); and

(4) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting '', RENEWABLE ENERGY,'' after ''TELECOMMUNICATION,''; and

(B) by inserting '', renewable energy,'' after ''telecommunication,''.

(g) DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROCESS.—Section 383H of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) multistate, regional, and local development districts and organizations; and''; and

(2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking ''State and local development districts'' and inserting ''multistate, regional, and local development districts and organizations''.

(h) PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA.—Section 383I(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting ''multistate or'' before ''regional''.

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 383N(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended by striking ''2002 through 2007'' and inserting ''2008 through 2012''.

(j) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 383O of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as redesignated by subsection (b)(1)(A)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6031. RURAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PROGRAM.

(a) ISSUANCE AND GUARANTEE OF TRUST CERTIFICATES.—Section 384F of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009cc–5) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting '', including an investment pool created entirely by such bank or savings association'' before the period at the end;

(2) in subsection (b)(3)(A), by striking ''In the event'' and inserting the following:

''(i) AUTHORITY TO PREPAY.—A debenture may be prepaid at any time without penalty.

''(ii) REDUCTION OF GUARANTEE.—Subject to clause (i), if''; and

(3) in subsection (e), by adding at the end the following:

''(6) DISTRIBUTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall authorize distributions to investors for unrealized income from a debenture.

''(B) TREATMENT.—Distributions made by a rural business investment company to an investor of private capital in the rural business investment company for the purpose of covering the tax liability of the investor resulting from unrealized income of the rural business investment company shall not require the repayment of a debenture.''.

(b) FEES.—Section 384G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009cc–6) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''such fees as the Secretary considers appropriate'' and inserting ''a fee that does not exceed $500'';

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''approved by the Secretary'' and inserting ''that does not exceed $500''; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''The'' and inserting ''Except as provided in paragraph (3), the'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) shall not exceed $500 for any fee collected under this subsection.''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) PROHIBITION ON COLLECTION OF CERTAIN FEES.—In the case of a license described in paragraph (1) that was approved before July 1, 2007, the Secretary shall not collect any fees due on or after the date of enactment of this paragraph.''.

(c) RURAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANIES.—Section 384I(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009cc–8(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) TIME FRAME.—Each rural business investment company shall have a period of 2 years to meet the capital requirements of this subsection.''.

(d) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION INVESTMENTS.—Section 384J of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009cc–9) is amended by striking subsection (c).

(e) CONTRACTING OF FUNCTIONS.—Section 384Q of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009cc–16) is repealed.

(f) FUNDING.—The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act is amended by striking section 384S (7 U.S.C. 2009cc–18) and inserting the following:

''SEC. 384S. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subtitle.''.

SEC. 6032. RURAL COLLABORATIVE INVESTMENT PROGRAM.

Subtitle I of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009dd et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

''Subtitle I—Rural Collaborative Investment Program

''SEC. 385A. PURPOSE.

''The purpose of this subtitle is to establish a regional rural collaborative investment program—

''(1) to provide rural regions with a flexible investment vehicle, allowing for local control with Federal oversight, assistance, and accountability;

''(2) to provide rural regions with incentives and resources to develop and implement comprehensive strategies for achieving regional competitiveness, innovation, and prosperity;

''(3) to foster multisector community and economic development collaborations that will optimize the asset-based competitive advantages of rural regions with particular emphasis on innovation, entrepreneurship, and the creation of quality jobs;

''(4) to foster collaborations necessary to provide the professional technical expertise, institutional capacity, and economies of scale that are essential for the long-term competitiveness of rural regions; and

''(5) to better use Department of Agriculture and other Federal, State, and local governmental resources, and to leverage those resources with private, nonprofit, and philanthropic investments, to achieve measurable community and economic prosperity, growth, and sustainability.

''SEC. 385B. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subtitle:

''(1) BENCHMARK.—The term 'benchmark' means an annual set of goals and performance measures established for the purpose of assessing performance in meeting a regional investment strategy of a Regional Board.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(3) NATIONAL BOARD.—The term 'National Board' means the National Rural Investment Board established under section 385C(c).

''(4) NATIONAL INSTITUTE.—The term 'National Institute' means the National Institute on Regional Rural Competitiveness and Entrepreneurship established under section 385C(b)(2).

''(5) REGIONAL BOARD.—The term 'Regional Board' means a Regional Rural Investment Board described in section 385D(a).

''(6) REGIONAL INNOVATION GRANT.—The term 'regional innovation grant' means a grant made by the Secretary to a certified Regional Board under section 385F.

''(7) REGIONAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY GRANT.—The term 'regional investment strategy grant' means a grant made by the Secretary to a certified Regional Board under section 385E.

''SEC. 385C. ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF RURAL COLLABORATIVE INVESTMENT PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a Rural Collaborative Investment Program to support comprehensive regional investment strategies for achieving rural competitiveness.

''(b) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—In carrying out this subtitle, the Secretary shall—

''(1) appoint and provide administrative and program support to the National Board;

''(2) establish a national institute, to be known as the 'National Institute on Regional Rural Competitiveness and Entrepreneurship', to provide technical assistance to the Secretary and the National Board regarding regional competitiveness and rural entrepreneurship, including technical assistance for—

''(A) the development of rigorous analytic programs to assist Regional Boards in determining the challenges and opportunities that need to be addressed to receive the greatest regional competitive advantage;

''(B) the provision of support for best practices developed by the Regional Boards;

''(C) the establishment of programs to support the development of appropriate governance and leadership skills in the applicable regions; and

''(D) the evaluation of the progress and performance of the Regional Boards in achieving benchmarks established in a regional investment strategy;

''(3) work with the National Board to develop a national rural investment plan, which shall—

''(A) create a framework to encourage and support a more collaborative and targeted rural investment portfolio in the United States;

''(B) establish the Rural Philanthropic Initiative, to work with rural communities to create and enhance the pool of permanent philanthropic resources committed to rural community and economic development;

''(C) cooperate with the Regional Boards and State and local governments, organizations, and entities to ensure investment strategies are developed that take into consideration existing rural assets; and

''(D) encourage the organization of Regional Boards;

''(4) certify the eligibility of Regional Boards to receive regional investment strategy grants and regional innovation grants;

''(5) provide grants for Regional Boards to develop and implement regional investment strategies;

''(6) provide technical assistance to Regional Boards on issues, best practices, and emerging trends relating to rural development, in cooperation with the National Rural Investment Board; and

''(7) provide analytic and programmatic support for regional rural competitiveness through the National Institute, including—

''(A) programs to assist Regional Boards in determining the challenges and opportunities that must be addressed to receive the greatest regional competitive advantage;

''(B) support for best practices development by the regional investment boards;

''(C) programs to support the development of appropriate governance and leadership skills in the region; and

''(D) a review and annual evaluation of the performance of the Regional Boards (including progress in achieving benchmarks established in a regional investment strategy) in an annual report submitted to—

''(i) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and

''(ii) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

''(c) NATIONAL RURAL INVESTMENT BOARD.—The Secretary shall establish within the Department of Agriculture a board to be known as the 'National Rural Investment Board'.

''(d) DUTIES OF NATIONAL BOARD.—The National Board shall—

''(1) not later than 180 days after the date of establishment of the National Board, develop rules relating to the operation of the National Board;

''(2) provide advice to the Secretary and subsequently review the design, development, and execution of the National Rural Investment Plan;

''(3) provide advice to Regional Boards on issues, best practices, and emerging trends relating to rural development; and

''(4) provide advice to the Secretary and the National Institute on the development and execution of the program under this subtitle.

''(e) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The National Board shall consist of 14 members appointed by the Secretary not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.

''(2) SUPERVISION.—The National Board shall be subject to the general supervision and direction of the Secretary.

''(3) SECTORS REPRESENTED.—The National Board shall consist of representatives from each of—

''(A) nationally recognized entrepreneurship organizations;

''(B) regional strategy and development organizations;

''(C) community-based organizations;

''(D) elected members of county and municipal governments;

''(E) elected members of State legislatures;

''(F) primary, secondary, and higher education, job skills training, and workforce development institutions;

''(G) the rural philanthropic community;

''(H) financial, lending, venture capital, entrepreneurship, and other related institutions;

''(I) private sector business organizations, including chambers of commerce and other for-profit business interests;

''(J) Indian tribes; and

''(K) cooperative organizations.

''(4) SELECTION OF MEMBERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In selecting members of the National Board, the Secretary shall consider recommendations made by—

''(i) the chairman and ranking member of each of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

''(ii) the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate; and

''(iii) the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

''(B) EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.—In consultation with the chairman and ranking member of each of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, the Secretary may appoint not more than 3 other officers or employees of the Executive Branch to serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the National Board.

''(5) TERM OF OFFICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the term of office of a member of the National Board appointed under paragraph (1)(A) shall be for a period of not more than 4 years.

''(B) STAGGERED TERMS.—The members of the National Board shall be appointed to serve staggered terms.

''(6) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall appoint the initial members of the National Board.

''(7) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the National Board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

''(8) COMPENSATION.—A member of the National Board shall receive no compensation for service on the National Board, but shall be reimbursed for related travel and other expenses incurred in carrying out the duties of the member of the National Board in accordance with section 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

''(9) CHAIRPERSON.—The National Board shall select a chairperson from among the members of the National Board.

''(10) FEDERAL STATUS.—For purposes of Federal law, a member of the National Board shall be considered a special Government employee (as defined in section 202(a) of title 18, United States Code).

''(f) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The Secretary, on a reimbursable basis from funds made available under section 385H(b)(3), may provide such administrative support to the National Board as the Secretary determines is necessary to carry out the duties of the National Board.

''SEC. 385D. REGIONAL RURAL INVESTMENT BOARDS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—A Regional Rural Investment Board shall be a multijurisdictional and multisectoral group that—

''(1) represents the long-term economic, community, and cultural interests of a region;

''(2) is certified by the Secretary to establish a rural investment strategy and compete for regional innovation grants;

''(3) is composed of residents of a region that are broadly representative of diverse public, nonprofit, and private sector interests in investment in the region, including (to the maximum extent practicable) representatives of—

''(A) units of local government (including multijurisdictional units of local government);

''(B) nonprofit community-based development organizations, including community development financial institutions and community development corporations;

''(C) agricultural, natural resource, and other asset-based related industries;

''(D) in the case of regions with federally recognized Indian tribes, Indian tribes;

''(E) regional development organizations;

''(F) private business organizations, including chambers of commerce;

''(G)(i) institutions of higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)));

''(ii) tribally controlled colleges or universities (as defined in section 2(a) of Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1801(a))); and

''(iii) tribal technical institutions;

''(H) workforce and job training organizations;

''(I) other entities and organizations, as determined by the Regional Board;

''(J) cooperatives; and

''(K) consortia of entities and organizations described in subparagraphs (A) through (J);

''(4) represents a region inhabited by—

''(A) more than 25,000 individuals, as determined in the latest available decennial census conducted under section 141(a) of title 13, United States Code; or

''(B) in the case of a region with a population density of less than 2 individuals per square mile, at least 10,000 individuals, as determined in that latest available decennial census;

''(5) has a membership of which not less than 25 percent, nor more than 40 percent, represents—

''(A) units of local government and Indian tribes described in subparagraphs (A) and (D) of paragraph (3);

''(B) nonprofit community and economic development organizations and institutions of higher education described in subparagraphs (B) and (G) of paragraph (3); or

''(C) private business (including chambers of commerce and cooperatives) and agricultural, natural resource, and other asset-based related industries described in subparagraphs (C) and (F) of paragraph (3);

''(6) has a membership that may include an officer or employee of a Federal or State agency, serving as an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the Regional Board to represent the agency; and

''(7) has organizational documents that demonstrate that the Regional Board shall—

''(A) create a collaborative, inclusive public-private strategy process;

''(B) develop, and submit to the Secretary for approval, a regional investment strategy that meets the requirements of section 385E, with benchmarks—

''(i) to promote investment in rural areas through the use of grants made available under this subtitle; and

''(ii) to provide financial and technical assistance to promote a broad-based regional development program aimed at increasing and diversifying economic growth, improved community facilities, and improved quality of life;

''(C) implement the approved regional investment strategy;

''(D) provide annual reports to the Secretary and the National Board on progress made in achieving the benchmarks of the regional investment strategy, including an annual financial statement; and

''(E) select a non-Federal organization (such as a regional development organization) in the local area served by the Regional Board that has previous experience in the management of Federal funds to serve as fiscal manager of any funds of the Regional Board.

''(b) URBAN AREAS.—A resident of an urban area may serve as an ex-officio member of a Regional Board.

''(c) DUTIES.—A Regional Board shall—

''(1) create a collaborative and inclusive planning process for public-private investment within a region;

''(2) develop, and submit to the Secretary for approval, a regional investment strategy;

''(3) develop approaches that will create permanent resources for philanthropic giving in the region, to the maximum extent practicable;

''(4) implement an approved strategy; and

''(5) provide annual reports to the Secretary and the National Board on progress made in achieving the strategy, including an annual financial statement.

''SEC. 385E. REGIONAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY GRANTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make regional investment strategy grants available to Regional Boards for use in developing, implementing, and maintaining regional investment strategies.

''(b) REGIONAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY.—A regional investment strategy shall provide—

''(1) an assessment of the competitive advantage of a region, including—

''(A) an analysis of the economic conditions of the region;

''(B) an assessment of the current economic performance of the region;

''(C) a background overview of the population, geography, workforce, transportation system, resources, environment, and infrastructure needs of the region; and

''(D) such other pertinent information as the Secretary may request;

''(2) an analysis of regional economic and community development challenges and opportunities, including—

''(A) incorporation of relevant material from other government-sponsored or supported plans and consistency with applicable State, regional, and local workforce investment strategies or comprehensive economic development plans; and

''(B) an identification of past, present, and projected Federal and State economic and community development investments in the region;

''(3) a section describing goals and objectives necessary to solve regional competitiveness challenges and meet the potential of the region;

''(4) an overview of resources available in the region for use in—

''(A) establishing regional goals and objectives;

''(B) developing and implementing a regional action strategy;

''(C) identifying investment priorities and funding sources; and

''(D) identifying lead organizations to execute portions of the strategy;

''(5) an analysis of the current state of collaborative public, private, and nonprofit participation and investment, and of the strategic roles of public, private, and nonprofit entities in the development and implementation of the regional investment strategy;

''(6) a section identifying and prioritizing vital projects, programs, and activities for consideration by the Secretary, including—

''(A) other potential funding sources; and

''(B) recommendations for leveraging past and potential investments;

''(7) a plan of action to implement the goals and objectives of the regional investment strategy;

''(8) a list of performance measures to be used to evaluate the implementation of the regional investment strategy, including—

''(A) the number and quality of jobs, including self-employment, created during implementation of the regional rural investment strategy;

''(B) the number and types of investments made in the region;

''(C) the growth in public, private, and nonprofit investment in the human, community, and economic assets of the region;

''(D) changes in per capita income and the rate of unemployment; and

''(E) other changes in the economic environment of the region;

''(9) a section outlining the methodology for use in integrating the regional investment strategy with the economic priorities of the State; and

''(10) such other information as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(c) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—A regional investment strategy grant shall not exceed $150,000.

''(d) COST SHARING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), of the share of the costs of developing, maintaining, evaluating, implementing, and reporting with respect to a regional investment strategy funded by a grant under this section—

''(A) not more than 40 percent may be paid using funds from the grant; and

''(B) the remaining share shall be provided by the applicable Regional Board or other eligible grantee.

''(2) FORM.—A Regional Board or other eligible grantee shall pay the share described in paragraph (1)(B) in the form of cash, services, materials, or other in-kind contributions, on the condition that not more than 50 percent of that share is provided in the form of services, materials, and other in-kind contributions.

''SEC. 385F. REGIONAL INNOVATION GRANTS PROGRAM.

''(a) GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide, on a competitive basis, regional innovation grants to Regional Boards for use in implementing projects and initiatives that are identified in a regional rural investment strategy approved under section 385E.

''(2) TIMING.—After October 1, 2008, the Secretary shall provide awards under this section on a quarterly funding cycle.

''(b) ELIGIBILITY.—For a Regional Board to receive a regional innovation grant, the Secretary shall determine that—

''(1) the regional rural investment strategy of a Regional Board has been reviewed by the National Board prior to approval by the Secretary;

''(2) the management and organizational structure of the Regional Board is sufficient to oversee grant projects, including management of Federal funds; and

''(3) the Regional Board has a plan to achieve, to the maximum extent practicable, the performance-based benchmarks of the project in the regional rural investment strategy of the Regional Board.

''(c) LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) AMOUNT RECEIVED.—A Regional Board may not receive more than $6,000,000 in regional innovation grants under this section during any 5-year period.

''(2) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall determine the amount of a regional innovation grant based on—

''(A) the needs of the region being addressed by the applicable regional rural investment strategy consistent with the purposes described in subsection (f)(2); and

''(B) the size of the geographical area of the region.

''(3) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.—The Secretary shall ensure that not more than 10 percent of funding made available under this section is provided to Regional Boards in any State.

''(d) COST-SHARING.—

''(1) LIMITATION.—Subject to paragraph (2), the amount of a grant made under this section shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of the project.

''(2) WAIVER OF GRANTEE SHARE.—The Secretary may waive the limitation in paragraph (1) under special circumstances, as determined by the Secretary, including—

''(A) a sudden or severe economic dislocation;

''(B) significant chronic unemployment or poverty;

''(C) a natural disaster; or

''(D) other severe economic, social, or cultural duress.

''(3) OTHER FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—For the purpose of determining cost-share limitations for any other Federal program, funds provided under this section shall be considered to be non-Federal funds.

''(e) PREFERENCES.—In providing regional innovation grants under this section, the Secretary shall give—

''(1) a high priority to strategies that demonstrate significant leverage of capital and quality job creation; and

''(2) a preference to an application proposing projects and initiatives that would—

''(A) advance the overall regional competitiveness of a region;

''(B) address the priorities of a regional rural investment strategy, including priorities that—

''(i) promote cross-sector collaboration, public-private partnerships, or the provision of collaborative gap financing or seed capital for program implementation;

''(ii) exhibit collaborative innovation and entrepreneurship, particularly within a public-private partnership; and

''(iii) represent a broad coalition of interests described in section 385D(a);

''(C) include a strategy to leverage public non-Federal and private funds and existing assets, including agricultural assets, natural assets, and public infrastructure, with substantial emphasis placed on the existence of real financial commitments to leverage the available funds;

''(D) create quality jobs;

''(E) enhance the role, relevance, and leveraging potential of community and regional foundations in support of regional investment strategies;

''(F) demonstrate a history, or involve organizations with a history, of successful leveraging of capital for economic development and public purposes;

''(G) address gaps in existing basic services, including technology, within a region;

''(H) address economic diversification, including agricultural and non-agriculturally based economies, within a regional framework;

''(I) improve the overall quality of life in the region (including with respect to education, health care, housing, recreation, and arts and culture);

''(J) enhance the potential to expand economic development successes across diverse stakeholder groups within the region;

''(K) include an effective working relationship with 1 or more institutions of higher education, tribally controlled colleges or universities, or tribal technical institutions; or

''(L) help to meet the other regional competitiveness needs identified by a Regional Board.

''(f) USES.—

''(1) LEVERAGE.—A Regional Board shall prioritize projects and initiatives carried out using funds from a regional innovation grant provided under this section, based in part on the degree to which members of the Regional Board are able to leverage additional funds for the implementation of the projects.

''(2) PURPOSES.—A Regional Board may use a regional innovation grant—

''(A) to support the development of critical infrastructure (including technology deployment and services) necessary to facilitate the competitiveness of a region;

''(B) to provide assistance to entities within the region that provide essential public and community services;

''(C) to enhance the value-added production, marketing, and use of agricultural and natural resources within the region, including activities relating to renewable and alternative energy production and usage;

''(D) to assist with entrepreneurship, job training, workforce development, housing, educational, or other quality of life services or needs, relating to the development and maintenance of strong local and regional economies;

''(E) to assist in the development of unique new collaborations that link public, private, and philanthropic resources, including community foundations;

''(F) to provide support for business and entrepreneurial investment, strategy, expansion, and development, including feasibility strategies, technical assistance, peer networks, and business development funds;

''(G) to carry out other broad activities relating to strengthening the economic competitiveness of the region; and

''(H) to provide matching funds to enable community foundations located within the region to build endowments which provide permanent philanthropic resources to implement a regional investment strategy.

''(3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The funds made available to a Regional Board or any other eligible grantee through a regional innovation grant shall remain available for the 7-year period beginning on the date on which the award is provided, on the condition that the Regional Board or other grantee continues to be certified by the Secretary as making adequate progress toward achieving established benchmarks.

''(g) COST SHARING.—

''(1) WAIVER OF GRANTEE SHARE.—The Secretary may waive the share of a grantee of the costs of a project funded by a regional innovation grant under this section if the Secretary determines that such a waiver is appropriate, including with respect to special circumstances within tribal regions, in the event an area experiences—

''(A) a sudden or severe economic dislocation;

''(B) significant chronic unemployment or poverty;

''(C) a natural disaster; or

''(D) other severe economic, social, or cultural duress.

''(2) OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS.—For the purpose of determining cost-sharing requirements for any other Federal program, funds provided as a regional innovation grant under this section shall be considered to be non-Federal funds.

''(h) NONCOMPLIANCE.—If a Regional Board or other eligible grantee fails to comply with any requirement relating to the use of funds provided under this section, the Secretary may—

''(1) take such actions as are necessary to obtain reimbursement of unused grant funds; and

''(2) reprogram the recaptured funds for purposes relating to implementation of this subtitle.

''(i) PRIORITY TO AREAS WITH AWARDS AND APPROVED STRATEGIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), in providing rural development assistance under other programs, the Secretary shall give a high priority to areas that receive innovation grants under this section.

''(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult with the heads of other Federal agencies to promote the development of priorities similar to those described in paragraph (1).

''(3) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the provision of rural development assistance under any program relating to basic health, safety, or infrastructure, including broadband deployment or minimum environmental needs.

''SEC. 385G. RURAL ENDOWMENT LOANS PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide long-term loans to eligible community foundations to assist in the implementation of regional investment strategies.

''(b) ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a loan under this section, a community foundation shall—

''(1) be located in an area that is covered by a regional investment strategy;

''(2) match the amount of the loan with an amount that is at least 250 percent of the amount of the loan; and

''(3) use the loan and the matching amount to carry out the regional investment strategy targeted to community and economic development, including through the development of community foundation endowments.

''(c) TERMS.—A loan made under this section shall—

''(1) have a term of not less than 10, nor more than 20, years;

''(2) bear an interest rate of 1 percent per annum; and

''(3) be subject to such other terms and conditions as are determined appropriate by the Secretary.

''SEC. 385H. FUNDING.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use $135,000,000 to carry out this subtitle, to remain available until expended.

''(b) USE BY SECRETARY.—Of the amounts made available to the Secretary under subsection (a), the Secretary shall use—

''(1) $15,000,000 to be provided for regional investment strategy grants to Regional Boards under section 385E;

''(2) $110,000,000 to provide innovation grants to Regional Boards under section 385F and for the cost of rural endowment loans under section 385G;

''(3) $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 to administer the duties of the National Board, to remain available until expended; and

''(4) $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 to administer the National Institute, to remain available until expended.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to funds otherwise made available to carry out this subtitle, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this subtitle.''.

SEC. 6033. FUNDING OF PENDING RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN AND GRANT APPLICATIONS.

(a) DEFINITION OF APPLICATION.—In this section, the term ''application'' does not include an application for a loan or grant that, as of the date of enactment of this Act, is in the preapplication phase of consideration under regulations of the Secretary in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary shall use funds made available under subsection (d) to provide funds for applications that are pending on the date of enactment of this Act for—

(1) water or waste disposal grants or direct loans under paragraph (1) or (2) of section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)); and

(2) emergency community water assistance grants under section 306A of that Act (7 U.S.C. 1926a).

(c) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) APPROPRIATED AMOUNTS.—Funds made available under this section shall be available to the Secretary to provide funds for applications for loans and grants described in subsection (b) that are pending on the date of enactment of this Act only to the extent that funds for the loans and grants appropriated in the annual appropriations Act for fiscal year 2007 have been exhausted.

(2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may use funds made available under this section to provide funds for a pending application for a loan or grant described in

subsection (b) only if the Secretary processes, reviews, and approves the application in accordance with regulations in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) PRIORITY.—In providing funding under this section for pending applications for loans or grants described in subsection (b), the Secretary shall provide funding in the following order of priority (until funds made available under this section are exhausted):

(A) Pending applications for water systems.

(B) Pending applications for waste disposal systems.

(4) INDIVIDUAL STATES.—In allocating funds made available under subsection (d), the Secretary shall use not more 5 percent of the funds for pending applications for loans or grants described in subsection (b) that are made in any individual State.

(d) FUNDING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $135,000,000, to remain available until expended.

Subtitle B—Rural Electrification Act of 1936

SEC. 6101. ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS.

Sections 2(a) and 4 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 902(a), 904) are amended by inserting ''efficiency and'' before ''conservation'' each place it appears.

SEC. 6102. LOANS AND GRANTS FOR ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 904) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''authorized and empowered, from the sums hereinbefore authorized, to'' and inserting ''shall''.

(b) RURAL COMMUNITIES WITH EXTREMELY HIGH ENERGY COSTS.—Section 19(a) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a(a)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking ''may'' and inserting ''shall''.

SEC. 6103. FEES FOR ELECTRIFICATION BASELOAD GENERATION LOAN GUARANTEES.

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 is amended by inserting after section 4 (7 U.S.C. 904) the following:

''SEC. 5. FEES FOR ELECTRIFICATION BASELOAD GENERATION LOAN GUARANTEES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For electrification baseload generation loan guarantees, the Secretary shall, at the request of the borrower, charge an upfront fee to cover the costs of the loan guarantee.

''(b) FEE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The fee described in subsection (a) for a loan guarantee shall be at least equal to the costs of the loan guarantee (within the meaning of section 502(5)(C) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a(5)(C)).

''(2) SEPARATE FEE.—The Secretary may establish a separate fee for each loan.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for an electrification baseload generation loan guarantee under this section, a borrower shall—

''(1) provide a rating of the loan, exclusive of the Federal guarantee, by an organization identified by the Securities and Exchange Commission as a nationally recognized statistical rating organization that determines that the loan has at least a AA rating, or equivalent rating, as determined by the Secretary; or

''(2) obtain insurance or a guarantee for the full and timely repayment of principal and interest on the loan from an entity that has at least an AA or equivalent rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

''(d) LIMITATION.—Funds received from a borrower to pay for the fees described in this section shall not be derived from a loan or other debt obligation that is made or guaranteed by the Federal Government.''.

SEC. 6104. DEFERMENT OF PAYMENTS TO ALLOWS LOANS FOR IMPROVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DEMAND REDUCTION.

Section 12 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 912) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) DEFERMENT OF PAYMENTS TO ALLOWS LOANS FOR IMPROVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DEMAND REDUCTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allow borrowers to defer payment of principal and interest on any direct loan made under this Act to enable the borrower to make loans to residential, commercial, and industrial consumers to install energy efficient measures or devices that reduce the demand on electric systems.

''(2) AMOUNT.—The total amount of a deferment under this subsection shall not exceed the sum of the principal and interest on the loans made to a customer of the borrower, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) TERM.—The term of a deferment under this subsection shall not exceed 60 months.''.

SEC. 6105. RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSISTANCE.

Section 13 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 913) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.

''In this Act:

''(1) FARM.—The term 'farm' means a farm, as defined by the Bureau of the Census.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(3) RURAL AREA.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided otherwise in this Act, the term 'rural area' means the farm and nonfarm population of—

''(i) any area described in section 343(a)(13)(A) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(A)); and

''(ii) any area within a service area of a borrower for which a borrower has an outstanding loan made under titles I through V as of the date of enactment of this paragraph.

''(B) RURAL BROADBAND ACCESS.—For the purpose of loans and loan guarantees made under section 601, the term 'rural area' has the meaning given the term in section 343(a)(13)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(C)).

''(4) TERRITORY.—The term 'territory' includes any insular possession of the United States.

''(5) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.''.

SEC. 6106. GUARANTEES FOR BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED FOR ELECTRIFICATION OR TELEPHONE PURPOSES.

Section 313A of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940c–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''for electrification'' and all that follows through the end and inserting ''for eligible electrification or telephone purposes consistent with this Act.''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

''(4) ANNUAL AMOUNT.—The total amount of guarantees provided by the Secretary under this section during a fiscal year shall not exceed $1,000,000,000, subject to the availability of funds under subsection (e).'';

(2) in subsection (c), by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

''(2) AMOUNT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount of the annual fee paid for the guarantee of a bond or note under this section shall be equal to 30 basis points of the amount of the unpaid principal of the bond or note guaranteed under this section.

''(B) PROHIBITION.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsection (e)(2), no other fees shall be assessed.

''(3) PAYMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A lender shall pay the fees required under this subsection on a semiannual basis.

''(B) STRUCTURED SCHEDULE.—The Secretary shall, with the consent of the lender, structure the schedule for payment of the fee to ensure that sufficient funds are available to pay the subsidy costs for note or bond guarantees as provided for in subsection (e)(2).''; and

(3) in subsection (f), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6107. EXPANSION OF 911 ACCESS.

Section 315 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940e) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 315. EXPANSION OF 911 ACCESS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may make loans under this title to entities eligible to borrow from the Rural Utilities Service, emergency communications equipment providers, State or local governments, Indian tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)), or other public entities for facilities and equipment to expand or improve—

''(1) 911 access;

''(2) integrated interoperable emergency communications, including multiuse networks that—

''(A) serve rural areas; and

''(B) provide commercial services or transportation information services in addition to emergency communications services;

''(3) homeland security communications;

''(4) transportation safety communications; or

''(5) location technologies used outside an urbanized area.

''(b) LOAN SECURITY.—Government-imposed fees related to emergency communications (including State or local 911 fees) may be considered to be security for a loan under this section.

''(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, promulgate proposed regulations to carry out this section; and

''(2) not later than 90 days after the publication of proposed rules to carry out this section, adopt final rules.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—The Secretary shall use to make loans under this section any funds otherwise made available for telephone or broadband loans for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6108. ELECTRIC LOANS TO RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES.

Title III of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 is amended by inserting after section 316 (7 U.S.C. 940f) the following:

''SEC. 317. ELECTRIC LOANS TO RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES.

''(a) DEFINITION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE.—In this section, the term 'renewable energy source' has the meaning given the term 'qualified energy resources' in section 45(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(b) LOANS.—In addition to any other funds or authorities otherwise made available under this Act, the Secretary may make electric loans under this title for—

''(1) electric generation from renewable energy resources for resale to rural and nonrural residents; and

''(2) transmission lines principally for the purpose of wheeling power from 1 or more renewable energy sources.

''(c) RATE.—The rate of a loan under this section shall be equal to the average tax-exempt municipal bond rate of similar maturities.''.

SEC. 6109. AGENCY PROCEDURES.

Title III of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 is amended by inserting after section 317 (as added by section 6108) the following:

''SEC. 318. AGENCY PROCEDURES.

''(a) CUSTOMER SERVICE.—The Secretary shall ensure that loan applicants under this Act are contacted at least once each month by the Rural Utilities Service regarding the status of any pending loan applications.

''(b) FINANCIAL NEED.—The Secretary shall ensure that—

''(1) an applicant for any grant program administered by the Rural Utilities Service has an opportunity to present special economic circumstances in support of the grant, such as the high cost of living, out migration, low levels of employment, weather damage, or environmental loss; and

''(2) the special economic circumstances presented by the applicant are considered in determining the financial need of the applicant.

''(c) MOBILE DIGITAL WIRELESS.—To facilitate the transition from analog wireless service to digital mobile wireless service, the Secretary may adjust population limitations under this Act related to digital mobile wireless service up to the level permitted under section 601.

''(d) BONDING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall review the bonding requirements for all programs administered by the Rural Utilities Service under this Act to ensure that bonds are not required if—

''(1) the interests of the Secretary are adequately protected by product warranties; or

''(2) the costs or conditions associated with a bond exceed the benefit of the bond to the Secretary.''.

SEC. 6110. ACCESS TO BROADBAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 601. ACCESS TO BROADBAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to provide loans and loan guarantees to provide funds for the costs of the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment for broadband service in rural areas.

''(b) DEFINITION OF BROADBAND SERVICE.—In this section:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'broadband service' means any technology identified by the Secretary as having the capacity to transmit data to enable a subscriber to the service to originate and receive high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video.

''(2) MOBILE BROADBAND.—The term 'broadband service' includes any service described in paragraph (1) that is provided over a licensed spectrum through the use of a mobile station or receiver communicating with a land station or other mobile stations communicating among themselves.

''(c) LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make or guarantee loans to eligible entities described in subsection (d) to provide funds for the construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment for the provision of broadband service in rural areas.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In making or guaranteeing loans under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give the highest priority to applicants that offer to provide broadband service to the greatest proportion of households that, prior to the provision of the service, had no terrestrial broadband service provider.

''(3) OFFER OF SERVICE.—For purposes of this section, a provider shall be considered to offer broadband service in a rural area if the provider makes the broadband service available to households in the rural area at not more than average prices as compared to the prices at which similar services are made available in the nearest urban area, as determined by the Secretary.

''(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to obtain a loan or loan guarantee under this section, an entity shall—

''(i) have the ability to furnish, improve, or extend a broadband service to a rural area;

''(ii) submit to the Secretary a proposal that meets the requirements of this section for a project to offer to provide service to at least 25 percent of households in a specified rural area that, as of the date on which the proposal is submitted, are not offered broadband service by a terrestrial broadband service provider; and

''(iii) agree to complete buildout of the broadband service described in the proposal not later than 3 years after the date on which a loan or loan guarantee under this section is received.

''(B) PROHIBITION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may not make a loan or loan guarantee for a project in any specific area in which broadband service is offered by 3 or more terrestrial service providers that offer services that are comparable to the services proposed by the applicant.

''(C) EQUITY AND MARKET SURVEY REQUIREMENTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require an entity to provide a cost share in an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the amount of the loan or loan guarantee requested in the application of the entity.

''(ii) CREDIT.—Recurring revenues of an entity, including broadband service client revenues, may be credited toward the cost share required under clause (i).

''(iii) MARKET SURVEY.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require an entity that proposes to have a subscriber projection of more than 20 percent of the broadband service market in a rural area to submit to the Secretary a market survey.

''(II) LESS THAN 20 PERCENT.—The Secretary may not require an entity that proposes to have a subscriber projection of less than 20 percent of the broadband service market in a rural area to submit to the Secretary a market survey.

''(2) STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND INDIAN TRIBES.—Subject to paragraph (1), a State or local government (including any agency, subdivision, or instrumentality thereof (including consortia thereof)) and an Indian tribe shall be eligible for a loan or loan guarantee under this section to provide broadband services to a rural area.

''(3) ADEQUACY OF SECURITY.—The Secretary shall ensure that the type, amount, and method of security used to secure any loan or loan guarantee provided under this section is commensurate to the risk involved with the loan or loan guarantee, particularly if the loan or loan guarantee is issued to a financially-healthy, strong, and stable entity.

''(4) LIMITATION.—No entity (including subsidiaries of an entity) may acquire more than 20 percent of the resources of the program under this section in any fiscal year, as determined by the Secretary.

''(5) NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall include a notice of applications under this section on the website of the Secretary for a period of not less than 90 days.

''(6) PROPOSAL INFORMATION.—

''(A) PUBLIC ACCESS.—The Secretary shall make available on the website of the Secretary during the consideration of a loan by the Secretary—

''(i) the name of the applicant;

''(ii) a description and geographical representation of the proposed area of broadband service;

''(iii) a geographical representation and numerical estimate of the households that have no terrestrial broadband service offered in the proposed service area of the project; and

''(iv) such other relevant information that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(B) PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.—In making information available relating to a loan proposal as described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall not make available information that is proprietary (within the meaning of section 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code) to the business interests of the loan applicant.

''(7) TIMELINE.—The Secretary shall establish a timeline on the website for the Secretary for tracking applications received under this section.

''(8) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND DETERMINATION.—

''(A) PROMPT PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish, by regulation, procedures to ensure prompt processing of loan and loan guarantee applications under this section.

''(ii) TIME LIMITS.—Subject to clause (iii), the regulations shall establish general time limits for action by the Secretary and applicant response.

''(iii) EXTENSIONS.—The Secretary may grant an extension for a time limit established under clause (ii).

''(iv) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall publish an annual report that—

''(I) describes processing times for loan and loan guarantee applications under this section; and

''(II) provides an explanation for any processing time extensions required by the Secretary.

''(B) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which an applicant submits an application, the Secretary shall request any additional information required for the application to be complete.

''(C) DETERMINATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which an applicant submits a completed application, the Secretary shall make a determination of whether to approve the application.

''(9) LOAN CLOSING.—Not later than 45 days after the date on which the Secretary approves an application, documents necessary for the closing of the loan or loan guarantee shall be provided to applicant.

''(10) FUND DISBURSEMENT.—Not later than 10 business days after the date of the receipt of valid documentation requesting disbursement of the approved, closed loan, the disbursement of loan funds shall occur.

''(11) PREAPPLICATION PROCESS.—The Secretary shall establish an optional preapplication process under which an applicant may apply to the Rural Utilities Service for a binding determination of area eligibility prior to preparing a full loan application.

''(12) PENDING APPLICATIONS.—An application for a loan or loan guarantee under this section, or a petition for reconsideration of a decision on such an application, that is pending on the date of enactment of this paragraph shall be considered under eligibility

and feasibility criteria that are no less favorable to the applicant than the criteria in effect on the original date of submission of the application.

''(e) BROADBAND SERVICE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, from time to time as advances in technology warrant, review and recommend modifications of rate-of-data transmission criteria for purposes of the identification of broadband service technologies under subsection (b).

''(2) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary shall not establish requirements for bandwidth or speed that have the effect of precluding the use of evolving technologies appropriate for rural areas outside rural communities.

''(f) TECHNOLOGICAL NEUTRALITY.—For purposes of determining whether to make a loan or loan guarantee for a project under this section, the Secretary shall use criteria that are technologically neutral.

''(g) TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a loan or loan guarantee under subsection (c) shall—

''(A) bear interest at an annual rate of, as determined by the Secretary—

''(i) in the case of a direct loan, the lower of—

''(I) the cost of borrowing to the Department of the Treasury for obligations of comparable maturity; or

''(II) 4 percent; and

''(ii) in the case of a guaranteed loan, the current applicable market rate for a loan of comparable maturity; and

''(B) except as provided in paragraph (2), have a term not to exceed the useful life of the assets constructed, improved, or acquired with the proceeds of the loan or extension of credit.

''(2) TERM OF LOAN EXCEPTION.—A loan or loan guarantee under subsection (c) may have a term not to exceed 30 years if the Secretary determines that the loan security is sufficient.

''(3) RECURRING REVENUE.—The Secretary shall consider the recurring revenues of the entity at the time of application in determining an adequate level of credit support.

''(h) USE OF LOAN PROCEEDS TO REFINANCE LOANS FOR DEPLOYMENT OF BROADBAND SERVICE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the proceeds of any loan made or guaranteed by the Secretary under this Act may be used by the recipient of the loan for the purpose of refinancing an outstanding obligation of the recipient on another telecommunications-related loan made under this Act if the use of the proceeds for that purpose will further the construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment for the provision of broadband service in rural areas.

''(i) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, and biennially thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report that—

''(1) describes the ways in which the Administrator determines under subsection (b)(1) that a service enables a subscriber to originate and receive high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video; and

''(2) provides a detailed list of services that have been granted assistance under this section.

''(j) FUNDING.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available for each fiscal year under this subsection, the Secretary shall—

''(i) establish a national reserve for loans and loan guarantees to eligible entities in States under this section; and

''(ii) allocate amounts in the reserve to each State for each fiscal year for loans and loan guarantees to eligible entities in the State.

''(B) AMOUNT.—Based on information available from the most recent decennial census, the amount of an allocation made to a State for a fiscal year under subparagraph (A) shall bear the same ratio to the amount of allocations made for all States for the fiscal year as—

''(i) the number of communities with a population of 2,500 inhabitants or less in the State; bears to

''(ii) the number of communities with a population of 2,500 inhabitants or less in all States.

''(C) UNOBLIGATED AMOUNTS.—Any amounts in the reserve established for a State for a fiscal year under subparagraph (B) that are not obligated by April 1 of the fiscal year shall be available to the Secretary to make loans and loan guarantees under this section to eligible entities in any State, as determined by the Secretary.

''(k) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—No loan or loan guarantee may be made under this section after September 30, 2012.''.

(b) NATIONAL CENTER FOR RURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSESSMENT.—Title VI of Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 602. NATIONAL CENTER FOR RURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSESSMENT.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER.—The Secretary shall designate a National Center for Rural Telecommunications Assessment (referred to in this section as the 'Center').

''(b) CRITERIA.—In designating the Center, the Secretary shall ensure that—

''(1) the Center is an entity with a focus on rural policy research and a minimum of 5 years experience in rural telecommunications research and assessment;

''(2) the Center is capable of assessing broadband services in rural areas; and

''(3) the Center has significant experience with other rural economic development centers and organizations in the assessment of rural policies and formulation of policy solutions at the local, State, and Federal levels.

''(c) DUTIES.—The Center shall—

''(1) assess the effectiveness of programs under this section in increasing broadband availability and use in rural areas, especially in those rural communities identified by the Secretary as having no service before award of a broadband loan or loan guarantee under section 601(c);

''(2) develop assessments of broadband availability in rural areas, working with existing rural development centers selected by the Center;

''(3) identify policies and initiatives at the local, State, and Federal level that have increased broadband availability and use in rural areas;

''(4) conduct national studies of rural households and businesses focusing on the adoption of, barriers to, and use of broadband services, with specific attention addressing the economic, social and educational consequences of inaccessibility to affordable broadband services;

''(5) provide reports to the public on the activities carried out and funded under this section; and

''(6) conduct studies and provide recommendations to local, State, and Federal policymakers on effective strategies to bring affordable broadband services to rural citizens residing outside of the municipal boundaries of rural cities and towns.

''(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than December 1, 2008, and each year thereafter through December 1, 2012, the Center shall submit to the Secretary a report that—

''(1) describes the activities of the Center, the results of research carried out by the Center, and any additional information for the preceding fiscal year that the Secretary may request; and

''(2) includes—

''(A) assessments of the programs carried out under this section and section 601;

''(B) annual assessments on the effects of the policy initiatives identified under subsection (c)(3); and

''(C) results from the national studies of rural households and businesses conducted under subsection (c)(4).

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement the amendments made by this section.

SEC. 6111. SUBSTANTIALLY UNDERSERVED TRUST AREAS.

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 is amended by inserting after section 306E (7 U.S.C. 936e) the following:

''SEC. 306F. SUBSTANTIALLY UNDERSERVED TRUST AREAS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) SUBSTANTIALLY UNDERSERVED TRUST AREA.—The term 'substantially underserved trust area' means a community in 'trust land' (as defined in section 3765 of title 38, United States Code) in which more than 20 percent of the residents do not have modern, affordable, or reliable utility services, as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) UTILITY SERVICE.—The term 'utility service' means electric, telecommunications, broadband, or water service.

''(b) INITIATIVE.—The Secretary, in consultation with local governments and Federal agencies, may implement an initiative to identify and improve the availability and quality of utility services in communities in substantially underserved trust areas.

''(c) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Secretary—

''(1) may make available from loan or loan guarantee programs administered by the Rural Utilities Service to qualified utilities or applicants financing with an interest rate as low as 2 percent, and extended repayment terms, for use in facilitating improved utility service in substantially underserved trust areas;

''(2) may waive nonduplication restrictions, matching fund requirements, credit support requirements, or other regulations from any loan or grant program administered by the Rural Utilities Service to facilitate the construction, acquisition, or improvement of infrastructure used to deliver affordable utility services to substantially underserved trust areas;

''(3) may assign the highest funding priority to projects in substantially underserved trust areas;

''(4) shall make any loan or loan guarantee found to be financially feasible to provide service to substantially underserved trust areas; and

''(5) may conduct research and participate in regulatory proceedings to recommend policy changes to enhance utility service in substantially underserved trust areas.

''(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

''(1) the progress of the initiative implemented under subsection (b); and

''(2) recommendations for any regulatory or legislative changes that would be appropriate to improve services to substantially underserved trust areas.''.

SEC. 6112. STUDY OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of—

(1) how the Rural Utilities Service takes into account economic factors in the decisionmaking process of the Service in allocating Federal broadband benefits;

(2) what other considerations the Rural Utilities Service takes into account in making benefit awards;

(3) what economic forces prompt Rural Utilities Service broadband loan applicants to seek Federal funding rather than relying on the private market alone;

(4) how awards made by the Rural Utilities Service of Federal benefits impact the expansion of broadband infrastructure by the private sector; and

(5) what changes to Federal policy are needed to further encourage technology expansion by private broadband service providers.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), including any findings and recommendations.

Subtitle C—Connect the Nation Act

SEC. 6201. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Connect the Nation Act''.

SEC. 6202. GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE STATE INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE BROADBAND SERVICE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) BROADBAND SERVICE.—The term ''broadband service'' means any service that connects the public to the Internet with a data transmission-rate equivalent that is at least 200 kilobits per second or 200,000 bits per second, or any successor transmission-rate established by the Federal Communications Commission for broadband, in at least 1 direction.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ''eligible entity'' means a nonprofit organization that, in conjunction with State agencies and private sector partners, carries out an initiative under the section to identify and track the availability and adoption of broadband services within States.

(3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term ''nonprofit organization'' means an organization that—

(A) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of that Code;

(B) has net earnings that do not inure to the benefit of any member, founder, contributor, or individual associated with the organization;

(C) has an established record of competence and working with public and private sectors to accomplish widescale deployment and adoption of broadband services and information technology; and

(D) has a board of directors that does not have a majority of individuals who are employed by, or otherwise associated with, any Federal, State, or local government or agency.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Commerce.

(b) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities to pay the Federal share of the cost of the development and implementation of statewide initiatives to identify and track the availability and adoption of broadband services within States.

(c) PURPOSES.—The purpose of a grant made this section shall be—

(1) to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that all citizens and businesses in States have access to affordable and reliable broadband service;

(2) to promote improved technology literacy, increased computer ownership, and home broadband use among those citizens and businesses;

(3) to establish and empower local grassroots technology teams in States to plan for improved technology use across multiple community sectors; and

(4) to establish and sustain an environment that supports broadband services and information technology investment.

(d) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant for an initiative under this section, an eligible entity shall—

(1) submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require; and

(2) provide matching non-Federal funds in an amount that is equal to not less than 20 percent of the total cost of the initiative.

(e) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—Grants under this section shall be awarded on a competitive basis.

(f) PEER REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require technical and scientific peer review of applications for grants under this section.

(2) REVIEW PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall require that any technical and scientific peer review group—

(A) be provided a written description of the grant to be reviewed;

(B) provide the results of any review by the group to the Secretary; and

(C) certify that the group will enter into such voluntary nondisclosure agreements as are necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of confidential and propriety information provided by broadband service providers in connection with projects funded by a grant under this section.

(g) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant awarded to an eligible entity under this section shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in 1 or more participating States;

(2) to identify and track—

(A) areas in the participating States that have low levels of broadband service deployment;

(B) the rate at which individuals and businesses adopt broadband service and other related information technology services; and

(C) possible suppliers of the services;

(3) to identify barriers to the adoption by individuals and businesses of broadband service and related information technology services, including whether—

(A) the demand for the services is absent; and

(B) the supply for the services is capable of meeting the demand for the services;

(4) to create and facilitate in each county or designated region in the participating States a local technology planning team—

(A) with members representing a cross section of communities, including representatives of business, telecommunications labor organizations, K-12 education, health care, libraries, higher education, community-based organizations, local government, tourism, parks and recreation, and agriculture; and

(B) that shall—

(i) benchmark technology use across relevant community sectors;

(ii) set goals for improved technology use within each sector; and

(iii) develop a tactical business plan for achieving the goals of the team, with specific recommendations for online application development and demand creation;

(5) to work collaboratively with broadband service providers and information technology companies to encourage deployment and use, especially in unserved, underserved, and rural areas, through the use of local demand aggregation, mapping analysis, and the creation of market intelligence to improve the business case for providers to deploy;

(6) to establish programs to improve computer ownership and Internet access for unserved, underserved, and rural populations;

(7) to collect and analyze detailed market data concerning the use and demand for broadband service and related information technology services;

(8) to facilitate information exchange regarding the use and demand for broadband services between public and private sectors; and

(9) to create within the participating States a geographic inventory map of broadband service that shall—

(A) identify gaps in the service through a method of geographic information system mapping of service availability at the census block level; and

(B) provide a baseline assessment of statewide broadband deployment in terms of households with high-speed availability.

(h) PARTICIPATION LIMITATION.—For each participating State, an eligible entity may not receive a new grant under this section to carry out the activities described in subsection (g) within the participating State if the eligible entity obtained prior grant awards under this section to carry out the same activities in the participating State for each of the previous 4 fiscal years.

(i) REPORT.—Each recipient of a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary a report describing the use of the funds provided by the grant.

(j) NO REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section provides any public or private entity with any regulatory jurisdiction or oversight authority over providers of broadband services or information technology.

(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

Subtitle D—Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990

SEC. 6301. RURAL ELECTRONIC COMMERCE EXTENSION PROGRAM.

Section 1670(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5923(e)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 6302. TELEMEDICINE, LIBRARY CONNECTIVITY, PUBLIC TELEVISION, AND DISTANCE LEARNING SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XXII of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq.) is amended in the chapter heading by striking ''**AND DISTANCE LEARNING**'' and inserting ''**, LIBRARY CONNECTIVITY, PUBLIC TELEVISION, AND DISTANCE LEARNING**''.

(b) PURPOSE.—Section 2331 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa) is amended by striking ''telemedicine services and distance learning'' and inserting ''telemedicine services, library connectivity, and distance learning''.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2332 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa-1) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as paragraphs (2) through (4), respectively; and

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

''(1) CONNECTIVITY.—The term 'connectivity' means the ability to use a range of high-speed digital services or networks.''.

(d) TELEMEDICINE, LIBRARY CONNECTIVITY, AND DISTANCE LEARNING SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS.—Section 2333 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa-2) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**AND DISTANCE LEARNING**'' and inserting ''**, LIBRARY CONNECTIVITY, PUBLIC TELEVISION, AND DISTANCE LEARNING**'';

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''construction of facilities and systems to provide telemedicine services and distance learning services'' and inserting ''construction and use of facilities and systems to provide telemedicine services, library connectivity, distance learning services, and public television station digital conversion'';

(3) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) FORM.—The Secretary shall establish by notice the amount of the financial assistance available to applicants in the form of grants, costs of money loans, combinations of grants and loans, or other financial assistance so as to—

''(A)(i) further the purposes of this chapter; and

''(ii) in the case of loans, result in the maximum feasible repayment to the Federal Government of the loan; and

''(B) to ensure that funds made available to carry out this chapter are used to the maximum extent practicable to assist useful and needed projects.'';

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''financial assistance'' and inserting ''assistance in the form of grants'';

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking ''service or distance'' and inserting ''services, library connectivity services, public television station digital conversion, or distance'';

(II) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) libraries or library support organizations;

''(D) public television stations and the parent organizations of public television stations; and

''(E) schools, libraries, and other facilities operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service.'';

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''services or distance'' and inserting ''service, library connectivity, public television station digital conversion, or distance''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) PUBLIC TELEVISION GRANTS.—The Secretary shall establish a separate competitive process to determine the allocation of grants under this chapter to public television stations.'';

(5) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''1 or more of'' after ''considering'';

(B) in paragraph (12), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (13) as paragraph (14); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (12) the following:

''(13) the cost and availability of high-speed network access; and'';

(6) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

''(f) USE OF FUNDS.—Financial assistance provided under this chapter shall be used for—

''(1) the development, acquisition, and digital distribution of instructional programming to rural users;

''(2) the development and acquisition, through lease or purchase, of computer hardware and software, audio and visual equipment, computer network components, telecommunications terminal equipment, telecommunications transmission facilities, data terminal equipment, or interactive video equipment, teleconferencing equipment, or other facilities that would further telemedicine services, library connectivity, or distance learning services;

''(3) the provision of technical assistance and instruction for the development or use of the programming, equipment, or facilities referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2);

''(4) the acquisition of high-speed network transmission equipment or services that would not otherwise be available or affordable to the applicant;

''(5) costs relating to the coordination and collaboration among and between libraries on connectivity and universal service initiatives, or the development of multi-library connectivity plans that benefit rural users; or

''(6) other uses that are consistent with this chapter, as determined by the Secretary.''; and

(7) in subsection (i)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''telemedicine or distance'' and inserting ''telemedicine, library connectivity, public television station digital conversion, or distance''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''telemedicine or distance'' and inserting ''telemedicine, library connectivity, or distance''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''nonproprietary information contained in'' before ''the applications''.

(e) ADMINISTRATION.—Section 2334 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa-3) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''services or distance'' and inserting ''services, library connectivity, or distance''; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking ''or distance learning'' and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting '', library connectivity, or distance learning services through telecommunications in rural areas.''.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 2335A of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa-5) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(g) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1(b) of Public Law 102–551 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa note; Public Law 102–551) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

Subtitle E—Miscellaneous

SEC. 6401. VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 231 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 106–224) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ASSISTING ORGANIZATION.—The term 'assisting organization' means a nonprofit organization, institution of higher education, or units of government with expertise, as determined by the Secretary, to assist eligible producers and entities described in subsection (b)(1) through—

''(A) the provision of market research, training, or technical assistance; or

''(B) the development of supply networks for value-added products that strengthen the profitability of small and mid-sized family farms.

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The term 'technical assistance' means managerial, financial, operational, and scientific analysis and consultation to assist an individual or entity (including a recipient or potential recipient of a grant under this section)—

''(A) to identify and evaluate practices, approaches, problems, opportunities, or solutions; and

''(B) to assist in the planning, implementation, management, operation, marketing, or maintenance of projects authorized under this section.

''(3) VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'value-added agricultural product' means any agricultural commodity or product that—

''(i)(I) has undergone a change in physical state;

''(II) was produced in a manner that enhances the value of the agricultural commodity or product, as demonstrated through a business plan that shows the enhanced value, as determined by the Secretary; or

''(III) is physically segregated in a manner that results in the enhancement of the value of the agricultural commodity or product; and

''(ii) as a result of the change in physical state or the manner in which the agricultural commodity or product was produced, marketed, or segregated—

''(I) the customer base for the agricultural commodity or product has been expanded; and

''(II) a greater portion of the revenue derived from the marketing, processing, or physical segregation of the agricultural commodity or product is available to the producer of the commodity or product.

''(B) INCLUSION.—The term 'value-added agricultural products' includes—

''(i) farm- or ranch-based renewable energy, including the sale of E-85 fuel; and

''(ii) the aggregation and marketing of locally-produced agricultural food products.''.

(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 231(b) of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 106–224) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''exceed $500,000'' and inserting ''exceed—

''(i) $300,000 in the case of grants including working capital; and

''(ii) $100,000 in the case of all other grants.''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) RESEARCH, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND OUTREACH.—The amount of grant funds provided to an assisting organization for a fiscal year may not exceed 10 percent of the total amount of funds that are used to make grants for the fiscal year under this subsection.'';

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) to conduct market research, provide training and technical assistance, develop supply networks, or provide program outreach.''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

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

''(5) SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall offer a simplified application form and process for project proposals requesting less than $50,000.

''(6) PRIORITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants, the Secretary shall give the priority to projects that—

''(i) contribute to increasing opportunities for beginning farmers or ranchers, socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers, and operators of small- and medium-sized farms and ranches that are not larger than family farms; and

''(ii) support new ventures that do not have well-established markets or product development staffs and budgets, including the development of local food systems and the development of infrastructure to support local food systems.

''(B) PARTICIPATION.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall provide grants to projects that provide training and outreach activities in areas that have, as determined by the Secretary, received relatively fewer grants than other areas.

''(7) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 6402. STUDY OF RAILROAD ISSUES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Transportation, shall conduct a study of railroad issues regarding the movement of agricultural products, domestically-produced renewable fuels, and domestically-produced resources for the production of electricity in rural areas of the United States and for economic development in rural areas of the United States.

(b) ISSUE.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall include an examination of—

(1) the importance of freight railroads to—

(A) the delivery of equipment, seed, fertilizer, and other products that are important to the development of agricultural commodities and products;

(B) the movement of agricultural commodities and products to market; and

(C) the delivery of ethanol and other renewable fuels;

(2) the sufficiency in rural areas of the United States of—

(A) railroad capacity;

(B) competition in the railroad system; and

(C) the reliability of rail service; and

(3) the accessibility to rail customers in rural areas of the United States to Federal processes for the resolution of rail customer grievances with the railroads.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

(1) the results of the study conducted under this section; and

(2) the recommendations of the Secretary for new Federal policies to address any problems identified by the study.

SEC. 6403. INSURANCE OF LOANS FOR HOUSING AND RELATED FACILITIES FOR DOMESTIC FARM LABOR.

Section 514(f)(3) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1484(f)(3)) is amended by striking ''or the handling of such commodities in the unprocessed stage'' and inserting '', the handling of agricultural or aquacultural commodities in the unprocessed stage, or the processing of agricultural or aquacultural commodities''.

TITLE VII—RESEARCH AND RELATED MATTERS

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

SEC. 7001. DEFINITIONS.

Section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (E) as clauses (i) through (v), respectively;

(B) by striking ''(4) The terms'' and inserting the following:

''(4) COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The terms''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The terms 'college' and 'university' include a research foundation maintained by a college or university described in subparagraph (A).'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (8), (9) through (14), (15), and (16) as paragraphs (7) through (9), (11) through (16), (19), and (6), respectively, and moving the paragraphs so as to appear in alphabetical order;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (9) (as redesignated by paragraph (2)) the following:

''(10) HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—The term 'Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities' means a college or university that—

''(A) qualifies as a Hispanic-serving institution; and

''(B) offers associate, bachelor's, or other accredited degree programs in agriculture-related fields.''; and

(4) by striking paragraph (11) (as so redesignated) and inserting the following:

''(11) HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term 'Hispanic-serving institution' has the meaning given the term in section 502(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)).''.

SEC. 7002. NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS ADVISORY BOARD.

Section 1408(h) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123(h)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7003. VETERINARY MEDICINE LOAN REPAYMENT.

Section 1415A of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3151a) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to carry out this section.''.

SEC. 7004. ELIGIBILITY OF UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES EDUCATION.

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

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) of subsection (b), by inserting ''(including the University of the District of Columbia)'' after ''land-grant colleges and universities''; and

(2) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting ''(including the University of the District of Columbia)'' after ''universities''.

SEC. 7005. GRANTS TO 1890 INSTITUTIONS TO EXPAND EXTENSION CAPACITY.

Section 1417(b)(4) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(4)) is amended by striking ''teaching and research'' and inserting ''teaching, research, and extension''.

SEC. 7006. EXPANSION OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AWARDS.

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

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''TEACHING AWARDS '' and ''TEACHING, EXTENSION, AND RESEARCH AWARDS''; and

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

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a National Food and Agricultural Sciences Teaching, Extension, and Research Awards program to recognize and promote excellence in teaching, extension, and research in the food and agricultural sciences at a college or university.

''(B) MINIMUM REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall make at least 1 cash award in each fiscal year to a nominee selected by the Secretary for excellence in each of the areas of teaching, extension, and research of food and agricultural science at a college or university.''.

SEC. 7007. GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES EDUCATION.

(a) EDUCATION TEACHING PROGRAMS.—Section 1417(j) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(j)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''AND 2-YEAR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION TEACHING PROGRAMS'' and inserting '', 2-YEAR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, AND AGRICULTURE IN THE K–12 CLASSROOM''; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''and institutions of higher education that award an associate's degree'' and inserting '', institutions of higher education that award an associate's degree, other institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations'';

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(G) to support current agriculture in the classroom programs for grades K–12.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1417(l) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(l)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

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

(1) by redesignating subsection (l) as subsection (m); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (k) the following:

''(l) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate describing the distribution of funds used to implement teaching programs under subsection (j).''.

SEC. 7008. GRANTS FOR RESEARCH ON PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF ALCOHOLS AND INDUSTRIAL HYDROCARBONS FROM AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES AND FOREST PRODUCTS.

Section 1419(d) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3154(d)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7009. POLICY RESEARCH CENTERS.

Section 1419A of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3155) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by inserting ''(including the Food Agricultural Policy Research Institute, the Agricultural and Food Policy Center, the Rural Policy Research Institute, and the Community Vitality Center)'' after ''research institutions and organizations''; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7010. HUMAN NUTRITION INTERVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Section 1424(d) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3174(d)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7011. PILOT RESEARCH PROGRAM TO COMBINE MEDICAL AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

Section 1424A(d) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3174a(d)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7012. NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1425 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3175) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a) through (c) as subsections (b) through (d), respectively;

(2) by striking the section heading and ''SEC. 1425.'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 1425. NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms '1862 Institution' and '1890 Institution' have the meaning given those terms in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601).'';

(3) in subsection (b) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary''; and

(4) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated), by striking ''In order to enable'' and inserting the following:

''(c) EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING.—To enable''.

(b) FUNDING TO 1862, 1890, AND INSULAR AREA INSTITUTIONS.—Subsection (d) of section 1425 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3175) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Beginning'' and inserting the following:

''(d) ALLOCATION OF FUNDING.—Beginning''; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) Notwithstanding section 3(d)(2) of the Act of May 8, 1914 (7 U.S.C. 343(d)(2)), the remainder shall be allocated among the States as follows:

''(i) $100,000 shall be distributed to each 1862 and 1890 land-grant college and university.

''(ii)(I) Subject to subclause (II), of the remainder, 10 percent for fiscal year 2008, 11 percent for fiscal year 2009, 12 percent for fiscal year 2010, 13 percent for fiscal year 2011, 14 percent for fiscal year 2012, and 15 percent for each fiscal year thereafter, shall be distributed among the 1890 Institutions, to be allocated to each 1890 Institution in an amount that bears the same ratio to the total amount to be allocated under this clause as—

''(aa) the population living at or below 125 percent of the income poverty guidelines (as prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget and as adjusted pursuant to section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))) in the State in which the 1890 Institution is located; bears to

''(bb) the total population living at or below 125 percent of the income poverty guidelines in all States that have 1890 Institutions, as determined by the last preceding decennial census at the time each such additional amount is first appropriated.

''(II) The total amount allocated under this clause shall not exceed the amount of the funds appropriated for the conduct of the expanded food and nutrition education program for the fiscal year that are in excess of the amount appropriated for the conduct of the program for fiscal year 2007.

''(iii)(I) Subject to subclauses (II) and (III), the remainder shall be allocated to the 1860 institution in each State (including the appropriate insular area institution and the University of the District of Columbia) in an amount that bears the same ratio to the total amount to be allocated under this subparagraph as—

''(aa) the population of the State living at or below 125 percent of the income poverty guidelines prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget (adjusted pursuant to section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))); bears to

''(bb) the total population of all the States living at or below 125 percent of the income poverty guidelines, as determined by the last preceding decennial census at the time each such additional amount is first appropriated.

''(II) The total amount allocated under this clause to the University of the District of Columbia shall not exceed the amount described in clause (ii)(II), reduced by the amount allocated to the University of the District of Columbia under clause (ii).

''(III) Nothing in this clause precludes the Secretary from developing educational materials and programs for persons in income ranges above the level designated in this clause.''.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Subsection (d)(3) of section 1425 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3175) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''There is'' and inserting the following:

''(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is''; and

(2) by striking ''$83,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1996 through 2007'' and inserting ''$90,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1588(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 3175e(b)) is amended by striking ''section 1425(c)(2)'' and inserting ''section 1425(d)(2)''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on October 1, 2007.

SEC. 7013. CONTINUING ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE RESEARCH PROGRAMS.

Section 1433(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3195(a)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7014. APPROPRIATIONS FOR RESEARCH ON NATIONAL OR REGIONAL PROBLEMS.

Section 1434(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3196(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7015. ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Section 1434(b) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3196(b)) is amended by inserting after ''universities'' the following: ''(including 1890 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)))''.

SEC. 7016. AUTHORIZATION LEVEL FOR EXTENSION AT 1890 LAND-GRANT COLLEGES.

Section 1444(a)(2) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221(a)(2)) is amended by striking ''15 percent'' and inserting ''20 percent''.

SEC. 7017. AUTHORIZATION LEVEL FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AT 1890 LAND-GRANT COLLEGES.

Section 1445(a)(2) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222(a)(2)) is amended by striking ''25 percent'' and inserting ''30 percent''.

SEC. 7018. GRANTS TO UPGRADE AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SCIENCES FACILITIES AT 1890 LAND-GRANT COLLEGES, INCLUDING TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY.

Section 1447(b) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222b(b)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7019. GRANTS TO UPGRADE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SCIENCES FACILITIES AT THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LAND GRANT UNIVERSITY.

The National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting after section 1447 (7 U.S.C. 3222b) the following:

''SEC. 1447A. GRANTS TO UPGRADE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SCIENCES FACILITIES AT THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LAND GRANT UNIVERSITY.

''(a) PURPOSE.—It is the intent of Congress to assist the land grant university in the District of Columbia established under section 208 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act (Public Law 93–471; 88 Stat. 1428) in efforts to acquire, alter, or repair facilities or relevant equipment necessary for conducting agricultural research.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $750,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7020. NATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING VIRTUAL CENTERS.

Section 1448 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222c) is amended by striking ''2007'' each place it appears in subsections (a)(1) and (f) and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7021. MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT FOR RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES OF 1890 INSTITUTIONS.

Section 1449(c) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222d(c)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012.''.

SEC. 7022. HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.

Section 1455 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3241) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking ''(or grants without regard to any requirement for competition)'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''of consortia'';

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking '', beginning with the mentoring of students'' and all that follows through ''doctoral degree''; and

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking ''2 or more''; and

(ii) by striking '', or between Hispanic-serving'' and all that follows through ''the private sector,''; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''$20,000,000'' and inserting ''$40,000,000''; and

(B) by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7023. HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting after section 1455 (7 U.S.C. 3241) the following:

''SEC. 1456. HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

''(a) DEFINITION OF ENDOWMENT FUND.—In this section, the term 'endowment fund' means the Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Fund established under subsection (b).

''(b) ENDOWMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall establish in accordance with this subsection a Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Fund.

''(2) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may enter into such agreements as are necessary to carry out this subsection.

''(3) DEPOSIT TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall deposit in the endowment fund any—

''(A) amounts made available through Acts of appropriations, which shall be the endowment fund corpus; and

''(B) interest earned on the endowment fund corpus.

''(4) INVESTMENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall invest the endowment fund corpus and income in interest-bearing obligations of the United States.

''(5) WITHDRAWALS AND EXPENDITURES.—

''(A) CORPUS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may not make a withdrawal or expenditure from the endowment fund corpus.

''(B) WITHDRAWALS.—On September 30, 2008, and each September 30 thereafter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall withdraw the amount of the income from the endowment fund for the fiscal year and warrant the funds to the Secretary of Agriculture who, after making adjustments for the cost of administering the endowment fund, shall distribute the adjusted income as follows:

''(i) 60 percent shall be distributed among the Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities on a pro rata basis based on the Hispanic enrollment count of each institution.

''(ii) 40 percent shall be distributed in equal shares to the Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities.

''(6) ENDOWMENTS.—Amounts made available under this subsection shall be held and considered to be granted to Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities to establish an endowment in accordance with this subsection.

''(7) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION FOR ANNUAL PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Agriculture to carry out this subsection an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

''(A) $80,000; by

''(B) the number of Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities.

''(2) PAYMENTS.—For fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay to the treasurer of each Hispanic-Serving agricultural college and university an amount equal to—

''(A) the total amount made available by appropriations under subparagraph (A); divided by

''(B) the number of Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities.

''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated under this subsection shall be used in the same manner as is prescribed for colleges under the Act of August 30, 1890 (commonly known as the 'Second Morrill Act') (7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.).

''(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAW.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the requirements of that Act shall apply to Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities under this section.

''(d) INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary shall make grants to assist Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities in institutional capacity building (not including alteration, repair, renovation, or construction of buildings).

''(2) CRITERIA FOR INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS.—

''(A) REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make grants under this subsection on the basis of a competitive application process under which Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities may submit applications to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(B) DEMONSTRATION OF NEED.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—As part of an application for a grant under this subsection, the Secretary shall require the applicant to demonstrate need for the grant, as determined by the Secretary.

''(ii) OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING.—The Secretary may award a grant under this subsection only to an applicant that demonstrates a failure to obtain funding for a project after making a reasonable effort to otherwise obtain the funding.

''(C) PAYMENT OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—A grant awarded under this subsection shall be made only if the recipient of the grant pays a non-Federal share in an amount that is specified by the Secretary and based on assessed institutional needs.

''(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter.

''(e) COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a competitive grants program to fund fundamental and applied research at Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities in agriculture, human nutrition, food science, bioenergy, and environmental science.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter.''.

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

(1) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

''(4) ANNUAL APPROPRIATION FOR HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—

''(A) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this paragraph for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter.

''(B) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT.—Amounts made available under this paragraph shall be in addition to any other amounts made available under this section to States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

''(C) ADMINISTRATION.—Amounts made available under this paragraph shall be—

''(i) distributed on the basis of a competitive application process to be developed and implemented by the Secretary and paid by the Secretary to the State institutions established in accordance with the Act of July 2, 1862 (commonly known as the 'First Morrill Act') (7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.); and

''(ii) administered by State institutions through cooperative agreements with the Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities (as defined in section 1456 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977) in the State in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary.''; and

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''AND HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES'' after ''1994 INSTITUTIONS''; and

(B) by striking ''pursuant to subsection (b)(3)'' and inserting ''or Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities in accordance with paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (b)''.

SEC. 7024. INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION.

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

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) giving priority to those institutions with existing memoranda of understanding, agreements, or other formal ties to United States institutions, or Federal or State agencies;'';

(2) in paragraph (3), by inserting ''Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities,'' after ''universities,'';

(3) in paragraph (7)(A), by striking ''and land-grant colleges and universities'' and inserting '', land-grant colleges and universities, and Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities'';

(4) in paragraph (9)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or other colleges and universities'' and inserting '', Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities, or other colleges and universities''; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(5) in paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(11) establish a program for the purpose of providing fellowships to United States or foreign students to study at foreign agricultural colleges and universities working under agreements provided for under paragraph (3).''.

SEC. 7025. COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Section 1459A(c) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3292b(c)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7026. INDIRECT COSTS.

Section 1462(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310(a)) is amended by striking ''shall not exceed 19 percent'' and inserting ''shall be the negotiated indirect rate of cost established for an institution by the appropriate Federal audit agency for the institution, not to exceed 30 percent''.

SEC. 7027. RESEARCH EQUIPMENT GRANTS.

Section 1462A(e) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310a(e)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7028. UNIVERSITY RESEARCH.

Section 1463 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3311) is amended by striking ''2007'' each place it appears in subsections (a) and (b) and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7029. EXTENSION SERVICE.

Section 1464 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3312) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7030. SUPPLEMENTAL AND ALTERNATIVE CROPS.

Section 1473D(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3319d(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7031. AQUACULTURE RESEARCH FACILITIES.

(a) FISH DISEASE PROGRAM.—Section 1475(f) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3322(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The study of viral hemorrhagic septicemia (referred to in this paragraph as 'VHS') and VHS management shall be considered an area of priority research under this subsection.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall consult with appropriate directors of State natural resource management and agriculture agencies in areas that are VHS positive as of the date of enactment of this paragraph to develop and implement a comprehensive set of priorities for managing VHS, including providing funds for research into the spread and control of the disease, surveillance, monitoring, risk evaluation, enforcement, screening, education and outreach, and management.

''(ii) CONSIDERATION.—The Secretary shall provide special consideration to the recommendations of the directors described in clause (i) in the development of the VHS priorities.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1477 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3324) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7032. RANGELAND RESEARCH.

(a) GRANTS.—Section 1480(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3333(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) pilot programs to coordinate and conduct collaborative projects to address natural resources management issues and facilitate the collection of information and analysis to provide Federal and State agencies, private landowners, and the public with information to allow for improved management of public and private rangeland.''.

(b) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1480(b)(2) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3333(b)(2)) is amended by striking ''subsection (a)(2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a)''.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1483(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3336(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7033. SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION FOR BIOSECURITY PLANNING AND RESPONSE.

Section 1484(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3351(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7034. RESIDENT INSTRUCTION AND DISTANCE EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM FOR INSULAR AREA INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(a) DISTANCE EDUCATION GRANTS FOR INSULAR AREAS.—Section 1490(f) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3362(f)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(b) RESIDENT INSTRUCTION GRANTS FOR INSULAR AREAS.—Section 1491 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3363) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (c); and

(2) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7035. FARM MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND PUBLIC FARM BENCHMARKING DATABASE.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting after section 1467 (7 U.S.C. 3313) the following:

''SEC. 1468. FARM MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND PUBLIC FARM BENCHMARKING DATABASE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) BENCHMARK, BENCHMARKING.—The term 'benchmark' or 'benchmarking' means the process of comparing the performance of an agricultural enterprise against the performance of other similar enterprises, through the use of comparable and reliable data, in order to identify business management strengths, weaknesses, and steps necessary to improve management performance and business profitability.

''(2) FARM MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION.—The term 'farm management association' means a public or nonprofit organization or educational program—

''(A) the purpose of which is to assist farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural operators to improve financial management and business profitability by providing training on farm financial planning and analysis, record keeping, and other farm management topics; and

''(B) that is affiliated with a land-grant college or university, other institution of higher education, or nonprofit entity.

''(3) NATIONAL FARM MANAGEMENT CENTER.—The term 'National Farm Management Center' means a land-grant college or university that, as determined by the Secretary—

''(A) has collaborative partnerships with more than 5 farm management associations that are representative of agricultural diversity in multiple regions of the United States;

''(B) has maintained and continues to maintain farm financial analysis software applicable to the production and management of a wide range of crop and livestock agricultural commodities (including some organic commodities);

''(C) has established procedures that enable producers—

''(i) to benchmark the farms of the producers against peer groups; and

''(ii) to query the benchmarking database by location, farm type, farm size, and commodity at the overall business and individual enterprise levels; and

''(D) has provided and continues to provide public online access to farm and ranch financial benchmarking databases.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a National Farm Management Center to improve the farm management knowledge and skills of individuals directly involved in production agriculture through—

''(A) participation in a farm management education and training program; and

''(B) direct access to a public farm benchmarking database.

''(2) PROPOSALS.—The Secretary shall request proposals from appropriate land-grant colleges and universities for the establishment of a National Farm Management Center in accordance with this section.

''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—The National Farm Management Center established under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) coordinate standardized financial analysis methodologies for use by farmers, ranchers, other agricultural operators, and farm management associations;

''(B) provide the software tools necessary for farm management associations, farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural operators to perform the necessary financial analyses, including the benchmarking of individual enterprises; and

''(C) develop and maintain a national farm financial database to facilitate those financial analyses and benchmarking that is available online to farmers, ranchers, other agricultural operators, farm management associations, and the public.

''(c) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 8 percent of the funds made available to carry out this section may be used for the payment of administrative expenses of the Department of Agriculture in carrying out this section.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.''.

SEC. 7036. TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473E. TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

''(a) DEFINITION OF CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC BASINS.—In this section, the term 'Caribbean and Pacific basins', means—

''(1) the States of Florida and Hawaii;

''(2) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

''(3) the United States Virgin Islands;

''(4) Guam;

''(5) American Samoa;

''(6) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

''(7) the Federated States of Micronesia;

''(8) the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and

''(9) the Republic of Palau.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a program, to be known as the 'Tropical and Subtropical Agricultural Research Program', to sustain the agriculture and environment of the Caribbean and Pacific basins, by supporting the full range of research relating to food and agricultural sciences in the Caribbean and Pacific basins, with an emphasis on—

''(1) pest management;

''(2) deterring introduction and establishment of invasive species;

''(3) enhancing existing and developing new tropical and subtropical agricultural products; and

''(4) expanding value-added agriculture in tropical and subtropical ecosystems.

''(c) GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall provide grants to be awarded competitively to support tropical

and subtropical agricultural research in the Caribbean and Pacific basins.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant, an entity shall be a land-grant college or university, or affiliated with a land-grant college or university, that is located in any region of the Caribbean and Pacific basin.

''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) EQUAL AMOUNTS.—The total amount of grants provided under this subsection shall be equally divided between the Caribbean and Pacific basins, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPABILITY PRIORITY.—In providing grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to projects of eligible entities that—

''(i) expand the infrastructure and capability of the region of the eligible entity;

''(ii) scientifically and culturally address regional agricultural and environmental challenges; and

''(iii) sustain agriculture in the region of the eligible entity.

''(C) TERM.—The term of a grant provided under this subsection shall not exceed 5 years.

''(D) PROHIBITIONS.—A grant provided under this subsection shall not be used for the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of any building or facility.

''(d) FUNDING.—

''(1) SET-ASIDE.—Not less than 25 percent of the funds made available to carry out this section during a fiscal year shall be used to support programs and services that—

''(A) address the pest management needs of a region in the Caribbean and Pacific basins; or

''(B) minimize the impact to a region in the Caribbean and Pacific basins of invasive species.

''(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary shall use not more than 4 percent of the funds made available under subsection (e) for administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out this section.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7037. REGIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7036) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473F. REGIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.

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

''(1) to authorize regional centers of excellence for specific agricultural commodities; and

''(2) to develop a national, coordinated program of research, teaching, and extension for commodities that will—

''(A) be cost effective by reducing duplicative efforts regarding research, teaching, and extension;

''(B) leverage available resources by using public/private partnerships among industry groups, institutions of higher education, and the Federal Government;

''(C) increase the economic returns to agricultural commodity industries by identifying, attracting, and directing funds to high-priority industry issues; and

''(D) more effectively disseminate industry issue solutions to target audiences through web-based extension information, instructional courses, and educational or training modules.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term 'agricultural commodity' has the meaning given the term in section 513 of the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7412).

''(2) LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—The term 'land-grant colleges and universities' means—

''(A) 1862 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601));

''(B) 1890 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of that Act); and

''(C) 1994 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of that Act).

''(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) ORIGINAL COMPOSITION.—The Secretary shall establish regional centers of excellence for specific agricultural commodities that are each comprised of—

''(A) a lead land-grant college or university; and

''(B) 1 or more member land-grant colleges and universities that provide financial support to the regional center of excellence.

''(2) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—Each regional center of excellence shall be administered by a board of directors consisting of 15 members, as determined by the lead and member land-grant colleges and universities of the center.

''(3) ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS AND INSTITUTIONS.—Each board of directors of a regional center of excellence may—

''(A) designate additional land-grant colleges and universities as members of the center; and

''(B) designate representatives of the additional land-grant colleges and universities and agriculture industry groups to be additional members of the board of directors.

''(d) PROGRAMS.—Each regional center of excellence shall achieve the purposes of this section through—

''(1) research initiatives focused on issues pertaining to the specific agricultural commodity;

''(2) teaching initiatives at lead and member land-grant colleges and universities to provide intensive education relating to the specific agricultural commodity; and

''(3) extension initiatives focusing on an internet-based information gateway to provide for relevant information development, warehousing, and delivery.

''(e) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each regional center of excellence shall be funded through the use of—

''(A) grants made by the Secretary; and

''(B) matching funds provided by land-grant colleges and universities and agriculture industry groups.

''(2) PROCESS.—The board of directors of each regional center of excellence shall have the responsibility for submitting grant proposals to the Secretary to carry out the research, education, and extension program activities described in subsection (d).

''(3) TERM OF GRANT.—The term of a grant under this subsection may not exceed 5 years.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7038. NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7037) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473G. NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall offer to enter into an agreement with the National Drought Mitigation Center, under which the Center shall—

''(1) continue to produce the United States Drought Monitor;

''(2) maintain a clearinghouse and internet portal on drought; and

''(3) develop new drought mitigation and preparedness strategies, responses, models, and methodologies for the agricultural community.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each fiscal year.''.

SEC. 7039. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAN-PACIFIC REGION.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7038) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473H. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAN-PACIFIC REGION.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) AMERICAN-PACIFIC REGION.—The term 'American-Pacific region' means the region encompassing—

''(A) American Samoa;

''(B) Guam;

''(C) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

''(D) the Federated States of Micronesia;

''(E) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

''(F) the Republic of Palau;

''(G) the State of Hawaii; and

''(H) the State of Alaska.

''(2) CONSORTIUM.—The term 'consortium' means a collaborative group that—

''(A) is composed of each eligible institution; and

''(B) submits to the Secretary an application for a grant under subsection (b)(2).

''(3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term 'eligible institution' means a land-grant college or university that is located in the American-Pacific region.

''(b) AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAN PACIFIC GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make grants to a consortium of eligible institutions to carry out integrated research, extension, and instruction programs in support of food and agricultural sciences.

''(2) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under paragraph (1), a consortium of eligible institutions shall submit to the Secretary an application that includes—

''(A) for each eligible institution, a description of each objective, procedure, and proposed use of funds relating to any funds provided by the Secretary to the consortium under paragraph (1); and

''(B) the method of allocation proposed by the consortium to distribute to each eligible institution any funds provided by the Secretary to the consortium under paragraph (1).

''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible institution that receives funds through a grant under paragraph (1) shall use the funds—

''(i) to acquire the equipment, instrumentation, networking capability, hardware and software, digital network technology, and infrastructure required to integrate research, extension, and instruction programs in the American-Pacific region;

''(ii) to develop and provide support for conducting research, extension, and instruction programs in support of food and agricultural sciences relevant to the American-Pacific region, with special emphasis on—

''(I) the management of pests; and

''(II) the control of the spread of invasive alien species; and

''(iii) to provide leadership development to administrators, faculty, and staff of the eligible institution with responsibility for programs relating to agricultural research, extension, and instruction.

''(B) PROHIBITED USES.—An eligible institution that receives funds through a grant under paragraph (1) may not use the funds for any cost relating to the planning, acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, or repair of any building or facility of the eligible institution.

''(4) GRANT TERM.—A grant under paragraph (1) shall have a term of not more than 5 years.

''(5) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—The Secretary may carry out this section in a manner that recognizes the different needs of, and opportunities for, each eligible institution.

''(B) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary shall use not more than 4 percent of the amount appropriated under subsection (d) for a fiscal year to pay administrative costs incurred in carrying out this section.

''(c) NO EFFECT ON DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—Nothing in this section affects any basis for distribution of funds by a formula in existence on the date of enactment of this section relating to—

''(1) the Federated States of Micronesia;

''(2) the Republic of the Marshall Islands; or

''(3) the Republic of Palau.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7040. BORLAUG INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7039) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473I. BORLAUG INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

''(a) FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a fellowship program, to be known as the 'Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program,' to provide fellowships for scientific training and study in the United States to individuals from eligible countries (as described in subsection (b)) who specialize in agricultural education, research, and extension.

''(2) PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall carry out the fellowship program by implementing 3 programs designed to assist individual fellowship recipients, including—

''(A) a graduate studies program in agriculture to assist individuals who participate in graduate agricultural degree training at a United States institution;

''(B) an individual career improvement program to assist agricultural scientists from developing countries in upgrading skills and understanding in agricultural science and technology; and

''(C) a Borlaug agricultural policy executive leadership course to assist senior agricultural policy makers from eligible countries, with an initial focus on individuals from sub-Saharan Africa and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

''(b) ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES.—An eligible country is a developing country, as determined by the Secretary using a gross national income per capita test selected by the Secretary.

''(c) PURPOSE OF FELLOWSHIPS.—A fellowship provided under this section shall—

''(1) promote food security and economic growth in eligible countries by—

''(A) educating a new generation of agricultural scientists;

''(B) increasing scientific knowledge and collaborative research to improve agricultural productivity; and

''(C) extending that knowledge to users and intermediaries in the marketplace; and

''(2) shall support—

''(A) training and collaborative research opportunities through exchanges for entry level international agricultural research scientists, faculty, and policymakers from eligible countries;

''(B) collaborative research to improve agricultural productivity;

''(C) the transfer of new science and agricultural technologies to strengthen agricultural practice; and

''(D) the reduction of barriers to technology adoption.

''(d) FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS.—

''(1) ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES.—The Secretary may provide fellowships under this section to individuals from eligible countries who specialize in or have experience in agricultural education, research, extension, or related fields, including—

''(A) individuals from the public and private sectors; and

''(B) private agricultural producers.

''(2) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall use the expertise of United States land grant colleges and universities and similar universities, international organizations working in agricultural research and outreach, and national agricultural research organizations to help identify program candidates for fellowships under this section from the public and private sectors of eligible countries.

''(e) USE OF FELLOWSHIPS.—A fellowship provided under this section shall be used—

''(1) to promote collaborative programs among agricultural professionals of eligible countries, agricultural professionals of the United States, the international agricultural research system, and, as appropriate, United States entities conducting research; and

''(2) to support fellowship recipients through programs described in subsection (a)(2).

''(f) PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall provide for the management, coordination, evaluation, and monitoring of the overall Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program and for the individual programs described in subsection (a)(2), except that the Secretary may contract out to 1 or more collaborating universities the management of 1 or more of the fellowship programs.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section, to remain available until expended.''.

SEC. 7041. NEW ERA RURAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7040) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473J. NEW ERA RURAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITION OF RURAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—In this section, the term 'rural community college' means an institution of higher education that—

''(1) admits as regular students individuals who—

''(A) are beyond the age of compulsory school attendance in the State in which the institution is located; and

''(B) have the ability to benefit from the training offered by the institution, in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary;

''(2) does not provide an educational program for which it awards a bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree;

''(3)(A) provides an educational program of not less than 2 years that is acceptable for full credit toward such a degree; or

''(B) offers a 2–year program in engineering, technology, mathematics, or the physical, chemical or biological sciences that is designed to prepare a student to work as a technician or at the semiprofessional level in engineering, scientific, or other technological fields requiring the understanding and application of basic engineering, scientific, or mathematical principles of knowledge; and

''(4) is located in a rural area (as defined in section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)).

''(b) PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program, to be known as the 'New Era Rural Technology Program', under which the Secretary shall make grants available for technology development, applied research, and training to aid in the development of an agriculture-based renewable energy workforce.

''(2) FIELDS.—In making grants under the program, the Secretary shall support the fields of—

''(A) bioenergy;

''(B) pulp and paper manufacturing; and

''(C) agriculture-based renewable energy resources.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall—

''(1) be a rural community college or advanced technological center (as determined by the Secretary), in existence on the date of the enactment of this section, that participates in agricultural or bioenergy research and applied research;

''(2) have a proven record of development and implementation of programs to meet the needs of students, educators, business, and industry to supply the agriculture-based, renewable energy, or pulp and paper manufacturing fields with certified technicians, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(3) have the ability to leverage existing partnerships and occupational outreach and training programs for secondary schools, 4-year institutions, and relevant nonprofit organizations.

''(d) GRANT PRIORITY.—In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to rural community colleges working in partnership—

''(1) to improve information sharing capacity; and

''(2) to maximize the ability of eligible recipients to meet the purposes of this section.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7042. FARM AND RANCH STRESS ASSISTANCE NETWORK.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7041) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473K. FARM AND RANCH STRESS ASSISTANCE NETWORK.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall establish a network, to be known as the 'Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network' (referred to in this section as the 'Network').

''(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose the network shall be to provide behavioral health programs to participants in the agricultural sector in the United States.

''(c) GRANTS.—The Secretary, in collaboration with the extension service at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, shall provide grants on a competitive basis to States and nonprofit organizations for use in carrying out pilot projects to achieve the purpose of the Network.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7043. RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ENTERPRISE FACILITATION PROGRAM.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7042) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473L. RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ENTERPRISE FACILITATION PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITION OF REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER.—In this section, the term 'regional rural development center' means—

''(1) the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (or a designee);

''(2) the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development (or a designee);

''(3) the Southern Rural Development Center (or a designee); and

''(4) the Western Rural Development Center (or a designee).

''(b) PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall carry out research, extension, and education projects to obtain data, convey knowledge, and develop skills through projects that—

''(1) transfer practical, reliable, and timely information to rural entrepreneurs and rural entrepreneurial development organizations concerning business management, business planning, microenterprise, marketing, entrepreneurial education and training, and the development of local and regional entrepreneurial systems in rural areas and rural communities;

''(2) provide education, training, and technical assistance to newly-operational and growing rural businesses;

''(3) improve access to diverse sources of capital, such as microenterprise loans and venture capital;

''(4) determine the best methods to train entrepreneurs with respect to preparing business plans, recordkeeping, tax rules, financial management, and general business practices;

''(5) promote entrepreneurship among—

''(A) rural youth, minority, and immigrant populations;

''(B) women; and

''(C) low- and moderate-income rural residents;

''(6) create networks of entrepreneurial support through partnerships among rural entrepreneurs, local business communities, all levels of government, nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities, and other sectors;

''(7) study and facilitate entrepreneurial development systems that best align with the unique needs and strengths of particular rural areas and communities; and

''(8) explore promising strategies for building an integrated system of program delivery to rural entrepreneurs.

''(c) AGREEMENTS.—To carry out projects under subsection (b), the Secretary shall provide grants to—

''(1) land-grant colleges and universities, including cooperative extension services, agricultural experiment stations, and regional rural development centers;

''(2) other colleges and universities;

''(3) community, junior, technical, and vocational colleges and other 2-year institutions of higher education, and post-secondary business and commerce schools;

''(4) elementary schools and secondary schools;

''(5) nonprofit organizations; and

''(6) Federal, State, local, and tribal governmental entities.

''(d) SELECTION AND PRIORITY OF PROJECTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In selecting projects to be carried out under this section, the Secretary shall take into consideration—

''(A) the relevance of the project to the purposes of this section;

''(B) the appropriateness of the design of the project;

''(C) the likelihood of achieving the objectives of the project; and

''(D) the national or regional applicability of the findings and outcomes of the project.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out projects under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that—

''(A) enhance widespread access to entrepreneurial education, including access to such education in community-based settings for low- and moderate-income entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs;

''(B) closely coordinate research and education activities, including outreach education efforts;

''(C) indicate the manner in which the findings of the project will be made readily usable to rural entrepreneurs and to rural community leaders;

''(D) maximize the involvement and cooperation of rural entrepreneurs; and

''(E) involve cooperation and partnerships between rural entrepreneurs, nonprofit organizations, entrepreneurial development organizations, educational institutions at all levels, and government agencies at all levels.

''(e) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—Grants under this section shall be awarded on a competitive basis, in accordance with such criteria as the national administrative council established under subsection (j)(1) may establish.

''(f) TERM.—The term of a grant provided under this section shall be not more than 5 years.

''(g) LIMITATION.—Not more than 20 percent of the total amount of grants provided under this section shall be provided to projects in which cooperative extension services are involved as the sole or lead entity of the project.

''(h) DIVERSIFICATION OF RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall carry out projects under this section in areas that the Secretary determines to be broadly representative of the diversity of the rural areas of the United States, and of rural entrepreneurship in the United States, including entrepreneurship involving youth, minority populations, microenterprise, and women, with a focus on nonagricultural businesses or food and agriculturally-based businesses, but not direct agriculture production.

''(i) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall administer projects carried out under this section acting through the Administrator of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

''(j) NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish, in accordance with this subsection, a national administrative council to assist the Secretary in carrying out this section.

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The membership of the national administrative council shall include—

''(A) qualified representatives of entities with demonstrable expertise relating to rural entrepreneurship, including representatives of—

''(i) the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service;

''(ii) the Rural Business-Cooperative Service;

''(iii) the Small Business Administration;

''(iv) regional rural development centers;

''(v) nonprofit organizations;

''(vi) regional and State agencies;

''(vii) cooperative extension services;

''(viii) colleges and universities;

''(ix) philanthropic organizations; and

''(x) Indian tribal governments;

''(B) self-employed rural entrepreneurs and owners of rural small businesses;

''(C) elementary and secondary educators that demonstrate experience in rural entrepreneurship; and

''(D) other persons with experience relating to rural entrepreneurship and the impact of rural entrepreneurship on rural communities.

''(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In collaboration with the Secretary, the national administrative council established under this subsection shall—

''(A) promote the projects carried out under this section;

''(B) establish goals and criteria for the selection of projects under this section;

''(C)(i) appoint a technical committee to evaluate project proposals to be considered by the council; and

''(ii) make recommendations of the technical committee to the Secretary; and

''(D) prepare and make publicly available an annual report relating to each applicable project carried out under this section, including a review of projects carried out during the preceding year.

''(4) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—A member of the national administrative council or a technical committee shall not participate in any determination relating to, or recommendation of, a project proposed to be carried out under this section if the member has had any business interest (including the provision of consulting services) in the project or the organization submitting the application.

''(k) AUTHORIZATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7044. SEED DISTRIBUTION.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7043) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473M. SEED DISTRIBUTION.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a program, to be known as the 'seed distribution program', under which the Secretary shall provide a grant to a nonprofit organization selected under subsection (c) to carry out a seed distribution program to administer and maintain the distribution of vegetable seeds donated by commercial seed companies.

''(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the seed distribution program under this section shall be to distribute vegetable seeds donated by commercial seed companies.

''(c) SELECTION OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The nonprofit organization selected to receive a grant under subsection (a) shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the organization—

''(A) has expertise regarding distribution of vegetable seeds donated by commercial seed companies; and

''(B) has the ability to achieve the purpose of the seed distribution program.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In selecting a nonprofit organization for purposes of this section, the

Secretary shall give priority to a nonprofit organization that, as of the date of selection, carries out an activity to benefit underserved communities, such as communities that experience—

''(A) limited access to affordable fresh vegetables;

''(B) a high rate of hunger or food insecurity; or

''(C) severe or persistent poverty.

''(d) REQUIREMENT.—The nonprofit organization selected under this section shall ensure that seeds donated by commercial seed companies are distributed free-of-charge to appropriate—

''(1) individuals;

''(2) groups;

''(3) institutions;

''(4) governmental and nongovernmental organizations; and

''(5) such other entities as the Secretary may designate.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7045. FARM AND RANCH SAFETY.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7044) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473N. FARM AND RANCH SAFETY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program, to be known as the 'agricultural safety program', under which the Secretary shall provide grants to eligible entities to carry out projects to decrease the incidence of injury and death on farms and ranches.

''(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be—

''(1) a nonprofit organization;

''(2) a land-grant college or university (including a cooperative extension service);

''(3) a minority-serving institution;

''(4) a 2-year or 4-year institution of higher education; or

''(5) such other entity as the Secretary may designate.

''(c) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—An eligible entity shall use a grant received under this section only to carry out—

''(1) a project at least 1 component of which emphasizes—

''(A) preventative service through on-site farm or ranch safety reviews;

''(B) outreach and dissemination of farm safety research and interventions to agricultural employers, employees, youth, farm and ranch families, seasonal workers, or other individuals; or

''(C) agricultural safety education and training; and

''(2) other appropriate activities, as determined by the Secretary;

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7046. WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN STEM FIELDS.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7045) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473O. WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN STEM FIELDS.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a program under which the Secretary, in coordination with applicable Federal, State, and local programs, shall provide grants to eligible institutions to increase, to the maximum extent practicable, participation by women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas (as defined in section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a))), in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields (referred to in this section as 'STEM fields').

''(b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the program established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

''(1) implement multitrack technology career advancement training programs and provide related services to engage, and encourage participation by, women and underrepresented minorities in STEM fields;

''(2) develop and administer training programs for educators, career counselors, and industry representatives in recruitment and retention strategies to increase and retain women and underrepresented minority students and job entrants into STEM fields; and

''(3) support education-to-workforce programs for women and underrepresented minorities to provide counseling, job shadowing, mentoring, and internship opportunities to guide participants in the academic, training, and work experience needed for STEM careers.

''(c) INSTITUTIONS.—

''(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall carry out the program under this section at such institutions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate by providing grants, on a competitive basis, to the institutions.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In providing grants under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give priority, to the maximum extent practicable, to institutions carrying out continuing programs funded by the Secretary.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7047. NATURAL PRODUCTS RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7046) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473P. NATURAL PRODUCTS RESEARCH PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a natural products research program.

''(b) DUTIES.—In carrying out the program established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall coordinate research relating to natural products, including—

''(1) research to improve human health and agricultural productivity through the discovery, development, and commercialization of pharmaceuticals and agrichemicals from bioactive natural products, including products from plant, marine, and microbial sources;

''(2) research to characterize the botanical sources, production, chemistry, and biological properties of plant-derived natural products important for agriculture and medicine; and

''(3) other research priorities identified by the Secretary.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7048. INTERNATIONAL ANTI-HUNGER AND NUTRITION PROGRAM.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7047) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473Q. INTERNATIONAL ANTI-HUNGER AND NUTRITION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide support to established nonprofit organizations that focus on promoting research concerning—

''(1) anti-hunger and improved nutrition efforts internationally; and

''(2) increased quantity, quality, and availability of food.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7049. CONSORTIUM FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

Subtitle K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310 et seq.) (as amended by section 7048) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1473R. CONSORTIUM FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations to carry out this section, the Secretary, acting through the Agricultural Marketing Service, shall award grants to the Consortium for Agricultural and Rural Transportation Research and Education for the purpose of funding prospective, independent research, education, and technology transfer activities.

''(b) ACTIVITIES.—Activities funded with grants made under subsection (a) shall focus on critical rural and agricultural transportation and logistics issues facing agricultural producers and other rural businesses, including—

''(1) issues relating to the relationship between renewable fuels and transportation;

''(2) export promotion issues based on transportation strategies for rural areas;

''(3) transportation and rural business facility planning and location issues;

''(4) transportation management and supply chain management support issues;

''(5) rural road planning and finance issues;

''(6) advanced transportation technology applications in a rural area; and

''(7) creation of a national agricultural marketing and rural business transportation database.

''(c) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2011, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

''(1) describes the activities of Consortium for Agricultural and Rural Transportation Research and Education that have been funded through grants made under this section; and

''(2) contains recommendations about the grant program.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $19,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the total amount made available under paragraph (1), not more than $1,000,000 may be used by the Agricultural Marketing Service for administrative expenses incurred in carrying out this section.''.

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

SEC. 7101. NATIONAL GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1632 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5841) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) PURPOSE.—The program is established for the purpose of—

''(1) maintaining and enhancing a program providing for the collection, preservation, and dissemination of plant, animal, and microbial genetic material of importance to food and agriculture production in the United States; and

''(2) undertaking long-term research on plant and animal breeding and disease resistance.''; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) in conjunction with national programs for plant and animal genetic resources, undertake long-term research on plant and animal breeding, including the development of varieties adapted to sustainable and organic farming systems, and disease resistance; and''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1635(b) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5844(b)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7102. HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVES.

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

(1) in subsection (e), by adding at the end the following:

''(46) COLONY COLLAPSE DISORDER AND POLLINATOR RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Research and extension grants may be made to—

''(A) survey and collect data on bee colony production and health;

''(B) investigate pollinator biology, immunology, ecology, genomics, and bioinformatics;

''(C) conduct research on various factors that may be contributing to or associated with colony collapse disorder, and other serious threats to the health of honey bees and other pollinators, including—

''(i) parasites and pathogens of pollinators; and

''(ii) the sublethal effects of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides on honey bees and native and managed pollinators;

''(D) develop mitigative and preventative measures to improve native and managed pollinator health; and

''(E) promote the health of honey bees and native pollinators through habitat conservation and best management practices.

''(47) MARINE SHRIMP FARMING PROGRAM.—Research and extension grants may be made to establish a research program to advance and maintain a domestic shrimp farming industry in the United States.

''(48) CRANBERRY RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Research and extension grants may be made to study new technologies to assist cranberry growers in complying with Federal and State environmental regulations, increase cranberry production, develop new growing techniques, establish more efficient growing methodologies, and educate farmers about sustainable growth practices.

''(49) TURFGRASS RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made to study the production of turfgrass (including the use of water, fertilizer, pesticides, fossil fuels, and machinery for turf establishment and maintenance) and environmental protection and enhancement relating to turfgrass production.

''(50) PESTICIDE SAFETY RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Research grants may be made to study pesticide safety for migrant and seasonal agricultural workers, including research on increased risks of cancer or birth defects among migrant or seasonal farmworkers and their children, identification of objective biological indicators, and development of inexpensive clinical tests to enable clinicians to diagnose overexposure to pesticides, and development of field-level tests to determine when pesticide-treated fields are safe to reenter to perform hand labor activities.

''(51) SWINE GENOME PROJECT.—Research grants may be made under this section to conduct swine genome research and to map the swine genome.

''(52) HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER REGION.—Research and extension grants may be made to carry out interdisciplinary research relating to diminishing water levels and increased demand for water in the High Plains aquifer region encompassing the States of Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming.

''(53) CELLULOSIC FEEDSTOCK TRANSPORTATION AND DELIVERY INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made to study new technologies for the economic post-harvest densification, handling, transportation, and delivery of cellulosic feedstocks for bioenergy conversion.

''(54) DEER INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made to support collaborative research focusing on the development of viable strategies for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infectious, parasitic, and toxic diseases of farmed deer and the mapping of the deer genome.

''(55) PASTURE-BASED BEEF SYSTEMS FOR APPALACHIA RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made to land-grant institutions—

''(A) to study the development of forage sequences and combinations for cow-calf, heifer development, stocker, and finishing systems;

''(B) to deliver optimal nutritive value for efficient production of cattle for pasture finishing;

''(C) to optimize forage systems to produce pasture finished beef that is acceptable to consumers;

''(D) to develop a 12-month production and marketing model cycle for forage-fed beef; and

''(E) to assess the effect of forage quality on reproductive fitness and related measures.''; and

(2) in subsection (h), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012, of which $20,000,000 shall be used for each fiscal year to make grants described in subsection (e)(46)''.

SEC. 7103. NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVE.

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

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (f); and

(2) in subsection (f) (as so redesignated), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7104. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVE.

Section 1672B of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925b) is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $16,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.''.

SEC. 7105. AGRICULTURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM.

Section 1673(h) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5926(h)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7106. ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR FARMERS WITH DISABILITIES.

Section 1680(c)(1) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5933(c)(1)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7107. NATIONAL RURAL INFORMATION CENTER CLEARINGHOUSE.

Section 2381(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 3125b(e)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

Subtitle C—Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998

SEC. 7201. INITIATIVE FOR FUTURE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS.

(a) FUNDING.—Section 401(b) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) OTHER FUNDING.—

''(A) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(B) SHORTAGE OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during any year for which funds are not made available under this subsection, the Secretary shall use not less than 80 percent of the funds made available for competitive mission-linked systems research grants under section 2(b)(10)(B) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)(10)(B)) to carry out a competitive grant program under the same terms and conditions as are provided under this section.''.

(b) PURPOSES.—Section 401(c) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(D), by striking ''policy''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (D);

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B), (C), (E), and (F) as subparagraphs (A), (B), (F), and (G), respectively;

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

''(C) sustainable and renewable agriculture-based energy production options and policies;

''(D) environmental services and outcome-based conservation programs and markets;

''(E) agricultural and rural entrepreneurship and business and community development, including farming and ranching opportunities for beginning farmers or ranchers;''; and

(D) in subparagraph (F) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B))—

(i) by inserting ''and environmental'' after ''natural resource''; and

(ii) by inserting ''agro-ecosystems and'' after ''including''; and

(E) in subparagraph (G) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B))—

(i) by striking ''including the viability'' and inserting the following: ''including—

''(i) the viability''; and

(ii) by striking ''operations.'' and inserting the following: ''operations;

''(ii) farm transition options for retiring farmers or ranchers; and

''(iii) farm transfer and entry alternatives for beginning or socially-disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.''.

SEC. 7202. PARTNERSHIPS FOR HIGH-VALUE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT QUALITY RESEARCH.

Section 402(g) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7622(g)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7203. PRECISION AGRICULTURE.

Section 403(i)(1) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7623(i)(1)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7204. BIOBASED PRODUCTS.

(a) PILOT PROJECT.—Section 404(e)(2) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7624(e)(2)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 404(h) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7624(h)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7205. THOMAS JEFFERSON INITIATIVE FOR CROP DIVERSIFICATION.

Section 405(h) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7625(h)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7206. INTEGRATED RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM.

Section 406(f) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7626(f)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7207. SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH REGARDING DISEASES OF WHEAT, TRITICALE, AND BARLEY CAUSED BY FUSARIUM GRAMINEARUM OR BY TILLETIA INDICA.

Section 408(e) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7628(e)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7208. BOVINE JOHNE'S DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM.

Section 409(b) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7629(b)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7209. GRANTS FOR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 410(c) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7630(c)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7210. AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

Section 411(c) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7631(c)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7211. SPECIALTY CROP RESEARCH INITIATIVE.

Title IV of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 412. SPECIALTY CROP RESEARCH INITIATIVE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) INITIATIVE.—The term 'Initiative' means the specialty crop research initiative established by subsection (b).

''(2) SPECIALTY CROP.—The term 'specialty crop' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465).

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Department a specialty crop research initiative.

''(c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Initiative shall be to address the critical needs of the specialty crop industry by providing science-based tools to address needs of specific crops and regions, including—

''(1) fundamental and applied work in plant breeding, genetics, and genomics to improve crop characteristics, such as—

''(A) product appearance, quality, taste, yield, and shelf life;

''(B) environmental responses and tolerances;

''(C) plant-nutrient uptake efficiency resulting in improved nutrient management;

''(D) pest and disease management, including resilience to pests and diseases resulting in reduced application management strategies; and

''(E) enhanced phytonutrient content;

''(2) efforts to prevent, identify, control, or eradicate invasive species;

''(3) methods of improving agricultural production by developing more technologically-efficient and effective applications of water, nutrients, and pesticides to reduce energy use;

''(4) new innovations and technology to enhance mechanization and reduce reliance on labor;

''(5) methods of improving production efficiency, productivity, sustainability, and profitability over the long term;

''(6) methods to prevent, control, and respond to human pathogen contamination of specialty crops, including fresh-cut produce; and

''(7) efforts relating to optimizing the production of organic specialty crops.

''(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The Secretary may carry out the Initiative through—

''(1) Federal agencies;

''(2) national laboratories;

''(3) institutions of higher education;

''(4) research institutions and organizations;

''(5) private organizations and corporations;

''(6) State agricultural experiment stations; and

''(7) individuals.

''(e) RESEARCH PROJECTS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may—

''(1) carry out research; and

''(2) award grants on a competitive basis.

''(f) PRIORITIES.—In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall provide a higher priority to projects that—

''(1) are multistate, multi-institutional, or multidisciplinary; and

''(2) include explicit mechanisms to communicate usable results to producers and the public.

''(g) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $16,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.''.

SEC. 7212. OFFICE OF PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 614(b) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7653(b)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Department'' and inserting ''Office of the Chief Economist'';

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking ''the development and coordination'' and inserting ''the development, coordination, and representation''; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking ''assisting other agencies of the Department in fulfilling their'' and inserting ''enabling the Secretary to fulfill the statutory''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 614(f) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7653(f)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7213. FOOD ANIMAL RESIDUE AVOIDANCE DATABASE PROGRAM.

Section 604 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7642) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $2,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

Subtitle D—Other Laws

SEC. 7301. CRITICAL AGRICULTURAL MATERIALS ACT.

Section 16(a) of the Critical Agricultural Materials Act (7 U.S.C. 178n(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7302. EQUITY IN EDUCATIONAL LAND-GRANT STATUS ACT OF 1994.

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

''(34) Ilisagvik College.''.

(b) ENDOWMENT FOR 1994 INSTITUTIONS.—Section 533(b) of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 103–382) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(c) INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS.—Section 535 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 103–382) is amended by striking ''2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012''.

(d) RESEARCH GRANTS.—Section 536(c) of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 103–382) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7303. SMITH-LEVER ACT.

(a) CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES EDUCATION AND RESEARCH NETWORK PROGRAM.—Section 3 of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(k) CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES EDUCATION AND RESEARCH NETWORK PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding section 3(d)(2) of the Act of May 8, 1914 (7 U.S.C. 343(d)(2)), in carrying out the children, youth, and families education and research network program using amounts made available under subsection (d), the Secretary shall include 1890 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)) as eligible program applicants and participants.''.

(b) ELIMINATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S REPORT REQUIREMENT FOR EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.—Section 5 of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 345) is amended by striking the third sentence.

SEC. 7304. HATCH ACT OF 1887.

(a) DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—Section 3(d)(4) of the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361c(d)(4)) is amended—

(1) in the paragraph heading, by inserting ''AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'' after ''AREAS'';

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by inserting ''and the District of Columbia'' after ''United States''; and

(B) by inserting ''and the District of Columbia'' after ''respectively,''; and

(3) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''or the District of Columbia'' after ''area''.

(b) ELIMINATION OF PENALTY MAIL AUTHORITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6 of the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361f) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''under penalty indicia:'' and all that follows through the end of the sentence and inserting a period.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS IN OTHER LAWS.—

(A) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT OF 1977.—

(i) Section 1444(f) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221(f)) is amended by striking ''under penalty indicia:'' and all that follows through the end of the sentence and inserting a period.

(ii) Section 1445(e) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching

Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222(e)) is amended by striking ''under penalty indicia:'' and all that follows through the end of the sentence and inserting a period.

(B) OTHER PROVISIONS.—Section 3202(a) of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in subparagraph (D), by adding ''and'' at the end;

(II) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''sections; and'' and inserting ''sections.''; and

(III) by striking subparagraph (F);

(ii) in paragraph (2), by adding ''and'' at the end;

(iii) in paragraph (3) by striking ''thereof; and'' and inserting ''thereof.''; and

(iv) by striking paragraph (4).

SEC. 7305. RESEARCH FACILITIES ACT.

Section 6(a) of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390d(a)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7306. NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1985.

Section 1431 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments of 1985 (Public Law 99–198; 99 Stat. 1556) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7307. COMPETITIVE, SPECIAL, AND FACILITIES RESEARCH GRANT ACT.

The Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) is amended in subsection (b)—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''in the areas'' and all that follows through ''needs shall be'' and inserting '', as''; and

(ii) by striking ''year.'' and inserting ''year, relating to—'';

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''and'' at the end and inserting ''; agricultural genomics and biotechnology, including the application of genomics and bioinformatics tools to develop traits in plants and animals (translational genomics);'';

(C) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting '', including areas of concern to beginning farmers or ranchers; and''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(G) classical plant and animal breeding, including cultivar and breed development, selection theory, applied quantitative genetics, breeding for organic and sustainable systems, breeding for improved nutritional and eating quality, breeding for improved local adaptation to biotic stress, abiotic stress, and climate change, and participatory breeding with farmers and end users.'';

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking ''The'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) CLASSICAL PLANT AND ANIMAL BREEDING.—

''(i) TERM.—The term of a competitive grant relating to classical plant and animal breeding under paragraph (2)(G) shall not exceed 10 years.

''(ii) AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available for a fiscal year for a competitive grant relating to classical plant and animal breeding under paragraph (2)(G) shall remain available until expended to pay for obligations incurred in that fiscal year.''; and

(3) in paragraph (10), by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7308. EDUCATION GRANTS TO ALASKA NATIVE SERVING INSTITUTIONS AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN SERVING INSTITUTIONS.

Section 759 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (7 U.S.C. 3242) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking ''2006'' and inserting ''2012''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: '', including permitting consortia to designate fiscal agents for the members of the consortia and to allocate among the members funds made available under this section''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking ''2006'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7309. BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) GRANTS.—Section 7405(c) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3319f(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (I), by inserting '', including energy conservation and efficiency'' after ''assistance''; and

(B) in subparagraph (K), by inserting '', including transition to organic and other source-verified and value-added alternative production and marketing systems'' after ''strategies'';

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

''(3) MAXIMUM TERM AND SIZE OF GRANT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A grant under this subsection shall—

''(i) have a term that is not more than 3 years; and

''(ii) be in an amount that is not more than $250,000 a year.

''(B) CONSECUTIVE GRANTS.—An eligible recipient may receive consecutive grants under this subsection.'';

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (7) as paragraphs (9) through (11), respectively;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) EVALUATION CRITERIA.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall evaluate—

''(A) relevancy;

''(B) technical merit;

''(C) achievability;

''(D) the expertise and track record of 1 or more applicants;

''(E) the adequacy of plans for the participatory evaluation process, outcome-based reporting, and the communication of findings and results beyond the immediate target audience; and

''(F) other appropriate factors, as determined by the Secretary.

''(6) REGIONAL BALANCE.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure geographic diversity.

''(7) ORGANIC CONVERSION.—The Secretary may make grants under this subsection to support projects that provide comprehensive technical assistance to beginning farmers or ranchers who are in the process of converting to certified organic production.

''(8) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to partnerships and collaborations that are led by or include non-governmental and community-based organizations with expertise in new farmer training and outreach.'';

(5) in paragraph (9) (as redesignated by paragraph (3))—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and adding ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) refugee or immigrant beginning farmers or ranchers''.

(b) EDUCATION TEAMS.—Section 7405(d)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3319f(d)(2)) is amended by inserting '', including sustainable and organic farming production and marketing methods'' before the period at the end.

(c) STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—Section 7405(f) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3319f(f)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) by striking ''In carrying out'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) REVIEW PANELS.—In forming review panels to evaluate proposals submitted under this section, the Secretary shall include individuals from the categories described in paragraph (1).''.

(d) FUNDING.—Section 7405 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3319f) is amended by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2012.''.

SEC. 7310. MCINTIRE-STENNIS COOPERATIVE FORESTRY ACT.

Section 2 of Public Law 87–788 (commonly known as the ''McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act'') (16 U.S.C. 582a–1) is amended by inserting ''and 1890 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)),'' before ''and (b)''.

SEC. 7311. NATIONAL AQUACULTURE ACT OF 1980.

Section 10 of the National Aquaculture Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2809) is amended by striking ''2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 7312. NATIONAL ARBORETUM.

The Act of March 4, 1927 (20 U.S.C. 191 et seq.), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 7. CONSTRUCTION OF A CHINESE GARDEN AT NATIONAL ARBORETUM.

''A Chinese Garden may be constructed at the National Arboretum established under this Act with—

''(1) funds accepted under section 5;

''(2) authorities provided to the Secretary of Agriculture under section 6; and

''(3) appropriations made for this purpose.''.

SEC. 7313. ELIGIBILITY OF UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR CERTAIN LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY ASSISTANCE.

Section 208 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act (Public Law 93–471; 88 Stat. 1428) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking '', except'' and all that follows through the period and inserting a period; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''section 3'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 3(c)''; and

(B) by striking ''Such sums may be used to pay'' and all that follows through ''work.''.

SEC. 7314. EXCHANGE OR SALE AUTHORITY.

Title III of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 is amended by adding after section 307 (7 U.S.C. 2204 note; Public Law 103–354) (as amended by section 2602) the following:

''SEC. 308. EXCHANGE OR SALE AUTHORITY.

''(a) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED ITEMS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—In this section, the term 'qualified items of personal property' means—

''(1) animals;

''(2) animal products;

''(3) plants; and

''(4) plant products.

''(b) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Except as provided in subsection (c), notwithstanding

chapter 5 of subtitle I of title 40, United States Code, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, in managing personal property for the purpose of carrying out the research functions of the Department of Agriculture, may exchange, sell, or otherwise dispose of any qualified items of personal property, including by way of public auction, and may retain and apply the sale or other proceeds, without further appropriation, in whole or in partial payment—

''(1) to acquire any qualified items of personal property; or

''(2) to offset costs related to the maintenance, care, or feeding of any qualified items of personal property.

''(c) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (b) does not apply to the free dissemination of new varieties of seeds and germ plasm in accordance with section 520 of the Revised Statutes (commonly known as the 'Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1862') (7 U.S.C. 2201).''.

SEC. 7315. CARBON CYCLE RESEARCH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent funds are made available, the Secretary shall provide a grant to the Consortium for Agricultural Soils Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases, acting through Kansas State University, to develop, analyze, and implement, through the land grant universities described in subsection (b), carbon cycle and greenhouse gas management research at the national, regional, and local levels.

(b) LAND GRANT UNIVERSITIES.—The land grant universities referred to in subsection (a) are—

(1) Colorado State University;
(2) Iowa State University;
(3) Kansas State University;
(4) Michigan State University;
(5) Montana State University;
(6) Purdue University;
(7) Ohio State University;
(8) Texas A&M University; and
(9) University of Nebraska.

(c) USE.—Land grant universities described in subsection (b) shall use funds made available under this section—

(1) to conduct research to improve the scientific basis of using land management practices to increase soil carbon sequestration, including research on the use of new technologies to increase carbon cycle effectiveness, such as biotechnology and nanotechnology;

(2) to conduct research on management of other greenhouse gases in the agricultural sector;

(3) to enter into partnerships to identify, develop, and evaluate agricultural best practices, including partnerships between—

(A) Federal, State, or private entities; and
(B) the Department of Agriculture;

(4) to develop necessary computer models to predict and assess the carbon cycle;

(5) to estimate and develop mechanisms to measure carbon levels made available as a result of—

(A) voluntary Federal conservation programs;
(B) private and Federal forests; and
(C) other land uses;

(6) to develop outreach programs, in coordination with Extension Services, to share information on carbon cycle and agricultural best practices that is useful to agricultural producers; and

(7) to collaborate with the Great Plains Regional Earth Science Application Center to develop a space-based carbon cycle remote sensing technology program—

(A) to provide, on a near-continual basis, a real-time and comprehensive view of vegetation conditions;
(B) to assess and model agricultural carbon sequestration; and
(C) to develop commercial products.

(d) COOPERATIVE RESEARCH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary, in cooperation with departments and agencies participating in the U.S. Global Change Research Program and eligible entities, may carry out research to promote understanding of—

(A) the flux of carbon in soils and plants (including trees); and
(B) the exchange of other greenhouse gases from agriculture.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Research under this subsection may be carried out through the competitive awarding of grants and cooperative agreements to colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)).

(3) COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PURPOSES.—Research conducted under this subsection shall encourage collaboration among scientists with expertise in the areas of soil science, agronomy, agricultural economics, forestry, and other agricultural sciences to focus on—

(A) developing data addressing carbon losses and gains in soils and plants (including trees) and the exchange of methane and nitrous oxide from agriculture;

(B) understanding how agricultural and forestry practices affect the sequestration of carbon in soils and plants (including trees) and the exchange of other greenhouse gases, including the effects of new technologies such as biotechnology and nanotechnology;

(C) developing cost-effective means of measuring and monitoring changes in carbon pools in soils and plants (including trees), including computer models;

(D) evaluating the linkage between Federal conservation programs and carbon sequestration;

(E) developing methods, including remote sensing, to measure the exchange of carbon and other greenhouse gases sequestered, and to evaluate leakage, performance, and permanence issues; and

(F) assessing the applicability of the results of research conducted under this subsection for developing methods to account for the impact of agricultural activities (including forestry) on the exchange of greenhouse gases.

(e) EXTENSION PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with departments and agencies participating in the U.S. Global Change Research Program and local extension agents, experts from institutions of higher education that offer a curriculum in agricultural and biological sciences, and other local agricultural or conservation organizations, may implement extension projects (including on-farm projects with direct involvement of agricultural producers) that combine measurement tools and modeling techniques into integrated packages to monitor the carbon sequestering benefits of conservation practices and the exchange of greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture that demonstrate the feasibility of methods of measuring and monitoring—

(A) changes in carbon content and other carbon pools in soils and plants (including trees); and
(B) the exchange of other greenhouse gases.

(2) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall make available to agricultural producers, private forest landowners, and appropriate State agencies in each State information concerning—

(A) the results of projects under this subsection;
(B) the manner in which the methods used in the projects might be applicable to the operations of the agricultural producers, private forest landowners, and State agencies; and
(C) information on how agricultural producers and private forest landowners can participate in carbon credit and greenhouse gas trading system.

(f) REPEAL.—Section 221 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 6711) is repealed.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

Subtitle E—National Institute of Food and Agriculture

SEC. 7401. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle F of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 is amended by adding after section 252 (7 U.S.C. 6972) the following:

"SEC. 253. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ADVISORY BOARD.—The term 'Advisory Board' means the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board established under section 1408 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123).

''(2) COMPETITIVE PROGRAM.—The term 'competitive program' means each of the following agricultural research, extension, education, and related programs for which the Secretary has administrative or other authority as of the day before the date of enactment of this section:

''(A) The competitive grant program established under section 2(b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)), commonly known as the 'National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program'.

''(B) The program providing competitive grants for risk management education established under section 524(a)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(a)(3)).

''(C) The program providing community food project competitive grants established under section 25 of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2034).

''(D) Each grant program established under section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279) providing outreach and assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

''(E) The program providing grants under section 1417(b)(1) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)), commonly known as 'Higher Education Challenge Grants'.

''(F) The program providing grants and related assistance established under section 1417(b)(5) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(5)) commonly known as the 'Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program'.

''(G) The program providing food and agricultural sciences national needs graduate and postgraduate fellowship grants established under section 1417(b)(6) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(6)).

''(H) The program providing grants under section 1417(j) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(j)), commonly known as 'Institution Challenge Grants'.

''(I) The program providing grants for Hispanic-serving institutions established under

section 1455 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3241).

''(J) The program providing competitive grants for international agricultural science and education programs under section 1459A of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3292b).

''(K) The program of agricultural development in the American-Pacific region established under section 1473H of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977.

''(L) The research and extension projects carried out under section 1621 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5811), commonly known as the 'Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program'.

''(M) The biotechnology risk assessment research program established under section 1668 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5921).

''(N) The organic agriculture research and extension initiative established under section 1672B of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925b).

''(O) The Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems established under section 401 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621).

''(P) The integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants program established under section 406 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7626).

''(Q) The Small Business Innovation Research Program established under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

''(R) The specialty crop research initiative under section 412 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998.

''(S) The administration and management of the regional bioenergy crop research program carried out under section 9012 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

''(T) Other programs, including any programs added by amendments made by title VII of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 that are competitive programs, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means the Director of the Institute.

''(4) INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM.—The term 'infrastructure program' means each of the following agricultural research, extension, education, and related programs for which the Secretary has administrative or other authority as of the day before the date of enactment of this section:

''(A) Each program providing funding to any of the 1994 Institutions under sections 533, 534(a), and 535 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 103–382) (commonly known as 'financial assistance, technical assistance, and endowments to tribal colleges and Navajo Community College').

''(B) The program established under section 536 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 103–382) providing research grants for 1994 institutions.

''(C) Each program established under subsections (b), (c), and (d) of section 3 of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343).

''(D) Each program established under the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361a et seq.).

''(E) Each program established under section 1417(b)(4) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(4)), including grant programs under that section (commonly known as the '1890 Institution Teaching and Research Capacity Building Grants Program').

''(F) The animal health and disease research program established under subtitle E of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3191 et seq.).

''(G) Each extension program available to 1890 Institutions established under sections 1444 and 1464 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221, 3312).

''(H) The program established under section 1445 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222) (commonly known as the 'Evans-Allen Program').

''(I) The program providing grants to upgrade agricultural and food sciences facilities at 1890 Institutions established under section 1447 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222b).

''(J) The program providing distance education grants for insular areas established under section 1490 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3362).

''(K) The program providing resident instruction grants for insular areas established under section 1491 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3363).

''(L) Each program available to 1890 Institutions established under section 406 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7626).

''(M) The program providing competitive extension grants to eligible 1994 Institutions under section 1464 of National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3312) and the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note) established under section 406 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7626).

''(N) Each research and development and related program established under Public Law 87–788 (commonly known as the 'McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act') (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.).

''(O) Each program established under the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1671 et seq.).

''(P) Each program providing funding to Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges under section 1456 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977.

''(Q) The administration and management of the farm energy education and technical assistance program carried out under section 9005 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

''(R) Other programs, including any programs added by amendments made by title VII of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 that are infrastructure programs, as determined by the Secretary.

''(5) INSTITUTE.—The term 'Institute' means the National Institute of Food and Agriculture established by subsection (b)(1)(A).

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the Department an agency to be known as the 'National Institute of Food and Agriculture'.

''(B) LOCATION.—The location of the Institute shall be in Washington, District of Columbia, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) MEMBERS.—The Institute shall consist of—

''(i) the Director;

''(ii) the individual offices established under subsection (e); and

''(iii) the staff and employees of National Institute for Food and Agriculture.

''(2) TRANSFER OF AUTHORITIES.—There are transferred to the Institute the authorities (including all budget authorities and personnel), duties, obligations, and related legal and administrative functions prescribed by law or otherwise granted to the Secretary, the Department, or any other agency or official of the Department under—

''(A) the infrastructure programs;

''(B) the competitive programs;

''(C) the research, education, economic, cooperative State research programs, cooperative extension and education programs, international programs, and other functions and authorities delegated by the Secretary to the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service pursuant to section 2.66 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations); and

''(D) any and all other authorities administered by the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

''(3) CONSOLIDATION OF AUTHORITIES.—To carry out this Act, in accordance with the transfer and continuation of the authorities, budgetary functions, and personnel resources under this subsection, the administrative entity within the Department known as the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service shall terminate on the earlier of—

''(A) October 1, 2008; or

''(B) such earlier date as the Director determines to be appropriate.

''(c) DIRECTOR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Institute shall be headed by a Director, who shall be an individual who is—

''(A) a distinguished scientist; and

''(B) appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(2) TERM.—The Director shall serve for a single, 6-year term.

''(3) SUPERVISION.—The Director shall report directly to the Secretary.

''(4) COMPENSATION.—The Director shall receive basic pay at the rate provided for level II of the Executive Schedule under section 5513 of title 5, United States Code.

''(5) AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise specifically provided in this section, the Director shall—

''(i) exercise all of the authority provided to the Institute by this section;

''(ii) formulate programs in accordance with policies adopted by the Institute;

''(iii) establish offices within the Institute;

''(iv) establish procedures for the peer review of research funded by the Institute;

''(v) establish procedures for the provision and administration of grants by the Institute in accordance with this section;

''(vi) assess the personnel needs of agricultural research in the areas supported by the Institute, and, if determined to be appropriate by the Director, for other areas of food and agricultural research;

''(vii) plan programs that will help meet agricultural personnel needs in the future, including portable fellowship and training programs in fundamental agricultural research and fundamental science; and

''(viii) consult regularly with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

''(B) FINALITY OF ACTIONS.—An action taken by the Director in accordance with this section shall be final and binding upon the Institute.

''(C) DELEGATION AND REDELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Director may, from time to time and as the Director considers to be appropriate, authorize the performance by any other officer, agency, or employee of the Institute of any of the functions of the Director under this section.

''(ii) CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS.—The Director may enter into contracts and other arrangements, and provide grants, in accordance with this section.

''(iii) FORMULATION OF PROGRAMS.—The formulation of programs in accordance with the policies of the Institute shall be carried out by the Director.

''(6) STAFF.—The Director shall recruit and hire such senior staff and other personnel as are necessary to assist the Director in carrying out this section.

''(7) REPORTING AND CONSULTATION.—The Director shall—

''(A) periodically report to the Secretary with respect to activities carried out by the Institute; and

''(B) consult regularly with the Secretary to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that—

''(i) research of the Institute is relevant to agriculture in the United States and otherwise serves the national interest; and

''(ii) the research of the Institute supplements and enhances, and does not replace, research conducted or funded by—

''(I) other agencies of the Department;

''(II) the National Science Foundation; or

''(III) the National Institutes of Health.

''(d) POWERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Institute shall have such authority as is necessary to carry out this section, including the authority—

''(A) to promulgate such regulations as the Institute considers to be necessary for governance of operations, organization, and personnel;

''(B) to make such expenditures as are necessary to carry out this section;

''(C) to enter into contracts or other arrangements, or modifications of contracts or other arrangements—

''(i) to provide for the conduct, by organizations or individuals in the United States (including other agencies of the Department, Federal agencies, and agencies of foreign countries), of such agricultural research or related activities as the Institute considers to be necessary to carry out this section; and

''(ii) for the conduct of such specific agricultural research as is in the national interest or is otherwise of critical importance, as determined by the Secretary, with the concurrence of the Institute;

''(D) to make advance, progress, and other payments relating to research and scientific activities without regard to subsections (a) and (b) of section 3324 of title 31, United States Code;

''(E) to receive and use donated funds, if the funds are donated without restriction other than that the funds be used in furtherance of 1 or more of the purposes of the Institute;

''(F) to publish or arrange for the publication of research and scientific information to further the full dissemination of information of scientific value consistent with the national interest, without regard to section 501 of title 44, United States Code;

''(G)(i) to accept and use the services of voluntary and uncompensated personnel; and

''(ii) to provide such transportation and subsistence as are authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, for individuals serving without compensation;

''(H) to prescribe, with the approval of the Comptroller General of the United States, the extent to which vouchers for funds expended under contracts for scientific or engineering research shall be subject to itemization or substantiation prior to payment, without regard to the limitations of other laws relating to the expenditure and accounting of public funds;

''(I) to reimburse the Secretary, and the heads of other Federal agencies, for the performance of any activity that the Institute is authorized to conduct; and

''(J) to enter into contracts, at the request of the Secretary, for the carrying out of such specific agricultural research as is in the national interest or otherwise of critical importance, as determined by the Secretary, with the consent of the Institute.

''(2) TRANSFER OF RESEARCH FUNDS OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES.—Funds available to the Secretary, or any other department or agency of the Federal Government, for agricultural or scientific research shall be—

''(A) available for transfer, with the approval of the Secretary or the head of the other appropriate department or agency involved, in whole or in part, to the Institute for use in providing grants in accordance with the purposes for which the funds were made available; and

''(B) if so transferred, expendable by the Institute for those purposes.

''(e) OFFICES.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES.—

''(A) OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION NETWORK.—

''(i) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director shall establish within the Institute an Office of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Network (referred to in this subparagraph as the 'Office').

''(ii) DUTIES.—At the discretion of the Director, the Office shall have responsibility for all infrastructure programs.

''(B) OFFICE OF COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS FOR FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH.—In this subparagraph, the term 'fundamental research' means research that—

''(I) is directed toward greater knowledge or understanding of the fundamental aspects of phenomena and has the potential for broad, rather than specific, application; and

''(II) has an effect on agriculture, food, nutrition, human health, or another purpose of this section.

''(ii) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director shall establish within the Institute an Office of Competitive Programs for Fundamental Research (referred to in this subparagraph as the 'Office').

''(iii) DUTIES.—At the discretion of the Director, the Office shall have responsibility for all competitive programs relating to fundamental research.

''(C) OFFICE OF COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS FOR APPLIED RESEARCH.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF APPLIED RESEARCH.—In this subparagraph, the term 'applied research' means research that expands on the findings of fundamental research to uncover practical ways in which new knowledge can be advanced to benefit individuals and society.

''(ii) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director shall establish within the Institute an Office of Competitive Programs for Applied Research (referred to in this subparagraph as the 'Office').

''(iii) DUTIES.—At the discretion of the Director, the Office shall have responsibility for all competitive programs relating to applied research.

''(D) OFFICE OF COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.—

''(i) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director shall establish within the Institute an Office of Competitive Programs for Education and Other Purposes (referred to in this subparagraph as the 'Office')

''(ii) DUTIES.—At the discretion of the Director, the Office shall have responsibility for all competitive programs that provide education fellowships and other education-related grants.

''(2) COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS FOR FUNDAMENTAL AND APPLIED RESEARCH.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF A COMPETITIVE PROGRAM FOR FUNDAMENTAL AND APPLIED RESEARCH.—In this paragraph, the term 'competitive program for fundamental and applied research' means—

''(i) the competitive grant program established under section 2 of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i), commonly known as the 'National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program'; and

''(ii) any other competitive program within the Institute that funds both fundamental and applied research, as determined by the Director.

''(B) PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS.—For purposes of determining which Office established under paragraph (1) should have primary responsibility for administering grants under a competitive program for fundamental and applied research, the Director shall—

''(i) determine whether the grant under the competitive program for fundamental and applied research is principally related to fundamental or applied research; and

''(ii) assign the grant to the appropriate Office.

''(3) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DIRECTOR.—The Director shall ensure that the Offices established under paragraph (1) coordinate with each other Office for maximum efficiency.

''(f) REPORTING.—The Director shall submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate—

''(1) not later than 1 year after the date of establishment of the Institute, and biennially thereafter, a comprehensive report that—

''(A) describes the research funded and other activities carried out by the Institute during the period covered by the report; and

''(B) describes each contract or other arrangement that the Institute has entered into, each grant awarded to the Institute, and each other action of the Director taken, under subsection (c)(5)(C)(ii); and

''(2) not later than 1 year after the date of establishment of the Institute, and annually thereafter, a report that describes the allocation and use of funds under subsection (g)(2) of section 401 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621).

''(g) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to funds otherwise appropriated to carry out each program administered by the Institute, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each fiscal year.

''(2) ALLOCATION.—Funding made available under paragraph (1) shall be allocated according to recommendations contained in the roadmap described in section 309(c)(1)(A).''.

(b) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT OF 1977.—Section 1408(b) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''31 members'' and inserting ''24 members'';

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

''(3) MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES.—The Advisory Board shall consist of members from each of the following categories:

''(A) 1 member representing a national farm organization.

''(B) 1 member representing farm cooperatives.

''(C) 1 member actively engaged in the production of a food animal commodity.

''(D) 1 member actively engaged in the production of a plant commodity.

''(E) 1 member actively engaged in aquaculture.

''(F) 1 member representing a national food animal science society.

''(G) 1 member representing a national crop, soil, agronomy, horticulture, plant pathology, or weed science society.

''(H) 1 member representing a national food science organization.

''(I) 1 member representing a national human health association.

''(J) 1 member representing a national nutritional science society.

''(K) 1 member representing the land-grant colleges and universities eligible to receive funds under the Act of July 2, 1862 (7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.).

''(L) 1 member representing the land-grant colleges and universities eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), including Tuskegee University.

''(M) 1 member representing the 1994 Institutions (as defined in section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note)).

''(N) 1 member representing Hispanic-serving institutions.

''(O) 1 member representing the American Colleges of Veterinary Medicine.

''(P) 1 member engaged in the transportation of food and agricultural products to domestic and foreign markets.

''(Q) 1 member representing food retailing and marketing interests.

''(R) 1 member representing food and fiber processors.

''(S) 1 member actively engaged in rural economic development.

''(T) 1 member representing a national consumer interest group.

''(U) 1 member representing a national forestry group.

''(V) 1 member representing a national conservation or natural resource group.

''(W) 1 member representing private sector organizations involved in international development.

''(X) 1 member representing a national social science association.''; and

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking ''the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 296(b) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7014(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) the authority of the Secretary relating to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture under section 253; or''.

(2) The National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended—

(A) in section 1424A(b) (7 U.S.C. 3174a(b)), by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''; and

(B) in section 1458(a)(10) (7 U.S.C. 3291(a)(10)), by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(3) Section 522(d)(2) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(d)(2)) is amended by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(4) Section 524(a) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(a)) is amended in each of paragraphs (1)(B) and (3)(A) by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' each place it appears and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(5) Section 306(a)(11)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(11)(C)) is amended by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(6) Section 704 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (7 U.S.C. 2209b), is amended by striking ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(7) Section 7404(b)(1)(B) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3101 note; Public Law 107–171) is amended by striking clause (vi) and inserting the following:

''(vi) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.''.

(8) Section 1499(c) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5506(c)) is amended by striking ''the Cooperative State Research Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(9) Section 1622 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5812) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''the Cooperative State Research Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''; and

(B) in subsection (b)(1), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture;''.

(10) Section 1668(b) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5921(b)) is amended by striking ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service and the Agricultural Research Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(11) Section 1670(a)(4) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5923(a)(4)) is amended by striking ''the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(12) Section 537 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7446) is amended in each of subsections (a)(2) and (b)(3)(B)(i) by striking ''Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(13) Section 103(a) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7613(a)) is amended—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking ''COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE'' and inserting ''NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE''; and

(B) in each of paragraphs (1) and (2)(A), by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(14) Section 401(f)(5) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621(f)(5)) is amended by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(15) Section 407(c) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7627(c)) is amended by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(16) Section 410(a) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7630(a)) is amended by striking ''the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(17) Section 307(g)(5) of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 8606(g)(5)) is amended by striking ''Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service'' and inserting ''the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(18) Section 6(b) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103b(b)) is amended by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, may provide technical, financial, and related assistance to State foresters, equivalent State officials, or Cooperative Extension officials'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, may provide technical, financial and related assistance to State foresters, equivalent State officials, and Institute officials''.

(19) Section 19 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2113) is amended in subsections (a)(2) and (b)(1)(B)(i), by striking ''Extension Service,'' each place it appears and inserting ''National Institute of Food and Agriculture,''.

(20) Section 105(a) of the Africa: Seeds of Hope Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2293 note; Public Law 105–385) is amended by striking ''the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)'' and inserting ''the National Institute of Food and Agriculture''.

(21) Section 307(a)(4) of the National Aeronautic and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16657(a)(4)) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) the program and structure of, peer review process of, management of conflicts of interest by, compensation of reviewers of, and the effects of compensation on reviewer efficiency and quality within, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture of the Department of Agriculture;''.

SEC. 7402. COORDINATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE AND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE.

Title III of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 is amended by adding after section 308 (as added by section 7314) the following:

''SEC. 309. COORDINATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE AND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Undersecretary for Research, Education, and Economics shall coordinate the programs under the authority of the Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service and the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and the staff of the Administrator and the Director, including national program leaders, shall meet on a regular basis to—

''(1) increase coordination and integration of research programs at the Agricultural Research Service and the research, extension, and education programs of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture;

''(2) coordinate responses to emerging issues;

''(3) minimize duplication of work and resources at the staff level of each agency;

''(4) use the extension and education program to deliver knowledge to stakeholders;

''(5) address critical needs facing agriculture; and

''(6) focus the research, extension, and education funding strategy of the Department.

''(b) REPORTS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this section, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describing efforts to increase coordination between the Agricultural Research Service and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture.

''(c) ROADMAP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics shall—

''(A) prepare a roadmap for agricultural research, extension, and education that—

''(i) identifies major opportunities and gaps in agricultural research, extension, and education that no single entity in the Department would be able to carry out individually, but that is necessary to carry out agricultural research;

''(ii) involves—

''(I) stakeholders from across the Federal Government;

''(II) stakeholders from across the full array of nongovernmental entities; and

''(III) the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board established under section 1408 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123);

''(iii) incorporates roadmaps for agricultural research made publicly available by other Federal entities, agencies, or offices; and

''(iv) describes recommended funding levels for areas of agricultural research, extension, and education, including—

''(I) competitive programs; and

''(II) infrastructure programs, with attention to the future growth needs of small 1862 Institutions, 1890 Institutions, and 1994 Institutions (as those terms are defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)), Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges (as defined in section 1456(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977), and any other public college or university that is not such an institution or college but that offers a baccalaureate or higher degree in the study of agriculture;

''(B) use the roadmap to set the research, extension, and education agenda of the Department; and

''(C) submit a description of the roadmap to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary, shall implement, to the maximum extent practicable, the roadmap.

''(3) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.''.

Subtitle F—Miscellaneous

SEC. 7501. JOINT NUTRITION MONITORING AND RELATED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.

The Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall continue to provide jointly for national nutrition monitoring and related research activities carried out as of the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) to collect continuous data relating to diet, health, physical activity, and knowledge about diet and health, using a nationally-representative sample;

(2) to periodically collect data described in paragraph (1) on special at-risk populations, as identified by the Secretaries;

(3) to distribute information on health, nutrition, the environment, and physical activity to the public in a timely manner;

(4) to analyze new data as the data becomes available;

(5) to continuously update food composition tables; and

(6) to research and develop data collection methods and standards.

SEC. 7502. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY FOR TEMPORARY POSITIONS.

Notwithstanding section 4703(d)(1) of title 5, United States Code, the amendment to the personnel management demonstration project established in the Department of Agriculture (67 Fed. Reg. 70776 (2002)), shall become effective upon the date of enactment of this Act and shall remain in effect unless modified by law.

SEC. 7503. REVIEW OF PLAN OF WORK REQUIREMENTS.

(a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall work with university partners in extension and research to review and identify measures to streamline the submission, reporting under, and implementation of plan of work requirements including requirements under—

(1) sections 1444(d) and 1445(c) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221(d), 3222(c));

(2) section 7 of the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361g); and

(3) section 4 of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 344).

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describing the results of the review conducted under subsection (a).

(2) INCLUSIONS.—The report shall include recommendations—

(A) to reduce the administrative burden and workload on institutions associated with plan of work compliance while meeting the reporting needs of the Department of Agriculture for input, output, and outcome indicators;

(B) to streamline the submission and reporting requirements of the plan of work so that the plan of work is of practical utility to both the Department of Agriculture and the institutions; and

(C) for any legislative changes necessary to carry out the plan of work improvements.

(c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with land-grant colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)).

SEC. 7504. STUDY AND REPORT ON ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS FOODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a study of, and prepare a report on, areas in the United States with limited access to affordable and nutritious food, with a particular focus on predominantly lower-income neighborhoods and communities.

(b) CONTENTS.—The study and report shall—

(1) assess the incidence and prevalence of areas with limited access to affordable and nutritious food in the United States;

(2) identify—

(A) characteristics and factors causing and influencing those areas; and

(B) the effect on local populations of limited access to affordable and nutritious food; and

(3) develop recommendations for addressing the causes and influences of those areas through measures including—

(A) community and economic development initiatives;

(B) incentives for retail food market development, including supermarkets, small grocery stores, and farmers' markets; and

(C) improvements to Federal food assistance and nutrition education programs.

(c) COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary shall conduct the study under this section in coordination and consultation with—

(1) the Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(2) the Administrator of the Small Business Administration;

(3) the Institute of Medicine; and

(4) representatives of appropriate businesses, academic institutions, and nonprofit and faith-based organizations.

(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit the report prepared under this section, including the findings and recommendations described in subsection (b), to—

(1) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

TITLE VIII—FORESTRY

Subtitle A—Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978

SEC. 8001. NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR PRIVATE FOREST CONSERVATION.

Section 2 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) PRIORITIES.—In allocating funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act, the Secretary shall focus on the following national private forest conservation priorities:

''(1) Conserving and managing working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses.

''(2) Protecting forests from threats to forest and forest health, including unnaturally large wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, windstorms, snow or ice storms, flooding, drought, invasive species, insect or disease outbreak, or development, and restoring appropriate forest structures and ecological processes in response to such threats.

''(3) Enhancing public benefits from private forests, including air and water quality, forest products, forestry-related jobs, production of renewable energy, wildlife, enhanced biodiversity, the establishment or maintenance of wildlife corridors and wildlife habitat, and recreation.

''(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than September 30, 2011, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing how funding was used under this Act to address the national priorities specified in subsection (c) and the outcomes achieved in meeting the national priorities.''.

SEC. 8002. COMMUNITY FOREST AND OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Forest Service projects that, by calendar year 2030, approximately 44,000,000 acres of privately-owned forest land will be developed throughout the United States;

(2) public access to parcels of privately-owned forest land for outdoor recreational activities, including hunting, fishing, and trapping, has declined and, as a result, participation in those activities has also declined in cases in which public access is not secured;

(3) rising rates of obesity and other public health problems relating to the inactivity of the citizens of the United States have been shown to be ameliorated by improving public access to safe and attractive areas for outdoor recreation;

(4) in rapidly-growing communities of all sizes throughout the United States, remaining parcels of forest land play an essential role in protecting public water supplies;

(5) forest parcels owned by local governmental entities and nonprofit organizations are providing important demonstration sites for private landowners to learn forest management techniques;

(6) throughout the United States, communities of diverse types and sizes are deriving significant financial and community benefits from managing forest land owned by local governmental entities for timber and other forest products; and

(7) there is an urgent need for local governmental entities to be able to leverage financial resources in order to purchase important parcels of privately-owned forest land as the parcels are offered for sale.

(b) COMMUNITY FOREST AND OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM.—The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 is amended by inserting after section 7 (16 U.S.C. 2103c) the following:

"SEC. 7A. COMMUNITY FOREST AND OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a local governmental entity, Indian tribe, or nonprofit organization that owns or acquires a parcel under the program.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(3) LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.—The term 'local governmental entity' includes any municipal government, county government, or other local government body with jurisdiction over local land use decisions.

''(4) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term 'nonprofit organization' means any organization that—

''(A) is described in section 170(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

''(B) operates in accordance with 1 or more of the purposes specified in section 170(h)(4)(A) of that Code.

''(5) PROGRAM.—The term 'Program' means the community forest and open space conservation program established under subsection (b).

''(6) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a program, to be known as the 'community forest and open space conservation program'.

''(c) GRANT PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants to eligible entities to acquire private forest land, to be owned in fee simple, that—

''(A) are threatened by conversion to nonforest uses; and

''(B) provide public benefits to communities, including—

''(i) economic benefits through sustainable forest management;

''(ii) environmental benefits, including clean water and wildlife habitat;

''(iii) benefits from forest-based educational programs, including vocational education programs in forestry;

''(iv) benefits from serving as models of effectively-managed effective forest stewardship for private landowners; and

''(v) recreational benefits, including hunting and fishing.

''(2) FEDERAL COST SHARE.—An eligible entity may receive a grant under the Program in an amount equal to not more than 50 percent of the cost of acquiring 1 or more parcels, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—As a condition of receipt of the grant, an eligible entity that receives a grant under the Program shall provide, in cash, donation, or in kind, a non-Federal matching share in an amount that is at least equal to the amount of the grant received.

''(4) APPRAISAL OF PARCELS.—To determine the non-Federal share of the cost of a parcel of privately-owned forest land under paragraph (2), an eligible entity shall require appraisals of the land that comply with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions developed by the Interagency Land Acquisition Conference.

''(5) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that seeks to receive a grant under the Program shall submit to the State forester or equivalent official (or in the case of an eligible entity that is an Indian tribe, an equivalent official of the Indian tribe) an application that includes—

''(A) a description of the land to be acquired;

''(B) a forest plan that provides—

''(i) a description of community benefits to be achieved from the acquisition of the private forest land; and

''(ii) an explanation of the manner in which any private forest land to be acquired using funds from the grant will be managed; and

''(C) such other relevant information as the Secretary may require.

''(6) EFFECT ON TRUST LAND.—

''(A) INELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary shall not provide a grant under the Program for any project on land held in trust by the United States (including Indian reservations and allotment land).

''(B) ACQUIRED LAND.—No land acquired using a grant provided under the Program shall be converted to land held in trust by the United States on behalf of any Indian tribe.

''(7) APPLICATIONS TO SECRETARY.—The State forester or equivalent official (or in the case of an eligible entity that is an Indian tribe, an equivalent official of the Indian tribe) shall submit to the Secretary a list that includes a description of each project submitted by an eligible entity at such times and in such form as the Secretary shall prescribe.

''(d) DUTIES OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—An eligible entity—

''(1) shall provide public access to, and manage, forest land acquired with a grant under this section in a manner that is consistent with the purposes for which the land was acquired under the Program; and

''(2) shall not convert the property to other uses.

''(e) PROHIBITED USES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), an eligible entity that acquires a parcel under the Program shall not sell the parcel or convert the parcel to nonforest use.

''(2) REIMBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that sells or converts to nonforest use a parcel acquired under the Program shall pay to the Federal Government an amount equal to the greater of the current sale price, or current appraised value, of the parcel.

''(3) LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY.—An eligible entity that sells or converts a parcel acquired under the Program shall not be eligible for additional grants under the Program.

''(f) STATE ADMINISTRATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—To assist model stewardship of parcels acquired under the Program, the Secretary may allocate not more than 10 percent of all funds made available to carry out the Program for each fiscal year to State foresters or equivalent officials (including an equivalent official of an Indian tribe) for Program administration and technical assistance.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.''.

SEC. 8003. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION.

Section 19(b)(2)(D) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2113(b)(2)(D)) is amended by inserting ''except for projects submitted by an Indian tribe,'' before ''make recommendations''.

SEC. 8004. COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE FOREST PLANNING.

The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 20 (16 U.S.C. 2114) as section 22; and

(2) by inserting after section 19 (16 U.S.C. 2113) the following:

"SEC. 20. COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE FOREST PLANNING.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a comprehensive statewide forest planning program under which the Secretary shall provide financial and technical assistance to States for use in the development and implementation of statewide forest resource assessments and plans.

''(b) STATEWIDE FOREST RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND PLAN.—For a State to be eligible to receive funds under this Act, not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the State Forester of the State, or an equivalent State official, shall develop a statewide forest resource assessment and plan that, at a minimum—

''(1) identifies each critical forest resource area in the State described in section 2(c);

''(2) to the maximum extent practicable—

''(A) incorporates any forest management plan of the State in existence on the date of enactment of this section;

''(B) addresses the needs of the region, without regard to the borders of each State of the region (or the political subdivisions of each State of the region);

''(C) provides a comprehensive statewide plan (including the opportunity for public participation in the development of the statewide plan) for—

''(i) managing the forest land in the State;

''(ii) achieving the national priorities specified in section 2(c)(2);

''(iii) monitoring the forest land in the State; and

''(iv) administering any forestry-related Federal, State, or private grants awarded to the State under this section or any other provisions of law; and

''(D) includes a multiyear, integrated forest management strategy that provides a management framework for—

''(i) the administration of each applicable program of the State; and

''(ii) the use of any funds made available for the management of the forest land in the State; and

''(3) is determined by the Secretary to be sufficient to satisfy all relevant State planning and assessment requirements under this Act.

''(c) COORDINATION.—In developing the statewide assessment and plan under subsection (b), the State Forester or equivalent State official shall—

''(1) coordinate with—

''(A) the State Forest Stewardship Coordination Committee established for the State under section 19(b);

''(B) the State wildlife agency, with respect to strategies contained in the State wildlife action plans;

''(C) the State Technical Committee; and

''(D) applicable Federal land management agencies; and

''(2) for purposes of the Forest Legacy Program under section 7, work cooperatively with the State lead agency designated by the Governor.

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

SEC. 8005. ASSISTANCE TO THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, AND THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU.

Section 13(d)(1) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2109(d)(1)) is amended by striking ''the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands,'' and inserting ''the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau,''.

Subtitle B—Tribal-Forest Service Cooperative Relations

SEC. 8101. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) INDIAN.—The term ''Indian'' means an individual who is a member of an Indian tribe.

(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ''Indian tribe''—

(A) for purposes of title I, has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b); and

(B) for purposes of title II, means any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or other community the name of which is included on a list published by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 479a–1).

(3) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term ''National Forest System'' has the meaning given the term in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)).

PART I—COLLABORATION BETWEEN INDIAN TRIBES AND FOREST SERVICE

SEC. 8111. FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM.

(a) PARTICIPATION BY INDIAN TRIBES.—Section 7 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103c) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the first sentence, by inserting '', including Indian tribes,'' after ''government'';

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting ''or programs of Indian tribes'' after ''regional programs'';

(3) in subsection (f), in the second sentence, by striking ''other appropriate State or regional natural resource management agency'' and inserting ''other appropriate natural resource management agency of a State, region, or Indian tribe'';

(4) in subsection (h)(2), by inserting '', including an Indian tribe'' before the period at the end; and

(5) in subsection (j)(2), in the first sentence, by inserting ''including Indian tribes,'' after ''governmental units,''.

(b) OPTIONAL STATE AND TRIBAL GRANTS.—Section 7(*l*) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103c(*l*)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''AND TRIBAL'' after ''STATE'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

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

''(1) DEFINITION OF INDIAN TRIBE.—In this subsection, the term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(2) GRANTS.—On request of a participating State or Indian tribe, the Secretary shall provide a grant to the State or Indian tribe to carry out the Forest Legacy Program in the State or with the Indian tribe.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—If a State or Indian tribe elects to receive a grant under this subsection—

''(A) the Secretary shall use a portion of the funds made available under subsection (m), as determined by the Secretary, to provide a grant to the State or Indian tribe; and

''(B) the State or Indian tribe shall use the grant to carry out the Forest Legacy Program in the State or with the Indian tribe, including through acquisition by the State or Indian tribe of land and interests in land.

''(4) EFFECT ON TRUST LAND.—

''(A) INELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary shall not provide a grant under this subsection for any project on land held in trust by the United States (including Indian reservations and allotment land).

''(B) ACQUIRED LAND.—No land acquired using a grant provided under this subsection shall be converted to land held in trust by the United States on behalf of any Indian tribe.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 7(j)(1) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103c(j)(1)) is amended by striking the first sentence and inserting the following: ''Fair market value shall be paid for any property interest acquired (other than by donation) under this section.''.

SEC. 8112. FORESTRY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR INDIAN TRIBES.

(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE INDIAN LAND.—In this section, the term ''eligible Indian land'' means, with respect to each participating Indian tribe—

(1) trust land located within the boundaries of the reservation of the Indian tribe;

(2) land owned in fee by the Indian tribe; and

(3) trust land located outside the boundaries of the reservation of the Indian tribe that is eligible for use for land programs of the Indian tribe.

(b) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may provide financial, technical, educational, and related assistance to any Indian tribe for—

(1) tribal consultation and coordination with the Forest Service on issues relating to—

(A) access and use by members of the Indian tribe to National Forest System land and resources for traditional, religious, and cultural purposes;

(B) coordinated or cooperative management of resources shared by the Forest Service and the Indian tribe; or

(C) the provision of tribal traditional, cultural, or other expertise or knowledge;

(2) projects and activities for conservation education and awareness with respect to forest land or grassland that is eligible Indian land; and

(3) technical assistance for forest resources planning, management, and conservation on eligible Indian land.

(c) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During any fiscal year, an Indian tribe may participate in only 1 approved activity that receives assistance under—

(A) subsection (b)(3); or

(B) the forest stewardship program under section 5 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103a).

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to implement subsection (b), including rules for determining the distribution of assistance under that subsection.

(2) CONSULTATION.—In developing regulations pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall conduct full, open, and substantive consultation with Indian tribal governments and other representatives of Indian tribes.

(e) COORDINATION WITH SECRETARY OF INTERIOR.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall coordinate with the Secretary of the Interior to ensure that activities under subsection (b)—

(1) do not conflict with Indian tribal programs provided by the Department of the Interior; and

(2) achieve the goals established by the affected Indian tribes.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

PART II—CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COOPERATION AUTHORITY

SEC. 8121. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this part are—

(1) to authorize the reburial of human remains and cultural items, including human remains and cultural items repatriated under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), on National Forest System land;

(2) to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information regarding reburial sites, including—

(A) the quantity and identity of human remains and cultural items on the sites; and

(B) the location of the sites;

(3) to authorize the Secretary to ensure access to National Forest System land, to the maximum extent practicable, by Indians and Indian tribes for traditional and cultural purposes;

(4) to authorize the Secretary to provide forest products free of charge to Indian tribes for traditional and cultural purposes;

(5) to authorize the Secretary to protect the confidentiality of certain information, including information that is culturally sensitive to Indian tribes;

(6) to increase the availability of Forest Service programs and resources to Indian tribes in support of the policy of the United States to promote tribal sovereignty and self-determination; and

(7) to strengthen support for the policy of the United States of protecting and preserving the traditional, cultural, and ceremonial rites and practices of Indian tribes, in accordance with Public Law 95–341 (commonly known as the ''American Indian Religious Freedom Act'') (42 U.S.C. 1996).

SEC. 8122. DEFINITIONS.

In this part:

(1) ADJACENT SITE.—The term ''adjacent site'' means a site that borders a boundary line of National Forest system land.

(2) CULTURAL ITEMS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''cultural items'' has the meaning given the term in

section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001).

(B) EXCEPTION.—The term ''cultural items'' does not include human remains.

(3) HUMAN REMAINS.—The term ''human remains'' means the physical remains of the body of a person of Indian ancestry.

(4) LINEAL DESCENDANT.—The term ''lineal descendant'' means an individual that can trace, directly and without interruption, the ancestry of the individual through the traditional kinship system of an Indian tribe, or through the common law system of descent, to a known Indian, the human remains, funerary objects, or other sacred objects of whom are claimed by the individual.

(5) REBURIAL SITE.—The term ''reburial site'' means a discrete physical location at which cultural items or human remains are reburied.

(6) TRADITIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSE.—The term ''traditional and cultural purpose'', with respect to a definable use, area, or practice, means that the use, area, or practice is identified by an Indian tribe as traditional or cultural because of the long-established significance or ceremonial nature of the use, area, or practice to the Indian tribe.

SEC. 8123. REBURIAL OF HUMAN REMAINS AND CULTURAL ITEMS.

(a) REBURIAL SITES.—In consultation with an affected Indian tribe or lineal descendant, the Secretary may authorize the use of National Forest System land by the Indian tribe or lineal descendant for the reburial of human remains or cultural items in the possession of the Indian tribe or lineal descendant that have been disinterred from National Forest System land or an adjacent site.

(b) REBURIAL.—With the consent of the affected Indian tribe or lineal descendent, the Secretary may recover and rebury, at Federal expense or using other available funds, human remains and cultural items described in subsection (a) at the National Forest System land identified under that subsection.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF USE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary may authorize such uses on reburial sites or adjacent sites as the Secretary determines to be necessary for management of the National Forest System.

(2) AVOIDANCE OF ADVERSE IMPACTS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall avoid adverse impacts to cultural items and human remains, to the maximum extent practicable.

SEC. 8124. TEMPORARY CLOSURE FOR TRADITIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES.

(a) RECOGNITION OF HISTORIC USE.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure access to National Forest System land by Indians for traditional and cultural purposes, in accordance with subsection (b), in recognition of the historic use by Indians of National Forest System land.

(b) CLOSING LAND FROM PUBLIC ACCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On receipt of a request from an Indian tribe, the Secretary may temporarily close from public access specifically designated National Forest System land to protect the privacy of tribal activities for traditional and cultural purposes.

(2) LIMITATION.—A closure of National Forest System land under paragraph (1) shall affect the smallest practicable area for the minimum period necessary for activities of the applicable Indian tribe.

(3) CONSISTENCY.—Access by Indian tribes to National Forest System land under this subsection shall be consistent with the purposes of Public Law 95–341 (commonly known as the ''American Indian Religious Freedom Act'') (42 U.S.C. 1996).

SEC. 8125. FOREST PRODUCTS FOR TRADITIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 14 of the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a), the Secretary may provide free of charge to Indian tribes any trees, portions of trees, or forest products from National Forest System land for traditional and cultural purposes.

(b) PROHIBITION.—Trees, portions of trees, or forest products provided under subsection (a) may not be used for commercial purposes.

SEC. 8126. PROHIBITION ON DISCLOSURE.

(a) NONDISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall not disclose under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Freedom of Information Act''), any information relating to—

(A) subject to subsection (b)(1), human remains or cultural items reburied on National Forest System land under section 8123; or

(B) subject to subsection (b)(2), resources, cultural items, uses, or activities that—

(i) have a traditional and cultural purpose; and

(ii) are provided to the Secretary by an Indian or Indian tribe under an express expectation of confidentiality in the context of forest and rangeland research activities carried out under the authority of the Forest Service.

(2) LIMITATIONS ON DISCLOSURE.—Subject to subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall not be required to disclose information under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Freedom of Information Act''), concerning the identity, use, or specific location in the National Forest System of—

(A) a site or resource used for traditional and cultural purposes by an Indian tribe; or

(B) any cultural items not covered under section 8123.

(b) LIMITED RELEASE OF INFORMATION.—

(1) REBURIAL.—The Secretary may disclose information described in subsection (a)(1)(A) if, before the disclosure, the Secretary—

(A) consults with an affected Indian tribe or lineal descendent;

(B) determines that disclosure of the information—

(i) would advance the purposes of this part; and

(ii) is necessary to protect the human remains or cultural items from harm, theft, or destruction; and

(C) attempts to mitigate any adverse impacts identified by an Indian tribe or lineal descendant that reasonably could be expected to result from disclosure of the information.

(2) OTHER INFORMATION.—The Secretary may disclose information described under paragraph (1)(B) or (2) of subsection if the Secretary determines that disclosure of the information to the public—

(A) would advance the purposes of this part;

(B) would not create an unreasonable risk of harm, theft, or destruction of the resource, site, or object, including individual organic or inorganic specimens; and

(C) would be consistent with other applicable laws.

SEC. 8127. SEVERABILITY AND SAVINGS PROVISIONS.

(a) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this part, or the application of any provision of this part to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision or circumstance and the remainder of this part shall not be affected thereby.

(b) SAVINGS.—Nothing in this part—

(1) diminishes or expands the trust responsibility of the United States to Indian tribes, or any legal obligation or remedy resulting from that responsibility;

(2) alters, abridges, repeals, or affects any valid agreement between the Forest Service and an Indian tribe;

(3) alters, abridges, diminishes, repeals, or affects any reserved or other right of an Indian tribe; or

(4) alters, abridges, diminishes, repeals, or affects any other valid existing right relating to National Forest System land or other public land.

Subtitle C—Amendments to Other Laws

SEC. 8201. RENEWABLE RESOURCES EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 6 of the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1675) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

(b) TERMINATION DATE.—Section 8 of the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1671 note; Public Law 95–306) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

SEC. 8202. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY.

Section 2405(d) of the Global Climate Change Prevention Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6704(d)) is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2012''.

TITLE IX—ENERGY

SEC. 9001. ENERGY.

Title IX of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8101 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

''TITLE IX—ENERGY

''SEC. 9001. DEFINITIONS.

''Except as otherwise provided, in this title:

''(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

''(2) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The term 'Advisory Committee' means the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee established by section 9008(d)(1).

''(3) ADVANCED BIOFUEL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'advanced biofuel' means fuel derived from renewable biomass other than corn starch.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'advanced biofuel' includes—

''(i) biofuel derived from cellulose, hemicellulose, or lignin;

''(ii) biofuel derived from sugar and starch (other than ethanol derived from corn starch);

''(iii) biofuel derived from waste material, including crop residue, other vegetative waste material, animal waste, food waste, and yard waste;

''(iv) diesel-equivalent fuel derived from renewable biomass, including vegetable oil and animal fat;

''(v) biogas (including landfill gas and sewage waste treatment gas) produced through the conversion of organic matter from renewable biomass;

''(vi) butanol or other alcohols produced through the conversion of organic matter from renewable biomass; and

''(vii) other fuel derived from cellulosic biomass.

''(4) BIOBASED PRODUCT.—The term 'biobased product' means a product determined by the Secretary to be a commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that is—

''(A) composed, in whole or in significant part, of biological products, including renewable domestic agricultural materials and forestry materials; or

''(B) an intermediate ingredient or feedstock.

''(5) BIOFUEL.—The term 'biofuel' means a fuel derived from renewable biomass.

''(6) BIOMASS CONVERSION FACILITY.—The term 'biomass conversion facility' means a facility that converts or proposes to convert renewable biomass into—

''(A) heat;

''(B) power;

''(C) biobased products; or

''(D) advanced biofuels.

''(7) BIOREFINERY.—The term 'biorefinery' means equipment and processes that—

''(A) convert renewable biomass into biofuels and biobased products; and

''(B) may produce electricity.

''(8) BOARD.—The term 'Board' means the Biomass Research and Development Board established by section 9008(c).

''(9) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(10) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given the term in section 102(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)).

''(11) INTERMEDIATE INGREDIENT OR FEEDSTOCK.—The term 'intermediate ingredient or feedstock' means a material or compound made in whole or in significant part from biological products, including renewable agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials) or forestry materials, that are subsequently used to make a more complex compound or product.

''(12) RENEWABLE BIOMASS.—The term 'renewable biomass' means—

''(A) materials, pre-commercial thinnings, or removed exotic species that—

''(i) are byproducts of preventive treatments (such as trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips, and slash), that are removed—

''(I) to reduce hazardous fuels;

''(II) to reduce or contain disease or insect infestation; or

''(III) to restore ecosystem health;

''(ii) would not otherwise be used for higher-value products; and

''(iii) are harvested from National Forest System land or public lands (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702)), in accordance with—

''(I) Federal and State law;

''(II) applicable land management plans; and

''(III) the requirements for old-growth maintenance, restoration, and management direction of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of subsection (e) of section 102 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6512) and the requirements for large-tree retention of subsection (f) of that section; or

''(B) any organic matter that is available on a renewable or recurring basis from non-Federal land or land belonging to an Indian or Indian tribe that is held in trust by the United States or subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States, including—

''(i) renewable plant material, including—

''(I) feed grains;

''(II) other agricultural commodities;

''(III) other plants and trees; and

''(IV) algae; and

''(ii) waste material, including—

''(I) crop residue;

''(II) other vegetative waste material (including wood waste and wood residues);

''(III) animal waste and byproducts (including fats, oils, greases, and manure);

''(IV) construction waste; and

''(V) food waste and yard waste.

''(13) RENEWABLE ENERGY.—The term 'renewable energy' means energy derived from—

''(A) a wind, solar, renewable biomass, ocean (including tidal, wave, current, and thermal), geothermal, or hydroelectric source; or

''(B) hydrogen derived from renewable biomass or water using an energy source described in subparagraph (A).

''(14) RURAL AREA.—Except as otherwise provided in this title, the term 'rural area' has the meaning given the term in section 343(a)(13)(A) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(A)).

''(15) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

"SEC. 9002. BIOBASED MARKETS PROGRAM.

''(a) FEDERAL PROCUREMENT OF BIOBASED PRODUCTS.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF PROCURING AGENCY.—In this subsection, the term 'procuring agency' means—

''(A) any Federal agency that is using Federal funds for procurement; or

''(B) a person that is a party to a contract with any Federal agency, with respect to work performed under such a contract.

''(2) APPLICATION OF SECTION.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), each procuring agency shall comply with this subsection (including any regulations issued under this subsection), with respect to any purchase or acquisition of a procurement item for which—

''(A) the purchase price of the item exceeds $10,000; or

''(B) the quantity of the items or of functionally-equivalent items purchased or acquired during the preceding fiscal year was at least $10,000.

''(3) PROCUREMENT PREFERENCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), after the date specified in applicable guidelines prepared pursuant to paragraph (5), each procuring agency that procures any items designated in the guidelines and items containing designated biobased intermediate ingredients and feedstocks shall, in making procurement decisions (consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, considering the guidelines), give preference to items that—

''(i) are composed of the highest percentage of biobased products practicable;

''(ii) are composed of at least 5 percent of intermediate ingredients and feedstocks (or a lesser percentage that the Secretary determines to be appropriate) as designated by the Secretary; or

''(iii) comply with the regulations issued under section 103 of Public Law 100–556 (42 U.S.C. 6914b–1).

''(B) FLEXIBILITY.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a procuring agency may decide not to procure items described in that subparagraph if the procuring agency determines that the items—

''(i) are not reasonably available within a reasonable period of time;

''(ii) fail to meet—

''(I) the performance standards set forth in the applicable specifications; or

''(II) the reasonable performance standards of the procuring agencies; or

''(iii) are available only at an unreasonable price.

''(C) CERTIFICATION.—After the date specified in any applicable guidelines prepared pursuant to paragraph (5), contracting offices shall require that, with respect to biobased products, vendors certify that the biobased products to be used in the performance of the contract will comply with the applicable specifications or other contractual requirements.

''(4) SPECIFICATIONS.—Each Federal agency that has the responsibility for drafting or reviewing procurement specifications shall, not later than 1 year after the date of publication of applicable guidelines under paragraph (5), or as otherwise specified in the guidelines, ensure that the specifications require the use of biobased products consistent with this subsection.

''(5) GUIDELINES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, after consultation with the Administrator, the Administrator of General Services, and the Secretary of Commerce (acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology), shall prepare, and from time to time revise, guidelines for the use of procuring agencies in complying with the requirements of this subsection.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The guidelines under this paragraph shall—

''(i) designate those items that are or can be produced with biobased products (including biobased products for which there is only a single product or manufacturer in the category) and the procurement of which by procuring agencies will carry out the objectives of this subsection;

''(ii) designate those intermediate ingredients and feedstocks and finished products that contain significant portions of biobased materials or components the procurement of which by procuring agencies will carry out the objectives of this subsection;

''(iii) set forth recommended practices with respect to the procurement of biobased products and items containing such materials and with respect to certification by vendors of the percentage of biobased products used;

''(iv) provide information as to the availability, relative price, performance, and environmental and public health benefits, of such materials and items; and

''(v) automatically designate those items that are composed of materials and items designated pursuant to paragraph (3), if the content of the final product exceeds 50 percent (unless the Secretary determines a different composition percentage).

''(C) INFORMATION PROVIDED.—Information provided pursuant to subparagraph (B)(iv) with respect to a material or item shall be considered to be provided for another item made with the same material or item.

''(D) PROHIBITION.—Guidelines issued under this paragraph may not require a manufacturer or vendor of biobased products, as a condition of the purchase of biobased products from the manufacturer or vendor, to provide to procuring agencies more data than would be required to be provided by other manufacturers or vendors offering products for sale to a procuring agency, other than data confirming the biobased content of a product.

''(E) STATE PROCUREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall offer procurement system models that States may use for the procurement of biobased products by the States.

''(6) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROCUREMENT POLICY.—The Office of Federal Procurement Policy, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall—

''(i) coordinate the implementation of this subsection with other policies for Federal procurement;

''(ii) annually collect the information required to be reported under subparagraph (B) and make the information publicly available;

''(iii) take a leading role in conducting proactive research to inform and promote the adoption of and compliance with procurement requirements for biobased products by Federal agencies; and

''(iv) not less than once every 2 years, submit to Congress a report that—

''(I) describes the progress made in carrying out this subsection, including agency compliance with paragraph (4); and

''(II) contains a summary of the information reported pursuant to subparagraph (B).

''(B) OTHER AGENCIES.—To assist the Office of Federal Procurement Policy in carrying out subparagraph (A)—

''(i) each procuring agency shall submit each year to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, to the maximum extent practicable, information concerning—

''(I) actions taken to implement paragraphs (3), (4), and (7);

''(II) the results of the annual review and monitoring program established under paragraph (7)(B)(iii);

''(III) the number and dollar value of contracts entered into during the year that include the direct procurement of biobased products;

''(IV) the number of service and construction (including renovations and modernizations) contracts entered into during the year that include language on the use of biobased products; and

''(V) the types and dollar value of biobased products actually used by contractors in carrying out service and construction (including renovations and modernizations) contracts during the previous year; and

''(ii) the General Services Administration and the Defense Logistics Agency shall submit each year to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, to the maximum extent practicable, information concerning the types and dollar value of biobased products purchased by procuring agencies through GSA Advantage!, the Federal Supply Schedule, and the Defense Logistic Agency (including the DoD EMall).

''(7) PROCUREMENT PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of publication of applicable guidelines under paragraph (5), each Federal agency shall develop a procurement program that—

''(i) will ensure that items composed of biobased products will be purchased to the maximum extent practicable; and

''(ii) is consistent with applicable provisions of Federal procurement law.

''(B) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—Each procurement program required under this paragraph shall, at a minimum, contain—

''(i) a biobased products preference program;

''(ii) an agency promotion program to promote the preference program adopted under clause (i); and

''(iii) annual review and monitoring of the effectiveness of the procurement program of the agency.

''(C) CONSIDERATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In developing a preference program, an agency shall—

''(I) consider the options described in clauses (ii) and (iii); and

''(II) adopt 1 of the options, or a substantially equivalent alternative, for inclusion in the procurement program.

''(ii) CASE-BY-CASE POLICY DEVELOPMENT.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3)(B), except as provided in subclause (II), in developing a preference program, an agency shall consider a policy of awarding contracts to the vendor offering an item composed of the highest percentage of biobased products practicable.

''(II) CERTAIN CONTRACTS ALLOWED.—Subject to paragraph (3)(B), an agency may make an award to a vendor offering items with less than the maximum biobased products content.

''(iii) MINIMUM CONTENT STANDARDS.—In developing a preference program, an agency shall consider minimum biobased products content specifications that are established in a manner that ensures that the biobased products content required is consistent with this subsection, without violating paragraph (3)(B).

''(b) LABELING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator, shall establish a voluntary program under which the Secretary authorizes producers of biobased products to use the label 'USDA Certified Biobased Product'.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—

''(A) CRITERIA.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this section, except as provided in clause (ii), the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator and representatives from small and large businesses, academia, other Federal agencies, and such other persons as the Secretary considers appropriate, shall issue criteria (as of the date of enactment of this section) for determining which products may qualify to receive the label under paragraph (1).

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) shall not apply to final criteria that have been issued (as of the date of enactment of this section) by the Secretary.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Criteria issued under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) shall encourage the purchase of products with the maximum biobased content;

''(ii) shall provide that the Secretary may designate as biobased for the purposes of the voluntary program established under this subsection finished products that contain significant portions of biobased materials or components; and

''(iii) to the maximum extent practicable, should be consistent with the guidelines issued under subsection (a)(5).

''(3) USE OF LABEL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the label referred to in paragraph (1) is used only on products that meet the criteria issued pursuant to paragraph (2).

''(4) RECOGNITION.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) establish a voluntary program to recognize Federal agencies and private entities that use a substantial amount of biobased products; and

''(B) encourage Federal agencies to establish incentives programs to recognize Federal employees or contractors that make exceptional contributions to the expanded use of biobased products.

''(c) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section (other than subsections (f), (g), and (h)) shall apply to the procurement of motor vehicle fuels, heating oil, or electricity.

''(d) INCLUSION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall establish procedures that apply the requirements of this section to procurement for the Capitol Complex.

''(2) ANNUAL SHOWCASE.—Beginning in calendar year 2008, the Secretary shall sponsor or otherwise support, consistent with applicable Federal laws (including regulations), an annual exposition at which entities may display and demonstrate biobased products.

''(e) TESTING OF BIOBASED PRODUCTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish 1 or more national testing centers for biobased products to verify performance standards, biobased contents, and other product characteristics.

''(2) REQUIREMENT.—In establishing 1 or more national testing centers under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give preference to entities that have established capabilities and experience in the testing of biobased materials and products.

''(f) BIOENERGY AND OTHER BIOBASED PRODUCTS EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall establish a program to make competitive grants to eligible entities to carry out broad-based education and public awareness campaigns relating to bioenergy (including biofuels but excluding biodiesel) and other biobased products.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity eligible to receive a grant described in paragraph (1) is an entity that has demonstrated a knowledge of bioenergy (including biofuels but excluding biodiesel) and other biobased products and is—

''(A) a State energy or agricultural office;

''(B) a regional, State-based, or tribal energy organization;

''(C) a land-grant college or university (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)) or other institution of higher education;

''(D) a rural electric cooperative or utility;

''(E) a nonprofit organization, including an agricultural trade association, resource conservation and development district, and energy service provider;

''(F) a State environmental quality office; or

''(G) any other similar entity, other than a Federal agency or for-profit entity, as determined by the Secretary.

''(g) REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section and each year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of this section.

''(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall include—

''(A) a comprehensive management plan that establishes tasks, milestones, and timelines, organizational roles and responsibilities, and funding allocations for fully implementing this section; and

''(B) information on the status of implementation of—

''(i) item designations (including designation of intermediate ingredients and feedstocks); and

''(ii) the voluntary labeling program established under subsection (b).

''(h) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use, to the maximum extent practicable, $3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012—

''(A) to continue mandatory funding for biobased products testing as required to carry out this section; and

''(B) to carry out the bioenergy education and awareness campaign under subsection (f).

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to any other funds made available to carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(3) PRIORITY.—At the discretion of the Secretary, the Secretary may give priority to the testing of products for which private sector firms provide cost sharing for the testing.

''SEC. 9003. BIODIESEL FUEL EDUCATION.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to educate potential users about the proper use and benefits of biodiesel.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall, under such terms and conditions as are appropriate, make grants to eligible entities to educate governmental and private entities that operate vehicle fleets, oil refiners, automotive companies, owners and operators of watercraft fleets, other interested entities (as determined by the Secretary), and the public about the benefits of biodiesel fuel use.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To receive a grant under subsection (b), an entity shall—

''(1) be a nonprofit organization or institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001));

''(2) have demonstrated knowledge of biodiesel fuel production, use, or distribution; and

''(3) have demonstrated the ability to conduct educational and technical support programs.

''(d) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Energy.

''(e) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section, to the maximum extent practicable, $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9004. BIOMASS CROP TRANSITION.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ELIGIBLE CROP.—The term 'eligible crop' means a crop of renewable biomass.

''(2) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT.—The term 'eligible participant' means an agricultural producer or forest land owner—

''(A) that is establishing 1 or more eligible crops on private land to be used in the production of advanced biofuels, other biobased products, heat, or power from a biomass conversion facility;

''(B) that has a financial commitment from a biomass conversion facility, including a proposed biomass conversion facility that is economically viable, as determined by the Secretary, to purchase the eligible crops; and

''(C) the production operation of which is in such proximity to the biomass conversion facility described in subparagraph (B) as to make delivery of the eligible crops to that location economically practicable.

''(b) BIOMASS CROP TRANSITION ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program to provide transitional assistance for the establishment and production of eligible crops to be used in the production of advanced biofuels, other biobased products, heat, or power from a biomass conversion facility.

''(2) EXCLUSION.—An agricultural producer shall not be eligible for assistance under paragraph (1) for the establishment and production of—

''(A) any crop that is eligible for benefits under title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007; or

''(B) an annual crop.

''(3) CONTRACTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into contracts with eligible participants and entities described in subparagraph (B) to provide transitional assistance payments to eligible participants.

''(B) CONTRACTS WITH MEMBER ENTITIES.—The Secretary may enter into 1 or more contracts with farmer-owned cooperatives, agricultural trade associations, or other similar entities on behalf of producer members that meet the requirements of, and elect to be treated as, eligible participants if the contract would offer greater efficiency in administration of the program.

''(C) REQUIREMENTS.—Under a contract described in subparagraph (A), an eligible participant shall be required, as determined by the Secretary—

''(i) to produce 1 or more eligible crops;

''(ii) to develop and actively apply a conservation plan that meets the requirements for highly erodible land conservation and wetlands conservation as established under subtitles B and C of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811 et seq.); and

''(iii) to use such conservation practices as are necessary, where appropriate—

''(I) to advance the goals and objectives of State, regional, and national fish and wildlife conservation plans and initiatives; and

''(II) to comply with mandatory environmental requirements for a producer under Federal, State, and local law.

''(4) PAYMENTS.—

''(A) FIRST YEAR.—During the first year of the contract, the Secretary shall make a payment to an eligible participant in an amount that covers the cost of establishing 1 or more eligible crops.

''(B) SUBSEQUENT YEARS.—During any subsequent year of the contract, the Secretary shall make incentive payments to an eligible participant in an amount determined by the Secretary to encourage the eligible participant to produce renewable biomass.

''(c) ASSISTANCE FOR PRODUCTION OF ANNUAL CROP OF RENEWABLE BIOMASS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide assistance to eligible participants to plant an annual crop of renewable biomass for use in a biomass conversion facility in the form of—

''(A) technical assistance; and

''(B) cost-share assistance for the cost of establishing an annual crop of renewable biomass.

''(2) EXCLUSION.—An agricultural producer shall not be eligible for assistance under paragraph (1) for the establishment of any crop that is eligible for benefits under title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.

''(3) COMPLIANCE.—Eligible participants receiving assistance under paragraph (1)(B) shall develop and actively apply a conservation plan that meets the requirements for highly erodible land conservation and wetlands conservation as established under subtitles B and C of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811 et seq.).

''(d) ASSISTANCE FOR COLLECTION, HARVEST, STORAGE, AND TRANSPORT OF RENEWABLE BIOMASS.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program to provide assistance to eligible participants for collecting, harvesting, storing, and transporting eligible crops to be used in the production of advanced biofuels, biobased products, heat, or power from a biomass conversion facility.

''(2) PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible participant shall receive payments under this subsection for each ton of eligible crop delivered to a biomass conversion facility, based on a fixed rate to be established by the Secretary in accordance with subparagraph (B).

''(B) FIXED RATE.—The Secretary shall establish a fixed payment rate for purposes of subparagraph (A) to reflect—

''(i) the estimated cost of collecting, harvesting, storing, and transporting the applicable eligible crop; and

''(ii) such other factors as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(e) BEST PRACTICES.—

''(1) RECORDKEEPING.—Each eligible participant, and each biomass conversion facility contracting with the eligible participant, shall maintain and make available to the Secretary, at such times as the Secretary may request, appropriate records of methods used for activities for which payment is received under this section.

''(2) INFORMATION SHARING.—From the records maintained under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall maintain, and make available to the public, information regarding—

''(A) the production potential (including evaluation of the environmental benefits) of a variety of eligible crops; and

''(B) best practices for producing, collecting, harvesting, storing, and transporting eligible crops to be used in the production of advanced biofuels.

''(f) FUNDING.—

''(1) BIOMASS CROP TRANSITION ASSISTANCE.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out subsections (b) and (c) $130,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

''(2) ASSISTANCE FOR COLLECTION, HARVEST, STORAGE, AND TRANSPORT OF RENEWABLE BIOMASS.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry out subsection (d) $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2011, to remain available until expended.

''SEC. 9005. BIOREFINERY AND REPOWERING ASSISTANCE.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to assist in the development of new or emerging technologies for the use of renewable biomass or other sources of renewable energy—

''(1) to develop advanced biofuels;

''(2) to increase the energy independence of the United States by promoting the replacement of energy generated from fossil fuels with energy generated from a renewable energy source;

''(3) to promote resource conservation, public health, and the environment;

''(4) to diversify markets for raw agricultural and forestry products, and agriculture waste material; and

''(5) to create jobs and enhance the economic development of the rural economy.

''(b) DEFINITION OF REPOWER.—In this section, the term 'repower' means to substitute the production of heat or power from a fossil fuel source with heat or power from sources of renewable energy.

''(c) ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make available to eligible entities described in subsection (d)—

''(A) grants to assist in paying the costs of—

''(i) development and construction of pilot- and demonstration-scale biorefineries intended to demonstrate the commercial viability of 1 or more processes for converting renewable biomass to advanced biofuels;

''(ii) repowering a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part; or

''(iii) conducting a study to determine the feasibility of repowering a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part; and

''(B) guarantees for loans made to fund—

''(i) the development and construction of commercial-scale biorefineries; or

''(ii) the repowering of a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part.

''(2) PREFERENCE.—In selecting projects to receive grants and loan guarantees under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to projects that receive or will receive financial support from the State in which the project is carried out.

''(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An eligible entity under this section is—

''(1) an individual;

''(2) a corporation;

''(3) a farm cooperative;

''(4) a rural electric cooperative or public power entity;

''(5) an association of agricultural producers;

''(6) a State or local energy agency or office;

''(7) an Indian tribe;

''(8) a consortium comprised of any individuals or entities described in any of paragraphs (1) through (7); or

''(9) any other similar entity, as determined by the Secretary.

''(e) GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants under subsection (c)(1)(A) on a competitive basis.

''(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—

''(A) GRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF PILOT AND DEMONSTRATION SCALE BIOREFINERIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants for development and construction of pilot and demonstration scale biorefineries under subsection (c)(1)(A)(i), the Secretary shall select projects based on the likelihood that the projects will demonstrate the commercial viability of a new or emerging process for converting renewable biomass into advanced biofuels.

''(ii) FACTORS.—The factors to be considered under clause (i) may include—

''(I) the potential market for 1 or more products;

''(II) the level of financial participation by the applicants;

''(III) the availability of adequate funding from other sources;

''(IV) the participation of producer associations and cooperatives;

''(V) the beneficial impact on resource conservation, public health, and the environment;

''(VI) the timeframe in which the project will be operational;

''(VII) the potential for rural economic development;

''(VIII) the participation of multiple eligible entities; and

''(IX) the potential for developing advanced industrial biotechnology approaches.

''(B) GRANTS FOR REPOWERING.—In selecting projects to receive grants for repowering under clauses (ii) and (iii) of subsection (c)(1)(A), the Secretary shall consider—

''(i) the change in energy efficiency that would result from the proposed repowering of the eligible entity;

''(ii) the reduction in fossil fuel use that would result from the proposed repowering; and

''(iii) the volume of renewable biomass located in such proximity to the eligible entity as to make local sourcing of feedstock economically practicable.

''(3) COST SHARING.—

''(A) LIMITS.—

''(i) DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF PILOT AND DEMONSTRATION SCALE BIOREFINERIES.—The amount of a grant awarded for development and construction of a biorefinery under subsection (c)(1)(A)(i) shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of the project.

''(ii) REPOWERING.—The amount of a grant awarded for repowering under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii) shall not exceed 20 percent of the cost of the project.

''(iii) FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR REPOWERING.—The amount of a grant awarded for a feasibility study for repowering under subsection (c)(1)(A)(iii) shall not exceed an amount equal to the lesser of—

''(I) an amount equal to 50 percent of the total cost of conducting the feasibility study; and

''(II) $150,000.

''(B) FORM OF GRANTEE SHARE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The grantee share of the cost of a project may be made in the form of cash or the provision of services, material, or other in-kind contributions.

''(ii) LIMITATION.—The amount of the grantee share of the cost of a project that is made in the form of the provision of services, material, or other in-kind contributions shall not exceed 15 percent of the amount of the grantee share determined under subparagraph (A).

''(f) LOAN GUARANTEES.—

''(1) CONDITIONS.—As a condition of making a loan guarantee under subsection (c)(1)(B), the Secretary shall require—

''(A) demonstration of binding commitments to cover, from sources other than Federal funds, at least 20 percent of the total cost of the project described in the application;

''(B) in the case of a new or emerging technology, demonstration that the project design has been validated through a technical review and subsequent operation of a pilot or demonstration scale facility that can be scaled up to commercial size; and

''(C) demonstration that the applicant provided opportunities to local investors (as determined by the Secretary) to participate in the financing or ownership of the biorefinery.

''(2) LOCAL OWNERSHIP.—The Secretary shall give preference under subsection (c)(1)(B) to applications for projects with significant local ownership.

''(3) APPROVAL.—Not later than 90 days after the Secretary receives an application for a loan guarantee under subsection (c)(1)(B), the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the application.

''(4) LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN GUARANTEED.—

''(i) COMMERCIAL-SCALE BIOREFINERIES.—Subject to clause (iii), the principal amount of a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B)(i) may not exceed $250,000,000.

''(ii) REPOWERING.—Subject to clause (iii), the principal amount of a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B)(ii) may not exceed $70,000,000.

''(iii) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL FUNDING.—The amount of a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B) shall be reduced by the amount of other Federal funding that the entity receives for the same project.

''(B) MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE OF LOAN GUARANTEED.—A loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B) shall be in an amount not to exceed 80 percent of the project costs, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) AUTHORITY TO GUARANTEE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF THE LOAN.—The Secretary may guarantee up to 100 percent of the principal and interest due on a loan guaranteed under subsection (c)(1)(B).

''(g) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Energy.

''(h) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use for the cost of grants and loan guarantees to carry out this section $300,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

''SEC. 9006. BIOENERGY PROGRAM FOR ADVANCED BIOFUELS.

''(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE PRODUCER.—In this section, the term 'eligible producer' means a producer of advanced biofuels.

''(b) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall make payments to eligible producers to encourage increased purchases of renewable biomass for the purpose of expanding production of, and supporting new production capacity for, advanced biofuels.

''(c) CONTRACTS.—To receive a payment, an eligible producer shall—

''(1) enter into a contract with the Secretary to increase production of advanced biofuels for 1 or more fiscal years; and

''(2) submit to the Secretary such records as the Secretary may require as evidence of increased purchase and use of renewable biomass for the production of advanced biofuels.

''(d) BASIS FOR PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall make payments under this section to eligible producers based on—

''(1) the level of production by the eligible producer of an advanced biofuel;

''(2) the price of each renewable biomass feedstock used for production of the advanced biofuel;

''(3) the net nonrenewable energy content of the advanced biofuel, if sufficient data is available, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(4) other appropriate factors, as determined by the Secretary.

''(e) OVERPAYMENTS.—If the total amount of payments that an eligible producer receives for a fiscal year under this section exceeds the amount that the eligible producer should have received, the eligible producer shall repay the amount of the overpayment to the Secretary, with interest (as determined by the Secretary).

''(f) LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary may limit the amount of payments that may be received by a single eligible producer under this section in order to distribute the total amount of funding available in an equitable manner.

''(2) INELIGIBILITY.—An eligible producer that claims a credit allowed under section 40(a)(3), 40(a)(4), or 40A(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall not be eligible to receive payments under subsection (d).

''(3) REFINING CAPACITY.—An eligible producer may not use any funds received under this section for an advanced biofuel production facility or other fuel refinery the total refining capacity of which is more than 150,000,000 gallons per year.

''(g) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—To receive a payment under this section, an eligible producer shall meet any other requirements of Federal and State law (including regulations) applicable to the production of advanced biofuels.

''(h) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $245,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

''SEC. 9007. RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall establish a Rural Energy for America Program to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy development for agricultural producers, cooperatives, rural small businesses, and other similar entities through—

''(1) grants for energy audits and renewable energy development assistance;

''(2) financial assistance for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems; and

''(3) financial assistance for facilities to convert animal manure to energy.

''(b) ENERGY AUDITS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make competitive grants to eligible entities to provide assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses—

''(A) to become more energy efficient; and

''(B) to use renewable energy technology and resources.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An eligible entity under this subsection is—

''(A) a State agency;

''(B) a regional, State-based, or tribal energy organization;

''(C) a land-grant college or university or other institution of higher education;

''(D) a rural electric cooperative or public power entity;

''(E) a nonprofit organization; and

''(F) any other similar entity, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) MERIT REVIEW.—

''(A) MERIT REVIEW PROCESS.—The Secretary shall establish a merit review process to review applications for grants under paragraph (1) that uses the expertise of other

Federal agencies, industry, and nongovernmental organizations.

''(B) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In reviewing applications of eligible entities to receive grants under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider—

''(i) the ability and expertise of the eligible entity in providing professional energy audits and renewable energy assessments;

''(ii) the geographic scope of the program proposed by the eligible entity in relation to the identified need;

''(iii) the number of agricultural producers and rural small businesses to be assisted by the program;

''(iv) the potential for energy savings and environmental and public health benefits resulting from the program; and

''(v) the plan of the eligible entity for providing information to agricultural producers and rural small businesses on the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy development.

''(4) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

''(A) REQUIRED USES.—A recipient of a grant under paragraph (1) shall use the grant funds to conduct and promote energy audits for agricultural producers and rural small businesses to provide recommendations on how to improve energy efficiency and use renewable energy technology and resources.

''(B) PERMITTED USES.—In addition to the uses described in subparagraph (A), a recipient of a grant may use the grant funds to make agricultural producers and rural small businesses aware of—

''(i) financial assistance under subsection (c); and

''(ii) other Federal, State, and local financial assistance programs for which the agricultural producers and rural small businesses may be eligible.

''(5) COST SHARING.—A recipient of a grant under paragraph (1) that conducts an energy audit for an agricultural producer or rural small business under paragraph (4)(A) shall require that, as a condition of the energy audit, the agricultural producer or rural small business pay at least 25 percent of the cost of the energy audit, which shall be retained by the eligible entity for the cost of the energy audit.

''(c) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any similar authority, the Secretary shall provide loan guarantees, grants, and production-based incentives to agricultural producers and rural small businesses—

''(A) to purchase renewable energy systems, including systems that may be used to produce and sell electricity; and

''(B) to make energy efficiency improvements.

''(2) AWARD CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the amount of a grant, loan guarantee, or production-based incentive provided under this section, the Secretary shall take into consideration, as applicable—

''(A) the type of renewable energy system to be purchased;

''(B) the estimated quantity of energy to be generated by the renewable energy system;

''(C) the expected environmental benefits of the renewable energy system;

''(D) the quantity of energy savings expected to be derived from the activity, as demonstrated by an energy audit comparable to an energy audit under subsection (b);

''(E) the estimated period of time for the energy savings generated by the activity to equal the cost of the activity;

''(F) the expected energy efficiency of the renewable energy system; and

''(G) other appropriate factors.

''(3) FEASIBILITY STUDIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide assistance in the form of grants to an agricultural producer or rural small business to conduct a feasibility study for a project for which assistance may be provided under this subsection.

''(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall use not more than 10 percent of the funds made available to carry out this subsection to provide assistance described in subparagraph (A).

''(C) AVOIDANCE OF DUPLICATIVE ASSISTANCE.—An entity shall be ineligible to receive assistance to carry out a feasibility study for a project under this paragraph if the entity has received Federal or State assistance for a feasibility study for the project.

''(4) LIMITS.—

''(A) GRANTS.—The amount of a grant under this subsection shall not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the activity carried out using funds from the grant.

''(B) LOAN GUARANTEES.—

''(i) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The amount of a loan guaranteed under this subsection shall not exceed $25,000,000.

''(ii) MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE.—A loan guaranteed under this subsection shall not exceed 75 percent of the cost of the activity carried out using funds from the loan.

''(5) PRODUCTION-BASED INCENTIVE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF GRANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the authority under subsection (b), to encourage the production of electricity from renewable energy systems, the Secretary, on receipt of a request of an eligible applicant under this section, shall make production-based incentive payments to the applicant in lieu of a grant.

''(B) CONTINGENCY.—A payment under subparagraph (A) shall be contingent on documented energy production and sales by the renewable energy system of the eligible applicant to a third party.

''(C) LIMITATION.—The total net present value of a production-based incentive payment under this paragraph shall not exceed the lesser of—

''(i) an amount equal to 25 percent of the eligible project costs, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(ii) such other limit as the Secretary may establish, by rule or guidance.

''(d) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FACILITIES TO CONVERT ANIMAL MANURE TO ENERGY.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF ANIMAL MANURE.—In this subsection, the term 'animal manure' means agricultural livestock excrement, including litter, wood shavings, straw, rice hulls, bedding material, and other materials incidentally collected with the manure.

''(2) GRANTS AND LOAN GUARANTEES.—The Secretary shall make grants and loan guarantees to eligible entities on a competitive basis for the installation, operation, and evaluation of facilities described in paragraph (4).

''(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant or loan guarantee under this subsection, an entity shall be—

''(A) an agricultural producer;

''(B) a rural small business;

''(C) a rural cooperative; or

''(D) any other similar entity, as determined by the Secretary.

''(4) ELIGIBLE FACILITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) through (E), an eligible entity may receive a grant or loan guarantee under this subsection for the installation, first-year operation, and evaluation of an on-farm or community facility (such as a digester or power generator using manure for fuel) the primary function of which is to convert animal manure into a useful form of energy (including gaseous or liquid fuel or electricity).

''(B) SUBSYSTEMS INCLUDED.—Funds from a grant and loan guarantee under subparagraph (A) may be used for systems that support an on-farm or community facility described in that subparagraph, which may include feedstock gathering systems and gas piping systems.

''(C) CONVERSION OF RENEWABLE BIOMASS.—An eligible entity may use a grant or loan guarantee provided under this subsection to convert renewable biomass other than animal manure (such as waste materials from food processing facilities and other green wastes) into energy at a facility if the majority of materials converted into energy at the facility is animal manure.

''(D) DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES.—An eligible entity may use a grant or loan guarantee provided under this subsection for the installation, demonstration, and first 2 years of operation of an on-farm or community facility that uses manure-to-energy technologies—

''(i) that are not in commercial use, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(ii) for which sufficient research has been conducted for the Secretary to determine that the technology is commercially viable.

''(5) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In selecting applications for grants and loan guarantees under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider—

''(A) the quality of energy produced; and

''(B) the projected net energy conversion efficiency, which shall be equal to the quotient obtained by dividing—

''(i) the energy output of the eligible facility; by

''(ii) the sum of—

''(I) the energy content of animal manure at the point of collection; and

''(II) the energy consumed in facility operations, including feedstock transportation;

''(C) environmental issues, including potential positive and negative impacts on water quality, air quality, odor emissions, pathogens, and soil quality resulting from—

''(i) the use and conversion of animal manure into energy;

''(ii) the installation and operation of the facility; and

''(iii) the disposal of any waste products (including effluent) from the facility;

''(D) the net impact of the facility and any waste from the facility on greenhouse gas emissions, based on the estimated emissions from manure storage systems in use before the installation of the manure-to-energy facility;

''(E) diversity factors, including diversity of—

''(i) sizes of projects supported; and

''(ii) geographic locations; and

''(F) the proposed project costs and levels of grants or loan guarantees requested.

''(6) AMOUNT.—

''(A) GRANTS.—

''(i) SMALLER PROJECTS.—In the case of a project with a total eligible cost (as described in paragraph (4)) of not more than $500,000, the amount of a grant made under this subsection shall not exceed 50 percent of the total eligible cost.

''(ii) LARGER PROJECTS.—In the case of a project with a total eligible cost (as described in paragraph (4)) of more than $500,000, the amount of a grant made under this subsection shall not exceed the greater of—

''(I) $250,000; or

''(II) 25 percent of the total eligible cost.

''(iii) MAXIMUM.—In no case shall the amount of a grant made under this section exceed $2,000,000.

''(B) LOAN GUARANTEES.—The principal amount and interest of a loan guaranteed under this subsection may not exceed the lesser of—

''(i) 80 percent of the difference between—

''(I) the total cost to install and operate the eligible facility for the first year, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(II) the amount of any Federal, State, and local funds received to support the eligible facility; and

''(ii) $25,000,000.

''(7) PROHIBITION.—A grant or loan guarantee may not be provided for a project under this subsection that also receives assistance under subsection (b) or (c).

''(e) ROLE OF STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR.—

''(1) OUTREACH AND AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—

''(A) OUTREACH.—A State rural development director, acting through local rural development offices, shall provide outreach regarding the availability of financial assistance under this section.

''(B) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—A State rural development director shall make available information relating to the availability of financial assistance under this section at all local rural development, Farm Service Agency, and Natural Resources Conservation Service offices.

''(2) APPLICATION REVIEW.—Applications for assistance under this section shall be reviewed by the appropriate State rural development director.

''(f) SMALL PROJECTS.—

''(1) APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS.—The Secretary shall develop a streamlined application and expedited review process for project applicants seeking less than $20,000 under this section.

''(2) PERCENTAGE OF FUNDS.—Not less than 20 percent of the funds made available under subsection (k)(1) shall be made available to make grants under this section in an amount of less than $20,000.

''(g) PREFERENCE.—In selecting projects to receive grants under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to projects that receive or will receive financial support from the State in which the project is carried out.

''(h) RURAL ENERGY STAR.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator and the Secretary of Energy, shall extend the Energy Star program established by section 324A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6294a) to include a Rural Energy Star component to promote the development and use of energy-efficient equipment and facilities in the agricultural sector.

''(i) REPORTS.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of this section, including the outcomes achieved by projects funded under this section.

''(j) FUNDING.—

''(1) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available $230,000,000 to carry out subsections (c) and (d) for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended, of which not less than 15 percent shall be used to carry out subsection (d).

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to any other funds made available to carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9008. BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) BIOBASED PRODUCT.—The term 'biobased product' means—

''(A) an industrial product (including chemicals, materials, and polymers) produced from biomass; and

''(B) a commercial or industrial product (including animal feed and electric power) derived in connection with the conversion of biomass to fuel.

''(2) DEMONSTRATION.—The term 'demonstration' means demonstration of technology in a pilot plant or semi-works scale facility.

''(3) INITIATIVE.—The term 'Initiative' means the Biomass Research and Development Initiative established under subsection (e).

''(4) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term 'National Laboratory' has the meaning given that term in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801).

''(5) POINT OF CONTACT.—The term 'point of contact' means a point of contact designated under this section.

''(b) COOPERATION AND COORDINATION IN BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy shall cooperate with respect to, and coordinate, policies and procedures that promote research and development leading to the production of biofuels and biobased products.

''(2) POINTS OF CONTACT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—To coordinate research and development programs and activities relating to biofuels and biobased products that are carried out by their respective departments—

''(i) the Secretary of Agriculture shall designate, as the point of contact for the Department of Agriculture, an officer of the Department of Agriculture appointed by the President to a position in the Department before the date of the designation, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

''(ii) the Secretary of Energy shall designate, as the point of contact for the Department of Energy, an officer of the Department of Energy appointed by the President to a position in the Department before the date of the designation, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(B) DUTIES.—The points of contact shall jointly—

''(i) assist in arranging interlaboratory and site-specific supplemental agreements for research and development projects relating to biofuels and biobased products;

''(ii) serve as cochairpersons of the Board;

''(iii) administer the Initiative; and

''(iv) respond in writing to each recommendation of the Advisory Committee made under subsection (d).

''(c) BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Biomass Research and Development Board, which shall supersede the Interagency Council on Biobased Products and Bioenergy established by Executive Order No. 13134 (7 U.S.C. 8101 note), to coordinate programs within and among departments and agencies of the Federal Government for the purpose of promoting the use of biofuels and biobased products by—

''(A) maximizing the benefits deriving from Federal grants and assistance; and

''(B) bringing coherence to Federal strategic planning.

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Board shall consist of—

''(A) the point of contact of the Department of Energy designated under subsection (b)(2)(A)(ii), who shall serve as cochairperson of the Board;

''(B) the point of contact of the Department of Agriculture designated under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i), who shall serve as cochairperson of the Board;

''(C) a senior officer of each of the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation, and the Office of Science and Technology Policy, each of whom shall—

''(i) be appointed by the head of the respective agency; and

''(ii) have a rank that is equivalent to the rank of the points of contact; and

''(D) at the option of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, other members appointed by the Secretaries (after consultation with the members described in subparagraphs (A) through (C)).

''(3) DUTIES.—The Board shall—

''(A) coordinate research and development activities relating to biofuels and biobased products—

''(i) between the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Energy; and

''(ii) with other departments and agencies of the Federal Government;

''(B) provide recommendations to the points of contact concerning administration of this title;

''(C) ensure that—

''(i) solicitations are open and competitive with awards made annually; and

''(ii) objectives and evaluation criteria of the solicitations are clearly stated and minimally prescriptive, with no areas of special interest; and

''(D) ensure that the panel of scientific and technical peers assembled under subsection (e) to review proposals is composed predominantly of independent experts selected from outside the Departments of Agriculture and Energy.

''(4) FUNDING.—Each agency represented on the Board is encouraged to provide funds for any purpose under this section.

''(5) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet at least quarterly to enable the Board to carry out the duties of the Board under paragraph (3).

''(d) BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee, which shall supersede the Advisory Committee on Biobased Products and Bioenergy established by Executive Order No. 13134 (7 U.S.C. 8101 note)—

''(A) to advise the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the points of contact concerning—

''(i) the distribution of funding;

''(ii) the technical focus and direction of requests for proposals issued under the Initiative; and

''(iii) procedures for reviewing and evaluating the proposals;

''(B) to facilitate consultations and partnerships among Federal and State agencies, agricultural producers, industry, consumers, the research community, and other interested groups to carry out program activities relating to the Initiative; and

''(C) to evaluate and perform strategic planning on program activities relating to the Initiative.

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall consist of—

''(i) an individual affiliated with the biofuels industry;

''(ii) an individual affiliated with the biobased industrial and commercial products industry;

''(iii) an individual affiliated with an institution of higher education who has expertise in biofuels and biobased products;

''(iv) 2 prominent engineers or scientists from government or academia who have expertise in biofuels and biobased products;

''(v) an individual affiliated with a commodity trade association;

''(vi) 2 individuals affiliated with an environmental or conservation organization;

''(vii) an individual associated with State government who has expertise in biofuels and biobased products;

''(viii) an individual with expertise in energy and environmental analysis;

''(ix) an individual with expertise in the economics of biofuels and biobased products;

''(x) an individual with expertise in agricultural economics;

''(xi) an individual with expertise in plant biology and biomass feedstock development; and

''(xii) at the option of the points of contact, other members.

''(B) APPOINTMENT.—The members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the points of contact.

''(3) DUTIES.—The Advisory Committee shall—

''(A) advise the points of contact with respect to the Initiative; and

''(B) evaluate whether, and make recommendations in writing to the Board to ensure that—

''(i) funds authorized for the Initiative are distributed and used in a manner that is consistent with the objectives, purposes, and considerations of the Initiative;

''(ii) solicitations are open and competitive with awards made annually and that objectives and evaluation criteria of the solicitations are clearly stated and minimally prescriptive, with no areas of special interest;

''(iii) the points of contact are funding proposals under this title that are selected on the basis of merit, as determined by an independent panel of scientific and technical peers predominantly from outside the Departments of Agriculture and Energy; and

''(iv) activities under this section are carried out in accordance with this section.

''(4) COORDINATION.—To avoid duplication of effort, the Advisory Committee shall coordinate the activities of the Advisory Committee with activities of other Federal advisory committees working in related areas.

''(5) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly to enable the Advisory Committee to carry out the duties of the Advisory Committee.

''(6) TERMS.—Members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

''(e) BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, acting through their respective points of contact and in consultation with the Board, shall establish and carry out a Biomass Research and Development Initiative under which competitively awarded grants, contracts, and financial assistance are provided to, or entered into with, eligible entities to carry out research on, and development and demonstration of, biofuels and biobased products, and the methods, practices, and technologies, for the production of the fuels and product.

''(2) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of the Initiative are to develop—

''(A) technologies and processes necessary for abundant commercial production of biofuels at prices competitive with fossil fuels;

''(B) high-value biobased products—

''(i) to enhance the economic viability of biofuels and bioenergy;

''(ii) as substitutes for petroleum-based feedstocks and products; and

''(iii) to enhance the value of coproducts produced using the technologies and processes; and

''(C) a diversity of sustainable domestic sources of renewable biomass for conversion to biofuels, bioenergy, and biobased products.

''(3) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Initiative are—

''(A) to increase the energy security of the United States;

''(B) to create jobs and enhance the economic development of the rural economy;

''(C) to enhance the environment and public health; and

''(D) to diversify markets for raw agricultural and forestry products.

''(4) TECHNICAL AREAS.—To advance the objectives and purposes of the Initiative, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and heads of other appropriate departments and agencies (referred to in this subsection as the 'Secretaries'), shall direct research, development, and demonstration toward—

''(A) feedstocks and feedstock systems relevant to production of raw materials for conversion to biofuels and biobased products, including—

''(i) development of advanced and dedicated crops with desired features, including enhanced productivity, broader site range, low requirements for chemical inputs, and enhanced processing;

''(ii) advanced crop production methods to achieve the features described in clause (i) and suitable assay techniques for those features;

''(iii) feedstock harvest, handling, transport, and storage;

''(iv) strategies for integrating feedstock production into existing managed land; and

''(v) improving the value and quality of coproducts, including material used for animal feeding;

''(B) development of cost-effective technologies for the use of cellulosic biomass in the production of biofuels and biobased products, including—

''(i) pretreatment in combination with enzymatic or microbial hydrolysis;

''(ii) thermochemical approaches, including gasification and pyrolysis; and

''(iii) self-processing crops that express enzymes capable of degrading cellulosic biomass;

''(C) product diversification through technologies relevant to production of a range of biobased products (including chemicals, animal feeds, and cogenerated power) that eventually can increase the feasibility of fuel production in a biorefinery, including—

''(i) catalytic processing, including thermochemical fuel production;

''(ii) metabolic engineering, enzyme engineering, and fermentation systems for biological production of desired products, coproducts, or cogeneration of power;

''(iii) product recovery;

''(iv) power production technologies;

''(v) integration into existing renewable biomass processing facilities, including starch ethanol plants, sugar processing or refining plants, paper mills, and power plants;

''(vi) enhancement of products and coproducts, including dried distillers grains; and

''(vii) technologies that allow for cost-effective harvest, handling, transport, and storage; and

''(D) analysis that provides strategic guidance for the application of renewable biomass technologies in accordance with realization of improved sustainability and environmental quality, cost effectiveness, security, and rural economic development, usually featuring system-wide approaches, including the harvest, handling, transport, and storage of renewable biomass.

''(5) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—Within the technical areas described in paragraph (4), and in addition to advancing the purposes described in paragraph (3) and the objectives described in paragraph (2), the Secretaries shall support research and development—

''(A) to create continuously expanding opportunities for participants in existing biofuels production by seeking synergies and continuity with current technologies and practices, such as improvements in dried distillers grains and other biofuel production coproducts for use as bridge feedstocks;

''(B) to maximize the environmental, economic, and social benefits of production of biofuels and biobased products on a large scale through life-cycle economic and environmental analysis and other means; and

''(C) to assess the potential of Federal land and land management programs as feedstock resources for biofuels and biobased products, consistent with the integrity of soil and water resources and with other environmental considerations.

''(6) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible for a grant, contract, or assistance under this subsection, an applicant shall be—

''(A) an institution of higher education;

''(B) a National Laboratory;

''(C) a Federal research agency;

''(D) a State research agency;

''(E) a private sector entity;

''(F) a nonprofit organization; or

''(G) a consortium of 2 or more entities described in subparagraphs (A) through (F).

''(7) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—After consultation with the Board, the points of contact shall—

''(i) publish annually 1 or more joint requests for proposals for grants, contracts, and assistance under this subsection;

''(ii) require that grants, contracts, and assistance under this section be awarded competitively, on the basis of merit, after the establishment of procedures that provide for scientific peer review by an independent panel of scientific and technical peers;

''(iii) give partial preference to applications that—

''(I) involve a consortia of experts from multiple institutions;

''(II) encourage the integration of disciplines and application of the best technical resources; and

''(III) increase the geographic diversity of demonstration projects; and

''(iv) require that not less than 15 percent of funds made available to carry out this section is used for research and development relating to each of the technical areas described in paragraph (4).

''(B) MATCHING FUNDS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of the cost of a demonstration project under this section shall be not less than 20 percent.

''(ii) COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS.—The non-Federal share of the cost of a commercial application project under this section shall be not less than 50 percent.

''(C) TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION TRANSFER TO AGRICULTURAL USERS.—The Administrator of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service shall ensure that applicable research results and technologies from the Initiative are—

''(i) adapted, made available, and disseminated through those services, as appropriate; and

''(ii) included in the best practices database established under section 220 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6920).

''(f) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent administrative support and funds are not provided by other agencies under paragraph (2), the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture may provide such administrative support and funds of the Department of Energy and the Department of Agriculture to the Board and the Advisory Committee as

are necessary to enable the Board and the Advisory Committee to carry out their duties under this section.

''(2) OTHER AGENCIES.—The heads of the agencies referred to in subsection (c)(2)(C), and the other members of the Board appointed under subsection (c)(2)(D), may, and are encouraged to, provide administrative support and funds of their respective agencies to the Board and the Advisory Committee.

''(3) LIMITATION.—Not more than 4 percent of the amount made available for each fiscal year under subsection (h) may be used to pay the administrative costs of carrying out this section.

''(g) REPORTS.—

''(1) ANNUAL REPORTS.—For each fiscal year for which funds are made available to carry out this section, the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture shall jointly submit to Congress a detailed report on—

''(A) the status and progress of the Initiative, including a report from the Advisory Committee on whether funds appropriated for the Initiative have been distributed and used in a manner that—

''(i) is consistent with the objectives, purposes, and additional considerations described in paragraphs (2) through (5) of subsection (e);

''(ii) uses the set of criteria established in the initial report submitted under title III of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 7624 note; Public Law 106–224) (as in effect on the date before the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007); and

''(iii) takes into account any recommendations that have been made by the Advisory Committee;

''(B) the general status of cooperation and research and development efforts carried out at each agency with respect to biofuels and biobased products, including a report from the Advisory Committee on whether the points of contact are funding proposals that are selected under subsection (d)(3)(B)(iii); and

''(C) the plans of the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture for addressing concerns raised in the report, including concerns raised by the Advisory Committee.

''(2) UPDATES.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy shall update the Vision and Roadmap documents prepared for Federal biomass research and development activities.

''(h) FUNDING.—

''(1) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUNDS.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary of Agriculture, to the maximum extent practicable, shall use to carry out this section, to remain available until expended—

''(A) $15,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(B) $25,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

''(C) $35,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

''(2) ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—In addition to amounts described in paragraph (1), there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $85,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9009. SUN GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the programs established under this section are—

''(1) to enhance national energy security through the development, distribution, and implementation of biobased energy technologies;

''(2) to promote diversification in, and the environmental sustainability of, agricultural production in the United States through biobased energy and product technologies;

''(3) to promote economic diversification in rural areas of the United States through biobased energy and product technologies; and

''(4) to enhance the efficiency of bioenergy and biomass research and development programs through improved coordination and collaboration between the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy, and the land-grant colleges and universities.

''(b) DEFINITION OF LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—The term 'land-grant colleges and universities' means—

''(1) 1862 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601));

''(2) 1890 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of that Act) and West Virginia State College; and

''(3) 1994 Institutions (as defined in section 2 of that Act).

''(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—To carry out the purposes described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide grants to sun grant centers specified in subsection (d).

''(d) GRANTS TO CENTERS.—The Secretary shall use amounts made available for a fiscal year under subsection (j) to provide a grants in equal amounts to each of the following sun grant centers:

''(1) NORTH-CENTRAL CENTER.—A north-central sun grant center at South Dakota State University for the region composed of the States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

''(2) SOUTHEASTERN CENTER.—A southeastern sun grant center at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville for the region composed of—

''(A) the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia;

''(B) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and

''(C) the United States Virgin Islands.

''(3) SOUTH-CENTRAL CENTER.—A south-central sun grant center at Oklahoma State University for the region composed of the States of Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

''(4) WESTERN CENTER.—A western sun grant center at Oregon State University for the region composed of—

''(A) the States of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington; and

''(B) territories and possessions of the United States (other than the territories referred to in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (2)).

''(5) NORTHEASTERN CENTER.—A northeastern sun grant center at Cornell University for the region composed of the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia.

''(6) WESTERN INSULAR PACIFIC SUBCENTER.—A western insular Pacific subcenter at the University of Hawaii for the region composed of the State of Alaska, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

''(e) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—Of the amount of funds that are made available for a fiscal year to a sun grant center under subsection (d), the center shall use not more than 25 percent of the amount to support excellence in science, engineering, and economics at the center to promote the purposes described in subsection (a) through the State agricultural experiment station, cooperative extension services, and relevant educational programs of the university.

''(2) GRANTS TO LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The sun grant center established for a region shall use the funds that remain available for a fiscal year after expenditures made under paragraph (1) to provide competitive grants to land-grant colleges and universities in the region of the sun grant center to conduct, consistent with the purposes described in subsection (a), multi-institutional and multistate—

''(i) research, extension, and educational programs on technology development; and

''(ii) integrated research, extension, and educational programs on technology implementation.

''(B) PROGRAMS.—Of the amount of funds that are used to provide grants for a fiscal year under subparagraph (A), the center shall use—

''(i) not less than 30 percent of the funds to carry out programs described in subparagraph (A)(i); and

''(ii) not less than 30 percent of the funds to carry out programs described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

''(3) INDIRECT COSTS.—A sun grant center may not recover the indirect costs of making grants under paragraph (2) to other land-grant colleges and universities.

''(f) PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of funds under subsection (j), in cooperation with other land-grant colleges and universities and private industry in accordance with paragraph (2), the sun grant centers shall jointly develop and submit to the Secretary, for approval, a plan for addressing at the State and regional levels the bioenergy, biomass, and gasification research priorities of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Energy for the making of grants under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (e).

''(2) GASIFICATION COORDINATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In developing the plan under paragraph (1) with respect to gasification research, the sun grant centers identified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (d) shall coordinate with land grant colleges and universities in their respective regions that have ongoing research activities with respect to the research.

''(B) FUNDING.—Funds made available under subsection (d) to the sun grant center identified in subsection (e)(2) shall be available to carry out planning coordination under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

''(g) GRANTS TO OTHER LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—

''(1) PRIORITY FOR GRANTS.—In making grants under subsection (e)(2), a sun grant center shall give a higher priority to programs that are consistent with the plan approved by the Secretary under subsection (f).

''(2) TERM OF GRANTS.—The term of a grant provided by a sun grant center under subsection (e)(2) shall not exceed 5 years.

''(h) GRANT INFORMATION ANALYSIS CENTER.—The sun grant centers shall maintain a Sun Grant Information Analysis Center at the sun grant center specified in subsection (d)(1) to provide sun grant centers analysis and data management support.

''(i) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the end of a year for which a sun grant center receives a grant under subsection (d), the sun grant center shall submit to the Secretary a report that describes the policies, priorities, and operations of the program carried out by the center during the year, including a description of progress made in facilitating the priorities described in subsection (f).

''(j) FUNDING.—

''(1) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section, to remain available until expended—

''(A) $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(B) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

''(C) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other funds made available to carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $70,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''(B) GRANT INFORMATION ANALYSIS CENTER.—Of amounts made available under subparagraph (A), not more than $4,000,000 for each fiscal year shall be made available to carry out subsection (h).

''SEC. 9010. REGIONAL BIOMASS CROP EXPERIMENTS.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to initiate multi-region side-by-side crop experiments to provide a sound knowledge base on all aspects of the production of biomass energy crops, including crop species, nutrient requirements, management practices, environmental impacts, greenhouse gas implications, and economics.

''(b) CROP EXPERIMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Board, based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, shall award 10 competitive grants to land-grant colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)) to establish regional biomass crop research experiments (including experiments involving annuals, perennials, and woody biomass species).

''(2) SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.—Grant recipients shall be selected on the basis of applications submitted in accordance with guidelines issued by the Secretary.

''(3) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting grant recipients, the Secretary shall consider—

''(A) the capabilities and experience of the applicant in conducting side-by-side crop experiments;

''(B) the range of species types and cropping practices proposed for study;

''(C) the quality of the proposed crop experiment plan;

''(D) the commitment of the applicant of adequate acreage and necessary resources for, and continued participation in, the crop experiments;

''(E) the need for regional diversity among the 10 institutions selected; and

''(F) such other factors as the Secretary may determine.

''(c) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make a grant to each land-grant college or university selected under subsection (b) in the amount of—

''(1) $1,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(2) $2,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

''(3) $1,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

''(d) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate with participants under this section—

''(1) to provide coordination regarding biomass crop research approaches; and

''(2) to ensure coordination between biomass crop research activities carried out by land-grant colleges and universities under this section and by sun grant centers under section 9009.

''(e) FUNDING.—

''(1) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section, to remain available until expended—

''(A) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(B) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

''(C) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to any other funds made available to carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9011. BIOCHAR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to support research, development, and demonstration of biochar as a coproduct of bioenergy production, as a soil enhancement practice, and as a carbon management strategy.

''(b) DEFINITION OF BIOCHAR.—In this section, the term 'biochar' means charcoal or biomass-derived black carbon that is added to soil to improve soil fertility, nutrient retention, and carbon content.

''(c) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall award competitive grants to eligible entities to support biochar research, development, and demonstration projects on multiple scales, including laboratory biochar research and field trials, and biochar systems on a single farm scale, local community scale, and agricultural cooperative scale.

''(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be an eligible entity described in section 9005(d).

''(e) AREAS OF BIOCHAR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall solicit proposals for activities that include—

''(1) the installation and use of biochar production systems, including pyrolysis and thermocombustion systems, and the integration of biochar production with bioenergy and bioproducts production;

''(2) the study of agronomic effects of biochar usage in soils, including plant growth and yield effects for different application rates and soil types, and implications for water and fertilizer needs;

''(3) biochar characterization, including analysis of physical properties, chemical structure, product consistency and quality, and the impacts of those properties on the soil-conditioning effects of biochar in different soil types;

''(4) the study of effects of the use of biochar on the carbon content of soils, with an emphasis on the potential for biochar applications to sequester carbon;

''(5) the study of effects of biochar on greenhouse gas emissions relating to crop production, including nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide emissions from cropland;

''(6) the study of the integration of renewable energy and bioenergy production with biochar production;

''(7) the study of the economics of biochar production and use, including considerations of feedstock competition, synergies of coproduction with bioenergy, the value of soil enhancements, and the value of soil carbon sequestration; and

''(8) such other topics as are identified by the Secretary.

''(f) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9012. RENEWABLE WOODY BIOMASS FOR ENERGY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service (referred to in this section as the 'Secretary'), shall conduct a competitive research, technology development, and technology application program to encourage the use of renewable woody biomass for energy.

''(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Entities eligible to compete under the program shall include—

''(1) the Forest Service (through Research and Development);

''(2) other Federal agencies;

''(3) State and local governments;

''(4) federally recognized Indian tribes;

''(5) colleges and universities; and

''(6) private entities.

''(c) PRIORITY FOR PROJECT SELECTION.—The Secretary shall give priority under the program to projects that—

''(1) develop technology and techniques to use low-value woody biomass sources, such as byproducts of forest health treatments and hazardous fuels reduction, for the production of energy;

''(2) develop processes that integrate production of energy from woody biomass into biorefineries or other existing manufacturing streams;

''(3) develop new transportation fuels from woody biomass; and

''(4) improve the growth and yield of trees intended for renewable energy production.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9013. COMMUNITY WOOD ENERGY PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COMMUNITY WOOD ENERGY PLAN.—The term 'community wood energy plan' means a plan that identifies how local forests can be accessed in a sustainable manner to help meet the wood supply needs of a community wood energy system.

''(2) COMMUNITY WOOD ENERGY SYSTEM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'community wood energy system' means an energy system that—

''(i) services schools, town halls, libraries, and other public buildings; and

''(ii) uses woody biomass as the primary fuel.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'community wood energy system' includes single facility central heating, district heating, combined heat and energy systems, and other related biomass energy systems.

''(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, shall establish a program to be known as the 'Community Wood Energy Program' to provide—

''(A) grants of up to $50,000 to State and local governments (or designees)—

''(i) to conduct feasibility studies related to community wood energy plans; and

''(ii) to develop community wood energy plans; and

''(B) competitive grants to State and local governments—

''(i) to acquire or upgrade community wood energy systems for public buildings; and

''(ii) to implement a community wood energy plan.

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting applicants for grants under paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary shall consider—

''(A) the energy efficiency of the proposed system; and

''(B) other conservation and environmental criteria that the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(c) COMMUNITY WOOD ENERGY PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A State or local government that receives a grant under subsection (b)(1)(A), shall use the grant, and the technical assistance of the State forester, to create a community wood energy plan to meet the wood supply needs of the community wood energy system, in a sustainable manner, that the State or local government proposes to purchase under this section.

''(2) USE OF PLAN.—A State or local government applying to receive a competitive grant described in subsection (b)(1)(B) shall submit to the Secretary as part of the grant application the applicable community wood energy plan described in paragraph (1).

''(3) REQUIREMENT.—To be included in a community wood energy plan, property shall be subject to a forest management plan.

''(d) USE IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS.—A State or local government that receives a grant under subsection (b)(1)(B) shall use a community wood energy system acquired, in whole or in part, with the use of the grant funds for primary use in a public facility owned by the State or local government.

''(e) LIMITATION.—A community wood energy system acquired with grant funds provided under subsection (b)(1)(B) shall not exceed an output of—

''(1) 50,000,000 Btu per hour for heating; and

''(2) 2 megawatts for electric power production.

''(f) MATCHING FUNDS.—A State or local government that receives a grant under subsection (b) shall contribute an amount of non-Federal funds towards the feasibility study, development of the community wood energy plan, or acquisition of the community wood energy systems that is at least equal to the amount of grant funds received by the State or local government under that subsection.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9014. RURAL ENERGY SYSTEMS RENEWAL.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to establish a Federal program—

''(1) to encourage communities in rural areas of the United States to establish energy systems renewal strategies for their communities;

''(2) to provide the information, analysis assistance, and guidance that the communities need; and

''(3) to provide financial resources to partially fund the costs of carrying out community energy systems renewal projects.

''(b) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a program of competitive grants to support communities in rural areas in carrying out rural energy systems renewal projects.

''(c) USE OF GRANTS.—A community may use a grant provided under this section to carry out a project—

''(1) to conduct an energy assessment that assesses total energy usage by all members and activities of the community, including an assessment of—

''(A) energy used in community facilities, including energy for heating, cooling, lighting, and all other building and facility uses;

''(B) energy used in transportation by community members;

''(C) current sources and types of energy used;

''(D) energy embedded in other materials and products;

''(E) the major impacts of the energy usage (including the impact on the quantity of oil imported, total costs, the environment, and greenhouse gas emissions); and

''(F) such other activities as are determined appropriate by the community, consistent with the purposes described in subsection (a);

''(2) to formulate and analyze ideas for reducing conventional energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions by the community, including reduction of energy usage through—

''(A) housing insulation, automatic controls on lighting and electronics, zone energy usage, and home energy conservation practices;

''(B) transportation alternatives, vehicle options, transit options, transportation conservation, and walk- and bike-to-school programs;

''(C) community configuration alternatives to provide pedestrian access to regular services; and

''(D) community options for alternative energy systems (including alternative fuels, photovoltaic electricity, wind energy, geothermal heat pump systems, and combined heat and power);

''(3) to formulate and implement community strategies for reducing conventional energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions by the community;

''(4) to conduct assessments and to track and record the results of energy system changes; and

''(5) to train rural community energy professionals to provide expert support to community energy systems renewal projects.

''(d) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal cost of carrying out a project under this section shall be 50 percent of the total cost of the project.

''(e) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) issue, an annual basis, requests for proposals from communities in rural areas for energy systems renewal projects; and

''(2) establish criteria for program participation and evaluation of projects carried out under this section, including criteria based on—

''(A) the quality of the renewal projects proposed;

''(B) the probability of success of the community in meeting the energy systems renewal goals of the community;

''(C) the projected energy savings (including oil savings) resulting from the proposed projects; and

''(D) projected greenhouse gas emission reductions resulting from the proposed projects.

''(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall—

''(1) develop, and provide through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture or State Energy Offices, information and tools that communities in rural areas can use—

''(A) to assess the current energy systems of the communities, including sources, uses, and impacts;

''(B) to identify and evaluate options for changes;

''(C) to develop strategies and plans for changes; and

''(D) to implement changes and assess the impact of the changes; and

''(2) provide technical assistance and support to communities in rural areas that receive grants under this section to assist the communities in carrying out projects under this section.

''(g) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2011, and biennially thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that documents the best practices and approaches used by communities in rural areas that receive funds under this section.

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to make grants under this section $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9015. VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE BIOMASS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in consultation with Administrator, shall establish a voluntary program to certify renewable biomass that meets sustainable growing standards designed—

''(1) to reduce greenhouse gases and improve soil carbon content;

''(2) to protect wildlife habitat, and

''(3) to protect air, soil, and water quality.

''(b) VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—To qualify for certification under the program established under subsection (a), a biomass crop shall be inspected and certified as meeting the standards adopted under subsection (c) by an inspector designated under subsection (d).

''(c) PRODUCTION STANDARDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall adopt standards for the certification of renewable biomass under subsection (b) that will apply to those producers who elect to participate in the voluntary certification program.

''(2) REQUIREMENT.—The standards under paragraph (1) shall provide measurement of a numerical reduction in greenhouse gases, improvement to soil carbon content, and reduction in soil and water pollutants, based on the recommendations of an advisory committee jointly established by the Secretary and the Administrator.

''(d) INSPECTORS.—The Secretary shall designate inspectors that the Secretary determines are qualified to carry out inspections and certifications under subsection (b) in order to certify renewable biomass under this section.

''(e) DESIGNATION.—A product produced from renewable biomass that is certified under this section may be designated as having been produced from certified renewable biomass if—

''(1) the producer of the product verifies that the product was produced from renewable biomass; and

''(2) the verification includes a copy of the certification obtained in accordance with subsection (b).

''SEC. 9016. ADMINISTRATION.

''The Secretary shall designate an entity within the Department of Agriculture to—

''(1) provide oversight and coordination of all activities relating to renewable energy and biobased product development within the Department;

''(2) act as a liaison between the Department and other Federal, State, and local agencies to ensure coordination among activities relating to renewable energy and biobased product development;

''(3) assist agriculture researchers by evaluating the market potential of new biobased products in the initial phase of development;

''(4) collect and disseminate information relating to renewable energy and biobased product development programs, including research, within the Federal Government; and

''(5) establish and maintain a public database of best practices to facilitate information sharing relating to—

''(A) renewable energy and biobased product development from programs under this title and other programs; and

''(B) best practices for producing, collecting, harvesting, storing, and transporting crops of renewable biomass, as described under section 9004(d)(3)(B) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

''SEC. 9017. BIOFUELS INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary of Energy, the Administrator, and the Secretary of Transportation, shall—

''(1) conduct an assessment of the infrastructure needs for expanding the domestic production, transport, and marketing of biofuels and bioenergy;

''(2) formulate recommendations for infrastructure development needs and approaches; and

''(3) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the assessment and recommendations.

''(b) INFRASTRUCTURE AREAS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider—

''(1) biofuel transport and delivery infrastructure issues, including shipment by rail or pipeline or barge;

''(2) biofuel storage needs;

''(3) biomass feedstock delivery needs, including adequacy of rural roads;

''(4) biomass feedstock storage needs;

''(5) water resource needs, including water requirements for biorefineries; and

''(6) such other infrastructure issues as the Secretary may determine.

''(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider—

''(1) estimated future biofuels production levels of—

''(A) 20,000,000,000 gallons per year to 40,000,000,000 gallons per year by 2020; and

''(B) 50,000,000,000 gallons per year to 75,000,000,000 gallons per year by 2030;

''(2) the feasibility of shipping biofuels through existing pipelines;

''(3) the development of new biofuels pipelines, including siting, financing, timing, and other economic issues;

''(4) the environmental implications of alternative approaches to infrastructure development; and

''(5) the resource use and conservation characteristics of alternative approaches to infrastructure development.

''(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary—

''(1) shall consult with individuals and entities with interest or expertise in the areas described in subsections (b) and (c); and

''(2) may issue a solicitation for a competition to select a contractor to support the Secretary.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

''SEC. 9018. RURAL NITROGEN FERTILIZER STUDY.

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

''(1) to assess the feasibility of producing nitrogen fertilizer from renewable energy resources in rural areas; and

''(2) to formulate recommendations for a program to promote rural nitrogen fertilizer production from renewable energy resources in the future.

''(b) STUDY.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) conduct a study to assess and summarize the current state of knowledge regarding the potential for the production of nitrogen fertilizer from renewable energy sources in rural areas;

''(2) identify the critical challenges to commercialization of rural production of nitrogen fertilizer from renewables; and

''(3) not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this section, submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that summarizes the results of the activities described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

''(c) NEEDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Based on the results of the study described in subsection (b), the Secretary shall identify the critical needs to commercializing the rural production of nitrogen fertilizer from renewables, including—

''(A) identifying alternative processes for renewables-to-nitrogen fertilizer production;

''(B) identifying efficiency improvements that are necessary for each component of renewables-to-nitrogen fertilizer production processes to produce cost-competitive nitrogen fertilizer;

''(C) identifying research and technology priorities for the most promising technologies;

''(D) identifying economic analyses needed to better understand the commercial potential of rural nitrogen production from renewables;

''(E) identifying additional challenges impeding commercialization, including—

''(i) cost competition from nitrogen fertilizer produced using natural gas and coal;

''(ii) modifications or expansion needed to the currently-installed nitrogen fertilizer (anhydrous ammonia) pipeline and storage tank system to enable interconnection of on-farm or rural renewables-to-nitrogen fertilizer systems;

''(iii) impact on nitrogen fertilizer (anhydrous ammonia) transportation infrastructure and safety regulations;

''(iv) supply of competitively-priced renewable electricity; and

''(v) impacts on domestic water supplies; and

''(F) determining greenhouse gas reduction benefits of producing nitrogen fertilizer from renewable energy.

''(d) PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS.—As part of the report described in subsection (b)(3) and based on the needs identified in subsection (c), the Secretary shall provide recommendations on—

''(1) the establishment of a research, development, and demonstration program to support commercialization of rural nitrogen production using renewables;

''(2) the appropriate contents of the program;

''(3) the appropriate approach to implementing the program, including participants and funding plans; and

''(4) legislation to support commercialization of rural nitrogen production using renewables.

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $1,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

''SEC. 9019. STUDY OF LIFE-CYCLE ANALYSIS OF BIOFUELS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator, shall conduct a study of—

''(1) published methods for evaluating the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of conventional fuels and biofuels; and

''(2) methods for performing simplified, streamlined lifecycle analyses of the greenhouse gas emissions of conventional fuels and biofuels.

''(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), including recommendations for a method for performing a simplified, streamlined lifecycle analysis of the greenhouse gas emissions of biofuels and fossil fuels that includes—

''(1) greenhouse gas emissions relating to the production, extraction, transportation, storage, and waste disposal of the fuels and the feedstocks of the fuels, including the greenhouse gases associated with electrical and thermal energy inputs;

''(2) greenhouse gas emissions relating to the distribution, marketing, and use of the fuels; and

''(3) to the maximum extent practicable, direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions from changes in land use and land cover that occur domestically or internationally as a result of biofuel feedstock production.

''(c) UPDATE.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Secretary submits the report under subsection (b), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate an update containing recommendations for an improved method for conducting lifecycle analysis of the greenhouse gas emissions of biofuels and fossil fuels that takes into account advances in the understanding of the emissions.

''SEC. 9020. E–85 FUEL PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) E–85 FUEL.—The term 'E–85 fuel' means a blend of gasoline at least 85 percent (or any other percentage, but not less than 70 percent, as determined by the Secretary, by rule, to provide for requirements relating to cold start, safety, or vehicle functions) of the content of which is derived from ethanol.

''(2) ELIGIBLE FACILITY.—The term 'eligible facility' means an ethanol production facility, the majority ownership of which is comprised of agricultural producers.

''(b) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall make grants under this section to eligible facilities—

''(1) to install E–85 fuel infrastructure, including infrastructure necessary—

''(A) for the direct retail sale of E–85 fuel, including E–85 fuel pumps and storage tanks; and

''(B) to directly market E–85 fuel to gas retailers, including in-line blending equipment, pumps, storage tanks, and load-out equipment; and

''(2) to provide subgrants to direct retailers of E–85 fuel that are located in a rural area (as defined in section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a))) for the purpose of installing E–85 fuel infrastructure for the direct retail sale of E–85 fuel, including E–85 fuel pumps and storage tanks.

''(c) COST SHARING.—

''(1) GRANTS.—The amount of a grant under this section shall be equal to 20 percent of the total costs of the installation of the E–85 fuel infrastructure, as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL FUNDING.—The amount of a grant that an eligible facility receives under this section shall be reduced by the amount of other Federal funding that the eligible facility receives for the same purpose, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) LIMITATION.—Not more than 70 percent of the total costs of E–85 fuel infrastructure provided assistance under this section shall be provided by the Federal Government and State and local governments.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $20,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

''SEC. 9021. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in conjunction with the Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory, shall carry out a research and development program relating to renewable energy—

''(1) to conduct research on and develop high-quality energy crops that—

''(A) have high energy production values;

''(B) are cost efficient for producers and refiners;

''(C) are well suited to high yields with minimal inputs in arid and semiarid regions; and

''(D) are regionally appropriate;

''(2) to conduct research on and develop biorefining and biofuels through multidisciplinary research, including research relating to—

''(A) biochemical engineering;

''(B) process engineering;

''(C) thermochemical engineering;

''(D) product engineering; and

''(E) systems engineering;

''(3) to develop cost-effective methods for the harvesting, handling, transport, and storage of cellulosic biomass feedstocks;

''(4) to conduct research on and develop fertilizers from biobased sources other than hydrocarbon fuels;

''(5) to develop energy- and water-efficient irrigation systems;

''(6) to research and develop water-efficient biofuel production technologies;

''(7) to research and develop additional biobased products;

''(8) in cooperation with the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense, to develop storage and conversion technologies for wind- and solar-generated power for small-scale and utility-scale generation facilities; and

''(9) in cooperation with the Department of Energy, to research fuel cell technologies for use in farm, ranch, and rural applications.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

''(2) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—In addition to funds made available under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated—

''(A) $110,000,000 to the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, acting through the Agricultural Research Service, for cellulosic biofuel research for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012; and

''(B) $110,000,000 to the Secretary and the Secretary of Energy for the development of smaller-scale biorefineries and biofuel plants for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

''SEC. 9022. NORTHEAST DAIRY NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) CONSORTIUM.—The term 'consortium' means a collaboration of land-grant colleges or universities in the Northeast region that have programs devoted to dairy manure nutrient management and energy conversion from dairy manure.

''(2) LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—The term 'land-grant colleges and universities' has the meaning given the term in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)).

''(3) NORTHEAST REGION.—The term 'Northeast region' means the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia.

''(4) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the dairy nutrient management and energy development program established under subsection (b).

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a dairy nutrient management and energy development program under which the Secretary shall provide funds to the consortium to carry out multistate, integrated research, extension, and demonstration projects for nutrient management and energy development in the Northeast Region.

''(c) STEERING COMMITTEE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The consortium shall establish a steering committee to administer the program.

''(2) CHAIRPERSON.—For each calendar year, or for such other period as the consortium determines to be appropriate, the consortium shall select a chairperson of the steering committee in a manner that ensures that each member of the consortium is represented by a chairperson on a rotating basis.

''(3) BOARD.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The steering committee shall establish a board of directors to assist in the administration of the program.

''(B) COMPOSITION.—The board shall consist of representatives of—

''(i) dairy cooperatives and other producer groups;

''(ii) State departments of agriculture;

''(iii) conservation organizations; and

''(iv) other appropriate Federal and State agencies.

''(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The consortium may use not more than 10 percent of the total amount of funds provided to the consortium under this section to pay the administrative costs of the program.

''(2) GRANT PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The consortium shall use the amounts provided under this section to provide grants to applicants, including dairy cooperatives, producers and producer groups, State departments of agriculture and other appropriate State agencies, and institutions of higher education, to carry out integrated research, extension, and demonstration projects in the Northeast region to address manure nutrient management and energy development.

''(B) APPLICATIONS.—The steering committee established under subsection (c)(1), in coordination with the board established by the steering committee, shall annually publish 1 or more requests to receive applications for grants under this paragraph.

''(C) SELECTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The board of the steering committee shall select applications submitted under subparagraph (B) for grants under this paragraph—

''(I) on a competitive basis;

''(II) in accordance with such priority technical areas and distribution requirements as the steering committee may establish; and

''(III) in a manner that ensures, to the maximum extent practicable, that an equal quantity of resources is provided to each member of the consortium.

''(ii) REVIEW.—Before selecting any application under clause (i), the board shall ensure that the program proposed in the application is subject to a merit review by an independent panel of scientific experts with experience relating to the program.

''(iii) PRIORITY.—In selecting applications under clause (i), the board shall give priority to applications for programs that—

''(I) include multiorganizational partnerships, especially partnerships that include producers; and

''(II) attract the most current and applicable science for nutrient management and energy development that can be applied in the Northeast region.

''(D) COST SHARING.—An applicant that receives a grant under this paragraph shall provide not less than 20 percent of the cost of the project carried out by the applicant.

''(e) AVAILABILITY OF RESULTS.—The consortium shall ensure that the results of each project carried out pursuant to the program are made publicly available.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

''SEC. 9023. FUTURE FARMSTEADS PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a program to equip, in each of 5 regions of the United States chosen to represent different farming practices, a farm house and its surrounding fields, facilities, and forested areas with technologies to—

''(1) improve farm energy production and energy use efficiencies;

''(2) provide working examples to farmers; and

''(3) serve as an education, demonstration, and research facility that will teach graduate students whose focus of research is related to either renewable energy or energy conservation technologies.

''(b) GOALS.—The goals of the program established under subsection (a) shall be to—

''(1) advance farm energy use efficiencies and the on-farm production of renewable energies, along with advanced communication and control technologies with the latest in energy capture and conversion techniques, thereby enhancing rural energy independence and creating new revenues for rural economies;

''(2) accelerate private sector and university research into the efficient on-farm production of renewable fuels and help educate the farming industry, students, and the general public; and

''(3) accelerate energy independence, including the production and the conservation of renewable energies on farms.

''(c) COLLABORATION PARTNERS.—The program under this section shall be carried out in partnership with regional land grant institutions, agricultural commodity commissions, biofuels companies, sensor and controls companies, and internet technology companies.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.''.

SEC. 9002. SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING HIGHER LEVELS OF ETHANOL BLENDED GASOLINE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that, as of the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) annual ethanol production capacity totals 6,800,000,000 gallons;

(2) current and planned construction of ethanol refineries will likely increase annual ethanol production capacity to 12,000,000,000 to 13,000,000,000 gallons by December 31, 2009;

(3) under existing regulations, only gasoline blended with up to 10 percent ethanol (commonly known as ''E–10'') may be consumed by nonflexible fuel vehicles;

(4) the total market demand for E–10—

(A) is limited to 10 percent of domestic motor fuel consumption; and

(B) is further constrained by State-administered reformulated gasoline regulations and regional infrastructure constraints;

(5) beyond the market demand for E–10, insufficient E–85 infrastructure exists to absorb the increased ethanol production beyond 12,000,000,000 to 13,000,000,000 gallons in the short term;

(6) the approval of intermediate blends of ethanol-blended gasoline, such as E–13, E–15, E–20, and higher blends, is critical to the uninterrupted growth of the United States biofuels industry; and

(7) maintaining the growth of the United States biofuels industry is a matter of national security and sustainable economic growth.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary should—

(1) collaborate with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency in conducting a study of the economic and environmental effects of intermediate blends of ethanol in United States fuel supply;

(2) ensure that the approval of intermediate blends of ethanol occurs after the appropriate tests have successfully concluded proving the drivability, compatibility, emissions, durability, and health effects of higher blends of ethanol-blended gasoline; and

(3) ensure that the approval of intermediate blends of ethanol-blended gasoline occurs by not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9003. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000.—Title III of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 7624 note; Public Law 106–224) is repealed.

(b) MARKETING PROGRAM FOR BIOBASED PRODUCTS.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall continue to carry out the designation and labeling of biobased products in accordance with section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8102) as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act until the date on which the Secretary is able to begin carrying out section 9002(a) of that Act (as amended by section 9001), which shall begin not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) EXISTING LISTINGS.—Biobased products designated and labeled under section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8102) as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act shall continue to be considered designated and labeled biobased products after the date of enactment of this Act.

(C) PROPOSED ITEM DESIGNATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or an amendment made by this Act, the Secretary shall have the authority to finalize the listings of any item proposed (prior to the date of enactment of this Act) to be designated in accordance with section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8102) as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) BIOENERGY EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.—Section 947 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16256) is repealed.

TITLE X—LIVESTOCK MARKETING, REGULATORY, AND RELATED PROGRAMS

Subtitle A—Marketing

SEC. 10001. LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING.

(a) MANDATORY REPORTING FOR SWINE.—Section 232(c)(3) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635j(c)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''2:00 p.m.'' and inserting ''3:00 p.m.''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''3:00 p.m.'' and inserting ''4:00 p.m.''.

(b) MANDATORY PACKER REPORTING OF PORK PRODUCTS SALES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 232 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635j) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) MANDATORY PACKER REPORTING OF PORK PRODUCTS SALES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not earlier than the date on which the report under section 10001(b)(2)(C) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 is submitted, the Secretary may require the corporate officers or officially designated representative of each packer processing plant to report to the Secretary at least twice each reporting day (not less than once before, and once after, 12:00 noon Central Time) information on total pork products sales, including price and volume information as specified by the Secretary.

''(2) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make available to the public any information required to be reported under subparagraph (A) (including information on pork cuts and retail-ready pork products) not less than twice each reporting day.''.

(2) STUDY AND REPORT.—

(A) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study on the effects of requiring packer processing plants to report to the Secretary information on total pork products sales (including price and volume information), including—

(i) the positive or negative economic effects on producers and consumers; and

(ii) the effects of a confidentiality requirement on mandatory reporting.

(B) INFORMATION.—The Secretary may collect such information as is necessary to enable the Secretary to conduct the study required under subparagraph (A).

(C) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report on the results of the study conducted under subparagraph (A).

(c) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION ON RETAIL PURCHASE PRICES FOR REPRESENTATIVE MEAT PRODUCTS.—Section 257(a) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1636f(a)) is amended by inserting ''and continuing not less than each month thereafter'' after ''this subtitle''.

SEC. 10002. GRADING AND INSPECTION.

(a) GRADING.—Section 203 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (n) as subsection (o); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (m) the following:

''(n) GRADING PROGRAM.—To establish, within the Agricultural Marketing Service, a voluntary grading program for farm-raised animals described in section 10806(a)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (21 U.S.C. 321d(a)(1)).''.

(b) AMENABLE SPECIES.—Section 1(w) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601(w)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) farm-raised animals described in section 10806(a)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (21 U.S.C. 321d(a)(1)); and''.

(c) EXISTING ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that nothing in an amendment made by this section duplicates or impedes any of the food safety activities conducted by the Department of Commerce or the Food and Drug Administration.

SEC. 10003. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING.

Subtitle D of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1638 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 281(2)(A)—

(A) in clause (v), by striking ''and'';

(B) in clause (vi), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(vii) meat produced from goats; and

''(viii) macadamia nuts.'';

(2) in section 282—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

''(2) DESIGNATION OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR BEEF, LAMB, PORK, AND GOAT MEAT.—

''(A) UNITED STATES COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.—A retailer of a covered commodity that is beef, lamb, pork, or goat meat may designate the covered commodity as exclusively having a United States country of origin only if the covered commodity is derived from an animal that was—

''(i) exclusively born, raised, and slaughtered in the United States;

''(ii) born and raised in Alaska or Hawaii and transported for a period of not more than 60 days through Canada to the United States and slaughtered in the United States; or

''(iii) present in the United States on or before January 1, 2008, and once present in the United States, remained continuously in the United States.

''(B) MULTIPLE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A retailer of a covered commodity that is beef, lamb, pork, or goat meat that is derived from an animal that is—

''(I) not exclusively born, raised, and slaughtered in the United States,

''(II) born, raised, or slaughtered in the United States, and

''(III) not imported into the United States for immediate slaughter,

may designate the country of origin of such covered commodity as all of the countries in which the animal may have been born, raised, or slaughtered.

''(ii) RELATION TO GENERAL REQUIREMENT.—Nothing in this subparagraph alters the mandatory requirement to inform consumers of the country of origin of covered commodities under paragraph (1).

''(C) IMPORTED FOR IMMEDIATE SLAUGHTER.—A retailer of a covered commodity that is beef, lamb, pork, or goat meat that is derived from an animal that is imported into the United States for immediate slaughter shall designate the origin of such covered commodity as—

''(i) the country from which the animal was imported; and

''(ii) the United States.

''(D) FOREIGN COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.—A retailer of a covered commodity that is beef, lamb, pork, or goat meat that is derived from an animal that is not born, raised, or slaughtered in the United States shall designate a country other than the United States as the country of origin of such commodity.

''(E) GROUND BEEF, PORK, LAMB, AND GOAT.—The notice of country of origin for ground beef, ground pork, ground lamb, or ground goat shall include—

''(i) a list of all countries of origin of such ground beef, ground pork, ground lamb, or ground goat; or

''(ii) a list of all reasonably possible countries of origin of such ground beef, ground pork, ground lamb, or ground goat.

''(3) DESIGNATION OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR FISH.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A retailer of a covered commodity that is farm-raised fish or wild fish may designate the covered commodity as having a United States country of origin only if the covered commodity—

''(i) in the case of farm-raised fish, is hatched, raised, harvested, and processed in the United States; and

''(ii) in the case of wild fish, is—

''(I) harvested in the United States, a territory of the United States, or a State, or by a vessel that is documented under chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code, or registered in the United States; and

''(II) processed in the United States, a territory of the United States, or a State, including the waters thereof.

''(B) DESIGNATION OF WILD FISH AND FARM-RAISED FISH.—The notice of country of origin for wild fish and farm-raised fish shall distinguish between wild fish and farm-raised fish.

''(4) DESIGNATION OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, PEANUTS, AND MACADAMIA NUTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A retailer of a covered commodity that is a perishable agricultural commodity, peanut, or macadamia nut may designate the covered commodity as having a United States country of origin only if the covered commodity is exclusively produced in the United States.

''(B) STATE, REGION, LOCALITY OF THE UNITED STATES.—With respect to a covered commodity that is a perishable agricultural commodity produced exclusively in the United States, designation by a retailer of

the State, region, or locality of the United States where such commodity was produced shall be sufficient to identify the United States as the country of origin.''; and

(B) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) AUDIT VERIFICATION SYSTEM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct an audit of any person that prepares, stores, handles, or distributes a covered commodity for retail sale to verify compliance with this subtitle (including the regulations promulgated under section 284(b)).

''(2) RECORD REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A person subject to an audit under paragraph (1) shall provide the Secretary with verification of the country of origin of covered commodities. Records maintained in the course of the normal conduct of the business of such person, including animal health papers, import or customs documents, or producer affidavits, may serve as such verification.

''(B) PROHIBITION ON REQUIREMENT OF ADDITIONAL RECORDS.—The Secretary may not require a person that prepares, stores, handles, or distributes a covered commodity to maintain a record of the country of origin of a covered commodity other than those maintained in the course of the normal conduct of the business of such person.'';

(3) in section 283—

(A) by striking subsections (a) and (c);

(B) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (a);

(C) in subsection (a) (as so redesignated), by striking ''retailer'' and inserting ''retailer or person engaged in the business of supplying a covered commodity to a retailer''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(b) FINES.—If, on completion of the 30-day period described in subsection (a)(2), the Secretary determines that the retailer or person engaged in the business of supplying a covered commodity to a retailer has—

''(1) not made a good faith effort to comply with section 282, and

''(2) continues to willfully violate section 282 with respect to the violation about which the retailer or person received notification under subsection (a)(1),

after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing before the Secretary with respect to the violation, the Secretary may fine the retailer or person in an amount of not more than $1,000 for each violation.''.

Subtitle B—Agricultural Fair Practices

SEC. 10101. DEFINITIONS.

Section 3 of the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2302) is amended—

(1) by striking ''When used in this Act—'' and inserting ''In this Act:'';

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (4) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively; and

(B) in subparagraph (D) (as so redesignated), by striking ''clause (1), (2), or (3) of this paragraph'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (A), (B), or (C)'';

(3) by striking subsection (d);

(4) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) as paragraphs (3), (4), (2), (1), respectively, indenting appropriately, and moving those paragraphs so as to appear in numerical order;

(5) in each paragraph (as so redesignated) that does not have a heading, by inserting a heading, in the same style as the heading in the amendment made by paragraph (6), the text of which is comprised of the term defined in the paragraph;

(6) in paragraph (2) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''The term 'association of producers' means'' and inserting the following:

''(2) ASSOCIATION OF PRODUCERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'association of producers' means''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) INCLUSION.—The term 'association of producers' includes an organization of agricultural producers dedicated to promoting the common interest and general welfare of producers of agricultural products.''; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.''.

SEC. 10102. PROHIBITED PRACTICES.

Section 4 of the Agricultural Fair Practices of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2303) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) as paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (7), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) in paragraph (1) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''join and belong'' each place it appears and inserting ''form, join, and belong''; and

(B) by striking ''joining or belonging'' and inserting ''forming, joining, or belonging''; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (5) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(6) To fail to bargain in good faith with an association of producers; or''.

SEC. 10103. ENFORCEMENT.

The Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 is amended—

(1) by striking sections 5 and 6 (7 U.S.C. 2304, 2305); and

(2) by inserting after section 4 the following:

''SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT.

''(a) CIVIL ACTIONS BY THE SECRETARY AGAINST HANDLERS.—In any case in which the Secretary has reasonable cause to believe that a handler or group of handlers has engaged in any act or practice that violates this Act, the Secretary may bring a civil action in United States district court by filing a complaint requesting preventive relief, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order, against the handler.

''(b) CIVIL ACTIONS AGAINST HANDLERS.—

''(1) PREVENTIVE RELIEF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which any handler has engaged, or there are reasonable grounds to believe that any handler is about to engage, in any act or practice prohibited by this Act, a civil action for preventive relief, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order, may be instituted by the person aggrieved in United States district court.

''(B) SECURITY.—The court may provide that no restraining order or preliminary injunction shall issue unless security is provided by the applicant, in such sum as the court determines to be appropriate, for the payment of such costs and damages as may be incurred or suffered by any party that is found to have been wrongfully enjoined or restrained.

''(2) DAMAGES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any person injured in the business or property of the person by reason of any violation of, or combination or conspiracy to violate, this Act may bring a civil action in United States district court to recover—

''(i) damages sustained by the person as a result of the violation; and

''(ii) any additional penalty that the court may allow, but not more than $1,000 per violation.

''(B) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS.—A civil action under subparagraph (A) shall be barred unless commenced within 4 years after the cause of action accrues.

''(3) ATTORNEYS' FEES.—In any action commenced under paragraph (1) or (2), any person that has violated this Act shall be liable to any person injured as a result of the violation for the full amount of the damages sustained as a result of the violation, including costs of the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees.

''(c) JURISDICTION OF DISTRICT COURTS.—The district courts of the United States shall—

''(1) have jurisdiction of proceedings instituted pursuant to this section; and

''(2) exercise that jurisdiction without regard to whether the aggrieved party shall have exhausted any administrative or other remedies that may be provided by law.

''(d) LIABILITY FOR ACTS OF AGENTS.—In the construction and enforcement of this Act, the act, omission, or failure of any officer, agent, or person acting for or employed by any other person within the scope of the employment or office of the officer, agent, or person, shall be considered to be the act, omission, or failure of the other person.

''(e) RELATIONSHIP TO STATE LAW.—Nothing in this Act—

''(1) changes or modifies State law in effect on the date of enactment of this subsection; or

''(2) deprives a State court of jurisdiction.''.

SEC. 10104. RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 is amended by inserting after section 5 (as added by section 10103) the following:

''SEC. 6. RULES AND REGULATIONS.

''The Secretary may promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out this Act, including rules or regulations necessary to clarify what constitutes fair and normal dealing for purposes of the selection of customers by handlers.''.

Subtitle C—Packers and Stockyards

SEC. 10201. SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking the title I heading and all that follows through ''This Act'' and inserting the following:

''TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

''Subtitle A—Definitions

''SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

''This Act''; and

(2) by inserting after section 2 (7 U.S.C. 183) the following:

''Subtitle B—Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition

''SEC. 11. SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the Department of Agriculture an office to be known as the 'Office of Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition' (referred to in this section as the 'Office').

''(2) DUTIES.—The Office shall—

''(A) have responsibility for all duties and functions of the Packers and Stockyards programs of the Department of Agriculture;

''(B) investigate and prosecute violations of this Act and the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

''(C) serve as a liaison between, and act in consultation with, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Trade Commission with respect to competition and trade practices in the food and agricultural sector; and

''(D) maintain a staff of attorneys and other professionals with the appropriate expertise.

''(b) SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be headed by the Special Counsel for Agricultural

Competition (referred to in this section as the 'Special Counsel'), who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(2) INDEPENDENCE OF SPECIAL AUTHORITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Special Counsel shall report to and be under the general supervision of the Secretary.

''(B) DIRECTION, CONTROL, AND SUPPORT.—The Special Counsel shall be free from the direction and control of any person in the Department of Agriculture other than the Secretary.

''(C) PROHIBITION ON DELEGATION.—The Secretary may not delegate any duty described in subsection (a)(2) to any other officer or employee of the Department other than the Special Counsel.

''(D) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Twice each year, the Special Counsel shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that shall include, for the relevant reporting period, a description of—

''(I) the number of complaints that the Special Counsel has received and closed;

''(II)(aa) the number of investigations and civil and administrative actions that the Special Counsel has initiated, carried out, and completed, including the number of notices given to regulated entities for violations of this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

''(bb) the number and types of decisions agreed to; and

''(cc) the number of stipulation agreements; and

''(III) the number of investigations and civil and administrative actions that the Secretary objected to or prohibited from being carried out, and the stated purpose of the Secretary for each objection or prohibition.

''(ii) REQUIREMENT.—The basis for each complaint, investigation, or civil or administrative action described in a report under clause (i) shall—

''(I) be organized by species; and

''(II) indicate if the complaint, investigation, or civil or administration action was for anti-competitive, unfair, or deceptive practices under this Act or was a violation of the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

''(E) REMOVAL.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Special Counsel may be removed from office by the President.

''(ii) COMMUNICATION.—The President shall communicate the reasons for any such removal to both Houses of Congress.

''(3) PROSECUTORIAL AUTHORITY.—Subject to paragraph (4), the Special Counsel may commence, defend, or intervene in, and supervise the litigation of, any civil or administrative action authorized under this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

''(4) PROCEDURE FOR EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY TO LITIGATE OR APPEAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to commencing, defending, or intervening in any civil action under this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), the Special Counsel shall give written notification to, and attempt to consult with, the Attorney General with respect to the proposed action.

''(B) FAILURE TO RESPOND.—If, not later than 45 days after the date of provision of notification under subparagraph (A), the Attorney General has failed to commence, defend, or intervene in the proposed action, the Special Counsel may commence, defend, or intervene in, and supervise the litigation of, the action and any appeal of the action in the name of the Special Counsel.

''(C) AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL TO INTERVENE.—Nothing in this paragraph precludes the Attorney General from intervening on behalf of the United States in any civil action under this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), or in any appeal of such action, as may be otherwise provided by law.

''(c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROVISIONS.—Nothing in this section modifies or otherwise effects subsections (a) and (b) of section 406.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition.''.

SEC. 10202. INVESTIGATION OF LIVE POULTRY DEALERS.

(a) REMOVAL OF POULTRY SLAUGHTER REQUIREMENT FROM DEFINITIONS.—Section 2(a) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 182(a)), is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (8) and inserting the following:

''(8) POULTRY GROWER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'poultry grower' means any person engaged in the business of raising or caring for live poultry under a poultry growing arrangement, regardless of whether the poultry is owned by the person or by another person.

''(B) EXCLUSION.—The term 'poultry grower' does not include an employee of the owner of live poultry described in subparagraph (A).'';

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking ''and cares for live poultry for delivery, in accord with another's instructions, for slaughter'' and inserting ''or cares for live poultry in accordance with the instructions of another person''; and

(3) in paragraph (10), by striking ''for the purpose of either slaughtering it or selling it for slaughter by another''.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OVER LIVE POULTRY DEALERS.—Sections 203, 204, and 205 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 193, 194, 195), are amended by inserting ''or live poultry dealer'' after ''packer'' each place it appears.

(c) AUTHORITY TO REQUEST TEMPORARY INJUNCTION OR RESTRAINING ORDER.—Section 408 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 228a), is amended in the first sentence by striking ''on account of poultry'' and inserting ''on account of poultry or poultry care''.

(d) VIOLATIONS BY LIVE POULTRY DEALERS.—

(1) PENALTY.—Section 203(b) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 193(b)) is amended in the third sentence by striking ''$10,000'' and inserting ''$22,000''.

(2) REPEALS.—Sections 411, 412, and 413 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 228b–2, 228b-3, 228b-4)), are repealed.

SEC. 10203. PRODUCTION CONTRACTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2(a) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 182(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''When used in this Act—'' and inserting ''In this Act:'';

(2) by striking paragraph (1);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), and (14) as paragraphs (15), (6), (8), (9), (10), (13), (11), (12), (7), (2), (16), (17), and (18), respectively, indenting appropriately, and moving those paragraphs so as to appear in numerical order;

(4) in each paragraph (as so redesignated) that does not have a heading, by inserting a heading, in the same style as the heading in the amendment made by paragraph (5), the text of which is comprised of the term defined in the paragraph;

(5) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as so designated) the following:

''(1) CAPITAL INVESTMENT.—The term 'capital investment' means an investment in—

''(A) a structure, such as a building or manure storage structure; or

''(B) machinery or equipment associated with producing livestock or poultry that has a useful life of more than 1 year.'';

(6) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(3) CONTRACTOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'contractor' means a person that, in accordance with a production contract, obtains livestock or poultry that is produced by a contract producer.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'contractor' includes—

''(i) a live poultry dealer; and

''(ii) a swine contractor.

''(4) CONTRACT PRODUCER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'contract producer' means a producer that produces livestock or poultry under a production contract.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'contract producer' includes—

''(i) a poultry grower; and

''(ii) a swine production contract grower.

''(5) INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT.—The term 'investment requirement' means—

''(A) a provision in a production contract that requires a contract producer to make a capital investment associated with producing livestock or poultry that, but for the production contract, the contract producer would not have made; or

''(B) a representation by a contractor that results in a contract producer making a capital investment.''; and

(7) by inserting after paragraph (13) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(14) PRODUCTION CONTRACT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'production contract' means a written agreement that provides for—

''(i) the production of livestock or poultry by a contract producer; or

''(ii) the provision of a management service relating to the production of livestock or poultry by a contract producer.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'production contract' includes—

''(i) a poultry growing arrangement;

''(ii) a swine production contract;

''(iii) any other contract between a contractor and a contract producer for the production of livestock or poultry; and

''(iv) a contract between a live poultry dealer and poultry grower, swine contractor and swine production contract grower, or contractor and contract producer for the provision of a management service in the production of livestock or poultry.''.

(b) PROHIBITIONS INVOLVING PRODUCTION CONTRACTS.—Title II of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 198 et seq.), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 208. PRODUCTION CONTRACTS.

''(a) RIGHT OF CONTRACT PRODUCERS TO CANCEL PRODUCTION CONTRACTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A contract producer may cancel a production contract by mailing a cancellation notice to the contractor not later than the later of—

''(A) the date that is 3 business days after the date on which the production contract is executed; or

''(B) any cancellation date specified in the production contract.

''(2) DISCLOSURE.—A production contract shall clearly disclose—

''(A) the right of the contract producer to cancel the production contract;

''(B) the method by which the contract producer may cancel the production contract; and

''(C) the deadline for canceling the production contract.

''(b) PRODUCTION CONTRACTS INVOLVING INVESTMENT REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection applies only to a production contract between a contract producer and a contractor if the contract producer detrimentally relied on a representation by the contractor or a provision in the production contract that resulted in the contract producer making a capital investment of $100,000 or more.

''(2) RESTRICTIONS ON CONTRACT TERMINATION.—

''(A) NOTICE OF TERMINATION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), a contractor shall not terminate or cancel a production contract unless the contractor provides the contract producer with written notice of the intention of the contractor to terminate or cancel the production contract at least 90 days before the effective date of the termination or cancellation.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The written notice required under subparagraph (A) shall include alleged causes of the termination.

''(C) EXCEPTIONS.—A contractor may terminate or cancel a production contract at any time without notice as required under subparagraph (A) if the basis for the termination or cancellation is—

''(i) a voluntary abandonment of the contractual relationship by the contract producer, such as a failure of the contract producer to substantially perform under the production contract;

''(ii) the conviction of the contract producer of an offense of fraud or theft committed against the contractor;

''(iii) the natural end of the production contract in accordance with the terms of the production contract; or

''(iv) because the well-being of the livestock or poultry subject to the contract is in jeopardy once under the care of the contract producer.

''(D) RIGHT TO CURE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If, not later than 90 days after the date on which the contract producer receives written notice under subparagraph (A), the contract producer remedies each cause of the breach of contract alleged in the written notice, the contractor may not terminate or cancel a production contract under this paragraph.

''(ii) NO ADMISSION OF BREACH.—The remedy or attempt to remedy the causes for the breach of contract by the contract producer under clause (i) does not constitute an admission of breach of contract.

''(c) ADDITIONAL CAPITAL INVESTMENTS IN PRODUCTION CONTRACTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A contractor shall not require a contract producer to make additional capital investments in connection with a production contract that exceed the initial investment requirements of the production contract.

''(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a contractor may require additional capital investments if—

''(A)(i) the additional capital investments are offset by reasonable additional consideration, including compensation or a modification to the terms of the production contract; and

''(ii) the contract producer agrees in writing that there is acceptable and satisfactory consideration for the additional capital investment; or

''(B) without the additional capital investments the well-being of the livestock or poultry subject to the contract would be in jeopardy.

''(d) NO EFFECT ON STATE LAW.—Nothing in this section preempts or otherwise affects any State law relating to production contracts that establishes a requirement or standard that is more stringent than a requirement or standard under this section.

''SEC. 209. CHOICE OF LAW, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE.

''(a) CHOICE OF LAW.—Any provision in a livestock or poultry production or marketing contract requiring the application of the law of a State other than the State in which the production occurs is void and unenforceable.

''(b) JURISDICTION.—A packer, live poultry dealer, or swine contractor that enters into a production or marketing contract with a producer shall be subject to personal jurisdiction in the State in which the production occurs.

''(c) VENUE.—Venue shall be determined on the basis of the location of the production, unless the producer selects a venue that is otherwise permitted by law.

''(d) APPLICATION.—This section shall apply to any production or marketing contract entered into, amended, altered, modified, renewed, or extended after the date of enactment of this section.

''SEC. 210. ARBITRATION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—If a livestock or poultry contract provides for the use of arbitration to resolve a controversy under the livestock or poultry contract, arbitration may be used to settle the controversy only if, after the controversy arises, both parties consent in writing to use arbitration to settle the controversy.

''(b) APPLICATION.—Subsection (a) shall apply to any contract entered into, amended, altered, modified, renewed, or extended after the date of enactment of this section.''.

SEC. 10204. RIGHT TO DISCUSS TERMS OF CONTRACT.

Section 10503(b) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 229b(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) a business associate of the party; or

''(9) a neighbor of the party or other producer.''.

SEC. 10205. ATTORNEYS' FEES.

Section 308(a) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 209(a)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''and for the costs of the litigation, including reasonable attorneys' fees''.

SEC. 10206. APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL.

Section 407 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 228), is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting ''obtain the services of attorneys who are not employees of the Federal Government,'' before ''and make such expenditures''; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry'' and inserting ''the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate''.

SEC. 10207. PROHIBITION ON PACKERS OWNING, FEEDING, OR CONTROLLING LIVESTOCK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 192), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) Own or feed livestock directly, through a subsidiary, or through an arrangement that gives the packer operational, managerial, or supervisory control over the livestock, or over the farming operation that produces the livestock, to such an extent that the producer is no longer materially participating in the management of the operation with respect to the production of the livestock, except that this subsection shall not apply to—

''(1) an arrangement entered into within 14 days (excluding any Saturday or Sunday) before slaughter of the livestock by a packer, a person acting through the packer, or a person that directly or indirectly controls, or is controlled by or under common control with, the packer;

''(2) a cooperative or entity owned by a cooperative, if a majority of the ownership interest in the cooperative is held by active cooperative members that—

''(A) own, feed, or control livestock; and

''(B) provide the livestock to the cooperative for slaughter;

''(3) a packer that is not required to report to the Secretary on each reporting day (as defined in section 212 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635a)) information on the price and quantity of livestock purchased by the packer; or

''(4) a packer that owns 1 livestock processing plant; or''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITION RULES.—In the case of a packer that on the date of enactment of this Act owns, feeds, or controls livestock intended for slaughter in violation of section 202(f) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (as amended by subsection (a)), the amendments made by subsection (a) apply to the packer—

(A) in the case of a packer of swine, beginning on the date that is 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) in the case of a packer of any other type of livestock, beginning as soon as practicable, but not later than 180 days, after the date of enactment of this Act, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 10208. REGULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate regulations to implement the amendments made by this title, including—

(1) regulations providing a definition of the term ''unreasonable preference or advantage'' for purposes of section 202(b) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 192(b)); and

(2) regulations requiring live poultry dealers to provide written notice to poultry growers if the live poultry dealer imposes an extended layout period in excess of 30 days, prior to removal of the previous flock.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Regulations promulgated pursuant to subsection (a)(1) relating to unreasonable preference or advantage shall strictly prohibit any preferences or advantages based on the volume of business, except for preferences or advantages that reflect actual, verifiable lower costs (including transportation or other costs), as determined by the Secretary, of procuring livestock from larger-volume producers.

Subtitle D—Related Programs

SEC. 10301. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PSEUDORABIES ERADICATION PROGRAM.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Secretary should recognize the threat that feral swine pose to the domestic swine population and the entire livestock industry;

(2) keeping the United States commercial swine herd free of pseudorabies is essential to maintaining and growing pork export markets;

(3) pseudorabies surveillance funding is necessary to assist the swine industry in the

monitoring, surveillance, and eradication of pseudorabies, including the monitoring and surveillance of other diseases effecting swine production and trade; and

(4) pseudorabies eradication is a high priority that the Secretary should carry out under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.).

SEC. 10302. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING CATTLE FEVER TICK ERADICATION PROGRAM.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the cattle fever tick and the southern cattle tick are vectors of the causal agent of babesiosis, a severe and often fatal disease of cattle; and

(2) implementing a national strategic plan for the cattle fever tick eradication program is a high priority that the Secretary should carry out—

(A) to prevent the entry of cattle fever ticks into the United States;

(B) to enhance and maintain an effective surveillance program to rapidly detect any fever tick incursions; and

(C) to research, identify, and procure the tools and knowledge necessary to prevent and eradicate cattle ticks in the United States.

SEC. 10303. NATIONAL SHEEP AND GOAT INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT CENTER.

(a) NAME CHANGE.—Section 375 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by inserting ''**AND GOAT**'' after ''**NATIONAL SHEEP**''; and

(2) by inserting ''and Goat'' after ''National Sheep'' each place it appears.

(b) FUNDING.—Section 375(e)(6) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j(e)(6)) is amended by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

''(B) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section $1,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

''(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

(c) REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT TO PRIVATIZE REVOLVING FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 375 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j) is amended by striking subsection (j).

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) takes effect on May 1, 2007.

SEC. 10304. TRICHINAE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

Section 10409 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8308) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) TRICHINAE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall issue final regulations to implement a trichinae certification program.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out the program $1,250,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 10305. PROTECTION OF INFORMATION IN THE ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.

The Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 10416 through 10418 as sections 10417 through 10419, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 10415 the following:

''SEC. 10416. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION UNDER A NATIONAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.

''(a) DEFINITION OF NATIONAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.—In this section, the term 'national animal identification system' means a system for identifying or tracing animals that is established by the Secretary.

''(b) PROTECTION FROM DISCLOSURE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Information obtained through a national animal identification system shall not be disclosed except as provided in this section.

''(2) USE.—Use of information described in paragraph (1) by any individual or entity except as otherwise provided in this section shall be considered a violation of this Act.

''(3) WAIVER OF PRIVILEGE OF PROTECTION.—The provision of information to a national animal identification system under this section or the disclosure of information pursuant to this section shall not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection under Federal law, including protection of trade secrets.

''(c) LIMITED RELEASE OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary may disclose information obtained through a national animal identification system if—

''(1) the Secretary determines that livestock may be threatened by a disease or pest;

''(2) the release of the information is related to an action the Secretary may take under this subtitle; and

''(3) the Secretary determines that the disclosure of the information to a government entity or person is necessary to assist the Secretary in carrying out this subtitle or a national animal identification system.

''(d) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall disclose information obtained through a national animal identification system regarding particular animals to—

''(1) the person that owns or controls the animals, if the person requests the information in writing;

''(2) the State Department of Agriculture for the purpose of protection of animal health;

''(3) the Attorney General for the purpose of law enforcement;

''(4) the Secretary of Homeland Security for the purpose of homeland security;

''(5) the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the purpose of protecting public health;

''(6) an entity pursuant to an order of a court of competent jurisdiction; and

''(7) the government of a foreign country if disclosure of the information is necessary to trace animals that pose a disease or pest threat to livestock or a danger to human health, as determined by the Secretary.

''(e) DISCLOSURE UNDER STATE OR LOCAL LAW.—Any information relating to animal identification that a State or local government obtains from the Secretary shall not be made available by the State or local government pursuant to any State or local law requiring disclosure of information or records to the public.

''(f) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—To disclose information under this section, the Secretary shall—

''(1) certify that the disclosure was necessary under this section; and

''(2) submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a copy of the certification.''.

SEC. 10306. LOW PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA.

Sec. 10407(d)(2) of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8306(d)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''subparagraphs (B) and (C),'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D),'';

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

''(C) LOW PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE COSTS.—In this subparagraph, the term 'eligible costs' means costs determined eligible for indemnity under part 56 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this clause.

''(ii) INDEMNITIES.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (D), compensation to any owner or contract grower of poultry participating in the voluntary control program for low pathogenic avian influenza under the National Poultry Improvement Plan, and payments to cooperating State agencies, shall be made in an amount equal to 100 percent of the eligible costs.''.

SEC. 10307. STUDY ON BIOENERGY OPERATIONS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Office of the Chief Economist, shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describing the potential economic issues (including potential costs) associated with animal manure used in normal agricultural operations and as a feedstock in bioenergy production.

SEC. 10308. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON INDEMNIFICATION OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS.

It is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary should partner with the private insurance industry to implement an approach for expediting the indemnification of livestock producers in the case of catastrophic disease outbreaks.

TITLE XI—MISCELLANEOUS

Subtitle A—Agricultural Security

SEC. 11011. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) AGENT.—The term ''agent'' means a nuclear, biological, or chemical substance that causes an agricultural disease.

(2) AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY.—The term ''agricultural biosecurity'' means protection from an agent that poses a threat to—

(A) plant or animal health;

(B) public health, with respect to direct exposure to an agricultural disease; or

(C) the environment, with respect to agriculture facilities, farmland, air, and water in the immediate vicinity of an area associated with an agricultural disease or outbreak.

(3) AGRICULTURAL COUNTERMEASURE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''agricultural countermeasure'' means a product, practice, or technology that is intended to enhance or maintain the agricultural biosecurity of the United States.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ''agricultural countermeasure'' does not include any product, practice, or technology used solely for human medical incidents or public health emergencies not related to agriculture.

(4) AGRICULTURAL DISEASE.—The term ''agricultural disease'' has the meaning given the term by the Secretary.

(5) AGRICULTURAL DISEASE EMERGENCY.—The term ''agricultural disease emergency'' means an incident of agricultural disease in which the Secretary, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (or the heads of other applicable Federal departments or agencies), as appropriate, determines that prompt action is needed to prevent significant damage to people, plants, or animals.

(6) AGRICULTURE.—The term ''agriculture'' means—

(A) the science and practice of activities relating to food, feed, fiber, and energy production, processing, marketing, distribution, use, and trade;

(B) nutrition, food science and engineering, and agricultural economics;

(C) forestry, wildlife science, fishery science, aquaculture, floriculture, veterinary medicine, and other related natural resource sciences; and

(D) research and development activities relating to plant- and animal-based products.

(7) AGROTERRORIST ACT.—The term ''agroterrorist act'' means an act that—

(A) causes or attempts to cause—

(i) damage to agriculture; or

(ii) injury to a person associated with agriculture; and

(B) is committed—

(i) to intimidate or coerce; or

(ii) to disrupt the agricultural industry.

(8) ANIMAL.—The term ''animal'' means any member of the animal kingdom (except a human).

(9) DEPARTMENT.—The term ''Department'' means the Department of Agriculture.

(10) DEVELOPMENT.—The term ''development'' means—

(A) research leading to the identification of products or technologies intended for use as agricultural countermeasures;

(B) the formulation, production, and subsequent modification of those products or technologies;

(C) the conduct of preclinical and clinical studies;

(D) the conduct of field, efficacy, and safety studies;

(E) the preparation of an application for marketing approval for submission to applicable agencies; and

(F) other actions taken by an applicable agency in a case in which an agricultural countermeasure is procured or used prior to issuance of a license or other form of approval.

(11) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director for Homeland Security of the Department appointed under section 11022(d)(2).

(12) HSPD–5.—The term ''HSPD–5'' means the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5, dated February 28, 2003 (relating to a comprehensive national incident management system).

(13) HSPD–7.—The term ''HSPD–7'' means the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7, dated December 17, 2003 (relating to a national policy for Federal departments and agencies to identify and prioritize critical infrastructure and key resources and to protect the infrastructure and resources from terrorist attacks).

(14) HSPD–8.—The term ''HSPD–8'' means the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8, dated December 17, 2003 (relating to the establishment of a national policy to strengthen the preparedness of the United States to prevent and respond to domestic terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies).

(15) HSPD–9.—The term ''HSPD–9'' means the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9, dated January 30, 2004 (relating to the establishment of a national policy to defend the agriculture and food system against terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies).

(16) HSPD–10.—The term ''HSPD–10'' means the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 10, dated April 28, 2004 (relating to the establishment of a national policy relating to the biodefense of the United States).

(17) OFFICE.—The term ''Office'' means the Office of Homeland Security of the Department established by section 11022(d)(1).

(18) OTHER APPLICABLE FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES.—The term ''other applicable Federal departments or agencies'' means Federal departments or agencies that have a role, as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, in determining the need for prompt action against an agricultural disease emergency, including—

(A) the Executive departments identified in section 101 of title 5, United States Code;

(B) government corporations (as defined in section 103 of title 5, United States Code); and

(C) independent establishments (as defined in section 104(1) of title 5, United States Code).

(19) PLANT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''plant'' means any plant (including any plant part) for or capable of propagation.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ''plant'' includes—

(i) a tree;

(ii) a tissue culture;

(iii) a plantlet culture;

(iv) pollen;

(v) a shrub;

(vi) a vine;

(vii) a cutting;

(viii) a graft;

(ix) a scion;

(x) a bud;

(xi) a bulb;

(xii) a root; and

(xiii) a seed.

(20) QUALIFIED AGRICULTURAL COUNTERMEASURE.—The term ''qualified agricultural countermeasure'' means an agricultural countermeasure that the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, determines to be a priority in order to address an agricultural biosecurity threat from—

(A) an agent placed on the Select Agents and Toxins list of the Department;

(B) an agent placed on the Plant Protection and Quarantine Select Agents and Toxins list of the Department; or

(C) an applicable agent placed on the Overlap Select Agents and Toxins list of the Department and the Department of Health and Human Services, in accordance with—

(i) part 331 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations; and

(ii) part 121 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations.

(21) ROUTINE AGRICULTURAL DISEASE EVENT.—The term ''routine agricultural disease event'' has the meaning given the term by the Secretary.

PART I—GENERAL AUTHORITY AND INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

SEC. 11021. POLICY.

(a) EFFECT OF PART.—Nothing in this part alters or otherwise impedes—

(1) any authority of the Department or other applicable Federal departments and agencies to perform the responsibilities provided to the Department or other applicable Federal departments and agencies pursuant to Federal law; or

(2) the ability of the Secretary to carry out this part.

(b) COOPERATION.—The Secretary shall cooperate with the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the responsibilities of the Secretary of Homeland Security and applicable presidential guidance, including HSPD–5, HSPD–7, HSPD–8, HSPD–9, and HSPD–10.

SEC. 11022. INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.

(a) LEADERSHIP.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall serve as the principal Federal official to lead, coordinate, and integrate, to the maximum extent practicable, efforts by Federal departments and agencies, State, local, and tribal governments, and the private sector to enhance the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources of the agriculture and food system.

(b) SECTOR-SPECIFIC AGENCY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with guidance provided by the Secretary of Homeland Security under subsection (a)—

(A) the Secretary shall serve as the sector-specific lead official on efforts described in subsection (a) relating to agriculture, agricultural disease, meat, poultry, and egg food products, and for efforts relating to authorities pursuant to the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.) and the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.); and

(B) the Secretary shall work in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services during any incident relating to a zoonotic disease in which the applicable agent originated—

(i) as an agricultural disease; or

(ii) from a plant or animal population directly related to agriculture.

(2) EFFECT OF SUBSECTION.—Nothing in this subsection impedes any authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security as the principal Federal official for domestic incident management pursuant to HSPD–5.

(c) COORDINATION OF RESPONSE.—

(1) ROUTINE AGRICULTURAL DISEASE EVENTS.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall work in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security in response to any routine domestic incident relating to a potential or actual agricultural disease.

(2) AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY THREATS.—If a routine domestic incident of agricultural disease is determined by the Secretary or the Secretary of Homeland Security to pose a significant threat to the agricultural biosecurity of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall serve as the principal Federal official to lead and coordinate the appropriate Federal response to the incident.

(d) OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Department the Office of Homeland Security.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The Secretary shall appoint as the head of the Office a Director for Homeland Security.

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director shall be responsible for—

(A) coordinating all homeland security activities of the Department, including integration and coordination, in consultation with the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Office of Food Defense and Emergency Response of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, of interagency emergency response plans for—

(i) agricultural disease emergencies;

(ii) agroterrorist acts; or

(iii) other threats to agricultural biosecurity;

(B) acting as the primary liaison on behalf of the Department with other Federal agencies on coordination efforts and interagency activities pertaining to agricultural biosecurity;

(C) advising the Secretary on policies, regulations, processes, budget, and actions pertaining to homeland security; and

(D) providing to State and local government officials timely updates and actionable information about threats, incidents, potential protective measures, and best practices relevant to homeland security issues in agriculture.

(4) AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY COMMUNICATION CENTER.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish in the Department a central communication center—

(i) to collect and disseminate information regarding, and prepare for, agricultural disease emergencies, agroterrorist acts, and

other threats to agricultural biosecurity; and

(ii) to coordinate the activities described in clause (i) among agencies and offices within the Department.

(B) RESPONSE.—Any response by the Secretary to an agricultural threat to agricultural biosecurity shall be carried out under the direction of the Secretary of Homeland Security, in accordance with subsection (c).

(C) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—In establishing the central communication center under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may use the existing resources and infrastructure of the Emergency Operations Center of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service located in Riverdale, Maryland.

(D) RELATION TO EXISTING DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS.—

(i) CONSISTENCY AND COORDINATION.—The center established under subparagraph (A) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, share and coordinate the dissemination of timely information with—

(I) the National Operations Center and the National Coordinating Center of the Department of Homeland Security; and

(II) other appropriate Federal communication systems, as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(ii) AVOIDING REDUNDANCIES.—Nothing in this paragraph impedes, conflicts with, or duplicates any activity carried out by—

(I) the National Biosurveillance Integration Center of the Department of Homeland Security;

(II) the National Response Coordination Center of the Department of Homeland Security;

(III) the National Infrastructure Coordination Center of the Department of Homeland Security; or

(IV) any other communication system under the authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(E) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 11023. SUBMISSION OF INTEGRATED FOOD DEFENSE PLAN.

Consistent with HSPD–9, the Secretary, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to the President and Congress an integrated plan for the defense of the food system of the United States.

SEC. 11024. TRANSFER OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL INSPECTION FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENT.

(a) DEFINITION OF FUNCTION.—In this section, the term ''function'' does not include any quarantine activity carried out under the laws specified in subsection (c).

(b) TRANSFER OF AGRICULTURAL IMPORT AND ENTRY INSPECTION FUNCTIONS.—There shall be transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security the functions of the Secretary relating to agricultural import and entry inspection activities under the laws specified in subsection (c).

(c) COVERED ANIMAL AND PLANT PROTECTION LAWS.—The laws referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) The eighth paragraph under the heading ''BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY'' in the Act of March 4, 1913 (commonly known as the ''Virus-Serum-Toxin Act'') (21 U.S.C. 151 et seq.).

(2) Section 1 of the Act of August 31, 1922 (commonly known as the ''Honeybee Act'') (7 U.S.C. 281).

(3) Title III of the Federal Seed Act (7 U.S.C. 1581 et seq.).

(4) The Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.).

(5) The Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.).

(6) The Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.).

(7) Section 11 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1540).

(d) COORDINATION OF REGULATIONS.—

(1) COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS.—The authority transferred pursuant to subsection (b) shall be exercised by the Secretary of Homeland Security in accordance with the regulations, policies, and procedures issued by the Secretary regarding the administration of the laws specified in subsection (c).

(2) RULEMAKING COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate with the Secretary of Homeland Security in any case in which the Secretary prescribes regulations, policies, or procedures for administering the functions transferred under subsection (b) under a law specified in subsection (c).

(3) EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary, may issue such directives and guidelines as are necessary to ensure the effective use of personnel of the Department of Homeland Security to carry out the functions transferred pursuant to subsection (b).

(e) TRANSFER AGREEMENT.—

(1) AGREEMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Before the end of the transition period (as defined in section 1501 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 541)), the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall enter into an agreement to effectuate the transfer of functions required by subsection (b).

(B) REVISION.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security may jointly revise the agreement as necessary after that transition period.

(2) REQUIRED TERMS.—The agreement required by this subsection shall specifically address the following:

(A) The supervision by the Secretary of the training of employees of the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out the functions transferred pursuant to subsection (b).

(B) The transfer of funds to the Secretary of Homeland Security under subsection (f).

(3) COOPERATION AND RECIPROCITY.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security may include as part of the agreement the following:

(A) Authority for the Secretary of Homeland Security to perform functions delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the Department regarding the protection of domestic livestock and plants, but not transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security pursuant to subsection (b).

(B) Authority for the Secretary to use employees of the Department of Homeland Security to carry out authorities delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service regarding the protection of domestic livestock and plants.

(f) PERIODIC TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—

(1) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Out of funds collected by fees authorized under sections 2508 and 2509 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (21 U.S.C. 136, 136a), the Secretary shall transfer, from time to time in accordance with the agreement under subsection (e), to the Secretary of Homeland Security funds for activities carried out by the Secretary of Homeland Security for which the fees were collected.

(2) LIMITATION.—The proportion of fees collected pursuant to those sections that are transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security under this subsection may not exceed the proportion of the costs incurred by the Secretary of Homeland Security to all costs incurred to carry out activities funded by the fees.

(g) TRANSFER OF DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.—Not later than the completion of the transition period (as defined in section 1501 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 541)), the Secretary shall transfer to the Secretary of Homeland Security not more than 3,200 full-time equivalent positions of the Department.

(h) EFFECT OF TRANSFER.—

(1) EXISTING AUTHORITY.—Nothing in the transfer of functions under subsection (b) preempts any authority of the Department as described in section 11022(b)(1).

(2) LIMITATION ON TRANSFER.—

(A) IMPORTS.—The Secretary shall retain responsibility for all other activities of the Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection Program regarding imports, including activities relating to—

(i) preclearance of commodities;

(ii) trade protocol verification;

(iii) fumigation;

(iv) quarantine;

(v) diagnosis;

(vi) eradication;

(vii) indemnification; and

(viii) other sanitary and phytosanitary measures carried out pursuant to the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.) and the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.).

(B) EXPORT, INTERSTATE, AND INTRASTATE ACTIVITIES.—The Department shall retain responsibility for all functions regarding export, interstate, and intrastate activities.

(C) TRAINING.—The Department shall retain responsibility for all agricultural inspection training.

(i) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 421 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231) is amended by striking ''sec. 421'' and all that follows through ''(h) PROTECTION OF INSPECTION ANIMALS.—Title V'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 421. PROTECTION OF INSPECTION ANIMALS.

''Title V''.

PART II—AGRICULTURAL QUARANTINE INSPECTION PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

SEC. 11031. DEFINITIONS.

In this part:

(1) PROGRAM.—The term ''program'' means the agricultural quarantine inspection program.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

SEC. 11032. JOINT TASK FORCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a Joint Task Force to provide coordinated central planning for the program.

(b) COMPOSITION.—The Joint Task Force shall be composed of employees of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security, appointed by the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security, respectively.

(c) DUTIES.—The Joint Task Force shall—

(1) prepare, and not less than biannually revise as necessary, a strategic plan for the program;

(2) establish performance measures that accurately gauge the success of the program;

(3) establish annual operating goals and plans for the program at national, regional, and port levels;

(4) establish and regularly revise as necessary a training program to ensure that all employees of Customs and Border Protection involved in agricultural inspection and quarantine activities have the skills, knowledge,

and abilities necessary to protect the agricultural biosecurity of the United States;

(5) ensure effective and regular communications with all stakeholders under the program;

(6) maintain effective and regular communication between the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Customs and Border Protection in carrying out the program;

(7) establish and carry out mechanisms to collect data to inform program planning and decisionmaking under the program;

(8) ensure access for employees of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service who, as determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security—

(A) have met all applicable Customs and Border Protection security-related requirements; and

(B) to adequately perform the duties of the employees, require access to—

(i) each secure area of any terminal for screening passengers or cargo; and

(ii) each database relating to cargo manifests or any databases that may relate to the program;

(9) ensure the ability of the program to operate in case of emergencies; and

(10) establish a quality assurance program for the program, with performance standards and regular reviews of each port of entry to determine compliance with the quality standards.

SEC. 11033. ADVISORY BOARD.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a board to be known as the ''Agricultural Quarantine Inspection Program Advisory Board'' (referred to in this section as the ''Advisory Board'').

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall consist of 11 members representing the Federal Government, State governments, and stakeholders, including—

(A) 2 members representing the Department, appointed by the Secretary, who shall serve as cochairperson of the Advisory Board;

(B) 1 member representing the Department of Homeland Security, appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security, who shall serve as cochairperson of the Advisory Board;

(C) 1 member representing Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists, appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security, who shall serve as cochairperson of the Advisory Board;

(D) 1 member representing the National Plant Board, appointed by the Secretary based on nominations submitted by the Board;

(E) 1 member representing the United States Animal Health Association, appointed by the Secretary based on 1 or more nominations submitted by the Association;

(F) 1 member representing the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, appointed by the Secretary based on 1 or more nominations submitted by the Association;

(G) 2 members representing stakeholders of organizations, associations, societies, councils, federations, groups, and companies, appointed by the Secretary from 2 or more nominations submitted by the stakeholders; and

(H) 2 members representing stakeholders of organizations, associations, societies, councils, federations, groups, and companies, appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security from 2 or more nominations submitted by the stakeholders.

(2) TERMS OF SERVICE.—The term of a member of the Advisory Board shall be 2 years, except that, of the members initially appointed to the Board, the term of ½ of the members (as determined jointly by the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security) shall be 1 year.

(c) DUTIES.—The Advisory Board shall—

(1) advise the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security—

(A) on policies and other issues related to the mission of the program; and

(B) on appropriate mechanisms to ensure that interested stakeholders in the agriculture industry, State and local governments, and the general public have formal opportunities to provide comments on the program; and

(2) in the case of the cochairpersons of the Advisory Board—

(A) coordinate the advice and concerns of the members of the Advisory Board; and

(B) at least twice a year, submit the views of the Advisory Board to the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(d) MEETINGS.—The meetings of the Advisory Board shall take place at least twice a year, with the option of conducting the meetings in Washington, District of Columbia, and a Customs and Border Protection port on an alternating basis.

SEC. 11034. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter through September 30, 2012, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection, shall jointly submit to the committees described in subsection (b) a report on—

(1) the resource needs for import and entry agricultural inspections, including the number of inspectors required;

(2) the adequacy of inspection and monitoring procedures and facilities in the United States;

(3) new and emerging technologies and practices, including recommendations regarding the technologies and practices, to improve import and entry agricultural inspections; and

(4) questions or concerns raised by the Joint Task Force established under section 11032 and by the Agricultural Quarantine Inspection Program Advisory Board established under section 11033.

(b) COMMITTEES.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly submit the report required under subsection (a) to—

(1) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

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

(3) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(4) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(c) SATISFACTION OF REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection may satisfy the reporting requirement described in subsection (a) by submitting to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a copy of each relevant provision relating to appropriations or authorization requests for the applicable fiscal year.

SEC. 11035. PORT RISK COMMITTEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly create Port Risk Committees to service the agriculture mission for each port of entry into the United States that the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary, determines to be appropriate.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—Each Committee may include representatives from—

(1) the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, appointed by the Secretary;

(2) Customs and Border Protection, appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security;

(3) the Department of Health and Human Services, appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(4) State and local governments, appointed jointly by the Secretary, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and

(5) other stakeholders, appointed jointly by the Secretary, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, who shall—

(A) act as nonvoting members of the Committee; and

(B) only observe and provide information and comments with respect to activities of the Committee.

(c) DUTIES.—Each Committee shall examine issues affecting the local port of entry of the Committee to determine actions necessary to mitigate risks of threats to the agricultural biosecurity of the United States.

(d) REPORT.—The Committees shall report regularly to regional-level officials of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and to field office officials of Customs and Border Protection.

SEC. 11036. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING AT PORTS OF ENTRY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall develop a comprehensive plan to identify and deploy trained and certified personnel in emergency response activities.

(b) PLAN.—The plan shall include a strategy for rapid identification and deployment of resources and a standard operating procedure to implement when significant agricultural pests and diseases are detected at ports of entry.

(c) CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANS.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through Customs and Border Protection, shall coordinate and share national continuity of operations plans and plans for ports of entry.

SEC. 11037. PLANT PEST IDENTIFICATION JOINT PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall prepare a joint plan to establish standards of service for—

(1) plant pest and disease identification;

(2) inspection techniques training; and

(3) discard authority.

(b) CONTENTS.—The plan shall—

(1) formalize plant pest and disease identification and inspection training of Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists for all pathways, including conveyances, passengers, cargo, mail, and rail; and

(2) establish performance-related criteria for the appropriate Department of Homeland Security personnel to enable enhanced discard authority and improve plant pest and disease interception.

SEC. 11038. LIAISON OFFICER POSITIONS.

(a) CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program liaison officer position who is physically located in the same building as the highest ranking Customs and Border Protection official with primary responsibility for the agricultural inspection functions of Customs and Border Protection.

(2) EMPLOYEE.—The liaison officer shall be an employee of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

(3) SPACE AND STAFF.—Customs and Border Protection shall provide appropriate space

for the liaison officer and commensurate support staff.

(4) EXPENSES.—The Secretary shall bear all costs for salary, benefits, and other expenses of the liaison officer.

(b) ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through Customs and Border Protection, shall establish a program liaison officer position who is physically located in the same building as the highest ranking Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service official with primary responsibility for the agricultural inspection functions of the Service.

(2) EMPLOYEE.—The liaison officer shall be an employee of Customs and Border Protection.

(3) SPACE AND STAFF.—The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service shall provide appropriate space for the liaison officer and commensurate support staff.

(4) EXPENSES.—Customs and Border Protection shall bear all costs for salary, benefits, and other expenses of the liaison officer.

(c) COMMUNICATIONS.—The liaison officers shall ensure daily communication between designated officials of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Customs and Border Protection.

PART III—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 11041. DESIGNATION AND EXPEDITED REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF QUALIFIED AGRICULTURAL COUNTERMEASURES.

(a) DESIGNATION OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL COUNTERMEASURES.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the heads of other applicable Federal departments or agencies, and in consultation with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President, shall designate a list of qualified agricultural countermeasures to protect against the intentional introduction or natural occurrence of agricultural disease emergencies.

(b) EXPEDITED REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF QUALIFIED COUNTERMEASURES.—A qualified agricultural countermeasure designated under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) granted expedited review for approval; and

(2) if the qualified agricultural countermeasure meets the requirements for approval under that expedited review process, promptly approved by the appropriate Federal department or agency for use or further testing.

(c) DELISTING OF AGRICULTURE COUNTERMEASURES.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the heads of other applicable Federal departments or agencies, and in consultation with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President, may delist qualified agricultural countermeasures that are no longer effective in maintaining or enhancing the agricultural biosecurity of the United States.

SEC. 11042. AGRICULTURAL DISEASE EMERGENCY DETECTION AND RESPONSE.

(a) EMERGENCY DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(A) assess potential vulnerabilities to the agricultural biosecurity of the United States; and

(B) determine the incidence or outbreak of which agricultural diseases would constitute an emergency—

(i) to identify respective interagency priorities; and

(ii) to assist the Department of Homeland Security to establish biological threat awareness capacities pursuant to HSPD–9 and HSPD–10.

(2) NOTIFICATION BY OTHER FEDERAL ENTITIES.—On a determination by the Secretary of Homeland Security under paragraph (1)(B), each Federal department and agency shall notify the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services of specific emergency procedures to be deployed in the event of an outbreak of an agricultural disease, including—

(A) any regulations promulgated to address the outbreak; and

(B) a timetable for implementation of the regulations.

(3) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may make notifications under paragraph (2) available to the Secretary, in order for the Secretary to meet the incident management activities and goals set forth in the Food and Agriculture Incident Annex of the National Response Plan.

(4) STATE AND LOCAL COORDINATION.—On receipt by the Secretary of Homeland Security of notification of special emergency procedures required by other Federal departments or agencies, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(A) notify State, local, and tribal governments, as appropriate, of the emergency procedures; and

(B) institute test exercises to determine the effectiveness of the emergency procedures in geographical areas of significance, as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with Secretary.

(b) DISEASE DETECTION.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

(1) develop and deploy an advanced surveillance system to detect entry into the United States of agricultural biological threat agents that are likely to cause an agricultural disease emergency;

(2) develop national and international standards and implementation guidelines to be used in monitoring those agricultural biological threat agents;

(3) enhance animal and plant health laboratory networks in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act to increase the diagnostic capability for detecting those biological threat agents; and

(4) integrate the data and information obtained through the activities carried out under paragraphs (1) through (3) with the National Biosurveillance Integration Center of the Department of Homeland Security.

(c) ONSITE RAPID DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall develop onsite rapid diagnostic tools to enable rapid diagnosis of incidents of agricultural diseases that would constitute an agricultural disease emergency at the site of the incident or outbreak.

(2) VALIDATION TESTING OF TOOLS.—In developing on-site rapid diagnostic tools under paragraph (1), the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall conduct validation testing to ensure that each tool—

(A) identifies the agent for which the tool was developed; and

(B) will function properly if administered in the field by persons with varying levels of expertise in diagnostic testing, zoonotic disease surveillance, or agricultural disease emergencies.

(d) EMERGENCY RESPONSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall work with State agriculture departments to ensure a coordinated response with State and local agencies responsible for early agricultural disease detection and control.

(2) EVALUATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an evaluation of the current staff, budgets, and capabilities of regional coordinators of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to identify areas of potential vulnerability or additional resource needs for emergency response capabilities in specific geographical areas.

(e) BEST PRACTICES.—

(1) AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY TASK FORCE.—The Secretary shall establish in the Department an agricultural biosecurity task force to identify best practices for use in carrying out a State or regional agricultural biosecurity program.

(2) INFORMATION AVAILABLE.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall make available information regarding best practices for use in implementing a State or regional agricultural biosecurity program, including training exercises for emergency response providers and animal and plant disease specialists.

(f) FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE AS PREREQUISITE FOR VETERINARIAN ACCREDITATION.—The Secretary shall require candidates for veterinarian accreditation from the Department to receive training in foreign animal disease detection and response.

SEC. 11043. NATIONAL PLANT DISEASE RECOVERY SYSTEM AND NATIONAL VETERINARY STOCKPILE.

(a) NATIONAL PLANT DISEASE RECOVERY SYSTEM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, and in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall work with State and local governments and the private sector to establish a national plant disease recovery system to be used to respond to an outbreak of plant disease that poses a significant threat to agricultural biosecurity.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The national plant disease recovery system shall include agricultural countermeasures to be made available within a single growing season for crops of particular economic significance, as determined by the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) NATIONAL VETERINARY STOCKPILE.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, and in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall work with State and local governments and the private sector to establish a national veterinary stockpile, which shall be used by the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security—

(1) to make agricultural countermeasures available to any State veterinarian not later than 24 hours after submission of an official request for assistance by the State veterinarian, unless the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security cannot accommodate such a request due to an emergency; and

(2) to leverage, where appropriate, the mechanisms and infrastructure of the Strategic National Stockpile.

SEC. 11044. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COUNTERMEASURES.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a grant program to stimulate basic and applied research and development activity for qualified agricultural countermeasures.

(2) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall develop a process through which to award grants on a competitive basis.

(3) WAIVER IN EMERGENCIES.—The Secretary may waive the requirement in paragraph (2), if—

(A) the Secretary has declared a plant or animal disease emergency under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) or the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.); and

(B) the waiver would lead to the rapid development of a qualified agricultural countermeasure, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) USE OF FOREIGN DISEASE PERMISSIBLE.—The Secretary shall permit the use of foreign animal and plant disease agents, and accompanying data, in research and development activities funded under this section if the Secretary determines that the diseases or data are necessary to demonstrate the safety and efficacy of an agricultural countermeasure in development.

(c) COORDINATION ON ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary shall ensure that the Secretary of Homeland Security is provided information, on a quarterly basis, describing each grant provided by the Secretary for the purpose of facilitating the acceleration and expansion of the advanced development of agricultural countermeasures.

(d) SCOPE.—Nothing in this section impedes the ability of the Secretary of Homeland Security to administer grants for basic and applied research and advanced development activities for qualified agricultural countermeasures.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 11045. VETERINARY WORKFORCE GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a grant program to increase the number of veterinarians trained in agricultural biosecurity.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUNDING AWARDED.—The Secretary shall establish procedures to ensure that grants are competitively awarded under the program based on—

(1) the ability of an applicant to increase the number of veterinarians who are trained in agricultural biosecurity practice areas determined by the Secretary;

(2) the ability of an applicant to increase research capacity in areas of agricultural biosecurity determined by the Secretary to be a priority; or

(3) any other consideration the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received under this section may be used by a grantee to pay—

(1) costs associated with construction and the acquisition of equipment, and other capital costs relating to the expansion of schools of veterinary medicine, departments of comparative medicine, departments of veterinary science, or entities offering residency training programs; or

(2) capital costs associated with the expansion of academic programs that offer postgraduate training for veterinarians or concurrent training for veterinary students in specific areas of specialization.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 11046. ASSISTANCE TO BUILD LOCAL CAPACITY IN AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY PLANNING, PREPAREDNESS, AND RESPONSE.

(a) ADVANCED TRAINING PROGRAMS.—

(1) GRANT ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide grant assistance to support the development and expansion of advanced training programs in agricultural biosecurity planning and response for food science professionals and veterinarians.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(b) ASSESSMENT OF RESPONSE CAPABILITY.—

(1) GRANT AND LOAN ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide grant and low-interest loan assistance to States for use in assessing agricultural disease response capability.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 11047. BORDER INSPECTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

(a) INSPECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall coordinate with Federal intelligence officials to identify agricultural products that are imported from countries that have known capabilities to carry out an agroterrorist act.

(2) PRIORITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Agricultural products imported from countries described in paragraph (1) shall be given priority status in the inspection process.

(B) EFFECT OF THREATS.—If a credible and specific threat of an intended agroterrorist act is identified by Federal intelligence officials, each border inspection of a product that could be a pathway for the agroterrorist act shall be intensified.

(b) COORDINATION IN BORDER INSPECTION.—In conducting inspections of agricultural products at the border, the Secretary, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall use a compatible communication system in order to better coordinate the inspection process.

SEC. 11048. LIVE VIRUS OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE RESEARCH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall issue a permit required under section 12 of the Act of May 29, 1884 (21 U.S.C. 113a) to the Secretary of Homeland Security for work on the live virus of foot and mouth disease at the National Bio and Agro-Defense Laboratory (referred to in this section as the ''NBAF'').

(b) LIMITATION.—The permit shall be valid unless the Secretary finds that the study of live foot and mouth disease virus at the NBAF is not being carried out in accordance with the regulations issued by the Secretary pursuant to the Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8401 et seq.).

(c) AUTHORITY.—The suspension, revocation, or other impairment of the permit issued under this section—

(1) shall be made by the Secretary; and

(2) is a nondelegable function.

Subtitle B—Other Programs

SEC. 11051. FORECLOSURE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 307 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1927) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) MORATORIUM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning on the date of enactment of this subsection, there shall be in effect a moratorium on all loan acceleration and foreclosure proceedings instituted by the Department for any case in which—

''(A) there is pending against the Department a claim of discrimination by a farmer or rancher related to a loan acceleration or foreclosure; or

''(B) a farmer or rancher files a claim of discrimination against the Department related to a loan acceleration or foreclosure.

''(2) WAIVER OF INTEREST AND OFFSETS.—During the period of the moratorium, the Secretary shall waive the accrual of interest and offsets on all loans made under this subtitle for which loan acceleration or foreclosure proceedings have been instituted as described in paragraph (1).

''(3) TERMINATION OF MORATORIUM.—The moratorium shall terminate with respect to a claim of discrimination by a farmer or rancher on the earlier of—

''(A) the date the Secretary resolves the claim; or

''(B) if the farmer or rancher appeals the decision of the Secretary on the claim to a court of competent jurisdiction, the date that the court renders a final decision on the claim.

''(4) FAILURE TO PREVAIL.—If a farmer or rancher does not prevail on a claim of discrimination described in paragraph (1), the farmer or rancher shall be liable for any interest and offsets that accrued during the period that the loan was in abeyance.''.

(b) FORECLOSURE REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture (referred to in this subsection as the ''Inspector General'') shall determine whether decisions of the Department to implement foreclosure proceedings with respect to loans made under subtitle A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) to socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers during the 5-year period preceding the date of enactment of this Act were consistent and in conformity with the applicable laws (including regulations) governing loan foreclosures.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the determination of the Inspector General under paragraph (1).

SEC. 11052. OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The outreach and technical assistance program under paragraph (1) shall be used exclusively—

''(A) to enhance coordination of the outreach, technical assistance, and education efforts authorized under agriculture programs; and

''(B) to assist the Secretary in—

''(i) reaching socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and prospective socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner; and

''(ii) improving the participation of those farmers and ranchers in Department programs, as determined under section 2501A.'';

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''entity to provide information'' and inserting ''entity that has demonstrated an ability to carry out the requirements described in paragraph (2) to provide outreach''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS.—The Secretary may provide for renewal of a grant, contract, or other agreement under this section with an eligible entity that—

''(i) has previously received funding under this section;

''(ii) has demonstrated an ability to carry out the requirements described in paragraph (2); and

''(iii) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the entity will continue to fulfill the purposes of this section.

''(E) REVIEW OF PROPOSALS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (D), the Secretary shall promulgate a regulation to establish criteria for the review process for grants and cooperative agreements (including multiyear grants), which shall include a review eligible entities on an individual basis.

''(F) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress, and make publically available, an annual report that describes—

''(i) the accomplishments of the program under this section; and

''(ii) any gaps or problems in service delivery as reported by grantees.''; and

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A), and inserting the following:

''(A) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 5 percent of the amounts made available under this paragraph for a fiscal year may be used for expenses related to administering the program under this section.''; and

(2) in subsection (e)(5)(A)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking ''has demonstrated experience in'' and inserting ''has a reputation for, and has demonstrated experience in,''; and

(B) in clause (ii)—

(i) by inserting ''and on behalf of'' before ''socially''; and

(ii) by striking ''2-year'' and inserting ''3-year''.

(b) COORDINATION WITH OUTREACH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop a plan to join and relocate—

(A) the outreach and technical assistance program established under section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279); and

(B) the Office of Outreach of the Department of Agriculture.

(2) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the plan under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, in consultation with eligible entities under section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279)—

(A) decide the most appropriate permanent location for the programs described in paragraph (1); and

(B) locate both programs together at that location.

(3) REPORT.—After the relocation described in this subsection is completed, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that includes information describing the new location of the programs.

SEC. 11053. ADDITIONAL CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.

Section 2501(a)(3) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a)(3)) (as amended by section 11052(a)(1)(B)(ii)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(G) ADDITIONAL CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide to the Office of Outreach of the Department of Agriculture, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Farm Service Agency, the Risk Management Agency, the Forest Service, the Food Safety and Inspection Service, and such other agencies and programs as the Secretary determines to be necessary, the authority to make grants and enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with community-based organizations that meet the definition of an eligible entity under subsection (e).

''(ii) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Secretary is not required to require matching funds for a grant made, or a contract or cooperative agreement entered into, under this subparagraph.

''(iii) INTERAGENCY FUNDING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), any Federal agency may participate in any grant made, or contract or cooperative agreement entered into, under this subsection by contributing funds, if the head of the agency determines that the objectives of the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement will further the authorized programs of the contributing agency.''.

SEC. 11054. IMPROVED PROGRAM DELIVERY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

Section 2501(g)(1) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(g)(1)) is amended by striking the second sentence.

SEC. 11055. ACCURATE DOCUMENTATION IN THE CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE AND CERTAIN STUDIES.

Section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) ACCURATE DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the Census of Agriculture and studies carried out by the Economic Research Service accurately document the number, location, and economic contributions of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in agricultural production.''.

SEC. 11056. IMPROVED DATA REQUIREMENTS.

Section 2501A of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279–1) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) COMPILATION OF PROGRAM PARTICIPATION DATA.—

''(1) ANNUAL REQUIREMENT.—For each county and State in the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the 'Secretary') shall annually compile program application and participation rate data regarding socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers by computing for each program of the Department of Agriculture that serves agricultural producers or landowners—

''(A) raw numbers of applicants and participants by race, ethnicity, and gender, subject to appropriate privacy protections, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(B) the application and participation rate, by race, ethnicity, and gender, as a percentage of the total participation rate of all agricultural producers and landowners.

''(2) AUTHORITY TO COLLECT DATA.—The heads of the agencies of the Department of Agriculture shall collect and transmit to the Secretary any data, including data on race, gender, and ethnicity, that the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out paragraph (1).

''(3) REPORT.—Using the technologies and systems of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the Secretary shall compile and present the data required under paragraph (1) for each program described in that paragraph in a manner that includes the raw numbers and participation rates for—

''(A) the entire United States;

''(B) each State; and

''(C) each county in each State.

''(d) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF DATA.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall not disclose the names or individual data of any program participant.

''(2) AUTHORIZED USES.—The data under this section shall be used exclusively for the purposes described in subsection (a).

''(3) LIMITATION.—Except as otherwise provided, the data under this section shall not be used for the evaluation of individual applications for assistance.''.

SEC. 11057. RECEIPT FOR SERVICE OR DENIAL OF SERVICE.

Section 2501A of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279–1) (as amended by section 11056) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) RECEIPT FOR SERVICE OR DENIAL OF SERVICE.—In any case in which a farmer or rancher, or a prospective farmer or rancher, in person or in writing, requests from the Farm Service Agency or the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture any benefit or service offered by the Department to agricultural producers or landowners, and at the time of the request requests a receipt, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue, on the date of the request, a receipt to the farmer or rancher, or prospective farmer or rancher, that contains—

''(1) the date, place, and subject of the request; and

''(2) the action taken, not taken, or recommended to the farmer or rancher or prospective farmer or rancher.''.

SEC. 11058. NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION.

Section 280 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7000) is amended—

(1) by striking ''On the return'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—On the return''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, and every 180 days thereafter, the head of each agency shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, and publish on the website of the Department, a report that includes—

''(A) a description of all cases returned to the agency during the period covered by the report pursuant to a final determination of the Division;

''(B) the status of implementation of each final determination; and

''(C) if the final determination has not been implemented—

''(i) the reason that the final determination has not been implemented; and

''(ii) the projected date of implementation of the final determination.

''(2) UPDATES.—Each month, the head of each agency shall publish on the website of the Department any updates to the reports submitted under paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 11059. FARMWORKER COORDINATOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title II of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 is amended by inserting after section 226A (7 U.S.C. 6933) the following:

''SEC. 226B. FARMWORKER COORDINATOR.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish within the Department the position of Farmworker Coordinator (referred to in this section as the 'Coordinator').

''(b) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall delegate to the Coordinator responsibility for—

''(1) assisting in administering the program established by section 2281 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 5177a);

''(2) serving as a liaison to community-based nonprofit organizations that represent and have demonstrated experience serving low-income migrant and seasonal farmworkers;

''(3) coordinating with the Department, other Federal agencies, and State and local governments to ensure that farmworker needs are assessed and met during declared disasters and other emergencies;

''(4) consulting with the Office of Small Farm Coordination, Office of Outreach, Outreach Coordinators, and other entities to better integrate farmworker perspectives, concerns, and interests into the ongoing programs of the Department;

''(5) consulting with appropriate institutions on research, program improvements, or agricultural education opportunities that assist low-income and migrant seasonal farmworkers; and

''(6) ensuring that farmworkers have access to services and support to enter agriculture as producers.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 296(b) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7014(b)) (as amended by section 7401(c)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) the authority of the Secretary to establish in the Department a position of Farmworker Coordinator in accordance with section 226B.''.

SEC. 11060. CONGRESSIONAL BIPARTISAN FOOD SAFETY COMMISSION.

(a) COMMISSION.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—There is established a commission to be known as the ''Congressional Bipartisan Food Safety Commission'' (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'').

(B) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Commission shall be to act in a bipartisan, consensus-driven fashion—

(i) to review the food safety system of the United States;

(ii) to prepare a report that—

(I) summarizes information about the food safety system as in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act; and

(II) makes recommendations on ways—

(aa) to modernize the food safety system of the United States;

(bb) to harmonize and update food safety statutes;

(cc) to improve Federal, State, local, and interagency coordination of food safety personnel, activities, budgets, and leadership;

(dd) to best allocate scarce resources according to risk;

(ee) to ensure that regulations, directives, guidance, and other standards and requirements are based on best-available science and technology;

(ff) to emphasize preventative rather than reactive strategies; and

(gg) to provide to Federal agencies funding mechanisms necessary to effectively carry out food safety responsibilities; and

(iii) to draft specific statutory language, including detailed summaries of the language and budget recommendations, that would implement the recommendations of the Commission.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be composed of 19 members.

(B) ELIGIBILITY.—Members of the Commission shall—

(i) have specialized training, education, or significant experience in at least 1 of the areas of—

(I) food safety research;

(II) food safety law and policy; and

(III) program design and implementation;

(ii) consist of—

(I) the Secretary of Agriculture (or a designee);

(II) the Secretary of Health and Human Services (or a designee);

(III) 1 Member of the House of Representatives; and

(IV) 1 Member of the Senate; and

(V) 15 additional members that include, to the maximum extent practicable, representatives of—

(aa) consumer organizations;

(bb) agricultural and livestock production;

(cc) public health professionals;

(dd) State regulators;

(ee) Federal employees; and

(ff) the livestock and food manufacturing and processing industry.

(C) APPOINTMENTS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The appointment of the members of the Commission shall be made not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(ii) CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS.—Of the members of the Commission described in subparagraph (B)(ii)(V)—

(I) 2 shall be appointed by the President;

(II) 7 shall be appointed by a working group consisting of—

(aa) the Chairman of each of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(bb) the Chairman of each of the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(cc) the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(dd) the Majority Leader of the Senate; and

(III) 6 shall be appointed by a working group consisting of—

(aa) the Ranking Member of each of the Committees described in items (aa) and (bb) of subclause (II);

(bb) the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and

(cc) the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(D) TERM.—A member of the Commission shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(E) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission—

(i) shall not affect the powers of the Commission; and

(ii) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(3) MEETINGS.—

(A) INITIAL MEETING.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the initial meeting of the Commission shall be conducted in Washington, District of Columbia, not later than 30 days after the date of appointment of the final member of the Commission under paragraph (2)(C).

(B) MEETING FOR PARTIAL APPOINTMENT.—If, as of the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, all members of the Commission have not been appointed under paragraph (2)(C), but at least 8 members have been appointed, the Commission may hold the initial meeting of the Commission.

(C) OTHER MEETINGS.—The Commission shall—

(i) hold a series of at least 5 stakeholder meetings to solicit public comment, including—

(I) at least 1 stakeholder meeting, to be held in Washington, District of Columbia; and

(II) at least 4 stakeholder meetings, to be held in various regions of the United States; and

(ii) meet at the call of—

(I) the Chairperson;

(II) the Vice-Chairperson; or

(III) a majority of the members of the Commission.

(D) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION; INFORMATION.—To the maximum extent practicable—

(i) each meeting of the Commission shall be open to the public; and

(ii) all information from a meeting of the Commission shall be recorded and made available to the public.

(E) QUORUM.—With respect to meetings of the Commission—

(i) a majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the Commission; but

(ii) for the purpose of a stakeholder meeting described in subparagraph (C)(i), 4 or more members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

(F) FACILITATOR.—The Commission shall contract with a nonpolitical, disinterested third-party entity to serve as a meeting facilitator.

(4) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON.—At the initial meeting of the Commission, the members of the Commission shall select from among the members a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Commission.

(b) DUTIES.—

(1) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Commission shall review and consider the statutes, studies, and reports described in paragraph (2) for the purpose of understanding the food safety system of the United States in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) STATUTES, STUDIES, AND REPORTS.—The statutes, studies, and reports referred to in paragraph (1) are—

(A) with respect with respect to laws administered by the Secretary of Agriculture—

(i) the Federal Seed Act (7 U.S.C. 1551 et seq.);

(ii) the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.);

(iii) the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.);

(iv) the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.);

(v) the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.);

(vi) the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.); and

(vii) the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031 et seq.);

(B) with respect to laws administered by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (27 U.S.C. 201 et seq.);

(C) with respect to laws administered by the Federal Trade Commission, the Act of September 26, 1914 (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.);

(D) with respect to laws administered by the Secretary of Health and Human Services—

(i) chapters I through IV of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.);

(ii) the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.);

(iii) the Import Milk Act (21 U.S.C. 141 et seq.);

(iv) the Food Additives Amendment of 1958 (Public Law 85–929; 52 Stat. 1041);

(v) the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act (Public Law 89–755; 80 Stat. 1296);

(vi) the Infant Formula Act of 1980 (21 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 96–359);

(vii) the Pesticide Monitoring Improvements Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–418; 102 Stat. 1411);

(viii) the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990 (21 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 101–535);

(ix) the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997 (21 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 105–115); and

(x) the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (21 U.S.C. 201 note; Public Law 107–188);

(E) with respect to laws administered by the Attorney General, the Federal Anti-Tampering Act (18 U.S.C. 1365 note; Public Law 98–127);

(F) with respect to laws administered by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency—

(i) the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.);

(ii) the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 136 note; Public Law 104–170);

(iii) the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.); and

(iv) the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 201 note; Public Law 93–523); and

(G) with respect to laws administered by the Secretary of Transportation, chapter 57 of subtitle II of title 49, United States Code (relating to sanitary food transportation); and

(H) with respect to Government studies on food safety—

(i) the report of the National Academies of Science entitled ''Ensuring Safe Food from Production to Consumption'' and dated 1998;

(ii) the report of the National Academies of Science entitled ''Scientific Criteria to Ensure Safe Food'' and dated 2003;

(iii) reports of the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture, including—

(I) report 24601-0008-CH, entitled ''Egg Products Processing Inspection'' and dated September 18, 2007;

(II) report 24005-1-AT, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service - State Meat and Poultry Inspection Programs'' and dated September 27, 2006;

(III) report 24601-06-CH, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service's In-Plant Performance System'' and dated March 28, 2006;

(IV) report 24601-05-AT, entitled ''Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Implementation at Very Small Plants'' and dated June 24, 2005;

(V) report 24601-04-HY, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service Oversight of the 2004 Recall by Quaker Maid Meats, Inc.'' and dated May 18, 2005;

(VI) report 24501-01-FM, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service Application Controls—Performance Based Inspection System'' and dated November 24, 2004;

(VII) report 24601-03-CH, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service Use of Food Safety Information'' and dated September 30, 2004;

(VIII) report 24601-03-HY, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service Effectiveness Checks for the 2002 Pilgrim's Pride Recall'' and dated June 29, 2004;

(IX) report 24601-02-HY, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service Oversight of the Listeria Outbreak in the Northeastern United States'' and dated June 9, 2004;

(X) report 24099-05-HY, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service Imported Meat and Poultry Equivalence Determinations Phase III'' and dated December 29, 2003;

(XI) report 24601-2-KC, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service—Oversight of Production Process and Recall at Conagra Plant (Establishment 969)'' and dated September 30, 2003;

(XII) report 24601-1-Ch, entitled ''Laboratory Testing Of Meat And Poultry Products'' and dated June 21, 2000;

(XIII) report 24001-3-At, 24601-1-Ch, 24099-3-Hy, 24601-4-At, entitled ''Food Safety and Inspection Service: HACCP Implementation, Pathogen Testing Program, Foreign Country Equivalency, Compliance Activities'' and dated June 21, 2000; and

(XIV) report 24001-3-At, entitled ''Implementation of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point System'' and dated June 21, 2000; and

(I) with respect to reports prepared by the Government Accountability Office, the reports designated—

(i) GAO-05-212;

(ii) GAO-02-47T;

(iii) GAO/T-RCED-94-223;

(iv) GAO/RCED-99-80;

(v) GAO/T-RCED-98-191;

(vi) GAO/RCED-98-103;

(vii) GAO-07-785T;

(viii) GAO-05-51;

(ix) GAO/T-RCED-94-311;

(x) GAO/RCED-92-152;

(xi) GAO/T-RCED-99-232;

(xii) GAO/T-RCED-98-271;

(xiii) GAO-07-449T;

(xiv) GAO-05-213;

(xv) GAO-04-588T;

(xvi) GAO/RCED-00-255;

(xvii) GAO/RCED-00-195; and

(xviii) GAO/T-RCED-99-256.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 360 days after the date on which the Commission first meets, the Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a report that includes the report and summaries, statutory language recommendations, and budget recommendations described in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subsection (a)(1)(B).

(c) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—

(1) HEARINGS.—The Commission or, at the direction of the Commission, any member of the Commission, may, for the purpose of carrying out this section—

(A) hold such hearings, meet and act at such times and places, take such testimony, receive such evidence, and administer such oaths; and

(B) require the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, tapes, and materials;

as the Commission or member considers advisable.

(2) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may secure directly, from any Federal agency, such information as the Commission considers necessary to carry out this section.

(B) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), on the request of the Commission, the head of a Federal agency described in subparagraph (A) shall expeditiously furnish information requested by the Commission to the Commission.

(ii) ADMINISTRATION.—The furnishing of information by a Federal agency to the Commission shall not be considered a waiver of any exemption available to the agency under section 552 of title 5, United States Code.

(C) INFORMATION TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.—For purposes of section 1905 of title 18, United States Code—

(i) the Commission shall be considered an agency of the Federal Government; and

(ii) any individual employed by an individual, entity, or organization that is a party to a contract with the Commission under this section shall be considered an employee of the Commission.

(d) COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

(1) MEMBERS.—

(A) NON-FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of the Commission who is not an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(B) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of the Commission who is an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall serve without compensation in addition to the compensation received for the services of the member as an officer or employee of the Federal Government.

(C) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(2) STAFF.—

(A) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—Not later than 30 days after the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Commission are selected under subsection (a)(4), the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall jointly select an individual to serve as executive director of the Commission.

(B) ADDITIONAL STAFF.—The Chairperson of the Commission may, without regard to the civil service laws (including regulations), appoint and terminate the appointment of such other additional personnel as are necessary to enable the Commission to perform the duties of the Commission.

(C) CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The employment of an executive director under this paragraph shall be subject to confirmation by the Commission.

(D) COMPENSATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Chairperson of the Commission may fix the compensation of the executive director and other personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates.

(ii) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The rate of pay for the executive director and other personnel shall not exceed the rate payable for level II of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) DETAIL OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An employee of the Federal Government may be detailed to the Commission, without reimbursement, for such period of time as is permitted by law.

(B) CIVIL SERVICE STATUS.—The detail of the employee shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(4) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMITTENT SERVICES.—The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and executive director of the Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services in accordance with section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals that do not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

(f) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate on the date that is 60 days after the date on which the Commission submits the report under subsection (b)(2).

SEC. 11061. EMERGENCY GRANTS TO ASSIST LOW-INCOME MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS.

Section 2281 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 5177a) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2281. EMERGENCY GRANTS TO ASSIST LOW-INCOME MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a public agency, community-based organization, or network of community-based organizations with tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, that has at least 5 years of demonstrated experience in representing and providing emergency services to low-income migrant or seasonal farmworkers

''(2) LOW-INCOME MIGRANT OR SEASONAL FARMWORKER.—The term 'low-income migrant or seasonal farmworker' means an individual—

''(A) who has, during any consecutive 12-month period within the preceding 24-month period, performed farm work for wages;

''(B) who has received not less than ½ of the total income of the individual from, or been employed at least ½ of total work time in, farm work; and

''(C) whose annual family income during the 12-month period described in paragraph (1) does not exceed the higher of, as determined by the Secretary—

''(i) 185 percent of the most recent annual Federal Poverty Income Guidelines published by the Department of Health and Human Services; or

''(ii) 70 percent of the lower living standard income level.

''(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

''(b) GRANTS AVAILABLE.—The Secretary may make grants to eligible entities if the Secretary determines that a local, State, or national emergency or disaster has caused low-income migrant or seasonal farmworkers—

''(1) to lose income;

''(2) to be unable to work; or

''(3) to stay home or return home in anticipation of work shortages.

''(c) USE OF FUNDS.—As a condition of receiving a grant under subsection (b), an eligible entity shall use the grant to provide emergency services to low-income migrant or seasonal farmworkers, with a focus on—

''(1) assistance that allows low-income migrant or seasonal farmworkers to meet or access other resources to meet short-term emergency family needs for food, clothing, employment, transportation, and housing;

''(2) assistance that allows low-income and migrant seasonal farmworkers to remain in a disaster area; and

''(3) such other priorities that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(d) DISASTER FUND.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall maintain a disaster fund of $2,000,000 to be used for immediate assistance for events described in subsection (b).

''(2) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to maintain the disaster fund at $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

SEC. 11062. GRANTS TO REDUCE PRODUCTION OF METHAMPHETAMINES FROM ANHYDROUS AMMONIA.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ''eligible entity'' means—

(A) a producer of agricultural commodities;

(B) a cooperative association, a majority of the members of which produce or process agricultural commodities; or

(C) a person in the trade or business of—

(i) selling an agricultural product (including an agricultural chemical) at retail, predominantly to farmers and ranchers; or

(ii) aerial and ground application of an agricultural chemical.

(2) NURSE TANK.—The term ''nurse tank'' shall be considered to be a cargo tank (within the meaning of section 173.315(m) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect as of the date of the enactment of this Act).

(b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may make a grant to an eligible entity to enable the eligible entity to obtain and add to an anhydrous ammonia fertilizer nurse tank a physical lock or a substance to reduce the amount of methamphetamine that can be produced from any anhydrous ammonia removed from the nurse tank.

(c) GRANT AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant made under this section to an eligible entity shall be the product obtained by multiplying—

(1) an amount not less than $40 and not more than $60, as determined by the Secretary; and

(2) the number of fertilizer nurse tanks of the eligible entity.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to make grants under this section $15,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 11063. INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT, HAWAII.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) SECRETARIES.—The term ''Secretaries'' means—

(A) the Secretary of the Interior;

(B) the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(C) the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(2) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term ''Secretary concerned'' means—

(A) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to matters under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior;

(B) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to matters under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture; and

(C) the Secretary of Homeland Security, with respect to matters under the jurisdiction of the Department of Homeland Security.

(3) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Hawaii.

(b) CONTROLLING INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES AND DISEASES IN THE STATE.—

(1) CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION.—The Secretaries concerned shall—

(A) with respect to restricting the introduction or movement of invasive species and diseases into the State, consult and cooperate with the State; and

(B) in carrying out the activities described in this subsection, consult and cooperate with appropriate agencies and officers with experience relating to quarantine procedures, natural resources, conservation, and law enforcement of—

(i) the Department of Homeland Security;

(ii) the Department of Commerce;

(iii) the United States Treasury; and

(iv) the State.

(2) DEVELOPMENT OF COLLABORATIVE FEDERAL AND STATE PROCEDURES.—The Secretaries, in collaboration with the State, shall—

(A) develop procedures to minimize the introduction of invasive species into the State; and

(B) submit to Congress annual reports describing progress made and results achieved in carrying out the procedures.

(3) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF STATE AND LOCAL CONTROL PROPOSALS.—

(A) EXPEDITED PROCESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries shall establish an expedited process for the State and political subdivisions of the State under which the State and political subdivisions may, through the submission of an application, seek approval of the Secretary concerned to impose a general or specific prohibition or restriction on the introduction or movement of invasive species or diseases from domestic or foreign locations to the State that is in addition to the applicable prohibition or restriction imposed by the Secretary concerned.

(B) REVIEW PERIOD.—Not later than 60 days after the date of receipt by the Secretary concerned of an application under subparagraph (A) that the Secretary concerned determines to be a completed application, the Secretary concerned shall—

(i) review the completed application;

(ii) assess each potential risk with respect to the completed application; and

(iii) approve or disapprove the completed application.

(4) RESPONSE TO EMERGENCY THREATS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The State may carry out an emergency action to impose a prohibition or restriction on the entry of an invasive species or disease that is in addition to the applicable prohibition or restriction imposed by the Secretary concerned if—

(i) the State has submitted to the Secretary concerned a completed application under paragraph (3) that is pending approval by the Secretary concerned; and

(ii) an emergency or imminent threat from an invasive species or disease occurs in the State during the period in which the completed application described in clause (i) is pending approval by the Secretary concerned.

(B) NOTICE.—Before carrying out an emergency action under subparagraph (A), the State shall provide written notice to the Secretary concerned.

(C) PERIOD OF EMERGENCY ACTION.—If, by the date that is 10 days after the date of receipt of a written notice under subparagraph (B), the Secretary concerned does not object to the emergency action that is the subject of the notice, the State may carry out the emergency action during the 60-day period beginning on that date.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretaries such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 11064. OVERSIGHT AND COMPLIANCE.

The Secretary, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Agriculture, shall use the reports described in subsection (c) of section 2501A of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279–1) (as amended by section 11056) in the conduct of oversight and evaluation of civil rights compliance.

SEC. 11065. REPORT OF CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINTS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ACTIONS.

Each year, the Secretary shall—

(1) prepare a report that describes, for each agency of the Department of Agriculture—

(A) the number of civil rights complaints filed that relate to the agency, including whether a complaint is a program complaint or an employment complaint;

(B) the length of time the agency took to process each civil rights complaint;

(C) the number of proceedings brought against the agency, including the number of complaints described in paragraph (1) that were resolved with a finding of discrimination; and

(D) the number and type of personnel actions taken by the agency following resolution of civil rights complaints;

(2) submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a copy of the report; and

(3) make the report available to the public by posting the report on the website of the Department.

SEC. 11066. GRANTS TO IMPROVE SUPPLY, STABILITY, SAFETY, AND TRAINING OF AGRICULTURAL LABOR FORCE.

(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term ''eligible entity'' means a nonprofit, community-based organization, or a consortium of nonprofit, community-based organizations, agricultural labor organizations, farmer or rancher cooperatives, and public entities, that has the capacity (including demonstrated experience in providing training, housing, or emergency services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers) to assist agricultural employers and farmworkers with improvements in the supply, stability, safety, and training of the agricultural labor force.

(b) GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide grants to eligible entities for use in providing services to assist farmworkers in securing, retaining, upgrading, or returning from agricultural jobs.

(2) ELIGIBLE SERVICES.—The services referred to in paragraph (1) include—

(A) agricultural upgrading and cross training;

(B) the provision of agricultural labor market information;

(C) transportation;

(D) short-term housing, including housing for unaccompanied farmworkers and at migrant rest stops;

(E) travelers' aid;

(F) workplace literacy and assistance with English as a second language;

(G) health and safety instruction, including ways of safeguarding the food supply of the United States; and

(H) limited emergency and financial assistance, in cases in which the Secretary determines that a national, State, or local emergency or disaster has caused migrant or seasonal farmworkers to lose income or employment.

(3) EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.—Any emergency services provided using funds from a grant in accordance with paragraph (2)(H)—

(A) shall be consistent with section 2281 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (as amended by section 11061);

(B) shall be focused on assistance to allow low-income farmworkers and their families to meet short-term needs for such food, clothing, employment, transportation, and housing as are necessary to regain employment or return home; and

(C) may include such other types of assistance as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 11067. INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTED BY FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES FOR CERTAIN SMALL ESTABLISHMENTS.

(a) MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS.—The Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"TITLE V—INSPECTIONS BY FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES

"SEC. 501. INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF MEAT INSPECTED BY FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES FOR CERTAIN SMALL ESTABLISHMENTS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—

''(1) APPROPRIATE STATE AGENCY.—The term 'appropriate State agency' means a State agency described in section 301(b).

''(2) DESIGNATED PERSONNEL.—The term 'designated personnel' means inspection personnel of a State agency that have undergone all necessary inspection training and certification to assist the Secretary in the administration and enforcement of this Act, including regulations.

''(3) ELIGIBLE ESTABLISHMENT.—The term 'eligible establishment' means an establishment that is in compliance with—

''(A) the State inspection program of the State in which the establishment is located; and

''(B) this Act.

''(4) MEAT ITEM.—The term 'meat item' means—

''(A) a portion of meat; and

''(B) a meat food product.

''(5) SELECTED ESTABLISHMENT.—The term 'selected establishment' means an eligible establishment that is selected by the Secretary, in coordination with the appropriate State agency of the State in which the eligible establishment is located, under subsection (b) to ship carcasses, portions of carcasses, and meat items in interstate commerce.

''(b) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO ALLOW SHIPMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary, in coordination with the appropriate State agency of the State in which an establishment is located, may select the establishment to ship carcasses, portions of carcasses, and meat items in interstate commerce, and place on each carcass, portion of a carcass, and meat item shipped in interstate commerce a Federal mark, stamp, tag, or label of inspection, if the establishment—

''(A) is an eligible establishment; and

''(B) is located in a State that has designated personnel to inspect the eligible establishment.

''(2) PROHIBITED ESTABLISHMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary, in coordination with an appropriate State agency, shall not select an establishment that—

''(A) on average, employs more than 25 employees (including supervisory and nonsupervisory employees), as defined by the Secretary;

''(B) as of the date of enactment of this section, ships in interstate commerce carcasses, portions of carcasses, or meat items that are inspected by the Secretary in accordance with this Act;

''(C)(i) is a Federal establishment;

''(ii) was a Federal establishment that was reorganized on a later date under the same name or a different name or person by the person, firm, or corporation that controlled the establishment as of the date of enactment of this section; or

''(iii) was a State establishment as of the date of enactment of this section that—

''(I) as of the date of enactment of this section, employed more than 25 employees; and

''(II) was reorganized on a later date by the person, firm, or corporation that controlled the establishment as of the date of enactment of this section;

''(D) is in violation of this Act;

''(E) is located in a State that does not have a State inspection program; or

''(F) is the subject of a transition carried out in accordance with a procedure developed by the Secretary under paragraph (3)(A).

''(3) ESTABLISHMENTS THAT EMPLOY MORE THAN 25 EMPLOYEES.—

''(A) DEVELOPMENT OF PROCEDURE.—The Secretary may develop a procedure to transition to a Federal establishment any establishment under this section that, on average, consistently employs more than 25 employees.

''(B) ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A State establishment that employs more than 25 employees but less than 35 employees as of the date of enactment of this section may be selected as a selected establishment under this subsection.

''(ii) PROCEDURES.—A State establishment shall be subject to the procedures established under subparagraph (A) beginning on the date that is 3 years after the effective date described in subsection (j).

''(c) REIMBURSEMENT OF STATE COSTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall reimburse a State for costs related to the inspection of selected establishments in the State in accordance with Federal requirements in an amount of not less than 60 percent of eligible State costs.

''(2) MICROBIOLOGICAL VERIFICATION TESTING.—The Secretary may reimburse a State for 100 percent of eligible State costs relating to the inspection of selected establishments in the State, if the State provides additional microbiological verification testing of the selected establishments, using standards under this Act, that is in excess of the typical verification testing frequency of the Federal Government with respect to Federal establishments.

''(d) COORDINATION BETWEEN FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall designate an employee of the Federal Government as State coordinator for each appropriate State agency—

''(A) to provide oversight and enforcement of this title; and

''(B) to oversee the training and inspection activities of designated personnel of the State agency.

''(2) SUPERVISION.—A State coordinator shall be under the direct supervision of the Secretary.

''(3) DUTIES OF STATE COORDINATOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A State coordinator shall visit selected establishments with a frequency that is appropriate to ensure that selected establishments are operating in a manner that is consistent with this Act (including regulations and policies under this Act).

''(B) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—A State coordinator shall, on a quarterly basis, submit to the Secretary a report that describes the status of each selected establishment that is under the jurisdiction of the State coordinator with respect to the level of compliance of each selected establishment with the requirements of this Act.

''(C) IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—If a State coordinator determines that any selected establishment that is under the jurisdiction of the State coordinator is in violation of any requirement of this Act, the State coordinator shall—

''(i) immediately notify the Secretary of the violation; and

''(ii) deselect the selected establishment or suspend inspection at the selected establishment.

''(4) PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS.—Performance evaluations of State coordinators designated under this subsection shall be conducted by the Secretary as part of the Federal agency management control system.

''(e) AUDITS.—

''(1) PERIODIC AUDITS CONDUCTED BY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—Not later than 2 years after the effective date described in subsection (j), and not less often than every 2 years thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture shall conduct an audit of each activity taken by the Secretary under this section for the period covered by the audit to determine compliance with this section.

''(2) AUDIT CONDUCTED BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.—Not earlier than 3 years, nor later than 5 years, after the

date of enactment of this section, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of the implementation of this section to determine—

''(A) the effectiveness of the implementation of this section; and

''(B) the number of selected establishments selected by the Secretary under this section.

''(f) INSPECTION TRAINING DIVISION.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the effective date described in subsection (j), the Secretary shall establish in the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the Department of Agriculture an inspection training division to coordinate the initiatives of any other appropriate agency of the Department of Agriculture to provide—

''(A) outreach, education, and training to very small or certain small establishments (as defined by the Secretary); and

''(B) grants to appropriate State agencies to provide outreach, technical assistance, education, and training to very small or certain small establishments (as defined by the Secretary).

''(2) PERSONNEL.—The inspection training division shall be comprised of individuals that, as determined by the Secretary—

''(A) are of a quantity sufficient to carry out the duties of the inspection training division; and

''(B) possess appropriate qualifications and expertise relating to the duties of the inspection training division.

''(g) TRANSITION GRANTS.—The Secretary may provide grants to appropriate State agencies to assist the appropriate State agencies in helping establishments covered by title III to transition to selected establishments.

''(h) VIOLATIONS.—Any selected establishment that the Secretary determines to be in violation of any requirement of this Act shall be transitioned to a Federal establishment in accordance with a procedure developed by the Secretary under subsection (b)(3)(A).

''(i) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section limits the jurisdiction of the Secretary with respect to the regulation of meat and meat products under this Act.

''(j) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—This section takes effect on the date on which the Secretary, after providing a period of public comment (including through the conduct of public meetings or hearings), promulgates final regulations to carry out this section.

''(2) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall promulgate final regulations in accordance with paragraph (1).''.

(b) POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS.—The Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 31. INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF POULTRY INSPECTED BY FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES FOR CERTAIN SMALL ESTABLISHMENTS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—

''(1) APPROPRIATE STATE AGENCY.—The term 'appropriate State agency' means a State agency described in section 5(a)(1).

''(2) DESIGNATED PERSONNEL.—The term 'designated personnel' means inspection personnel of a State agency that have undergone all necessary inspection training and certification to assist the Secretary in the administration and enforcement of this Act, including regulations.

''(3) ELIGIBLE ESTABLISHMENT.—The term 'eligible establishment' means an establishment that is in compliance with—

''(A) the State inspection program of the State in which the establishment is located; and

''(B) this Act.

''(4) POULTRY ITEM.—The term 'poultry item' means—

''(A) a portion of poultry; and

''(B) a poultry product.

''(5) SELECTED ESTABLISHMENT.—The term 'selected establishment' means an eligible establishment that is selected by the Secretary, in coordination with the appropriate State agency of the State in which the eligible establishment is located, under subsection (b) to ship poultry items in interstate commerce.

''(b) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO ALLOW SHIPMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary, in coordination with the appropriate State agency of the State in which an establishment is located, may select the establishment to ship poultry items in interstate commerce, and place on each poultry item shipped in interstate commerce a Federal mark, stamp, tag, or label of inspection, if the establishment—

''(A) is an eligible establishment; and

''(B) is located in a State that has designated personnel to inspect the eligible establishment.

''(2) PROHIBITED ESTABLISHMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary, in coordination with an appropriate State agency, shall not select an establishment that—

''(A) on average, employs more than 25 employees (including supervisory and nonsupervisory employees), as defined by the Secretary;

''(B) as of the date of enactment of this section, ships in interstate commerce carcasses, poultry items that are inspected by the Secretary in accordance with this Act;

''(C)(i) is a Federal establishment;

''(ii) was a Federal establishment as of the date of enactment of this section, and was reorganized on a later date under the same name or a different name or person by the person, firm, or corporation that controlled the establishment as of the date of enactment of this section; or

''(iii) was a State establishment as of the date of enactment of this section that—

''(I) as of the date of enactment of this section, employed more than 25 employees; and

''(II) was reorganized on a later date by the person, firm, or corporation that controlled the establishment as of the date of enactment of this section;

''(D) is in violation of this Act;

''(E) is located in a State that does not have a State inspection program; or

''(F) is the subject of a transition carried out in accordance with a procedure developed by the Secretary under paragraph (3)(A).

''(3) ESTABLISHMENTS THAT EMPLOY MORE THAN 25 EMPLOYEES.—

''(A) DEVELOPMENT OF PROCEDURE.—The Secretary may develop a procedure to transition to a Federal establishment any establishment under this section that, on average, consistently employs more than 25 employees.

''(B) ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A State establishment that employs more than 25 employees but less than 35 employees as of the date of enactment of this section may be selected as a selected establishment under this subsection.

''(ii) PROCEDURES.—A State establishment shall be subject to the procedures established under subparagraph (A) beginning on the date that is 3 years after the effective date described in subsection (i).

''(c) REIMBURSEMENT OF STATE COSTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall reimburse a State for costs related to the inspection of selected establishments in the State in accordance with Federal requirements in an amount of not less than 60 percent of eligible State costs.

''(2) MICROBIOLOGICAL VERIFICATION TESTING.—The Secretary may reimburse a State for 100 percent of eligible State costs relating to the inspection of selected establishments in the State, if the State provides additional microbiological verification testing of the selected establishments, using standards under this Act, that is in excess of the typical verification testing frequency of the Federal Government with respect to Federal establishments.

''(d) COORDINATION BETWEEN FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall designate an employee of the Federal Government as State coordinator for each appropriate State agency—

''(A) to provide oversight and enforcement of this section; and

''(B) to oversee the training and inspection activities of designated personnel of the State agency.

''(2) SUPERVISION.—A State coordinator shall be under the direct supervision of the Secretary.

''(3) DUTIES OF STATE COORDINATOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A State coordinator shall visit selected establishments with a frequency that is appropriate to ensure that selected establishments are operating in a manner that is consistent with this Act (including regulations and policies under this Act).

''(B) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—A State coordinator shall, on a quarterly basis, submit to the Secretary a report that describes the status of each selected establishment that is under the jurisdiction of the State coordinator with respect to the level of compliance of each selected establishment with the requirements of this Act.

''(C) IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—If a State coordinator determines that any selected establishment that is under the jurisdiction of the State coordinator is in violation of any requirement of this Act, the State coordinator shall—

''(i) immediately notify the Secretary of the violation; and

''(ii) deselect the selected establishment or suspend inspection at the selected establishment.

''(4) PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS.—Performance evaluations of State coordinators designated under this subsection shall be conducted by the Secretary as part of the Federal agency management control system.

''(e) AUDITS.—

''(1) PERIODIC AUDITS CONDUCTED BY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—Not later than 2 years after the effective date described in subsection (i), and not less often than every 2 years thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture shall conduct an audit of each activity taken by the Secretary under this section for the period covered by the audit to determine compliance with this section.

''(2) AUDIT CONDUCTED BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.—Not earlier than 3 years, nor later than 5 years, after the date of enactment of this section, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of the implementation of this section to determine—

''(A) the effectiveness of the implementation of this section; and

''(B) the number of selected establishments selected by the Secretary under this section.

''(f) TRANSITION GRANTS.—The Secretary may provide grants to appropriate State agencies to assist the appropriate State agencies in helping establishments covered

by this Act to transition to selected establishments.

''(g) VIOLATIONS.—Any selected establishment that the Secretary determines to be in violation of any requirement of this Act shall be transitioned to a Federal establishment in accordance with a procedure developed by the Secretary under subsection (b)(3)(A).

''(h) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section limits the jurisdiction of the Secretary with respect to the regulation of poultry and poultry products under this Act.

''(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—This section takes effect on the date on which the Secretary, after providing a period of public comment (including through the conduct of public meetings or hearings), promulgates final regulations to carry out this section.

''(2) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall promulgate final regulations in accordance with paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 11068. PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION OF PAYMENT AND FRAUD AND ERROR.

Section 1113 of the Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 3413) is amended by striking subsection (k) and inserting the following:

''(k) DISCLOSURE NECESSARY FOR PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAMS OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES.—

''(1) DISCLOSURE TO GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES.—Nothing in this title shall apply to the disclosure by the financial institution of the financial records of any customer to the Department of the Treasury, the Social Security Administration, the Railroad Retirement Board, or any other Government authority that certifies, disburses, or collects payments, when the disclosure of such information is necessary to, and such information is used solely for the purposes of—

''(A) the proper administration of section 1441 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 1441);

''(B) the proper administration of title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.);

''(C) the proper administration of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231 et seq.);

''(D) the verification of the identify of any person in connection with the issuance of a Federal payment or collection of funds by a Government authority; or

''(E) the investigation or recovery of an improper Federal payment or collection of funds, or an improperly negotiated Treasury check.

''(2) LIMITATIONS ON SUBSEQUENT DISCLOSURE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any request authorized by paragraph (1), and the information contained therein, may be used by the financial institution and its agents solely for the purpose of providing the customer's financial records to the Government authority requesting the information and shall be barred from redisclosure by the financial institution or its agents. Any Government authority receiving information pursuant to paragraph (1) may not disclose or use the information except for the purposes set forth in such paragraph.''.

SEC. 11069. ELIMINATION OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS APPLICABLE TO COLLECTION OF DEBT BY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET.

(a) ELIMINATION.—Section 3716 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, regulation, or administrative limitation, no limitation on the period within which an offset may be initiated or taken pursuant to this section shall be effective.

''(2) This section does not apply when a statute explicitly prohibits using administrative offset or setoff to collect the claim or type of claim involved.''.

(b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any debt outstanding on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11070. STORED QUANTITIES OF PROPANE.

Section 550(a) of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007 (6 U.S.C. 121 note; Public Law 109–295), is amended by striking ''Commission.'' and inserting the following:

''Commission: *Provided further,* That the Secretary shall not apply interim or final regulations relating to stored threshold quantities of propane for sale, storage, or use on homestead property, agricultural operations, or small business concerns (as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)) that are located in rural areas (as defined in section 520 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490)), unless the Secretary submits to Congress a report describing an immediate or imminent threat against such a stored quantity of propane: *Provided further*, That nothing in this section exempts the Secretary from implementing any interim or final regulation relating to stored threshold quantities of propane for sale, use, or storage in an area that is not a rural areas (as so defined).''.

SEC. 11071. CLOSURE OF CERTAIN COUNTY FSA OFFICES.

(a) DEFINITION OF CRITICAL ACCESS COUNTY FSA OFFICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term ''critical access county FSA office'' means an office of the Farm Service Agency that, during the period described in paragraph (2), is—

(A) proposed to be closed;

(B) proposed to be closed with the closure delayed until after January 1, 2008, due to additional review pursuant to the third proviso of matter under the heading ''SALARIES AND EXPENSES'' under the heading ''FARM SERVICE AGENCY'' of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–97; 119 Stat. 2131); or

(C) included on a list of critical access county FSA offices determined in accordance with that Act and submitted to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate by the Secretary on October 24, 2007.

(2) DESCRIPTION OF PERIOD.—The period referred to in paragraph (1) is the period beginning on November 10, 2005, and ending on December 31, 2007.

(3) EXCEPTION.—The term ''critical access county FSA office'' does not include any office of the Farm Service Agency that—

(A) is located not more than 20 miles from another office of the Farm Service Agency, unless the office is located within an identified limited-resource area consisting of at least 4 contiguous high-poverty counties; or

(B) employs no full-time equivalent employees as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF OPERATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in paragraph (3), none of the funds made available to the Secretary by any Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture to close any critical access county FSA office during the period beginning on November 1, 2007, and ending on September 30, 2012.

(2) NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Secretary shall ensure that each critical access county FSA office in each State maintains a staff level of not less than 3 full-time equivalent employees during the period described in paragraph (1).

(B) STAFFING FLEXIBILITY.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) and subject to subparagraph (C), an employee required to meet the staff level of a critical access county FSA office in a State as described in subparagraph (A) may be employed at any other county office of the Farm Service Agency in that State, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(C) MINIMUM STAFFING LEVEL.—A critical access county FSA office shall be staffed by not less than 1 full-time equivalent employee during the period described in paragraph (1).

(3) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may close a critical access county FSA office only on concurrence in the determination to close the critical access county FSA office by—

(A) Congress; and

(B) the applicable State Farm Service Agency committee.

TITLE XII—TRADE AND TAX PROVISIONS

SEC. 12001. SHORT TITLE; ETC.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Heartland, Habitat, Harvest, and Horticulture Act of 2007''.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Subtitle A—Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance From the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund

SEC. 12101. SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURE DISASTER ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''TITLE IX—SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURE DISASTER ASSISTANCE

''SEC. 901. PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ACTUAL PRODUCTION HISTORY YIELD.—The term 'actual production history yield' means the weighted average actual production history for each insurable commodity or noninsurable commodity, as calculated under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) or the noninsured crop disaster assistance program, respectively.

''(2) COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM PAYMENT YIELD.—The term 'counter-cyclical program payment yield' means the weighted average payment yield established under section 1102 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7912).

''(3) DISASTER COUNTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'disaster county' means a county included in the geographic area covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration.

''(B) INCLUSION.—The term 'disaster county' includes—

''(i) a county contiguous to a county described in subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) any farm in which, during a calendar year, the total loss of production of the farm relating to weather is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm, as determined by the Secretary.

''(4) ELIGIBLE PRODUCER ON A FARM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'eligible producer on a farm' means an individual or entity described in subparagraph (B) that, as determined by the Secretary, assumes the production and market risks associated with the agricultural production of crops or livestock.

''(B) DESCRIPTION.—An individual or entity referred to in subparagraph (A) is—

''(i) a citizen of the United States;

''(ii) a resident alien;

''(iii) a partnership of citizens of the United States; or

''(iv) a corporation, limited liability corporation, or other farm organizational structure organized under State law.

''(5) FARM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'farm' means, in relation to an eligible producer on a farm, the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that —

''(i) is used for grazing by the eligible producer; or

''(ii) is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer.

''(B) AQUACULTURE.—In the case of aquaculture, the term 'farm' means, in relation to an eligible producer on a farm, all fish being produced in all counties that are intended to be harvested for sale by the eligible producer.

''(C) HONEY.—In the case of honey, the term 'farm' means, in relation to an eligible producer on a farm, all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

''(6) FARM-RAISED FISH.—The term 'farm-raised fish' means any aquatic species (including any species of finfish, mollusk, crustacean, or other aquatic invertebrate, amphibian, reptile, or aquatic plant) that is propagated and reared in a controlled or semicontrolled environment.

''(7) INSURABLE COMMODITY.—The term 'insurable commodity' means an agricultural commodity (excluding livestock) for which the producer on a farm is eligible to obtain a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).

''(8) LIVESTOCK.—The term 'livestock' includes—

''(A) cattle (including dairy cattle);

''(B) bison;

''(C) poultry;

''(D) sheep;

''(E) swine;

''(F) horses; and

''(G) other livestock, as determined by the Secretary.

''(9) MOVING 5-YEAR OLYMPIC AVERAGE COUNTY YIELD.—The term 'moving 5-year Olympic average county yield' means the weighted average yield obtained from the 5 most recent years of yield data provided by the National Agriculture Statistics Service obtained from data after dropping the highest and the lowest yields.

''(10) NONINSURABLE COMMODITY.—The term 'noninsurable commodity' means a crop for which the eligible producers on a farm are eligible to obtain assistance under the noninsured crop assistance program.

''(11) NONINSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—The term 'noninsured crop assistance program' means the program carried out under section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333).

''(12) QUALIFYING NATURAL DISASTER DECLARATION.—The term 'qualifying natural disaster declaration' means a natural disaster declared by the Secretary for production losses under section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961(a)).

''(13) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

''(14) STATE.—The term 'State' means—

''(A) a State;

''(B) the District of Columbia;

''(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and

''(D) any other territory or possession of the United States.

''(15) TRUST FUND.—The term 'Trust Fund' means the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 902.

''(16) UNITED STATES.—The term 'United States' when used in a geographical sense, means all of the States.

''(b) SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use such sums as are necessary from the Trust Fund to make crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms in disaster counties that have incurred crop production losses or crop quality losses, or both, during the crop year.

''(2) AMOUNT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall provide crop disaster assistance payments under this section to an eligible producer on a farm in an amount equal to 52 percent of the difference between—

''(i) the disaster assistance program guarantee, as described in paragraph (3); and

''(ii) the total farm revenue for a farm, as described in paragraph (4).

''(B) LIMITATION.—The disaster assistance program guarantee for a crop used to calculate the payments for a farm under subparagraph (A)(i) may not be greater than 90 percent of the sum of the expected revenue, as described in paragraph (5) for each of the crops on a farm, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GUARANTEE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the supplemental assistance program guarantee shall be the sum obtained by adding—

''(i) for each insurable commodity on the farm, the product obtained by multiplying—

''(I) the greatest of—

''(aa) the actual production history yield;

''(bb) 90 percent of the moving 5-year Olympic average county yield; and

''(cc) the counter-cyclical program payment yield for each crop;

''(II) the percentage of the crop insurance yield guarantee;

''(III) the percentage of crop insurance price elected by the eligible producer;

''(IV) the crop insurance price; and

''(V) 115 percent; and

''(ii) for each noninsurable commodity on a farm, the product obtained by multiplying—

''(I) the weighted noninsured crop assistance program yield guarantee;

''(II) except as provided in subparagraph (B), 100 percent of the noninsured crop assistance program established price; and

''(III) 115 percent.

''(B) SUPPLEMENTAL BUY-UP NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Beginning on the date that the Secretary makes available supplemental buy-up coverage under the noninsured assistance program in accordance with subsection (h), the percentage described in subclause (II) of subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be equal to the percentage of the noninsured assistance program price guarantee elected by the producer.

''(C) ADJUSTMENT INSURANCE GUARANTEE.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), in the case of an insurable commodity for which a plan of insurance provides for an adjustment in the guarantee, such as in the case of prevented planting, the adjusted insurance guarantee shall be the basis for determining the disaster assistance program guarantee for the insurable commodity.

''(D) ADJUSTED ASSISTANCE LEVEL.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), in the case of a noninsurable commodity for which the noninsured crop assistance program provides for an adjustment in the level of assistance, such as in the case of prevented harvesting, the adjusted assistance level shall be the basis for determining the disaster assistance program guarantee for the noninsurable commodity.

''(E) EQUITABLE TREATMENT FOR NON-YIELD BASED POLICIES.—The Secretary shall establish equitable treatment for non-yield based policies and plans of insurance, such as the Adjusted Gross Revenue Lite insurance program.

''(F) PUBLIC MANAGED LAND.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), if rangeland is managed by a Federal agency and the carrying capacity of the managed rangeland is reduced as a result of a disaster in the preceding year that was the basis for a qualifying natural disaster declaration—

''(i) the calculation for the supplemental assistance program guarantee determined under subparagraph (A) as the guarantee applies to the managed rangeland shall be not less than 75 percent of the guarantee for the preceding year; and

''(ii) the requirement for a designation by the Secretary for the current year is waived.

''(4) FARM REVENUE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the total farm revenue for a farm, shall equal the sum obtained by adding—

''(i) the estimated actual value for grazing and for each crop produced on a farm by using the product obtained by multiplying—

''(I) the actual crop acreage grazed or harvested by an eligible producer on a farm;

''(II) the estimated actual yield of the grazing land or crop production; and

''(III) subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the average market price received or value of the production during the first 5 months of the marketing year for the county in which the farm or portion of a farm is located;

''(ii) 20 percent of amount of any direct payments made to the producer under section 1103 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7913) or of any fixed direct payments made at the election of the producer in lieu of that section or a subsequent section;

''(iii) the amount of payments for prevented planting on a farm;

''(iv) the amount of crop insurance indemnities received by an eligible producer on a farm for each crop on a farm, including indemnities for grazing losses;

''(v) the amount of payments an eligible producer on a farm received under the noninsured crop assistance program for each crop on a farm, including grazing losses; and

''(vi) the value of any other natural disaster assistance payments provided by the Federal Government to an eligible producer on a farm for each crop on a farm for the same loss for which the eligible producer is seeking assistance.

''(B) ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary shall adjust the average market price received by the eligible producer on a farm—

''(i) to reflect the average quality discounts applied to the local or regional market price of a crop, hay, or forage due to a reduction in the intrinsic characteristics of the production resulting from adverse weather, as determined annually by the State office of the Farm Service Agency; and

''(ii) to account for a crop the value of which is reduced due to excess moisture resulting from a disaster-related condition.

''(C) MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR CERTAIN CROPS.—With respect to a crop for which an eligible producer on a farm receives assistance under the noninsured crop assistance program, the average market price received or value of the production during the first 5 months of the marketing year for the county in which the farm or portion of a farm is located shall be an amount not more than 100

percent of the price of the crop established under the noninsured crop assistance program.

''(5) EXPECTED REVENUE.—The expected revenue for each crop on a farm shall equal the sum obtained by adding—

''(A) the expected value of grazing;

''(B) the product obtained by multiplying—

''(i) the greatest of—

''(I) the actual production history yield of the eligible producer on a farm;

''(II) the moving 5-year Olympic average county yield; and

''(III) the counter-cyclical program payment yield;

''(ii) the acreage planted or intended to be planted for each crop; and

''(iii) 100 percent of the insurance price guarantee; and

''(C) the product obtained by multiplying—

''(i) 100 percent of the noninsured crop assistance program yield; and

''(ii) 100 percent of the noninsured crop assistance program price for each of the crops on a farm.

''(c) LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use such sums as are necessary from the Trust Fund to make livestock indemnity payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of the normal mortality due to adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary, during the calendar year, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat, and extreme cold.

''(2) PAYMENT RATES.—Indemnity payments to an eligible producer on a farm under paragraph (1) shall be made at a rate of 75 percent of the market value of the applicable livestock on the day before the date of death of the livestock, as determined by the Secretary.

''(d) EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LIVESTOCK, HONEY BEES, AND FARM-RAISED FISH.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use up to $35,000,000 per year from the Trust Fund to provide emergency relief to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish to aid in the reduction of losses due to adverse weather or other environmental conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary, that are not covered under the authority of the Secretary to make qualifying natural disaster declarations.

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under this subsection shall be used to reduce losses caused by feed or water shortages, disease, or other factors as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Any funds made available under this subsection and not used in a crop year shall remain available until expended.

''(e) TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) ELIGIBLE ORCHARDIST.—The term 'eligible orchardist' means a person that—

''(i) produces annual crops from trees for commercial purposes; or

''(ii) produces nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut, or Christmas trees for commercial sale.

''(B) NATURAL DISASTER.—The term 'natural disaster' means plant disease, insect infestation, drought, fire, freeze, flood, earthquake, lightning, or other occurrence, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) TREE.—The term 'tree' includes a tree, bush, and vine.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY.—

''(A) LOSS.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall provide assistance under paragraph (3) to eligible orchardists that planted trees for commercial purposes but lost the trees as a result of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) LIMITATION.—An eligible orchardist shall qualify for assistance under subparagraph (A) only if the tree mortality of the eligible orchardist, as a result of damaging weather or related condition, exceeds 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality).

''(3) ASSISTANCE.—The assistance provided by the Secretary to eligible orchardists for losses described in paragraph (2) shall consist of—

''(A)(i) reimbursement of 75 percent of the cost of replanting trees lost due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality); or

''(ii) at the option of the Secretary, sufficient seedlings to reestablish a stand; and

''(B) reimbursement of 50 percent of the cost of pruning, removal, and other costs incurred by an eligible orchardist to salvage existing trees or, in the case of tree mortality, to prepare the land to replant trees as a result of damage or tree mortality due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, in excess of 15 percent damage or mortality (adjusted for normal tree damage and mortality).

''(f) PLANT PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER PREVENTION.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) EARLY PLANT PEST DETECTION AND SURVEILLANCE.—The term 'early plant pest detection and surveillance' means the full range of activities undertaken to find newly introduced plant pests, whether the plant pests are new to the United States or new to certain areas of the United States, before—

''(i) the plant pests become established; or

''(ii) the plant pest infestations become too large and costly to eradicate or control.

''(B) PLANT PEST.—The term 'plant pest' has the meaning given such term in section 403 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7702).

''(C) SPECIALTY CROP.—The term 'specialty crop' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465).

''(D) STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—The term 'State department of agriculture' means an agency of a State that has a legal responsibility to perform early plant pest detection and surveillance activities.

''(2) EARLY PLANT PEST DETECTION AND SURVEILLANCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—

''(A) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall enter into a cooperative agreement with each State department of agriculture that agrees to conduct early plant pest detection and surveillance activities.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary shall consult with—

''(i) the National Plant Board;

''(ii) the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture; and

''(iii) stakeholders.

''(C) FUNDS UNDER AGREEMENTS.—Each State department of agriculture with which the Secretary enters into a cooperative agreement under this paragraph shall receive funding for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 in an amount to be determined by the Secretary.

''(D) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(i) PLANT PEST DETECTION AND SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES.—A State department of agriculture that receives funds under this paragraph shall use the funds to carry out early plant pest detection and surveillance activities to prevent the introduction of a plant pest or facilitate the eradication of a plant pest, pursuant to a cooperative agreement.

''(ii) SUBAGREEMENTS.—Nothing in this paragraph prevents a State department of agriculture from using funds received under subparagraph (C) to enter into subagreements with political subdivisions of the State that have legal responsibilities relating to agricultural plant pest and disease surveillance.

''(iii) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the cost of carrying out a cooperative agreement under this section may be provided in-kind, including through provision of such indirect costs of the cooperative agreement as the Secretary considers to be appropriate.

''(E) SPECIAL FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary shall provide funds to a State department of agriculture if the Secretary determines that—

''(i) the State department of agriculture is in a State that has a high risk of being affected by 1 or more plant pests; and

''(ii) the early plant pest detection and surveillance activities supported with the funds will likely—

''(I) prevent the introduction and establishment of plant pests; and

''(II) provide a comprehensive approach to compliment Federal detection efforts.

''(F) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of completion of an early plant pest detection and surveillance activity conducted by a State department of agriculture using funds provided under this subsection, the State department of agriculture shall submit to the Secretary a report that describes the purposes and results of the activities.

''(3) THREAT IDENTIFICATION AND MITIGATION PROGRAM.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (referred to in this section as the 'Secretary'), shall establish a threat identification and mitigation program to determine and prioritize foreign threats to the domestic production of crops.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting the program established under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

''(i) consult with the Director of the Center for Plant Health Science and Technology;

''(ii) conduct, in partnership with States, early plant pest detection and surveillance activities;

''(iii) develop risk assessments of the potential threat to the agricultural industry of the United States from foreign sources;

''(iv) collaborate with the National Plant Board on the matters described in subparagraph (C);

''(v) implement action plans developed under subparagraph (C)(ii)(I) immediately after development of the action plans—

''(I) to test the effectiveness of the action plans; and

''(II) to assist in preventing the introduction and widespread dissemination of new foreign and domestic plant pest and disease threats in the United States; and

''(vi) as appropriate, consult with, and use the expertise of, the Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service in the development of plant pest and disease detection, control, and eradication strategies.

''(C) MATTERS DESCRIBED.—The matters described in this subparagraph are—

''(i) the prioritization of foreign threats to the agricultural industry; and

''(ii) the development, in consultation with State departments of agriculture and other State or regional resource partnerships, of—

''(I) action plans that effectively address the foreign threats, including pathway analysis, offshore mitigation measures, and comprehensive exclusion measures at ports of entry and other key distribution centers; and

''(II) strategies to employ if a foreign plant pest or disease is introduced;

''(D) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall update and submit to Congress the priority list and action plans described in subparagraph (C), including an accounting of funds expended on the action plans.

''(4) SPECIALTY CROP CERTIFICATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.—The Secretary shall provide funds and technical assistance to specialty crop growers, organizations representing specialty crop growers, and State and local agencies working with specialty crop growers and organizations for the development and implementation of—

''(A) audit-based certification systems, such as best management practices—

''(i) to address plant pests; and

''(ii) to mitigate the risk of plant pests in the movement of plants and plant products; and

''(B) nursery plant pest risk management systems, in collaboration with the nursery industry, research institutions, and other appropriate entities—

''(i) to enable growers to identify and prioritize nursery plant pests and diseases of regulatory significance;

''(ii) to prevent the introduction, establishment, and spread of those plant pests and diseases; and

''(iii) to reduce the risk of, mitigate, and eradicate those plant pests and diseases.

''(5) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall use from the Trust Fund to carry out this subsection—

''(A) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(B) $25,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

''(C) $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

''(D) $50,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

''(E) $64,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

''(g) RISK MANAGEMENT PURCHASE REQUIREMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the eligible producers on a farm shall not be eligible for assistance under this section with respect to losses to an insurable commodity or noninsurable commodity if the eligible producers on the farm—

''(A) in the case of an insurable commodity, did not obtain a policy or plan of insurance for the insurable commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) (excluding a crop insurance pilot program under that Act) for the crop incurring the losses; or

''(B) in the case of a noninsurable commodity, did not file the required paperwork, and pay the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline, for the noninsurable commodity under the noninsured crop assistance program for the crop incurring the losses.

''(2) MINIMUM.—To be considered to have obtained insurance under paragraph (1), an eligible producer on a farm shall have obtained a policy or plan of insurance with not less than 50 percent yield coverage at 55 percent of the insurable price for each crop grazed, planted, or intended to be planted for harvest on a whole farm.

''(3) WAIVER.—With respect to eligible producers that are limited resource, minority, or beginning farmers or ranchers, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may—

''(A) waive paragraph (1); and

''(B) provide disaster assistance under this section at a level that the Secretary determines to be equitable and appropriate.

''(4) EQUITABLE RELIEF.—The Secretary may provide equitable relief to eligible producers on a farm that unintentionally fail to meet the requirements of paragraph (1) for 1 or more crops on a farm on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the Secretary.

''(h) SUPPLEMENTAL BUY-UP NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program under which eligible producers on a farm may purchase under the noninsured crop assistance program additional yield and price coverage for a crop, including a forage, hay, or honey crop, of—

''(A) 60 or 65 percent (as elected by the producers on the farm) of the yield established for the crop under the program; and

''(B) 100 percent of the price established for the crop under the program.

''(2) FEES.—The Secretary shall establish and collect fees from eligible producers on a farm participating in the program established under paragraph (1) to offset all of the costs of the program, as determined by the Secretary.

''(i) PAYMENT LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The total amount of disaster assistance that an eligible producer on a farm may receive under this section may not exceed $100,000.

''(2) AGI LIMITATION.—Section 1001D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a or any successor provision) shall apply with respect to assistance provided under this section.

''(j) PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.—This section shall be effective only for losses that are incurred as the result of a disaster, adverse weather, or other environmental condition that occurs on or before September 30, 2012, as determined by the Secretary.

''SEC. 902. AGRICULTURE DISASTER RELIEF TRUST FUND.

''(a) CREATION OF TRUST FUND.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the 'Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund', consisting of such amounts as may be appropriated or credited to such Trust Fund as provided in this section.

''(b) TRANSFER TO TRUST FUND.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are appropriated to the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund amounts equivalent to 3.34 percent of the amounts received in the general fund of the Treasury of the United States during fiscal years 2008 through 2012 attributable to the duties collected on articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

''(2) AMOUNTS BASED ON ESTIMATES.—The amounts appropriated under this section shall be transferred at least monthly from the general fund of the Treasury of the United States to the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund on the basis of estimates made by the Secretary of the Treasury. Proper adjustments shall be made in the amounts subsequently transferred to the extent prior estimates were in excess of or less than the amounts required to be transferred.

''(c) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(1) REPORTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall be the trustee of the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund and shall submit an annual report to Congress each year on the financial condition and the results of the operations of such Trust Fund during the preceding fiscal year and on its expected condition and operations during the 5 fiscal years succeeding such fiscal year. Such report shall be printed as a House document of the session of Congress to which the report is made.

''(2) INVESTMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall invest such portion of the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund as is not in his judgment required to meet current withdrawals. Such investments may be made only in interest bearing obligations of the United States. For such purpose, such obligations may be acquired—

''(i) on original issue at the issue price, or

''(ii) by purchase of outstanding obligations at the market price.

''(B) SALE OF OBLIGATIONS.—Any obligation acquired by the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund may be sold by the Secretary of the Treasury at the market price.

''(C) INTEREST ON CERTAIN PROCEEDS.—The interest on, and the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any obligations held in the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund shall be credited to and form a part of such Trust Fund.

''(d) EXPENDITURES FROM TRUST FUND.—Amounts in the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund shall be available for the purposes of making expenditures to meet those obligations of the United States incurred under section 901.

''(e) AUTHORITY TO BORROW.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated, and are appropriated, to the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund, as repayable advances, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of such Trust Fund.

''(2) REPAYMENT OF ADVANCES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Advances made to the Agriculture Disaster Relief Trust Fund shall be repaid, and interest on such advances shall be paid, to the general fund of the Treasury when the Secretary determines that moneys are available for such purposes in such Trust Fund.

''(B) RATE OF INTEREST.—Interest on advances made pursuant to this subsection shall be—

''(i) at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury (as of the close of the calendar month preceding the month in which the advance is made) to be equal to the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the anticipated period during which the advance will be outstanding, and

''(ii) compounded annually.''.

(b) TECHNICAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE PLANT PROTECTION ACT.—

(1) Section 442(c) of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7772(c)) is amended by striking ''of longer than 60 days''.

(2) Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Secretary of Agriculture relating to cost-sharing for animal and plant health emergency programs (68 Fed. Reg. 40541 (2003)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

Subtitle B—Conservation Provisions

PART I—LAND AND SPECIES PRESERVATION PROVISIONS

SEC. 12201. CONSERVATION RESERVE TAX CREDIT.

(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 30D. CONSERVATION RESERVE CREDIT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the rental value of any land enrolled in the conservation reserve program.

''(b) LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) LIMITATION BASED ON AMOUNT OF TAX.—The credit allowed under this section for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess of—

''(A) the regular tax liability for the taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under subpart A and sections 27, 30, 30B, and 30C, over

''(B) the tentative minimum tax for the taxable year.

''(2) LIMITATION BASED ON ALLOCATED PORTION OF NATIONAL LIMITATION.—The credit allowed under subsection (a) for any taxpayer for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess of—

''(A) the amount of the national credit limitation allocated to such taxpayer under subsection (c) for the fiscal year in which such taxable year ends and all prior fiscal years, over

''(B) the credit allowed under subsection (a) for all prior taxable years.

''(c) CONSERVATION RESERVE CREDIT LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is a conservation reserve credit limitation for each fiscal year of the United States. Such limitation is—

''(A) $750,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012, and

''(B) zero thereafter.

''(2) ALLOCATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall allocate the conservation reserve credit limitation to taxpayers—

''(i) who are owners or operators of land enrolled in the conservation reserve program, and

''(ii) who have made an election under section 1234(c)(6) of the Food Security Act of 1985 to receive an allocation under this paragraph in lieu of a rental payment for such year under 1233(2) of such Act.

''(B) ALLOCATION LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not allocate more than $50,000 to any 1 taxpayer for any fiscal year.

''(3) CARRYFORWARD OF LIMITATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If for any fiscal year the limitation under paragraph (1) (after the application of this paragraph) exceeds the amount allocated to all eligible taxpayers for such fiscal year, the limitation amount for the following fiscal year shall be increased by the amount of such excess.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR 2012.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), no amount of the conservation reserve credit limitation may be carried to any fiscal year following fiscal year 2012.

''(d) CARRYFORWARD.—If the amount of the credit allowable under subsection (a) for any taxpayer for any taxable year (determined without regard to subsection (b)(1)) exceeds the limitation under subsection (b)(1), such excess may be carried forward to the succeeding taxable year and added to the credit allowable under subsection (a) for such succeeding taxable year.

''(e) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'conservation reserve program' means the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985.

''(2) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No deduction or other credit shall be allowed under this chapter for any amount with respect to which a credit is allowed under subsection (a).

''(3) RECAPTURE OF ALLOCATION.—If a taxpayer terminates a contract under the conservation reserve program before the end of the fiscal year with respect to which an allocation under subsection (c)(2) is made, the Secretary shall recapture the amount of the credit allowed under this section which bears the same ratio to the amount so allocated as the number of days in the fiscal year during which the contract was not in effect bears to 365.

''(4) TREATMENT OF CREDIT UNDER INCOME TAX AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME TAX.—For purposes of this chapter and chapter 2, the amount of any credit received under this section shall not be treated as income.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30C the following new item:

''Sec. 30D. Conservation reserve credit.''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO THE FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 1985.—

(1) ELECTION TO RECEIVE TAX CREDITS IN LIEU OF PAYMENTS.—Section 1234(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(c)), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) ELECTION TO RECEIVE TAX CREDITS IN LIEU OF PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In lieu of an annual rental payment for any year, an owner or operator with land enrolled under the program established under this subchapter may elect to receive for such year an allocation of tax credits under section 30D(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(B) ELECTION.—Any election under this paragraph shall be made in such form and at such time as the Secretary shall prescribe and shall apply to all contracts of the owner or operator under this subchapter.

''(C) LIMITATION.—Any election under this paragraph shall not apply with respect to payments under the emergency forestry conservation reserve program under section 1231(k).''.

(2) PAYMENT LIMITATION.—Paragraph (1) of section 1234(e) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 3834(e)(1)) is amended by inserting ''and allocations of tax credits under section 30D(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986'' after ''in-kind commodities''.

SEC. 12202. EXCLUSION OF CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM PAYMENTS FROM SECA TAX FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

(a) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 1402(a)(1) (defining net earnings from self-employment) is amended by inserting '', and including payments under section 1233(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3833(2)) to individuals receiving benefits under section 202 or 223 of the Social Security Act'' after ''crop shares''.

(b) SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—Section 211(a)(1) of the Social Security Act is amended by inserting '', and including payments under section 1233(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3833(2)) to individuals receiving benefits under section 202 or 223'' after ''crop shares''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to payments made after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12203. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF SPECIAL RULE ENCOURAGING CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAPITAL GAIN REAL PROPERTY FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) INDIVIDUALS.—Subparagraph (E) of section 170(b)(1) (relating to contributions of qualified conservation contributions) is amended by striking clause (vi).

(2) CORPORATIONS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 170(b)(2) (relating to qualified conservation contributions by certain corporate farmers and ranchers) is amended by striking clause (iii).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12204. TAX CREDIT FOR RECOVERY AND RESTORATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 30E. ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY AND RESTORATION CREDIT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an eligible taxpayer, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the sum of—

''(1) the habitat protection easement credit, plus

''(2) the habitat restoration credit.

''(b) LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The credit allowed under subsection (a) for any taxpayer for any taxable year shall not exceed the endangered species recovery credit limitation allocated to the eligible taxpayer under subsection (f) for the calendar year in which the taxpayer's taxable year ends.

''(2) CARRYFORWARDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If the amount of the credit allowable under subsection (a) for any taxpayer for any taxable year (determined without regard to paragraph (1)) exceeds the endangered species recovery credit limitation allocated under subsection (f) to such taxpayer for the calendar year in which the taxpayer's taxable year ends, such excess may be carried forward to the next taxable year for which an allocation is made to such taxpayer under subsection (f). Any amount carried to another taxable year under this subparagraph shall be treated as added to the credit allowable under subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2), whichever is appropriate, for such taxable year.

''(B) CARRYFORWARD OF ALLOCATION AMOUNT.—If the amount of the endangered species recovery credit limitation allocated to a taxpayer for any calendar year under subsection (f) exceeds the amount of the credit allowed to the taxpayer under subsection (a) for the taxable year ending in such calendar year, such excess may be carried forward to the next taxable year of the taxpayer. Any amount carried to another taxable year under this subparagraph shall be treated as allocated to the taxpayer for use in such taxable year under subsection (f).

''(c) ELIGIBLE TAXPAYER; QUALIFIED AGREEMENTS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'eligible taxpayer' means—

''(A) a taxpayer who—

''(i) owns real property which contains the habitat of a qualified species, and

''(ii) enters into a qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement, a qualified 30-year habitat protection agreement, or a qualified habitat protection agreement with respect to such real property, and

''(B) any other taxpayer who—

''(i) is a party to a qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement, a qualified 30-year habitat protection agreement, or a qualified habitat protection agreement, and

''(ii) as part of any such agreement, agrees to assume responsibility for costs paid or incurred as a result of implementing such agreement.

''(2) QUALIFIED PERPETUAL HABITAT PROTECTION AGREEMENT.—The term 'qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement' means an agreement—

''(A) under which a taxpayer described in paragraph (1)(A) grants to the appropriate Secretary, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Defense, or a State an easement in perpetuity for the protection of the habitat of a qualified species, and

''(B) which meets the requirements of paragraph (5).

''(3) QUALIFIED 30-YEAR HABITAT PROTECTION AGREEMENT.—The term 'qualified 30-year habitat protection agreement' means an agreement not described in paragraph (2)—

''(A) under which a taxpayer described in paragraph (1)(A) grants to the appropriate Secretary, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Defense, or a State an easement for a period of 30 years or greater for the protection of the habitat of a qualified species, and

''(B) which meets the requirements of paragraph (5).

''(4) QUALIFIED HABITAT PROTECTION AGREEMENT.—The term 'qualified habitat protection agreement' means an agreement—

''(A) under which a taxpayer described in paragraph (1)(A) enters into an agreement not described in paragraph (2) or (3) with the appropriate Secretary, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Defense, or a State to protect the habitat of a qualified species for a specified period of time, and

''(B) which meets the requirements of paragraph (5).

''(5) REQUIREMENTS.—An agreement meets the requirements of this paragraph if the agreement—

''(A) is consistent with any recovery plan which is applicable and which has been approved for a qualified species under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973,

''(B) includes a habitat management plan agreed to by the appropriate Secretary and the eligible taxpayer, and

''(C) requires that technical assistance with respect to the duties under the habitat management plan be provided to the taxpayer by the appropriate Secretary or an entity approved by the appropriate Secretary.

''(d) HABITAT PROTECTION EASEMENT CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the habitat protection easement credit for any taxable year is an amount equal to—

''(A) in the case of a taxpayer described in subsection (c)(1)(A) who has entered into a qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement during such taxable year, 100 percent of the excess (if any) of—

''(i) the fair market value of the real property with respect to which the qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement is made, determined on the day before such agreement is entered into, over

''(ii) the fair market value of such property, determined on the day after such agreement is entered into,

''(B) in the case of a taxpayer described in subsection (c)(1)(A) who has entered into a qualified 30-year habitat protection agreement during such taxable year, 75 percent of such excess, and

''(C) in the case of any other taxpayer, zero.

''(2) REDUCTION FOR AMOUNT RECEIVED FOR EASEMENT.—The amount determined under paragraph (1) shall be reduced by any amount received by the taxpayer in connection with the easement.

''(3) LIMITATION BASED ON AMOUNT OF TAX.—The credit allowed under subsection (a)(1) for any taxable year shall not exceed the sum of—

''(A) the taxpayer's regular tax liability for the taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under subpart A and sections 27, 30, 30B, 30C, and 30D, and

''(B) the tax imposed by section 55(a) for the taxable year.

''(4) CARRYFORWARD OF UNUSED CREDIT.—If the credit allowable under subsection (a)(1) for any taxable year exceeds the limitation imposed by paragraph (3) for such taxable year, such excess shall be carried to the succeeding taxable year and added to the credit allowable under subsection (a)(1) for such succeeding taxable year.

''(5) QUALIFIED APPRAISALS REQUIRED.—No amount shall be taken into account under this subsection unless the eligible taxpayer includes with the taxpayer's return for the taxable year a qualified appraisal (within the meaning of section 170(f)(11)(E)) of the real property.

''(e) HABITAT RESTORATION CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2), the habitat restoration credit for any taxable year shall be an amount equal to—

''(A) in the case of a qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement, 100 percent of the costs paid or incurred by an eligible taxpayer during such taxable year pursuant to the habitat management plan under such agreement,

''(B) in the case of a qualified 30-year habitat protection agreement, 75 percent of the costs paid or incurred by an eligible taxpayer during such taxable year pursuant to the habitat management plan under such agreement, and

''(C) in the case of a qualified habitat protection agreement, 50 percent of the costs paid or incurred by an eligible taxpayer during such taxable year pursuant to the habitat management plan under such agreement.

''(2) LIMITATION BASED ON AMOUNT OF TAX.—The credit allowed under subsection (a)(2) for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess (if any) of—

''(A) the regular tax liability for the taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under subpart A, sections 27, 30, 30B, 30C, 30D, and subsection (a)(1), over

''(B) the tentative minimum tax for the taxable year.

''(3) CARRYFORWARD OF UNUSED CREDIT.—If the credit allowable under subsection (a)(2) for any taxable year exceeds the limitation imposed by paragraph (2) for such taxable year, such excess shall be carried to the succeeding taxable year and added to the credit allowable under subsection (a)(2) for such succeeding taxable year.

''(4) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(A) CERTAIN COSTS NOT INCLUDED.—No amount shall be taken into account with respect to any cost which is paid or incurred by a taxpayer to comply with any requirement of a Federal, State, or local government (other than costs required under an agreement described in subsection (c)).

''(B) SUBSIDIZED FINANCING.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the amount of costs paid or incurred by an eligible taxpayer pursuant to any habitat management plan described in subsection (c)(5)(B) shall be reduced by the amount of any financing provided under any Federal or State program a principal purpose of which is to subsidize financing for the conservation of the habitat of a qualified species.

''(f) ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY CREDIT LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is an endangered species recovery credit limitation for each calendar year. Such limitation is —

''(A) for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012—

''(i) with respect to allocations described in paragraph (2)(A)—

''(I) $5,000,000 with respect to qualified perpetual habitat protection agreements,

''(II) $2,000,000 with respect to qualified 30-year habitat protection agreements, and

''(III) $1,000,000 with respect to qualified habitat protection agreements, and

''(ii) with respect to allocations described in paragraph (2)(B)—

''(I) $290,000,000 with respect to qualified perpetual habitat protection agreements,

''(II) $55,000,000 with respect to qualified 30-year habitat protection agreements, and

''(III) $35,000,000 with respect to qualified habitat protection agreements, and

''(B) except as provided in paragraph (3), zero thereafter.

''(2) ALLOCATION OF LIMITATION.—

''(A) ALLOCATIONS IN COORDINATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.—The limitations described in paragraph (1)(A)(i) shall be allocated to eligible taxpayers by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture.

''(B) OTHER ALLOCATIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The limitations described in paragraph (1)(A)(ii) shall be allocated to eligible taxpayers in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce.

''(ii) ESTABLISHMENT OF ALLOCATION PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, shall, by regulation, establish a program to process applications from eligible taxpayers and to determine how to best allocate the credit limitations under clause (i) taking into account the considerations described in clause (iii).

''(iii) CONSIDERATIONS.—In accepting applications to make allocations to eligible taxpayers under this section, priority shall be given to taxpayers with agreements—

''(I) relating to habitats that will significantly increase the likelihood of recovering and delisting a species as an endangered species or a threatened species (as defined under section 2 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973),

''(II) that are cost-effective and maximize the benefits to a qualified species per dollar expended,

''(III) relating to habitats of species which have a federally approved recovery plan pursuant to section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973,

''(IV) relating to habitats with the potential to contribute significantly to the improvement of the status of a qualified species,

''(V) relating to habitats with the potential to contribute significantly to the eradication or control of invasive species that are imperiling a qualified species,

''(VI) with habitat management plans that will manage multiple qualified species,

''(VII) with habitat management plans that will create adjacent or proximate habitat for the recovery of a qualified species,

''(VIII) relating to habitats for qualified species with an urgent need for protection,

''(IX) with habitat management plans that assist in preventing the listing of a species as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 or a similar State law,

''(X) with habitat management plans that may resolve conflicts between the protection of qualified species and otherwise lawful human activities, and

''(XI) with habitat management plans that may resolve conflicts between the protection of a qualified species and military training or other military operations.

''(3) CARRYOVER OF UNUSED LIMITATION.—If for any calendar year any of the limitations under paragraph (1) (after the application of this paragraph) exceeds the amount allocated to eligible taxpayers for such calendar year, such limitation amount for the following calendar year shall be increased by the amount of such excess.

''(g) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) APPROPRIATE SECRETARY.—The term 'appropriate Secretary' has the meaning given to the term 'Secretary' under section 3(15) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

''(2) HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term 'habitat management plan' means, with respect to any habitat, a plan which—

''(A) identifies one or more qualified species to which the plan applies,

''(B) is designed to—

''(i) restore or enhance the habitat of the qualified species, or

''(ii) reduce threats to the qualified species through the management of the habitat,

''(C) describes the current condition of the habitat to be restored or enhanced,

''(D) describes the threats to the qualified species that are intended to be reduced through the plan,

''(E) describes the management practices to be undertaken by the taxpayer,

''(F) provides a schedule of deadlines for undertaking such management practices and the expected responses of the habitat and the species,

''(G) requires monitoring of the management practices and the status of the qualified species and its habitat, and

''(H) describes the technical assistance to be provided to the taxpayer and identifies the entity that will provide such assistance.

''(3) QUALIFIED SPECIES.—The term 'qualified species' means—

''(A) any species listed as an endangered species or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, or

''(B) any species for which a finding has been made under section 4(b)(3) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 that listing under such Act may be warranted.

''(4) TAKING.—The term 'taking' has the meaning given to such term under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

''(5) REDUCTION IN BASIS.—For purposes of this subtitle—

''(A) HABITAT PROTECTION EASEMENT CREDIT.—The basis of any property for which a credit is allowed under subsection (a)(1) shall be reduced by the amount of basis which is allocated, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, to the easement granted as part of a qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement or a qualified 30-year habitat protection agreement.

''(B) HABITAT RESTORATION CREDIT.—If a credit is allowed under subsection (a)(2) for any expenditure with respect to any property, the increase in the basis of such property which would (but for this subparagraph) result from such expenditure shall be reduced by the amount of the credit so allowed.

''(6) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No deduction or other credit shall be allowed under this chapter for any amount with respect to which a credit is allowed under subsection (a).

''(7) CERTIFICATION.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) unless the appropriate Secretary certifies that any agreement described in subsection (c) will contribute to the recovery of a qualified species.

''(8) REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION OF INCIDENTAL TAKINGS.—The Secretary shall request the appropriate Secretary to consider whether to authorize under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 takings by an eligible taxpayer of a qualified species to which an agreement described in subsection (c) relates if the takings are incidental to—

''(A) the restoration, enhancement, or management of the habitat pursuant to the habitat management plan under the agreement, or

''(B) the use of the property to which the agreement pertains at any time after the expiration of the easement or the specified period described in subsection (c)(4)(A), but only if such use will leave the qualified species at least as well off on the property as it was before the agreement was made.

''(9) RECAPTURE.—The Secretary shall, by regulations, provide for recapturing the benefit under any credit allowable under subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that—

''(A) the taxpayer has failed to carry out the duties of the taxpayer under the terms of a qualified perpetual habitat protection agreement, a qualified 30-year habitat protection agreement, or a qualified habitat protection agreement, and

''(B) there are no other available means to remediate such failure.''.

(b) GAO STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall undertake a study on the effectiveness of the credit allowed under section 30E of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this Act).

(2) ISSUES TO BE STUDIED.—The study under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) evaluate—

(i) the contributions that habitat management plans established under such credit have made in restoring or enhancing species habitat and reducing threats to species, and

(ii) the implementation of the credit allocation program established in section 30E(f)(2) of such Code (as so added), and

(B) include recommendations for improving the effectiveness of such credit.

(3) REPORTS.—

(A) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress an interim report on the study conducted under paragraph (1).

(B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a final report on the study conducted under paragraph (1).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1016(a) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (36), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (37) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting after paragraph (37) the following new paragraph:

''(38) to the extent provided in section 30E(g)(5).''.

(2) The table of sections for subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30D the following new item:

''Sec. 30E. Endangered species recovery and restoration credit.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12205. DEDUCTION FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY EXPENDITURES.

(a) DEDUCTION FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY EXPENDITURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 175(c) (relating to definitions) is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following new sentence: ''Such term shall include expenditures paid or incurred for the purpose of achieving site-specific management actions recommended in recovery plans approved pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 175 is amended by inserting '', or for endangered species recovery'' after ''prevention of erosion of land used in farming'' each place it appears in subsections (a) and (c).

(B) The heading of section 175 is amended by inserting ''**; endangered species recovery expenditures**'' before the period.

(C) The item relating to section 175 in the table of sections for part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by inserting ''; endangered species recovery expenditures'' before the period.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—Paragraph (3) of section 175(c) (relating to additional limitations) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting ''OR ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY PLAN'' after ''CONSERVATION PLAN'', and

(2) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting ''or the recovery plan approved pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973'' after ''Department of Agriculture''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to expenditures paid or incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12206. EXCLUSION FOR CERTAIN PAYMENTS AND PROGRAMS RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 126 (relating to certain cost-sharing payments) is amended by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (13) and by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraphs:

''(10) The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program authorized by the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act.

''(11) The Landowner Incentive Program, the State Wildlife Grants Program, and the Private Stewardship Grants Program authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956.

''(12) The Forest Health Protection Program and the program related to integrated pest management authorized by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to payments received after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12207. CREDIT FOR EASEMENTS GRANTED UNDER CERTAIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 30F. AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION EASEMENT CREDIT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the sum of—

''(1) the wetlands reserve conservation credit, plus

''(2) the grassland reserve conservation credit.

''(b) LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) LIMITATION BASED ON AMOUNT OF TAX.—The credit allowed under this section for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess of—

''(A) the regular tax liability for the taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under subpart A and sections 27, 30, 30B, 30C, 30D, 30E(a)(1), and 30E(a)(2), over

''(B) the tentative minimum tax for the taxable year.

''(2) LIMITATION BASED ON ALLOCATED PORTION OF NATIONAL LIMITATION.—The credit allowed under subsection (a) for any taxpayer for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess of—

''(A) the amount of the national credit limitation allocated to such taxpayer under subsection (e) for such taxable year and all prior taxable years, over

''(B) the credit allowed under subsection (a) for all prior taxable years.

''(c) WETLANDS RESERVE CONSERVATION CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), in the case of a wetlands reserve eligible taxpayer, the wetlands reserve conservation credit for any taxable year is an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the wetlands reserve easement value.

''(2) WETLANDS RESERVE ELIGIBLE TAXPAYER.—For purposes of this section, the term 'wetlands reserve eligible taxpayer' means any taxpayer who—

''(A) has granted an easement to the Secretary of Agriculture under the wetlands reserve program, and

''(B) who has made an election under section 1237A(f)(5) of the Food Security Act of 1985 to receive an allocation under subsection (e)(2) in lieu of a payment under section 1237A(f)(1) of such Act.

''(3) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes paragraph (1), the term 'applicable percentage' means the percentage equal to—

''(A) 100 percent, minus

''(B) the highest percentage of tax which would apply under section 1 or 11 with respect to the taxpayer if the taxable income of the taxpayer were increased by an amount equal to the wetlands reserve easement value.

''(4) WETLANDS RESERVE EASEMENT VALUE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'wetlands reserve easement value' means the lesser of—

''(A) the product of—

''(i) the wetlands reserve geographic area rate for the area in which the real property to which the easement pertains is located, and

''(ii) the number of acres to which the easement applies, or

''(B) the value of any payment to which the taxpayer would be entitled with respect to such easement under section 1237A(f)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 if the taxpayer had not made an election under section 1237A(f)(5) of such Act.

''(5) WETLANDS RESERVE GEOGRAPHIC AREA RATE.—For purposes of paragraph (4)(A)(i), the wetlands reserve geographic area rate with respect to any geographic area shall be the rate per acre, determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, appropriate for easements granted under the wetlands reserve program in such area.

''(d) GRASSLAND RESERVE CONSERVATION CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2), in the case of any grassland reserve eligible taxpayer, the grassland reserve conservation credit for any taxable year is an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the grassland reserve easement value.

''(2) GRASSLAND RESERVE ELIGIBLE TAXPAYER.—For purposes of this section, the term 'grassland reserve eligible taxpayer' means any taxpayer who—

''(A) has granted an easement under the grassland reserve program to an eligible easement holder, and

''(B) who has made an election under section 1238P(b)(2)(C) of the Food Security Act of 1985 to receive an allocation under subsection (e)(2) in lieu of a payment under section 1238P(b)(2)(A)(i) of such Act.

''(3) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes paragraph (1), the term 'applicable percentage' means the percentage equal to—

''(A) 100 percent, minus

''(B) the highest percentage of tax which would apply under section 1 or 11 with respect to the taxpayer if the taxable income of the taxpayer were increased by an amount equal to the grassland reserve easement value.

''(4) GRASSLAND RESERVE EASEMENT VALUE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'grassland reserve easement value' means—

''(A) in the case of a permanent conservation easement (within the meaning of section 1238N(3) of the Food Security Act of 1985), the lesser of—

''(i) the product of—

''(I) the grassland reserve program geographic area rate for the area in which the real property to which the easement pertains is located, and

''(II) the number of acres to which the easement applies, or

''(ii) the value of any payment to which the taxpayer would be entitled in return for such easement under section 1238P(b)(2)(A)(i)(I) of the Food Security Act of 1985 if the taxpayer had not made an election under section 1238P(b)(2)(C) of such Act, and

''(B) in the case of a 30-year conservation easement (within the meaning of section 1238O(b)(2) of such Act), the lesser of—

''(i) 30 percent of the lesser of the amount determined under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A), or

''(ii) the value of any payment to which the taxpayer would be entitled in return for such easement under section 1238P(b)(1)(A)(i)(II) of such Act if the taxpayer had not made an election under section 1238P(b)(2)(C) of such Act.

''(5) GRASSLAND RESERVE GEOGRAPHIC AREA RATE.—For purposes of paragraph (4)(A)(i)(I), the grassland reserve geographic area rate with respect to any geographic area shall be the rate, determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, appropriate for easements granted under the grassland reserve program in such area.

''(e) NATIONAL CONSERVATION CREDIT LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The aggregate credits allowed under subsection (a) for all taxpayers shall not exceed $1,000,000,000.

''(2) ALLOCATION.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall allocate the credit limitation under paragraph (1) to taxpayers who—

''(A) have granted an easement—

''(i) to the Secretary of Agriculture under the wetlands reserve program, or

''(ii) to an eligible easement holder under the grassland reserve program, and

''(B) make an election under such program to receive an allocation under this paragraph in lieu of a payment under such program.

''(3) LIMITATION ON ALLOCATION.—No amount of the credit limitation may be allocated to any taxpayer for any taxable year which ends after September 30, 2012.

''(f) CARRYFORWARD.—If the amount of the credit allowable under subsection (a) for any taxpayer for any taxable year (determined without regard to subsection (b)(1)) exceeds the limitation under subsection (b)(1), such excess may be carried forward to the succeeding taxable year and added to the credit allowable under subsection (a) for such succeeding taxable year.

''(g) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM.—The term 'wetlands reserve program' means the wetlands reserve program established under subchapter C of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985.

''(2) GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM.—The term 'grassland reserve program' means the grassland reserve program established under subchapter C of chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985.

''(3) ELIGIBLE EASEMENT HOLDER.—The term 'eligible easement holder' means the Secretary of Agriculture or a State.

''(4) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No deduction or other credit shall be allowed under this chapter for any amount with respect to which a credit is allowed under subsection (a).

''(5) REDUCTION IN BASIS.—For purposes of this subtitle, the basis of any property for which a credit is allowed under subsection (a) shall be reduced by the amount of basis which is allocated, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, to the easement granted under the wetlands reserve program or the grassland reserve program.

''(6) RECAPTURE.—The Secretary shall, by regulations, provide for recapturing the benefit of any credit allowable under subsection (a) if the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, determines that—

''(A) the eligible taxpayer has failed to carry out the duties of the taxpayer under the terms of the easement, and

''(B) there are no other available means to remediate such failure.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 1016(a), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (37), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (38) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting after paragraph (38) the following new paragraph:

''(39) to the extent provided in section 30F(g)(5).''.

(B) The table of sections for subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30E the following new item:

''Sec. 30F. Agriculture conservation easement credit.''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to easements granted after September 30, 2007, in taxable years ending after such date.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO THE FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 1985.—

(1) WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM.—Section 1237A(f) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3837a(f)), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) ELECTION TO RECEIVE TAX CREDITS IN LIEU OF PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In lieu of a payment in cash under paragraph (1), the landowner may elect to receive an allocation of tax credits under section 30E(e)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(B) LIMITATION.—No election may be made under this paragraph with respect to payments to a landowner under a special wetlands reserve enhancement program described in subsection (h).''.

(2) GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM.—Section 1238P(b)(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838p(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) ELECTION TO RECEIVE TAX CREDITS IN LIEU OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS.—In lieu of a payment in return for a permanent conservation easement under subparagraph (A)(i)(I) or a 30-year conservation easement under subparagraph (A)(i)(II), the landowner may elect to receive an allocation of tax credits under section 30E(e)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.''.

PART II—TIMBER PROVISIONS

SEC. 12211. FOREST CONSERVATION BONDS.

(a) TAX-EXEMPT BOND FINANCING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, any qualified forest conservation bond shall be treated as an exempt facility bond under section 142 of such Code.

(2) QUALIFIED FOREST CONSERVATION BOND.—For purposes of this section, the term ''qualified forest conservation bond'' means any bond issued as part of an issue if—

(A) 95 percent or more of the net proceeds (as defined in section 150(a)(3) of such Code) of such issue are to be used for qualified project costs, and

(B) such bond is issued before the date which is 36 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) LIMITATION ON AGGREGATE AMOUNT ISSUED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The maximum aggregate face amount of bonds which may be issued under this subsection shall not exceed $1,500,000,000 for all projects (excluding refunding bonds).

(B) ENFORCEMENT OF LIMITATION.—An issue shall not be treated as an issue described in paragraph (2) if the aggregate face amount of bonds issued pursuant to such issue for any qualified projects costs (when added to the aggregate face amount of bonds previously so issued for such costs) exceeds the amount allocated under subparagraph (C).

(C) INITIAL ALLOCATION OF LIMITATION.—The limitation described in subparagraph (A)

shall be allocated by the Secretary of the Treasury among qualified organizations as follows:

(i) 35 percent for qualified project costs with respect to the cost of acquisition by any qualified organization in the Pacific Northwest region.

(ii) 30 percent for qualified project costs with respect to the cost of acquisition by any qualified organization in the Western region.

(iii) 17.5 percent for qualified project costs with respect to the cost of acquisition by any qualified organization in the Southeast region.

(iv) 17.5 percent for qualified project costs with respect to the cost of acquisition by any qualified organization in the Northeast region.

(D) SECONDARY ALLOCATION PROCEDURE.—If for the period ending on the last day of the 24th month after the date of the enactment of this Act, the limitation amount for any region under subparagraph (C) exceeds the amount of bonds allocated by the Secretary of the Treasury during such period, the Secretary of the Treasury may allocate such excess among qualified organizations in any other region in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury determines appropriate.

(E) REGIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph—

(i) PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION.—The term ''Pacific Northwest region'' means Region 6 as defined by the United States Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture under section 200.2 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations.

(ii) WESTERN REGION.—The term ''Western region'' means Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10 (as so defined).

(iii) SOUTHEAST REGION.—The term ''Southeast region'' means Region 8 (as so defined).

(iv) NORTHEAST REGION.—The term ''Northeast region'' means Region 9 (as so defined).

(4) QUALIFIED PROJECT COSTS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ''qualified project costs'' means the costs of acquisition by a qualified organization from an unrelated person of forests and forest land which, at the time of acquisition or immediately thereafter, are subject to a conservation restriction described in subsection (c)(2).

(5) SPECIAL RULES.—In applying the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to any qualified forest conservation bond, the following modifications shall apply:

(A) Section 146 of such Code (relating to volume cap) shall not apply.

(B) For purposes of section 147(b) of such Code (relating to maturity may not exceed 120 percent of economic life), the land and standing timber acquired with proceeds of qualified forest conservation bonds shall have an economic life of 35 years.

(C) Subsections (c) and (d) of section 147 of such Code (relating to limitations on acquisition of land and existing property) shall not apply.

(6) TREATMENT OF CURRENT REFUNDING BONDS.—Paragraphs (2)(B) and (3) shall not apply to any bond (or series of bonds) issued to refund a qualified forest conservation bond issued before the date which is 36 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, if—

(A) the average maturity date of the issue of which the refunding bond is a part is not later than the average maturity date of the bonds to be refunded by such issue,

(B) the amount of the refunding bond does not exceed the outstanding amount of the refunded bond, and

(C) the net proceeds of the refunding bond are used to redeem the refunded bond not later than 90 days after the date of the issuance of the refunding bond.

For purposes of subparagraph (A), average maturity shall be determined in accordance with section 147(b)(2)(A) of such Code.

(7) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall apply to obligations issued on or after the date which is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) ITEMS FROM QUALIFIED HARVESTING ACTIVITIES NOT SUBJECT TO TAX OR TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Income, gains, deductions, losses, or credits from a qualified harvesting activity conducted by a qualified organization shall not be subject to tax or taken into account under subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) LIMITATION.—The amount of income excluded from gross income under paragraph (1) for any taxable year shall not exceed the amount used by the qualified organization to make debt service payments during such taxable year for qualified forest conservation bonds.

(3) QUALIFIED HARVESTING ACTIVITY.—For purposes of paragraph (1)—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''qualified harvesting activity'' means the sale, lease, or harvesting, of standing timber—

(i) on land owned by a qualified organization which was acquired with proceeds of qualified forest conservation bonds, and

(ii) pursuant to a qualified conservation plan adopted by the qualified organization.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—

(i) CESSATION AS QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION.—The term ''qualified harvesting activity'' shall not include any sale, lease, or harvesting for any period during which the organization ceases to qualify as a qualified organization.

(ii) EXCEEDING LIMITS ON HARVESTING.—The term ''qualified harvesting activity'' shall not include any sale, lease, or harvesting of standing timber on land acquired with proceeds of qualified forest conservation bonds to the extent that—

(I) the average annual area of timber harvested from such land exceeds 2.5 percent of the total area of such land, or

(II) the quantity of timber removed from such land exceeds the quantity which can be removed from such land annually in perpetuity on a sustained-yield basis with respect to such land.

The limitations under subclauses (I) and (II) shall not apply to post-fire restoration and rehabilitation or sanitation harvesting of timber stands which are substantially damaged by fire, windthrow, or other catastrophes, or which are in imminent danger from insect or disease attack.

(4) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply to any qualified harvesting activity of a qualified organization occurring after the date on which—

(A) there is no outstanding qualified forest conservation bond with respect to such qualified organization, or

(B) any such bond ceases to be a tax-exempt bond.

(5) PARTIAL RECAPTURE OF BENEFITS IF HARVESTING LIMIT EXCEEDED.—If, as of the date that this subsection ceases to apply under paragraph (4)(B), the average annual area of timber harvested from the land exceeds the requirement of subclause (I) or (II) of paragraph (3)(B)(ii), the tax imposed by chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall be increased, under rules prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, by the sum of the tax benefits attributable to such excess and interest at the underpayment rate under section 6621 of such Code for the period of the underpayment.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) QUALIFIED CONSERVATION PLAN.—The term ''qualified conservation plan'' means a multiple land use program or plan which—

(A) is designed and administered primarily for the purposes of protecting and enhancing wildlife and fish, timber, scenic attributes, recreation, and soil and water quality of the forest and forest land,

(B) mandates that conservation of forest and forest land is the single-most significant use of the forest and forest land, and

(C) requires that timber harvesting be consistent with—

(i) restoring and maintaining reference conditions for the region's ecotype,

(ii) restoring and maintaining a representative sample of young, mid, and late successional forest age classes,

(iii) maintaining or restoring the resources' ecological health for purposes of preventing damage from fire, insect, or disease,

(iv) maintaining or enhancing wildlife or fish habitat, or

(v) enhancing research opportunities in sustainable renewable resource uses.

(2) CONSERVATION RESTRICTION.—The conservation restriction described in this paragraph is a restriction which—

(A) is granted in perpetuity to an unrelated person which is described in section 170(h)(3) of such Code and which, in the case of a nongovernmental unit, is organized and operated for conservation purposes,

(B) meets the requirements of clause (ii) or (iii)(II) of section 170(h)(4)(A) of such Code,

(C) obligates the qualified organization to pay the costs incurred by the holder of the conservation restriction in monitoring compliance with such restriction, and

(D) requires an increasing level of conservation benefits to be provided whenever circumstances allow it.

(3) QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION.—The term ''qualified organization'' means a nonprofit organization—

(A) substantially all the activities of which are charitable, scientific, or educational, including acquiring, protecting, restoring, managing, and developing forest lands and other renewable resources for the long-term charitable, educational, scientific, and public benefit,

(B) which periodically conducts educational programs designed to inform the public of environmentally sensitive forestry management and conservation techniques,

(C) which has at all times a board of directors—

(i) at least 20 percent of the members of which are representatives of the conservation community,

(ii) at least 20 percent of the members of which are public officials, and

(iii) not more than one-third of the members of which are individuals who are or were at any time within 5 years before the beginning of a term of membership on the board, an employee of, independent contractor with respect to, officer of, director of, or held a material financial interest in, a commercial forest products enterprise with which the qualified organization has a contractual or other financial arrangement,

(D) the bylaws of which require at least two-thirds of the members of the board of directors to vote affirmatively to approve the qualified conservation plan and any change thereto, and

(E) upon dissolution, is required to dedicate its assets to—

(i) an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of such Code which is organized and operated for conservation purposes, or

(ii) a governmental unit described in section 170(c)(1) of such Code.

(4) UNRELATED PERSON.—The term ''unrelated person'' means a person who is not a related person.

(5) RELATED PERSON.—A person shall be treated as related to another person if—

(A) such person bears a relationship to such other person described in section 267(b) (determined without regard to paragraph (9) thereof), or 707(b)(1), of such Code, determined by substituting ''25 percent'' for ''50 percent'' each place it appears therein, and

(B) in the case such other person is a nonprofit organization, if such person controls directly or indirectly more than 25 percent of the governing body of such organization.

SEC. 12212. DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter P of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 1203. DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxpayer which elects the application of this section for a taxable year, there shall be allowed a deduction against gross income in an amount equal to 60 percent of the lesser of—

''(1) the taxpayer's qualified timber gain for such year, or

''(2) the taxpayer's net capital gain for such year.

''(b) QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified timber gain' means, with respect to any taxpayer for any taxable year, the excess (if any) of—

''(1) the sum of the taxpayer's gains described in subsections (a) and (b) of section 631 for such year, over

''(2) the sum of the taxpayer's losses described in such subsections for such year.

''(c) SPECIAL RULES FOR PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—

''(1) In the case of any qualified timber gain of a pass-thru entity (as defined in section 1(h)(10)) other than a real estate investment trust, the election under this section shall be made separately by each taxpayer subject to tax on such gain.

''(2) In the case of any qualified timber gain of a real estate investment trust, the election under this section shall be made by the real estate investment trust.

''(d) ELECTION.—An election under this section may be made only with respect to the first taxable year beginning after the date of the enactment of this section.''.

(b) COORDINATION WITH MAXIMUM CAPITAL GAINS RATES.—

(1) TAXPAYERS OTHER THAN CORPORATIONS.—Paragraph (2) of section 1(h) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) REDUCTION OF NET CAPITAL GAIN.—For purposes of this subsection, the net capital gain for any taxable year shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the sum of—

''(A) the amount which the taxpayer takes into account as investment income under section 163(d)(4)(B)(iii), and

''(B) in the case of a taxable year with respect to which an election is in effect under section 1203, the lesser of—

''(i) the amount described in paragraph (1) of section 1203(a), or

''(ii) the amount described in paragraph (2) of such section.''.

(2) CORPORATIONS.—Section 1201 is amended by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c) and inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

''(b) QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—For purposes of this section, in the case of a corporation with respect to which an election is in effect under section 1203, the net capital gain for any taxable year shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the corporation's qualified timber gain (as defined in section 1203(b)).''.

(c) DEDUCTION ALLOWED WHETHER OR NOT INDIVIDUAL ITEMIZES OTHER DEDUCTIONS.—Subsection (a) of section 62 is amended by inserting before the last sentence the following new paragraph:

''(22) QUALIFIED TIMBER GAINS.—The deduction allowed by section 1203.''.

(d) DEDUCTION ALLOWED IN COMPUTING ADJUSTED CURRENT EARNINGS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 56(g)(4) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(vii) DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN.—Clause (i) shall not apply to any deduction allowed under section 1203.''.

(e) DEDUCTION ALLOWED IN COMPUTING TAXABLE INCOME OF ELECTING SMALL BUSINESS TRUSTS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 641(c)(2) is amended by inserting after clause (iii) the following new clause:

''(iv) The deduction allowed under section 1203.''.

(f) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN OF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS.—Paragraph (3) of section 857(b) is amended by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following new subparagraph:

''(G) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN.—For purposes of this part, in the case of a real estate investment trust with respect to which an election is in effect under section 1203—

''(i) REDUCTION OF NET CAPITAL GAIN.—The net capital gain of the real estate investment trust for any taxable year shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the real estate investment trust's qualified timber gain (as defined in section 1203(b)).

''(ii) ADJUSTMENT TO SHAREHOLDER'S BASIS ATTRIBUTABLE TO DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED TIMBER GAINS.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The adjusted basis of shares in the hands of the shareholder shall be increased by the amount of the deduction allowable under section 1203(a) as provided in subclauses (II) and (III).

''(II) ALLOCATION OF BASIS INCREASE FOR DISTRIBUTIONS MADE DURING TAXABLE YEAR.—For any taxable year of a real estate investment trust for which an election is in effect under section 1203, in the case of a distribution made with respect to shares during such taxable year of amounts attributable to the deduction allowable under section 1203(a), the adjusted basis of such shares shall be increased by the amount of such distributions.

''(III) ALLOCATION OF EXCESS.—If the deduction allowable under section 1203(a) for a taxable year exceeds the amount of distributions described in subclause (II), the excess shall be allocated to every shareholder of the real estate investment trust at the close of the trust's taxable year in the same manner as if a distribution of such excess were made with respect to such shares.

''(IV) DESIGNATIONS.—To the extent provided in regulations, a real estate investment trust shall designate the amounts described in subclauses (II) and (III) in a manner similar to the designations provided with respect to capital gains described in subparagraphs (C) and (D).

''(V) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this subparagraph, the terms 'share' and 'shareholder' shall include beneficial interests and holders of beneficial interests, respectively.

''(iii) EARNINGS AND PROFITS DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED TIMBER GAINS.—The deduction allowable under section 1203(a) for a taxable year shall be allowed as a deduction in computing the earnings and profits of the real estate investment trust for such taxable year. The earnings and profits of any such shareholder which is a corporation shall be appropriately adjusted in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.''.

(g) LOSS ATTRIBUTABLE TO BASIS ADJUSTMENT FOR DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN OF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS.—

(1) Section 857(b)(8) is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

''(B) LOSS ATTRIBUTABLE TO BASIS ADJUSTMENT FOR DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN.—If—

''(i) a shareholder of a real estate investment trust receives a basis adjustment provided under subsection (b)(3)(G)(ii), and

''(ii) the taxpayer has held such share or interest for 6 months or less,

then any loss on the sale or exchange of such share or interest shall, to the extent of the amount described in clause (i), be disallowed.''.

(2) Subparagraph (D) of section 857(b)(8), as redesignated by paragraph (1), is amended by striking ''subparagraph (A)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (A) and (B)''.

(h) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subparagraph (B) of section 172(d)(2) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) the exclusion under section 1202, and the deduction under section 1203, shall not be allowed.''.

(2) Paragraph (4) of section 642(c) is amended by striking the first sentence and inserting ''To the extent that the amount otherwise allowable as a deduction under this subsection consists of gain described in section 1202(a) or qualified timber gain (as defined in section 1203(b)), proper adjustment shall be made for any exclusion allowable to the estate or trust under section 1202 and for any deduction allowable to the estate or trust under section 1203.''

(3) Paragraph (3) of section 643(a) is amended by striking the last sentence and inserting ''The exclusion under section 1202 and the deduction under section 1203 shall not be taken into account.''.

(4) Subparagraph (C) of section 643(a)(6) is amended to read as follows:

''(C) Paragraph (3) shall not apply to a foreign trust. In the case of such a trust—

''(i) there shall be included gains from the sale or exchange of capital assets, reduced by losses from such sales or exchanges to the extent such losses do not exceed gains from such sales or exchanges, and

''(ii) the deduction under section 1203 shall not be taken into account.''.

(5) Paragraph (4) of section 691(c) is amended by inserting ''1203,'' after ''1202,''.

(6) Paragraph (2) of section 871(a) is amended by inserting ''or 1203,'' after ''1202,''.

(7) The table of sections for part I of subchapter P of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 1203. Deduction for qualified timber gain.''.

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12213. EXCISE TAX NOT APPLICABLE TO SECTION 1203 DEDUCTION OF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ORDINARY INCOME.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4981(e)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) by not taking into account—

''(i) any gain or loss from the sale or exchange of capital assets (determined without regard to any reduction that would be applied for purposes of section 857(b)(3)(G)(i)), and

''(ii) any deduction allowable under section 1203, and''.

(2) CAPITAL GAIN NET INCOME.—Section 4981(e)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D) QUALIFIED TIMBER GAIN.—The amount determined under subparagraph (A) shall be

determined without regard to any reduction that would be applied for purposes of section 857(b)(3)(G)(i) but shall be reduced for any deduction allowable under section 1203 for such calendar year.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12214. TIMBER REIT MODERNIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 856(c)(5) is amended by adding after subparagraph (G) the following new subparagraph:

''(H) TREATMENT OF TIMBER GAINS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Gain from the sale of real property described in paragraph (2)(D) and (3)(C) shall include gain which is—

''(I) recognized by an election under section 631(a) from timber owned by the real estate investment trust, the cutting of which is provided by a taxable REIT subsidiary of the real estate investment trust;

''(II) recognized under section 631(b); or

''(III) income which would constitute gain under subclause (I) or (II) but for the failure to meet the 1-year holding period requirement.

''(ii) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(I) For purposes of this subtitle, cut timber, the gain of which is recognized by a real estate investment trust pursuant to an election under section 631(a) described in clause (i)(I) or so much of clause (i)(III) as relates to clause (i)(I), shall be deemed to be sold to the taxable REIT subsidiary of the real estate investment trust on the first day of the taxable year.

''(II) For purposes of this subtitle, income described in this subparagraph shall not be treated as gain from the sale of property described in section 1221(a)(1).

''(iii) TERMINATION.—This subparagraph shall not apply to dispositions after the termination date.''.

(b) TERMINATION DATE.—Subsection (c) of section 856 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) TERMINATION DATE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'termination date' means the last day of the first taxable year beginning after the date of the enactment of this paragraph.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to dispositions in taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12215. MINERAL ROYALTY INCOME QUALIFYING INCOME FOR TIMBER REITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 856(c)(2) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (G), by inserting ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (H), and by adding after subparagraph (H) the following new subparagraph:

''(I) mineral royalty income earned in the first taxable year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph from real property owned by a timber real estate investment trust held, or once held, in connection with the trade or business of producing timber by such real estate investment trust;''.

(b) TIMBER REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST.—Section 856(c)(5), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding after subparagraph (H) the following new subparagraph:

''(I) TIMBER REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST.—The term 'timber real estate investment trust' means a real estate investment trust in which more than 50 percent in value of its total assets consists of real property held in connection with the trade or business of producing timber.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12216. MODIFICATION OF TAXABLE REIT SUBSIDIARY ASSET TEST FOR TIMBER REITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 856(c)(4)(B)(ii) is amended by inserting ''(in the case of a quarter which closes on or before the termination date, 25 percent in the case of a timber real estate investment trust)'' after ''not more than 20 percent of the value of its total assets is represented by securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12217. SAFE HARBOR FOR TIMBER PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 857(b)(6) (relating to income from prohibited transactions) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) SPECIAL RULES FOR SALES TO QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of sale of a real estate asset (as defined in section 856(c)(5)(B)) to a qualified organization (as defined in section 170(h)(3)) exclusively for conservation purposes (within the meaning of section 170(h)(1)(C)), subparagraph (D) shall be applied—

''(I) by substituting '2 years' for '4 years' in clause (i), and

''(II) by substituting '2-year period' for '4-year period' in clauses (ii) and (iii).

''(ii) TERMINATION.—This subparagraph shall not apply to sales after the termination date.''.

(b) PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS.—Section 857(b)(6)(D)(v) is amended by inserting ''or, in the case of a sale on or before the termination date, a taxable REIT subsidiary'' after ''independent contractor (as defined in section 856(d)(3)) from whom the trust itself does not derive or receive any income''.

(c) SALES THAT ARE NOT PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS.—Section 857(b)(6), as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(H) SALES OF PROPERTY THAT ARE NOT A PROHIBITED TRANSACTION.—In the case of a sale on or before the termination date, the sale of property which is not a prohibited transaction through application of subparagraph (D) shall be considered property held for investment or for use in a trade or business and not property described in section 1221(a)(1) for all purposes of this subtitle.''.

(d) TERMINATION DATE.—Section 857(b)(6), as amended by subsections (a) and (c), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(I) TERMINATION DATE.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'termination date' means the last day of the first taxable year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to dispositions in taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle C—Energy Provisions

PART I—ELECTRICITY GENERATION

SEC. 12301. CREDIT FOR RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS WIND PROPERTY.

(a) RESIDENTIAL WIND PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 25D(a) (relating to allowance of credit) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) 30 percent of the qualified small wind energy property expenditures made by the taxpayer during such year.''.

(2) LIMITATION.—Section 25D(b)(1) (relating to maximum credit) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D) $4,000 with respect to any qualified small wind energy property expenditures.''.

(3) QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY EXPENDITURES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 25D(d) (relating to definitions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY EXPENDITURE.—The term 'qualified small wind energy property expenditure' means an expenditure for qualified small wind energy property (as defined in section 48(c)(3)(A)) installed on or in connection with a dwelling unit located in the United States and used as a residence by the taxpayer.''.

(B) NO DOUBLE BENEFIT.—Section 45(d)(1) (relating to wind facility) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Such term shall not include any facility with respect to which any qualified small wind energy property expenditure (as defined in subsection (d)(4) of section 25D) is taken into account in determining the credit under such section.''.

(4) MAXIMUM EXPENDITURES IN CASE OF JOINT OCCUPANCY.—Section 25D(e)(4)(A) (relating to maximum expenditures) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (ii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iv) $1,667 in the case of wind turbines for which qualified small wind energy property expenditures are made.''.

(b) BUSINESS WIND PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 48(a)(3)(A) (defining energy property) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (iii), by adding ''or'' at the end of clause (iv), and by inserting after clause (iv) the following new clause:

''(v) qualified small wind energy property,''.

(2) 30 PERCENT CREDIT.—Section 48(a)(2)(A)(i) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subclause (II) and by inserting after subclause (III) the following new subclause:

''(IV) qualified small wind energy property, and''.

(3) QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY.—Section 48(c) is amended—

(A) by inserting ''; QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY'' after ''QUALIFIED MICROTURBINE PROPERTY'' in the heading,

(B) by striking ''For purposes of this subsection'' and inserting ''For purposes of this section'',

(C) by striking ''paragraph (1)'' in paragraphs (1)(B) and (2)(B) and inserting ''subsection (a)(1)'', and

(D) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified small wind energy property' means property which uses a qualifying small wind turbine to generate electricity.

''(B) LIMITATION.—In the case of qualified small wind energy property placed in service during the taxable year, the credit otherwise determined under subsection (a)(1) for such year with respect to such property shall not exceed $4,000 with respect to any taxpayer.

''(C) QUALIFYING SMALL WIND TURBINE.—The term 'qualifying small wind turbine' means a wind turbine which—

''(i) has a nameplate capacity of not more than 100 kilowatts, and

''(ii) meets the performance standards of the American Wind Energy Association.

''(D) TERMINATION.—The term 'qualified small wind energy property' shall not include any property for any period after December 31, 2008.''.

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 48(a)(1) is amended by striking ''paragraphs (1)(B) and (2)(B)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (1)(B), (2)(B), and (3)(B)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to expenditures after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12302. LANDOWNER INCENTIVE TO ENCOURAGE ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION BUILD-OUT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 (relating to items specifically excluded from gross income) is amended by inserting after section 139A the following new section:

''SEC. 139B. ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION EASEMENT PAYMENTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Gross income shall not include any qualified electric transmission easement payment.

''(b) QUALIFIED ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION EASEMENT PAYMENT.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified electric transmission payment' means any payment which is made—

''(1) by an electric utility or electric transmission entity pursuant to an easement or other agreement granted by the payee (or any predecessor of such payee), and

''(2) for the right of such entity (or any successors of such entity) to locate on such payee's property transmission lines and equipment used to transmit electricity at 230 or more kilovolts, primarily from qualified facilities described in section 45(d) (without regard to any placed in service date or the last sentence of paragraph (4) thereof) or energy property (as defined in section 48(a)(3)) placed in service after the date of the enactment of this section.

''(c) NO INCREASE IN BASIS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, no increase in the basis or adjusted basis of any property shall result from any amount excluded under this subsection with respect to such property.

''(d) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, no deduction or credit shall be allowed (to the person for whose benefit a qualified electric transmission easement payment is made) for, or by reason of, any expenditure to the extent of the amount excluded under this section with respect to such expenditure.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such part III is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 139A the following new item:

''Sec. 139B. Electric transmission easement payments.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to payments received after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12303. EXCEPTION TO REDUCTION OF RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(b)(3) (relating to credit reduced for grants, tax-exempt bonds, subsidized energy financing, and other credits) is amended by adding after the last sentence the following: ''This paragraph shall not apply with respect to any loans, loan guarantees, or grants issued by the Secretary of Agriculture under authority granted by section 9006 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.''

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to facilities placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART II—ALCOHOL FUEL

SEC. 12311. EXPANSION OF SPECIAL ALLOWANCE TO CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ALCOHOL FUEL PLANT PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 168(l) (relating to special allowance for cellulosic biomass ethanol plant property) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ALCOHOL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'cellulosic biomass alcohol' means any alcohol produced from any lignocellulosic or hemicellulosic matter that is available on a renewable or recurring basis.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (l) of section 168 is amended by striking ''cellulosic biomass ethanol'' each place it appears and inserting ''cellulosic biomass alcohol''.

(2) The heading of section 168(l) is amended by striking ''CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ETHANOL'' and inserting ''CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ALCOHOL''.

(3) The heading of paragraph (2) of section 168(l) is amended by striking ''CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ETHANOL'' and inserting ''CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ALCOHOL''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act, in taxable years ending after such date.

SEC. 12312. CREDIT FOR PRODUCTION OF CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ALCOHOL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 40 (relating to alcohol used as fuel) is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) the small cellulosic alcohol producer credit.''.

(b) SMALL CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 40 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) SMALL CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other credit allowed under this section, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the applicable amount for each gallon of not more than 60,000,000 gallons of qualified cellulosic alcohol production.

''(B) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable amount means the excess of—

''(i) $1.28, over

''(ii) the sum of—

''(I) the amount of the credit in effect for alcohol which is ethanol under subsection (b)(1) (without regard to subsection (b)(3)) at the time of the qualified cellulosic alcohol production, plus

''(II) the amount of the credit in effect under subsection (b)(4) at the time of such production.

''(C) QUALIFIED CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCTION.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified cellulosic alcohol production' means any cellulosic biomass alcohol which is produced by an eligible small cellulosic alcohol producer and which during the taxable year—

''(i) is sold by the taxpayer to another person—

''(I) for use by such other person in the production of a qualified alcohol mixture in such other person's trade or business (other than casual off-farm production),

''(II) for use by such other person as a fuel in a trade or business, or

''(III) who sells such cellulosic biomass alcohol at retail to another person and places such cellulosic biomass alcohol in the fuel tank of such other person, or

''(ii) is used or sold by the taxpayer for any purpose described in clause (i).

''(D) ADDITIONAL DISTILLATION EXCLUDED.—The qualified cellulosic alcohol production of any taxpayer for any taxable year shall not include any alcohol which is purchased by the taxpayer and with respect to which such producer increases the proof of the alcohol by additional distillation.

''(E) APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH.—This paragraph shall apply with respect to qualified cellulosic alcohol production after December 31, 2007, and before April 1, 2015.''.

(2) TERMINATION DATE NOT TO APPLY.—Subsection (e) of section 40 (relating to termination) is amended—

(A) by inserting ''or subsection (b)(6)(E)'' after ''by reason of paragraph (1)'' in paragraph (2), and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) EXCEPTION FOR SMALL CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the portion of the credit allowed under this section by reason of subsection (a)(4).''.

(c) ELIGIBLE SMALL CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCER.—Section 40 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES FOR SMALL CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCER.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'eligible small cellulosic alcohol producer' means a person, who at all times during the taxable year, has a productive capacity for cellulosic biomass alcohol not in excess of 60,000,000 gallons.

''(2) CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ALCOHOL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'cellulosic biomass alcohol' has the meaning given such term under section 168(l)(3), but does not include any alcohol with a proof of less than 150.

''(B) DETERMINATION OF PROOF.—The determination of the proof of any alcohol shall be made without regard to any added denaturants.

''(3) AGGREGATION RULE.—For purposes of the 60,000,000 gallon limitation under paragraph (1) and subsection (b)(6)(A), all members of the same controlled group of corporations (within the meaning of section 267(f)) and all persons under common control (within the meaning of section 52(b) but determined by treating an interest of more than 50 percent as a controlling interest) shall be treated as 1 person.

''(4) PARTNERSHIP, S CORPORATIONS, AND OTHER PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—In the case of a partnership, trust, S corporation, or other pass-thru entity, the limitation contained in paragraph (1) shall be applied at the entity level and at the partner or similar level.

''(5) ALLOCATION.—For purposes of this subsection, in the case of a facility in which more than 1 person has an interest, productive capacity shall be allocated among such persons in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(6) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to prevent the credit provided for in subsection (a)(4) from directly or indirectly benefitting any person with a direct or indirect productive capacity of more than 60,000,000 gallons of cellulosic biomass alcohol during the taxable year.

''(7) ALLOCATION OF SMALL CELLULOSIC PRODUCER CREDIT TO PATRONS OF COOPERATIVE.—Rules similar to the rules under subsection (g)(6) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

(d) ALCOHOL NOT USED AS A FUEL, ETC.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 40(d) is amended by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E) and by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

''(D) SMALL CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT.—If—

''(i) any credit is allowed under subsection (a)(4), and

''(ii) any person does not use such fuel for a purpose described in subsection (b)(6)(C),

then there is hereby imposed on such person a tax equal to the applicable amount for each gallon of such cellulosic biomass alcohol.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (C) of section 40(d)(3) is amended by striking ''PRODUCER'' in the heading and inserting ''SMALL ETHANOL PRODUCER''.

(B) Subparagraph (E) of section 40(d)(3), as redesignated by paragraph (1), is amended by striking ''or (C)'' and inserting ''(C), or (D)''.

(e) ALCOHOL PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.—Section 40(d), as amended by this section, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) SPECIAL RULE FOR SMALL CELLULOSIC ALCOHOL PRODUCERS.—No small cellulosic alcohol producer credit shall be determined under subsection (a) with respect to any alcohol unless such alcohol is produced in the United States.''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel produced after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12313. EXTENSION OF SMALL ETHANOL PRODUCER CREDIT.

Paragraph (1) of section 40(e) (relating to termination) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''(December 31, 2012, in the case of the credit allowed by reason of subsection (a)(3))'' after ''December 31, 2010'', and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''(January 1, 2013, in the case of the credit allowed by reason of subsection (a)(3))'' after ''January 1, 2011''.

SEC. 12314. CREDIT FOR PRODUCERS OF FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 40 (relating to alcohol used as fuel), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) the small fossil free alcohol producer credit.''.

(b) SMALL FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT.—Subsection (b) of section 40, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) SMALL FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other credit allowed under this section, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to 10 cents for each gallon of not more than 60,000,000 gallons of qualified fossil free alcohol production.

''(B) QUALIFIED FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCTION.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified fossil free alcohol production' means alcohol which is produced by an eligible small fossil free alcohol producer at a fossil free alcohol production facility and which during the taxable year—

''(i) is sold by the taxpayer to another person—

''(I) for use by such other person in the production of a qualified alcohol mixture in such other person's trade or business (other than casual off-farm production),

''(II) for use by such other person as a fuel in a trade or business, or

''(III) who sells such alcohol at retail to another person and places such alcohol in the fuel tank of such other person, or

''(ii) is used or sold by the taxpayer for any purpose described in clause (i).

''(C) ADDITIONAL DISTILLATION EXCLUDED.—The qualified fossil free alcohol production of any taxpayer for any taxable year shall not include any alcohol which is purchased by the taxpayer and with respect to which such producer increases the proof of the alcohol by additional distillation.''.

(c) ELIGIBLE SMALL FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCER.—Section 40, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES FOR SMALL FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCER.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'eligible small fossil free alcohol producer' means a person, who at all times during the taxable year, has a productive capacity for alcohol from all fossil free alcohol production facilities of the taxpayer which is not in excess of 60,000,000 gallons.

''(2) FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCTION FACILITY.—The term 'fossil free alcohol production facility' means any facility at which 90 percent of the energy used in the production of alcohol is produced from biomass (as defined in section 45K(c)(3)).

''(3) AGGREGATION RULE.—For purposes of the 60,000,000 gallon limitation under paragraph (1) and subsection (b)(7)(A), all members of the same controlled group of corporations (within the meaning of section 267(f)) and all persons under common control (within the meaning of section 52(b) but determined by treating an interest of more than 50 percent as a controlling interest) shall be treated as 1 person.

''(4) PARTNERSHIP, S CORPORATIONS, AND OTHER PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—In the case of a partnership, trust, S corporation, or other pass-thru entity, the limitation contained in paragraph (1) shall be applied at the entity level and at the partner or similar level.

''(5) ALLOCATION.—For purposes of this subsection, in the case of a facility in which more than 1 person has an interest, productive capacity shall be allocated among such persons in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(6) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to prevent the credit provided for in subsection (a)(5) from directly or indirectly benefitting any person with a direct or indirect productive capacity of more than 60,000,000 gallons of alcohol from fossil free alcohol production facilities during the taxable year.

''(7) ALLOCATION OF SMALL FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT TO PATRONS OF COOPERATIVE.—Rules similar to the rules under subsection (g)(6) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

(d) ALCOHOL NOT USED AS A FUEL, ETC.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 40(d), as amended by this Act, is amended by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F) and by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

''(E) SMALL FOSSIL FREE ALCOHOL PRODUCER CREDIT.—If—

''(i) any credit is allowed under subsection (a)(5), and

''(ii) any person does not use such fuel for a purpose described in subsection (b)(7)(B),

then there is hereby imposed on such person a tax equal to 10 cents for each gallon of such alcohol.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (F) of section 40(d)(3), as redesignated by paragraph (1) and amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''or (D)'' and inserting ''(D), or (E)''.

(e) ALCOHOL PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.—Section 40(d)(6), as added by section 312 of this Act, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''or small fossil free alcohol producer credit'' after ''cellulosic alcohol producer credit'', and

(2) by inserting ''and fossil free'' after ''cellulosic'' in the heading.

(f) TERMINATION.—Paragraph (1) of section 40(e), as amended by this Act, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting '', and December 31, 2011, in the case of the credit allowed by reason of subsection (a)(5)'' after ''subsection (a)(3)'', and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting '', and January 1, 2012, in the case of the credit allowed by reason of subsection (a)(5)'' after ''subsection (a)(3)''.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel produced after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12315. MODIFICATION OF ALCOHOL CREDIT.

(a) INCOME TAX CREDIT.—Subsection (h) of section 40 (relating to reduced credit for ethanol blenders) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) REDUCED AMOUNT AFTER SALE OF 7,500,000,000 GALLONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any calendar year beginning after the date described in subparagraph (B), the last row in the table in paragraph (2) shall be applied by substituting '46 cents' for '51 cents'.

''(B) DATE DESCRIBED.—The date described in this subparagraph is the first date on which 7,500,000,000 gallons of ethanol (including cellulosic ethanol) have been produced in or imported into the United States after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, as certified by the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.''.

(b) EXCISE TAX CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 6426(b) (relating to alcohol fuel mixture credit) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) REDUCED AMOUNT AFTER SALE OF 7,500,000,000 GALLONS.—In the case of any alcohol fuel mixture produced in a calendar year beginning after the date described in section 40(h)(3)(B), subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting '46 cents' for '51 cents'.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 6426(b)(2) is amended by striking ''subparagraph (B)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (B) and (C)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12316. CALCULATION OF VOLUME OF ALCOHOL FOR FUEL CREDITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of section 40(d) (relating to volume of alcohol) is amended by striking ''the volume of alcohol'' and all that follows and inserting ''the volume of alcohol shall not include any denaturant added to such alcohol.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT FOR EXCISE TAX CREDIT.—Section 6426(b) (relating to alcohol fuel mixture credit) is amended by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6) and by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

''(5) VOLUME OF ALCOHOL.—For purposes of determining under subsection (a) the number of gallons of alcohol with respect to which a credit is allowable under subsection (a), the volume of alcohol shall not include any denaturant added to such alcohol.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12317. ETHANOL TARIFF EXTENSION.

Headings 9901.00.50 and 9901.00.52 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States are each amended in the effective period column by striking ''1/1/2009'' and inserting ''1/1/2011''.

SEC. 12318. LIMITATIONS ON, AND REDUCTIONS OF, DUTY DRAWBACK ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ETHANOL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 313(p) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1313(p)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) SPECIAL RULES FOR ETHYL ALCOHOL.—For purposes of this subsection, an exported article that does not contain ethyl alcohol or a mixture of ethyl alcohol shall not be treated as the same kind and quality as a qualified article that does contain ethyl alcohol or a mixture of ethyl alcohol.''.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON, AND REDUCTIONS OF, DRAWBACKS.—Section 313 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1313) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(z) LIMITATIONS ON, AND REDUCTIONS OF, DRAWBACKS.—

''(1) LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Ethyl alcohol or mixture containing ethyl alcohol described in subparagraph (B) may be treated as being of the same kind and quality under subsection (b) of this section or may be treated as being commercially interchangeable with any other ethyl alcohol or mixture containing ethyl alcohol under subsection (j)(2) of this section, only if the other ethyl alcohol or mixture—

''(i) if imported, is subject to the additional duty under subheading 9901.00.50 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States; or

''(ii) if domestic, is suitable for use as a fuel or in a mixture to be used as a fuel as described in such subheading 9901.00.50.

''(B) ETHYL ALCOHOL OR MIXTURE CONTAINING ETHYL ALCOHOL DESCRIBED.—Ethyl alcohol or mixture containing ethyl alcohol described in this subparagraph means—

''(i) ethyl alcohol classifiable under subheading 2207.10.60 or 2207.20.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, or

''(ii) a mixture containing ethyl alcohol classifiable under heading 2710 or 3824 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States,

which, if imported would be subject to additional duty under subheading 9901.00.50 of such Schedule.

''(2) REDUCTION OF DRAWBACK.—For purposes of subsections (b), (j)(2), and (p) of this section, the amount of the refund as drawback under this section shall be reduced by an amount equal to any Federal tax credit or refund of any Federal tax paid on the merchandise with respect to which the drawback is claimed.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section apply to articles exported on or after the date that is 15 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART III—BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL FUEL

SEC. 12321. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF CREDIT FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL USED AS FUEL.

(a) EXTENSION.—

(1) INCOME TAX CREDITS FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL AND SMALL AGRI-BIODIESEL PRODUCER CREDIT.—Section 40A(g) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2008'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010 (December 31, 2012, in the case of the credit allowed by reason of subsection (a)(3))''.

(2) EXCISE TAX CREDIT.—Section 6426(c)(6) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''2008'' and inserting ''2010''.

(3) FUELS NOT USED FOR TAXABLE PURPOSES.—Section 6427(e)(5)(B) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''2008'' and inserting ''2010''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF CREDIT FOR RENEWABLE DIESEL.—Section 40A(f) (relating to renewable diesel) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) SPECIAL RULE FOR CO-PROCESSED RENEWABLE DIESEL.—In the case of a taxpayer which produces renewable diesel through the co-processing of biomass and petroleum at any facility, this subsection shall not apply to so much of the renewable diesel produced at such facility and sold or used during the taxable year in a mixture described in subsection (b)(1)(B) as exceeds 60,000,000 gallons.''.

(c) MODIFICATION RELATING TO DEFINITION OF AGRI-BIODIESEL.—Paragraph (2) of section 40A(d) (relating to agri-biodiesel) is amended by striking ''and mustard seeds'' and inserting ''mustard seeds, and camelina''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12322. TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED ALCOHOL FUEL MIXTURES AND QUALIFIED BIODIESEL FUEL MIXTURES AS TAXABLE FUELS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) QUALIFIED ALCOHOL FUEL MIXTURES.—Paragraph (2) of section 4083(a) (relating to gasoline) is amended—

(A) by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A),

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C), and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

''(B) includes any qualified mixture (as defined in section 40(b)(1)(B)), and''.

(2) QUALIFIED BIODIESEL FUEL MIXTURES.—Subparagraph (A) of section 4083(a)(3) (relating to diesel fuel) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (ii), by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv), and inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

''(iii) any qualified biodiesel mixture (as defined in section 40A(b)(1)(B)), and''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF BIODIESEL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Paragraph (4) of section 40A(b) is amended by striking ''which identifies'' and all that follows and inserting ''which—

''(A) identifies the product produced and the percentage of biodiesel and agri-biodiesel in the product, and

''(B) documents that the biodiesel was independently tested and meets the requirements of ASTM D6751.''.

(c) INFORMATION REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR PRODUCERS OF QUALIFIED MIXTURES.—Section 4101(d) (relating to information reporting) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) INFORMATION REPORTING.—The Secretary—

''(1) may require—

''(A) information reporting by any person registered under this section, and

''(B) information reporting by such other persons as the Secretary deems necessary to carry out this part, and

''(2) shall require information reporting by any person registered under this section and producing any qualified mixture (as defined in section 40(b)(1)(B)) or any qualified biodiesel mixture (as defined in section 40A(b)(1)(B)).

Any person who is required to report under this subsection and who has 25 or more reportable transactions in a month shall file such report in electronic format.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuels removed, entered, or sold after December 31, 2007.

PART IV—ALTERNATIVE FUEL

SEC. 12331. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL CREDIT.

(a) EXTENSION.—

(1) ALTERNATIVE FUEL CREDIT.—Paragraph (4) of section 6426(d) (relating to alternative fuel credit) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010''.

(2) ALTERNATIVE FUEL MIXTURE CREDIT.—Paragraph (3) of section 6426(e) (relating to alternative fuel mixture credit) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010''.

(3) PAYMENTS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 6427(e)(5) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010''.

(b) MODIFICATIONS.—

(1) ALTERNATIVE FUEL TO INCLUDE COMPRESSED OR LIQUIFIED BIOMASS GAS.—Paragraph (2) of section 6426(d) (relating to alternative fuel credit) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (E), by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G), and by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following new subparagraph:

''(F) compressed or liquefied biomass gas, and''.

(2) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR AVIATION USE OF FUEL.—Paragraph (1) of section 6426(d) is amended by inserting ''sold by the taxpayer for use as a fuel in aviation,'' after ''motorboat,''.

(c) CARBON CAPTURE REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN FUELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 6426, as amended by subsection (a), is amended by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5) and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

''(4) CARBON CAPTURE REQUIREMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this paragraph are met if the fuel is certified, under such procedures as required by the Secretary, as having been derived from coal produced at a gasification facility which separates and sequesters not less than the applicable percentage of such facility's total carbon dioxide emissions.

''(B) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable percentage is—

''(i) 50 percent in the case of fuel produced after the date of the enactment of this paragraph and on or before the earlier of—

''(I) the date the Secretary makes a determination under subparagraph (C), or

''(II) December 30, 2010, and

''(ii) 75 percent in the case of fuel produced after the date on which the applicable percentage under clause (i) ceases to apply.

''(C) DETERMINATION TO INCREASE APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2010.—If the Secretary, after considering the recommendations of the Carbon Sequestration Capability Panel, finds that the applicable percentage under subparagraph (B) should be 75 percent for fuel produced before December 31, 2010, the Secretary shall make a determination under this subparagraph. Any determination made under this subparagraph shall be made not later than 30 days after the Secretary receives from the Carbon Sequestration Panel the report required under section 331(c)(3)(D) of the Heartland, Habitat, Harvest, and Horticulture Act of 2007.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (E) of section 6426(d)(2) is amended by inserting ''which meets the requirements of paragraph (4) and which is'' after ''any liquid fuel''.

(3) CARBON SEQUESTRATION CAPABILITY PANEL.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF PANEL.—There is established a panel to be known as the ''Carbon Sequestration Capability Panel'' (hereafter in this paragraph referred to as the ''Panel'').

(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Panel shall be composed of—

(i) 1 representative from the National Academy of Sciences,

(ii) 1 representative from the University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research, and

(iii) 1 individual appointed jointly by the representatives under clauses (i) and (ii).

(C) STUDY.—The Panel shall study the appropriate percentage of carbon dioxide for separation and sequestration under section 6426(d)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 consistent with the purposes of such section. The panel shall consider whether it is feasible to separate and sequester 75 percent of the carbon dioxide emissions of a facility, including costs and other factors associated with separating and sequestering such percentage of carbon dioxide emissions.

(D) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Panel shall report to the Secretary of Treasury, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives on the study under subparagraph (C).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12332. EXTENSION OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE REFUELING PROPERTY CREDIT.

Paragraph (2) of section 30C(g) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010''.

Subtitle D—Agricultural Provisions

SEC. 12401. INCREASE IN LOAN LIMITS ON AGRICULTURAL BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 147(c)(2) (relating to exception for first-time farmers) is amended by striking ''$250,000'' and inserting ''$450,000''.

(b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 147(c)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(H) ADJUSTMENTS FOR INFLATION.—In the case of any calendar year after 2008, the dollar amount in subparagraph (A) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

''(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

''(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year, determined by substituting 'calendar year 2007' for 'calendar year 1992' in subparagraph (B) thereof.

If any amount as increased under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of $100, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $100.''.

(c) MODIFICATION OF SUBSTANTIAL FARMLAND DEFINITION.—Section 147(c)(2)(E) (defining substantial farmland) is amended by striking ''unless'' and all that follows through the period and inserting ''unless such parcel is smaller than 30 percent of the median size of a farm in the county in which such parcel is located.''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 147(c)(2)(C)(i)(II) is amended by striking ''$250,000'' and inserting ''the amount in effect under subparagraph (A)''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to bonds issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12402. MODIFICATION OF INSTALLMENT SALE RULES FOR CERTAIN FARM PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 453(i) (relating to recognition of recapture income in year of disposition) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN FARM PROPERTY.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any installment sale of any single purpose agricultural or horticultural structure or any tree or vine bearing fruit or nuts eligible for classification as 10-year property under section 168(e)(3)(D).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to installment sales occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12403. ALLOWANCE OF SECTION 1031 TREATMENT FOR EXCHANGES INVOLVING CERTAIN MUTUAL DITCH, RESERVOIR, OR IRRIGATION COMPANY STOCK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1031 (relating to exchange of property held for productive use or investment) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) SPECIAL RULES FOR MUTUAL DITCH, RESERVOIR, OR IRRIGATION COMPANY STOCK.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2)(B), the term 'stocks' shall not include shares in a mutual ditch, reservoir, or irrigation company if at the time of the exchange—

''(1) the mutual ditch, reservoir, or irrigation company is an organization described in section 501(c)(12)(A) (determined without regard to the percentage of its income that is collected from its members for the purpose of meeting losses and expenses), and

''(2) the shares in such company have been recognized by the highest court of the State in which such company was organized or by applicable State statute as constituting or representing real property or an interest in real property.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to exchanges completed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12404. CREDIT TO HOLDERS OF RURAL RENAISSANCE BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart H of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to credits against tax) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 54A. CREDIT TO HOLDERS OF RURAL RENAISSANCE BONDS.

''(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—In the case of a taxpayer who holds a rural renaissance bond on 1 or more credit allowance dates of the bond occurring during any taxable year, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the sum of the credits determined under subsection (b) with respect to such dates.

''(b) AMOUNT OF CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of the credit determined under this subsection with respect to any credit allowance date for a rural renaissance bond is 25 percent of the annual credit determined with respect to such bond.

''(2) ANNUAL CREDIT.—The annual credit determined with respect to any rural renaissance bond is the product of—

''(A) the credit rate determined by the Secretary under paragraph (3) for the day on which such bond was sold, multiplied by

''(B) the outstanding face amount of the bond.

''(3) DETERMINATION.—For purposes of paragraph (2), with respect to any rural renaissance bond, the Secretary shall determine daily or caused to be determined daily a credit rate which shall apply to the first day on which there is a binding, written contract for the sale or exchange of the bond. The credit rate for any day is the credit rate which the Secretary or the Secretary's designee estimates will permit the issuance of rural renaissance bonds with a specified maturity or redemption date without discount and without interest cost to the qualified issuer.

''(4) CREDIT ALLOWANCE DATE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'credit allowance date' means—

''(A) March 15,

''(B) June 15,

''(C) September 15, and

''(D) December 15.

Such term also includes the last day on which the bond is outstanding.

''(5) SPECIAL RULE FOR ISSUANCE AND REDEMPTION.—In the case of a bond which is issued during the 3-month period ending on a credit allowance date, the amount of the credit determined under this subsection with respect to such credit allowance date shall be a ratable portion of the credit otherwise determined based on the portion of the 3-month period during which the bond is outstanding. A similar rule shall apply when the bond is redeemed or matures.

''(c) LIMITATION BASED ON AMOUNT OF TAX.—The credit allowed under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess of—

''(1) the sum of the regular tax liability (as defined in section 26(b)) plus the tax imposed by section 55, over

''(2) the sum of the credits allowable under this part (other than subpart C, section 1400N(l), and this section).

''(d) RURAL RENAISSANCE BOND.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'rural renaissance bond' means any bond issued as part of an issue if—

''(A) the bond is issued by a qualified issuer pursuant to an allocation by the Secretary to such issuer of a portion of the national rural renaissance bond limitation under subsection (f)(2),

''(B) 95 percent or more of the proceeds from the sale of such issue are to be used for capital expenditures incurred by qualified borrowers for 1 or more qualified projects,

''(C) the qualified issuer designates such bond for purposes of this section and the bond is in registered form,

''(D) the issue meets the requirements of subsection (h), and

''(E) such bond is not a federally guaranteed bond (within the meaning of section 149(b)(2)).

''(2) QUALIFIED PROJECT; SPECIAL USE RULES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified project' means 1 or more projects described in subparagraph (B) located in a rural area.

''(B) PROJECTS DESCRIBED.—A project described in this subparagraph is a project eligible for assistance under—

''(i) the utilities programs described in section 381E(d)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009d(d)(2)),

''(ii) the distance learning or telemedicine programs authorized pursuant to chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XXIII of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq.),

''(iii) the rural electric programs authorized pursuant to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.),

''(iv) the rural telephone programs authorized pursuant to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.),

''(v) the broadband access programs authorized pursuant to title VI of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb et seq.), and

''(vi) the rural community facility programs as described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009d(d)(1)).

''(C) REFINANCING RULES.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), a qualified project may be refinanced with proceeds of a rural renaissance bond only if the indebtedness being refinanced (including any obligation directly or indirectly refinanced by such indebtedness) was originally incurred by a qualified borrower after the date of the enactment of this section.

''(D) REIMBURSEMENT.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), a rural renaissance bond may be issued to reimburse a qualified borrower for amounts paid after the date of the enactment of this section with respect to a qualified project, but only if—

''(i) prior to the payment of the original expenditure, the qualified borrower declared its intent to reimburse such expenditure with the proceeds of a rural renaissance bond,

''(ii) not later than 60 days after payment of the original expenditure, the qualified issuer adopts an official intent to reimburse the original expenditure with such proceeds, and

''(iii) the reimbursement is made not later than 18 months after the date the original expenditure is paid.

''(E) TREATMENT OF CHANGES IN USE.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), the proceeds of an issue shall not be treated as used for a qualified project to the extent that a qualified borrower or qualified issuer takes any action within its control which causes such proceeds not to be used for a qualified project. The Secretary shall prescribe regulations specifying remedial actions that may be taken (including conditions to taking such remedial actions) to prevent an action described in the preceding sentence from causing a bond to fail to be a rural renaissance bond.

''(F) TREATMENT OF OTHER SUBSIDIES.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), a qualified project does not include any portion of a project financed by grants or subsidized financing provided (directly or indirectly) under a Federal program, including any State or local obligation used to provide financing for such portion the interest on which is exempt from tax under section 103.

''(e) MATURITY LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) DURATION OF TERM.—A bond shall not be treated as a rural renaissance bond if the maturity of such bond exceeds the maximum term determined by the Secretary under paragraph (2) with respect to such bond.

''(2) MAXIMUM TERM.—During each calendar month, the Secretary shall determine the maximum term permitted under this paragraph for bonds issued during the following calendar month. Such maximum term shall be the term which the Secretary estimates will result in the present value of the obligation to repay the principal on the bond being equal to 50 percent of the face amount of such bond. Such present value shall be determined without regard to the requirements of paragraph (3) and using as a discount rate the average annual interest rate of tax-exempt obligations having a term of 10 years or more which are issued during the month. If the term as so determined is not a multiple of a whole year, such term shall be rounded to the next highest whole year.

''(3) RATABLE PRINCIPAL AMORTIZATION REQUIRED.—A bond shall not be treated as a rural renaissance bond unless it is part of an issue which provides for an equal amount of principal to be paid by the qualified issuer during each calendar year that the issue is outstanding.

''(f) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF BONDS DESIGNATED.—

''(1) NATIONAL LIMITATION.—There is a national rural renaissance bond limitation of $400,000,000.

''(2) ALLOCATION BY SECRETARY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall allocate the amount described in paragraph (1) among at least 20 qualified projects, or such lesser number of qualified projects with proper applications filed after 12 months after the adoption of the selection process under subparagraph (B).

''(B) SELECTION PROCESS.—In consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary shall adopt a process to select projects described in subparagraph (A). Under such process, the Secretary shall not allocate more than 15 percent of the allocation under subparagraph (A) to qualified projects within a single State.

''(g) CREDIT INCLUDED IN GROSS INCOME.—Gross income includes the amount of the credit allowed to the taxpayer under this section (determined without regard to subsection (c)) and the amount so included shall be treated as interest income.

''(h) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO EXPENDITURES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An issue shall be treated as meeting the requirements of this subsection if, as of the date of issuance, the qualified issuer reasonably expects—

''(A) at least 95 percent of the proceeds from the sale of the issue are to be spent for 1 or more qualified projects within the 5-year period beginning on the date of issuance of the rural renaissance bond,

''(B) a binding commitment with a third party to spend at least 10 percent of the proceeds from the sale of the issue will be incurred within the 6-month period beginning on the date of issuance of the rural renaissance bond or, in the case of a rural renaissance bond the proceeds of which are to be loaned to 2 or more qualified borrowers, such binding commitment will be incurred within the 6-month period beginning on the date of the loan of such proceeds to a qualified borrower, and

''(C) such projects will be completed with due diligence and the proceeds from the sale of the issue will be spent with due diligence.

''(2) EXTENSION OF PERIOD.—Upon submission of a request prior to the expiration of the period described in paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary may extend such period if the qualified issuer establishes that the failure to satisfy the 5-year requirement is due to reasonable cause and the related projects will continue to proceed with due diligence.

''(3) FAILURE TO SPEND REQUIRED AMOUNT OF BOND PROCEEDS WITHIN 5 YEARS.—To the extent that less than 95 percent of the proceeds of such issue are expended by the close of the 5-year period beginning on the date of issuance (or if an extension has been obtained under paragraph (2), by the close of the extended period), the qualified issuer shall redeem all of the nonqualified bonds within 90 days after the end of such period. For purposes of this paragraph, the amount of the nonqualified bonds required to be redeemed shall be determined in the same manner as under section 142.

''(i) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO ARBITRAGE.—A bond which is part of an issue shall not be treated as a rural renaissance bond unless, with respect to the issue of which the bond is a part, the qualified issuer satisfies the arbitrage requirements of section 148 with respect to proceeds of the issue.

''(j) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO ISSUERS AND BORROWERS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) QUALIFIED ISSUER.—The term 'qualified issuer' means—

''(A) a rural renaissance bond lender,

''(B) a cooperative electric company, or

''(C) a governmental body.

''(2) QUALIFIED BORROWER.—The term 'qualified borrower' means—

''(A) a mutual or cooperative electric company described in section 501(c)(12) or 1381(a)(2)(C), or

''(B) a governmental body.

''(3) RURAL RENAISSANCE BOND LENDER.—The term 'rural renaissance bond lender' means a lender which is a cooperative which is owned by, or has outstanding loans to, 100 or more cooperative electric companies and is in existence on February 1, 2002, and shall include any affiliated entity which is controlled by such lender.

''(4) COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC COMPANY.—The term 'cooperative electric company' means a mutual or cooperative electric company described in section 501(c)(12) or section 1381(a)(2)(C), or a not-for-profit electric utility which has received a loan or loan guarantee under the Rural Electrification Act.

''(5) GOVERNMENTAL BODY.—The term 'governmental body' means any State, territory, possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, Indian tribal government, and any political subdivision thereof.

''(k) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO POOL BONDS.—No portion of a pooled financing bond may be allocable to loan unless the borrower has entered into a written loan commitment for such portion prior to the issue date of such issue.

''(l) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) BOND.—The term 'bond' includes any obligation.

''(2) POOLED FINANCING BOND.—The term 'pooled financing bond' shall have the meaning given such term by section 149(f)(4)(A).

''(3) RURAL AREA.—The term 'rural area' shall have the meaning given such term by section 1393(a)(2).

''(4) PARTNERSHIP; S CORPORATION; AND OTHER PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, in the case of a partnership, trust, S corporation, or other pass-thru entity, rules similar to the rules of section 41(g) shall apply with respect to the credit allowable under subsection (a).

''(B) NO BASIS ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of a bond held by a partnership or an S corporation, rules similar to the rules under section 1397E(i) shall apply.

''(5) BONDS HELD BY REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES.—If any rural renaissance bond is held by a regulated investment company, the credit determined under subsection (a) shall be allowed to shareholders of such company under procedures prescribed by the Secretary.

''(6) REPORTING.—Issuers of rural renaissance bonds shall submit reports similar to the reports required under section 149(e).

''(7) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply with respect to any bond issued after December 31, 2008.''.

(b) REPORTING.—Subsection (d) of section 6049 (relating to returns regarding payments of interest) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(9) REPORTING OF CREDIT ON RURAL RENAISSANCE BONDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term 'interest' includes amounts includible in gross income under section 54A(g) and such amounts shall be treated as paid on the credit allowance date (as defined in section 54A(b)(4)).

''(B) REPORTING TO CORPORATIONS, ETC.—Except as otherwise provided in regulations, in the case of any interest described in subparagraph (A), subsection (b)(4) shall be applied without regard to subparagraphs (A), (H), (I), (J), (K), and (L)(i) of such subsection.

''(C) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as are necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this paragraph, including regulations which require more frequent or more detailed reporting.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of sections for subpart H of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 54A. Credit to holders of rural renaissance bonds.''.

(2) Section 54(c)(2) is amended by inserting ''section 54A,'' after ''subpart C,''.

(d) ISSUANCE OF REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Treasury shall issue regulations required under section 54A (as added by this section) not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to bonds issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12405. AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS SECURITY CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to business related credits) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 45O. AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS SECURITY CREDIT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, in the case of an eligible agricultural business, the agricultural chemicals security credit determined under this section for the taxable year is 30 percent of the qualified security expenditures for the taxable year.

''(b) FACILITY LIMITATION.—The amount of the credit determined under subsection (a) with respect to any facility for any taxable year shall not exceed—

''(1) $100,000, reduced by

''(2) the aggregate amount of credits determined under subsection (a) with respect to such facility for the 5 prior taxable years.

''(c) ANNUAL LIMITATION.—The amount of the credit determined under subsection (a) with respect to any taxpayer for any taxable year shall not exceed $2,000,000.

''(d) QUALIFIED CHEMICAL SECURITY EXPENDITURE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified chemical security expenditure' means, with respect to any eligible agricultural business for any taxable year, any amount paid or incurred by such business during such taxable year for—

''(1) employee security training and background checks,

''(2) limitation and prevention of access to controls of specified agricultural chemicals stored at the facility,

''(3) tagging, locking tank valves, and chemical additives to prevent the theft of specified agricultural chemicals or to render such chemicals unfit for illegal use,

''(4) protection of the perimeter of specified agricultural chemicals,

''(5) installation of security lighting, cameras, recording equipment, and intrusion detection sensors,

''(6) implementation of measures to increase computer or computer network security,

''(7) conducting a security vulnerability assessment,

''(8) implementing a site security plan, and

''(9) such other measures for the protection of specified agricultural chemicals as the Secretary may identify in regulation.

Amounts described in the preceding sentence shall be taken into account only to the extent that such amounts are paid or incurred for the purpose of protecting specified agricultural chemicals.

''(e) ELIGIBLE AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS.—For purposes of this section, the term 'eligible agricultural business' means any person in the trade or business of—

''(1) selling agricultural products, including specified agricultural chemicals, at retail predominantly to farmers and ranchers, or

''(2) manufacturing, formulating, distributing, or aerially applying specified agricultural chemicals.

''(f) SPECIFIED AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL.—For purposes of this section, the term 'specified agricultural chemical' means—

''(1) any fertilizer commonly used in agricultural operations which is listed under—

''(A) section 302(a)(2) of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986,

''(B) section 101 of part 172 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, or

''(C) part 126, 127, or 154 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, and

''(2) any pesticide (as defined in section 2(u) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act), including all active and inert ingredients thereof, which is customarily used on crops grown for food, feed, or fiber.

''(g) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 41(f) shall apply for purposes of this section.

''(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section, including regulations which—

''(1) provide for the proper treatment of amounts which are paid or incurred for purpose of protecting any specified agricultural chemical and for other purposes, and

''(2) provide for the treatment of related properties as one facility for purposes of subsection (b).

''(i) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred after December 31, 2012.''.

(b) CREDIT ALLOWED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (30), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (31) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(32) in the case of an eligible agricultural business (as defined in section 45O(e)), the agricultural chemicals security credit determined under section 45O(a).''.

(c) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—Section 280C is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) CREDIT FOR SECURITY OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS.—No deduction shall be allowed for that portion of the expenses otherwise allowable as a deduction taken into account in determining the credit under section 45O for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit determined for such taxable year under section 45O(a).''.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 45O. Agricultural chemicals security credit.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12406. CREDIT FOR DRUG SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING FOR MINOR ANIMAL SPECIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to business related credits), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 45P. DRUG SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING FOR MINOR ANIMAL SPECIES.

''(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—For purposes of section 38, in the case of an eligible taxpayer, the drug safety and effectiveness testing for minor animal species credit determined under this section for the taxable year shall be an amount equal to 50 percent of the qualified safety and effectiveness testing expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer during the taxable year.

''(b) ELIGIBLE TAXPAYER.—For purposes of this section, the term 'eligible taxpayer' any taxpayer—

''(1) which—

''(A) applies for the designation of a new animal drug for use on a minor animal species under section 573 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, or

''(B) owns animals which are the subject of safety and effectiveness testing, and

''(2) which elects the application of this section for the taxable year.

''(c) QUALIFIED SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING EXPENSES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified safety and effectiveness testing expenses' means the sum of the following amounts which are paid or incurred by the eligible taxpayer during the taxable year in carrying on any trade or business of such taxpayer:

''(A) In-house safety and effectiveness testing expenses.

''(B) Contract safety and effectiveness testing expenses.

Such term does not include any amount to the extent such amount is funded by any grant, contract, or otherwise by another person (or any governmental entity).

''(2) IN-HOUSE SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING EXPENSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'in-house safety and effectiveness testing expenses' means—

''(i) any wages paid or incurred to an employee for qualified services performed by such employee,

''(ii) any amount paid or incurred for supplies used in the conduct of safety and effectiveness testing, and

''(iii) under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, any amount paid or incurred to another person for the right to use computers in the conduct of safety and effectiveness testing.

Clause (iii) shall not apply to any amount to the extent that the taxpayer (or any person with whom the taxpayer must aggregate expenditures under rules specified under subsection (f)(2)) receives or accrues any amount from any other person for the right to use substantially identical personal property.

''(B) QUALIFIED SERVICES.—The term 'qualified services' means services consisting of—

''(i) engaging in safety and effectiveness testing, or

''(ii) engaging in the direct supervision or direct support of such testing.

If substantially all of the services performed by an individual for the taxpayer during the taxable year consists of services meeting the requirements of clause (i) or (ii), the term 'qualified services' means all of the services performed by such individual for the taxpayer during the taxable year.

''(C) WAGES AND SUPPLIES.—The terms 'wages' and 'supplies' have the meanings given such terms by section 41(b).

''(3) CONTRACT SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING EXPENSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'contract safety and effectiveness testing expenses' means any amount paid or incurred by the taxpayer to any person (other than an employee of the taxpayer) for safety and effectiveness testing.

''(B) PREPAID AMOUNTS.—If any contract safety and effectiveness testing expenses paid or incurred during any taxable year are attributable to safety and effectiveness testing to be conducted after the close of such taxable year, such amount shall be treated as paid or incurred during the period during which the safety and effectiveness testing is conducted.

''(d) SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'safety and effectiveness testing' means any testing which—

''(A) is related to the use of a new animal drug for use on a minor animal species for which it was designated under section 573 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act,

''(B) is carried out under an exemption for such new animal drug under section 512(j) of

such Act (or regulations issued under such section),

''(C) occurs—

''(i) after the date on which the application for designation of such new animal drug under section 573 of such Act is filed, and

''(ii) before the date on which such application is approved under section 512(c) of such Act, and

''(D) which is conducted by or on behalf of an eligible taxpayer.

''(2) MINOR ANIMAL SPECIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'minor animal species' means animals, other than humans, which are not major animal species.

''(B) MAJOR ANIMAL SPECIES.—The term 'major animal species' means cattle, horses, swine, chickens, turkeys, dogs, cats, and any other species as determined by the Secretary, after consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture.

''(e) TREATMENT OF QUALIFIED SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING EXPENSES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any qualified safety and effectiveness testing expenses for a taxable year to which an election under this section applies shall not be taken into account for purposes of determining the credit allowable under section 41 for such taxable year.

''(2) TREATED AS BASE PERIOD RESEARCH EXPENSES.—Any qualified safe and effectiveness testing expenses for any taxable year which are qualified research expenses (within the meaning of section 41(b)) shall be taken into account in determining base period research expenses for purposes of applying section 41 to subsequent taxable years.

''(f) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) LIMITATION.—No credit shall be allowed under this section with respect to any safety and effectiveness testing conducted by a corporation to which an election under section 936 applies.

''(2) AGGREGATION OF EXPENDITURES AND ALLOCATIONS OF CREDIT.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 41(f) and section 41(g) shall apply for purposes of this section.''.

(b) CREDIT ALLOWED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (31), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (32) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(33) the drug safety and effectiveness testing for minor animal species credit determined under section 45P(a).''.

(c) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—Section 280C, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) DRUG SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTING FOR MINOR ANIMAL SPECIES CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be allowed for that portion of the qualified safety and effectiveness testing expenses (as defined in section 45P(c)(1)) otherwise allowable as a deduction for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit determined for such taxable year under section 45P(a).

''(2) SIMILAR RULE WHERE TAXPAYER CAPITALIZES RATHER THAN DEDUCTS EXPENSES.—If—

''(A) the amount of the credit determined for the taxable year under section 45P(a), exceeds

''(B) the amount allowable as a deduction for such taxable year for qualified safety and effectiveness testing expenses (determined without regard to paragraph (1)),

the amount chargeable to capital account for the taxable year for such expenses shall be reduced by the amount of such excess.

''(3) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Paragraph (3) of subsection (b) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 45P. Drug safety and effectiveness testing for minor animal species.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12407. CERTAIN FARMING BUSINESS MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT TREATED AS 5-YEAR PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(e)(3)(B) (defining 5-year property) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (v), by striking the period at the end of clause (vi)(III) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting after clause (vi) the following new clause:

''(vii) any machinery or equipment (other than any grain bin, cotton ginning asset, fence, or other land improvement) which is used in a farming business (as defined in section 263A(e)(4)), the original use of which commences with the taxpayer after the date of the enactment of this clause, and which is placed in service before January 1, 2010.''.

(b) ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM.—The table contained in section 168(g)(3)(B) (relating to special rule for certain property assigned to classes) is amended by inserting after the item relating to subparagraph (B)(iii) the following:

''(B)(vii) ..... 10''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12408. EXPENSING OF BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS EXPENDITURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 (relating to itemized deductions for individuals and corporations) is amended by inserting after section 190 the following new section:

''SEC. 191. BROADBAND EXPENDITURES.

''(a) TREATMENT OF EXPENDITURES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer may elect to treat any qualified broadband expenditure which is paid or incurred by the taxpayer as an expense which is not chargeable to a capital account. Any expenditure which is so treated shall be allowed as a deduction.

''(2) ELECTION.—An election under paragraph (1) shall be made at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation.

''(b) QUALIFIED BROADBAND EXPENDITURES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified broadband expenditure' means, with respect to any taxable year, any direct or indirect costs incurred after the date of the enactment of this section, and on or before the first December 31 which is 3 years after such date, and properly taken into account with respect to—

''(A) the purchase or installation of qualified equipment (including any upgrades thereto), and

''(B) the connection of such qualified equipment to any qualified subscriber.

''(2) CERTAIN SATELLITE EXPENDITURES EXCLUDED.—Such term shall not include any costs incurred with respect to the launching of any satellite equipment.

''(3) LEASED EQUIPMENT.—Such term shall include so much of the purchase price paid by the lessor of qualified equipment subject to a lease described in subsection (c)(2)(B) as is attributable to expenditures incurred by the lessee which would otherwise be described in paragraph (1).

''(4) LIMITATION WITH REGARD TO CURRENT GENERATION BROADBAND SERVICES.—Only 50 percent of the amounts taken into account under paragraph (1) with respect to qualified equipment through which current generation broadband services are provided shall be treated as qualified broadband expenditures.

''(c) WHEN EXPENDITURES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Qualified broadband expenditures with respect to qualified equipment shall be taken into account with respect to the first taxable year in which—

''(A) current generation broadband services are provided through such equipment to qualified subscribers, or

''(B) next generation broadband services are provided through such equipment to qualified subscribers.

''(2) LIMITATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Qualified expenditures shall be taken into account under paragraph (1) only with respect to qualified equipment—

''(i) the original use of which commences with the taxpayer, and

''(ii) which is placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

''(B) SALE-LEASEBACKS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), if property—

''(i) is originally placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act by any person, and

''(ii) sold and leased back by such person within 3 months after the date such property was originally placed in service,

such property shall be treated as originally placed in service not earlier than the date on which such property is used under the leaseback referred to in clause (ii).

''(d) SPECIAL ALLOCATION RULES.—

''(1) CURRENT GENERATION BROADBAND SERVICES.—For purposes of determining the amount of qualified broadband expenditures under subsection (a)(1) with respect to qualified equipment through which current generation broadband services are provided, if the qualified equipment is capable of serving both qualified subscribers and other subscribers, the qualified broadband expenditures shall be multiplied by a fraction—

''(A) the numerator of which is the sum of the number of potential qualified subscribers within the rural areas and the underserved areas which the equipment is capable of serving with current generation broadband services, and

''(B) the denominator of which is the total potential subscriber population of the area which the equipment is capable of serving with current generation broadband services.

''(2) NEXT GENERATION BROADBAND SERVICES.—For purposes of determining the amount of qualified broadband expenditures under subsection (a)(1) with respect to qualified equipment through which next generation broadband services are provided, if the qualified equipment is capable of serving both qualified subscribers and other subscribers, the qualified broadband expenditures shall be multiplied by a fraction—

''(A) the numerator of which is the sum of—

''(i) the number of potential qualified subscribers within the rural areas and underserved areas, plus

''(ii) the number of potential qualified subscribers within the area consisting only of residential subscribers not described in clause (i),

which the equipment is capable of serving with next generation broadband services, and

''(B) the denominator of which is the total potential subscriber population of the area which the equipment is capable of serving with next generation broadband services.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) ANTENNA.—The term 'antenna' means any device used to transmit or receive signals through the electromagnetic spectrum, including satellite equipment.

''(2) CABLE OPERATOR.—The term 'cable operator' has the meaning given such term by section 602(5) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 522(5)).

''(3) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE CARRIER.—The term 'commercial mobile service carrier' means any person authorized to provide commercial mobile radio service as defined in section 20.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(4) CURRENT GENERATION BROADBAND SERVICE.—The term 'current generation broadband service' means the transmission of signals at a rate of at least 5,000,000 bits per second to the subscriber and at least 1,000,000 bits per second from the subscriber.

''(5) MULTIPLEXING OR DEMULTIPLEXING.—The term 'multiplexing' means the transmission of 2 or more signals over a single channel, and the term 'demultiplexing' means the separation of 2 or more signals previously combined by compatible multiplexing equipment.

''(6) NEXT GENERATION BROADBAND SERVICE.—The term 'next generation broadband service' means the transmission of signals at a rate of at least 100,000,000 bits per second to the subscriber and at least 20,000,000 bits per second from the subscriber.

''(7) NONRESIDENTIAL SUBSCRIBER.—The term 'nonresidential subscriber' means any person who purchases broadband services which are delivered to the permanent place of business of such person.

''(8) OPEN VIDEO SYSTEM OPERATOR.—The term 'open video system operator' means any person authorized to provide service under section 653 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 573).

''(9) OTHER WIRELESS CARRIER.—The term 'other wireless carrier' means any person (other than a telecommunications carrier, commercial mobile service carrier, cable operator, open video system operator, or satellite carrier) providing current generation broadband services or next generation broadband service to subscribers through the radio transmission of energy.

''(10) PACKET SWITCHING.—The term 'packet switching' means controlling or routing the path of any digitized transmission signal which is assembled into packets or cells.

''(11) PROVIDER.—The term 'provider' means, with respect to any qualified equipment—

''(A) a cable operator,

''(B) a commercial mobile service carrier,

''(C) an open video system operator,

''(D) a satellite carrier,

''(E) a telecommunications carrier, or

''(F) any other wireless carrier,

providing current generation broadband services or next generation broadband services to subscribers through such qualified equipment.

''(12) PROVISION OF SERVICES.—A provider shall be treated as providing services to 1 or more subscribers if—

''(A) such a subscriber has been passed by the provider's equipment and can be connected to such equipment for a standard connection fee,

''(B) the provider is physically able to deliver current generation broadband services or next generation broadband services, as applicable, to such a subscriber without making more than an insignificant investment with respect to such subscriber,

''(C) the provider has made reasonable efforts to make such subscribers aware of the availability of such services,

''(D) such services have been purchased by 1 or more such subscribers, and

''(E) such services are made available to such subscribers at average prices comparable to those at which the provider makes available similar services in any areas in which the provider makes available such services.

''(13) QUALIFIED EQUIPMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified equipment' means equipment which provides current generation broadband services or next generation broadband services—

''(i) at least a majority of the time during periods of maximum demand to each subscriber who is utilizing such services, and

''(ii) in a manner substantially the same as such services are provided by the provider to subscribers through equipment with respect to which no deduction is allowed under subsection (a)(1).

''(B) ONLY CERTAIN INVESTMENT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C) or (D), equipment shall be taken into account under subparagraph (A) only to the extent it—

''(i) extends from the last point of switching to the outside of the unit, building, dwelling, or office owned or leased by a subscriber in the case of a telecommunications carrier or broadband-over-powerline operator,

''(ii) extends from the customer side of the mobile telephone switching office to a transmission/receive antenna (including such antenna) owned or leased by a subscriber in the case of a commercial mobile service carrier,

''(iii) extends from the customer side of the headend to the outside of the unit, building, dwelling, or office owned or leased by a subscriber in the case of a cable operator or open video system operator, or

''(iv) extends from a transmission/receive antenna (including such antenna) which transmits and receives signals to or from multiple subscribers, to a transmission/receive antenna (including such antenna) on the outside of the unit, building, dwelling, or office owned or leased by a subscriber in the case of a satellite carrier or other wireless carrier, unless such other wireless carrier is also a telecommunications carrier.

''(C) PACKET SWITCHING EQUIPMENT.—Packet switching equipment, regardless of location, shall be taken into account under subparagraph (A) only if it is deployed in connection with equipment described in subparagraph (B) and is uniquely designed to perform the function of packet switching for current generation broadband services or next generation broadband services, but only if such packet switching is the last in a series of such functions performed in the transmission of a signal to a subscriber or the first in a series of such functions performed in the transmission of a signal from a subscriber.

''(D) MULTIPLEXING AND DEMULTIPLEXING EQUIPMENT.—Multiplexing and demultiplexing equipment shall be taken into account under subparagraph (A) only to the extent it is deployed in connection with equipment described in subparagraph (B) and is uniquely designed to perform the function of multiplexing and demultiplexing packets or cells of data and making associated application adaptions, but only if such multiplexing or demultiplexing equipment is located between packet switching equipment described in subparagraph (C) and the subscriber's premises.

''(14) QUALIFIED SUBSCRIBER.—The term 'qualified subscriber' means—

''(A) with respect to the provision of current generation broadband services—

''(i) any nonresidential subscriber maintaining a permanent place of business in a rural area or underserved area, or

''(ii) any residential subscriber residing in a dwelling located in a rural area or underserved area which is not a saturated market, and

''(B) with respect to the provision of next generation broadband services—

''(i) any nonresidential subscriber maintaining a permanent place of business in a rural area or underserved area, or

''(ii) any residential subscriber.

''(15) RESIDENTIAL SUBSCRIBER.—The term 'residential subscriber' means any individual who purchases broadband services which are delivered to such individual's dwelling.

''(16) RURAL AREA.—The term 'rural area' means any census tract which—

''(A) is not within 10 miles of any incorporated or census designated place containing more than 25,000 people, and

''(B) is not within a county or county equivalent which has an overall population density of more than 500 people per square mile of land.

''(17) RURAL SUBSCRIBER.—The term 'rural subscriber' means any residential subscriber residing in a dwelling located in a rural area or nonresidential subscriber maintaining a permanent place of business located in a rural area.

''(18) SATELLITE CARRIER.—The term 'satellite carrier' means any person using the facilities of a satellite or satellite service licensed by the Federal Communications Commission and operating in the Fixed-Satellite Service under part 25 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations or the Direct Broadcast Satellite Service under part 100 of title 47 of such Code to establish and operate a channel of communications for distribution of signals, and owning or leasing a capacity or service on a satellite in order to provide such point-to-multipoint distribution.

''(19) SATURATED MARKET.—The term 'saturated market' means any census tract in which, as of the date of the enactment of this section—

''(A) current generation broadband services have been provided by a single provider to 85 percent or more of the total number of potential residential subscribers residing in dwellings located within such census tract, and

''(B) such services can be utilized—

''(i) at least a majority of the time during periods of maximum demand by each such subscriber who is utilizing such services, and

''(ii) in a manner substantially the same as such services are provided by the provider to subscribers through equipment with respect to which no deduction is allowed under subsection (a)(1).

''(20) SUBSCRIBER.—The term 'subscriber' means any person who purchases current generation broadband services or next generation broadband services.

''(21) TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER.—The term 'telecommunications carrier' has the meaning given such term by section 3(44) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153(44)), but—

''(A) includes all members of an affiliated group of which a telecommunications carrier is a member, and

''(B) does not include a commercial mobile service carrier.

''(22) TOTAL POTENTIAL SUBSCRIBER POPULATION.—The term 'total potential subscriber population' means, with respect to

any area and based on the most recent census data, the total number of potential residential subscribers residing in dwellings located in such area and potential nonresidential subscribers maintaining permanent places of business located in such area.

''(23) UNDERSERVED AREA.—The term 'underserved area' means—

''(A) any census tract which is located in—

''(i) an empowerment zone or enterprise community designated under section 1391, or

''(ii) the District of Columbia Enterprise Zone established under section 1400, or

''(B) any census tract—

''(i) the poverty level of which is at least 30 percent (based on the most recent census data), and

''(ii) the median family income of which does not exceed—

''(I) in the case of a census tract located in a metropolitan statistical area, 70 percent of the greater of the metropolitan area median family income or the statewide median family income, and

''(II) in the case of a census tract located in a nonmetropolitan statistical area, 70 percent of the nonmetropolitan statewide median family income.

''(24) UNDERSERVED SUBSCRIBER.—The term 'underserved subscriber' means any residential subscriber residing in a dwelling located in an underserved area or nonresidential subscriber maintaining a permanent place of business located in an underserved area.

''(f) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) PROPERTY USED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES, ETC., NOT QUALIFIED.—No expenditures shall be taken into account under subsection (a)(1) with respect to the portion of the cost of any property referred to in section 50(b) or with respect to the portion of the cost of any property specified in an election under section 179.

''(2) BASIS REDUCTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title, the basis of any property shall be reduced by the portion of the cost of such property taken into account under subsection (a)(1).

''(B) ORDINARY INCOME RECAPTURE.—For purposes of section 1245, the amount of the deduction allowable under subsection (a)(1) with respect to any property which is of a character subject to the allowance for depreciation shall be treated as a deduction allowed for depreciation under section 167.

''(3) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 38.—No credit shall be allowed under section 38 with respect to any amount for which a deduction is allowed under subsection (a)(1).''.

(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR MUTUAL OR COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANIES.—Section 512(b) (relating to modifications) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(20) SPECIAL RULE FOR MUTUAL OR COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANIES.—A mutual or cooperative telephone company which for the taxable year satisfies the requirements of section 501(c)(12)(A) may elect to reduce its unrelated business taxable income for such year, if any, by an amount that does not exceed the qualified broadband expenditures which would be taken into account under section 191 for such year by such company if such company was not exempt from taxation. Any amount which is allowed as a deduction under this paragraph shall not be allowed as a deduction under section 191 and the basis of any property to which this paragraph applies shall be reduced under section 1016(a)(40).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 263(a)(1) (relating to capital expenditures) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (J), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (K) and inserting '', or'', and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(L) expenditures for which a deduction is allowed under section 191.''.

(2) Section 1016(a), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (38), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (39) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(40) to the extent provided in section 191(f)(2).''.

(3) The table of sections for part VI of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 190 the following new item:

''Sec. 191. Broadband expenditures.''.

(d) DESIGNATION OF CENSUS TRACTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, designate and publish those census tracts meeting the criteria described in paragraphs (16), (22), and (23) of section 191(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section). In making such designations, the Secretary of the Treasury shall consult with such other departments and agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(2) SATURATED MARKET.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of designating and publishing those census tracts meeting the criteria described in subsection (e)(19) of such section 191—

(i) the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act the form upon which any provider which takes the position that it meets such criteria with respect to any census tract shall submit a list of such census tracts (and any other information required by the Secretary) not later than 60 days after the date of the publication of such form, and

(ii) the Secretary of the Treasury shall publish an aggregate list of such census tracts and the applicable providers not later than 30 days after the last date such submissions are allowed under clause (i).

(B) NO SUBSEQUENT LISTS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall not be required to publish any list of census tracts meeting such criteria subsequent to the list described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

(e) OTHER REGULATORY MATTERS.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—No Federal or State agency or instrumentality shall adopt regulations or ratemaking procedures that would have the effect of eliminating or reducing any deduction or portion thereof allowed under section 191 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) or otherwise subverting the purpose of this section.

(2) TREASURY REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—It is the intent of Congress in providing the election to deduct qualified broadband expenditures under section 191 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) to provide incentives for the purchase, installation, and connection of equipment and facilities offering expanded broadband access to the Internet for users in certain low income and rural areas of the United States, as well as to residential users nationwide, in a manner that maintains competitive neutrality among the various classes of providers of broadband services. Accordingly, the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of section 191 of such Code, including—

(A) regulations to determine how and when a taxpayer that incurs qualified broadband expenditures satisfies the requirements of section 191 of such Code to provide broadband services, and

(B) regulations describing the information, records, and data taxpayers are required to provide the Secretary to substantiate compliance with the requirements of section 191 of such Code.

SEC. 12409. CREDIT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT MOTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to business related credits), as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 45Q. CREDIT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT MOTORS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, the energy efficient motors credit determined under this section for any taxable year is an amount equal to the lesser of —

''(1) $15 per horsepower generated by qualified energy efficient motors the original use of which begins with the taxpayer during such taxable year, or

''(2) $1,250,000.

''(b) QUALIFIED ENERGY EFFICIENT MOTOR.—The term 'qualified energy efficient motor' means a general- or definite-purpose electric motor of 500 horsepower or less which meets or exceeds the efficiency levels specified in Tables 12-12 or 12-13 of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association MG-1 (2006).

''(c) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) BASIS REDUCTION.—The basis of any property for which a credit is allowable under subsection (a) shall be reduced by the amount of such credit.

''(2) RECAPTURE.—The Secretary shall, by regulations, provide for recapturing the benefit of any credit allowable under subsection (a) with respect to any property which ceases to be property eligible for such credit.

''(3) PROPERTY USED OUTSIDE UNITED STATES, ETC., CERTAIN DEPRECIABLE PROPERTY NOT QUALIFIED.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) with respect to any property referred to in section 50(b) or with respect to the portion of the cost of any property taken into account under section 179.

''(d) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to any property placed in service after the date which is 3 years after the date of the enactment of this section.''.

(b) CREDIT ALLOWED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (32), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (33) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(34) the credit for energy efficient motors determined under section 45Q(a).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1016(a), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (39), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (40) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(41) to the extent provided in section 45Q(c)(1).''.

(2) The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 45Q. Credit for energy efficient motors.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle E—Revenue Provisions

PART I—MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE PROVISIONS

SEC. 12501. LIMITATION ON FARMING LOSSES OF CERTAIN TAXPAYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 461 (relating to general rule for taxable year of deduction) is

amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) LIMITATION ON FARMING LOSSES OF CERTAIN TAXPAYERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If an applicable taxpayer has a farming loss for the taxable year, such loss shall be allowed for such taxable year only to the extent such loss does not exceed $200,000.

''(2) FARMING LOSS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'farming loss' means the excess of the deductions of the taxpayer for the taxable year which are attributable to farming businesses (as defined in section 263A(e)(4)) of such taxpayer over income or gain of such taxpayer for the taxable year which is attributable to such deductions.

''(3) DISALLOWED LOSS CARRIED TO NEXT YEAR.—Any loss which is disallowed under paragraph (1) shall be treated as a deduction of the taxpayer attributable to farming businesses in the next taxable year.

''(4) APPLICABLE TAXPAYER.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'applicable taxpayer' means, with respect to any taxable year, any individual, partnership, estate, or trust which receives—

''(A) benefits under subtitle A or B of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 in such taxable year, or

''(B) Commodity Credit Corporation loans in such taxable year.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12502. MODIFICATION TO OPTIONAL METHOD OF COMPUTING NET EARNINGS FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The matter following paragraph (17) of section 1402(a) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$2,400'' each place it appears and inserting ''the upper limit'', and

(B) by striking ''$1,600'' each place it appears and inserting ''the lower limit''.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1402 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(l) UPPER AND LOWER LIMITS.—For purposes of subsection (a)—

''(1) LOWER LIMIT.—The lower limit for any taxable year is the sum of the amounts required under section 213(d) of the Social Security Act for a quarter of coverage in effect with respect to each calendar quarter ending with or within such taxable year.

''(2) UPPER LIMIT.—The upper limit for any taxable year is the amount equal to 150 percent of the lower limit for such taxable year.''.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The matter following paragraph (16) of section 211(a) of the Social Security Act is amended—

(A) by striking ''$2,400'' each place it appears and inserting ''the upper limit'', and

(B) by striking ''$1,600'' each place it appears and inserting ''the lower limit''.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 211 of such Act is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''Upper and Lower Limits

''(k) For purposes of subsection (a)—

''(1) The lower limit for any taxable year is the sum of the amounts required under section 213(d) for a quarter of coverage in effect with respect to each calendar quarter ending with or within such taxable year.

''(2) The upper limit for any taxable year is the amount equal to 150 percent of the lower limit for such taxable year.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 212 of such Act is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by striking ''For'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (c), for''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) For the purpose of determining average indexed monthly earnings, average monthly wage, and quarters of coverage in the case of any individual who elects the option described in clause (ii) or (iv) in the matter following section 211(a)(16) for any taxable year that does not begin with or during a particular calendar year and end with or during such year, the self-employment income of such individual deemed to be derived during such taxable year shall be allocated to the two calendar years, portions of which are included within such taxable year, in the same proportion to the total of such deemed self-employment income as the sum of the amounts applicable under section 213(d) for the calendar quarters ending with or within each such calendar year bears to the lower limit for such taxable year specified in section 211(k)(1).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12503. INFORMATION REPORTING FOR COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 (relating to information concerning persons subject to special provisions) is amended by inserting after section 6039I the following new section:

''SEC. 6039J. INFORMATION REPORTING WITH RESPECT TO COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION TRANSACTIONS.

''(a) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING.—The Commodity Credit Corporation, through the Secretary of Agriculture, shall make a return, according to the forms and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, setting forth any market gain realized by a taxpayer during the taxable year in relation to the repayment of a loan issued by the Commodity Credit Corporation, without regard to the manner in which such loan was repaid.

''(b) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO PERSONS WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall furnish to each person whose name is required to be set forth in a return required under subsection (a) a written statement showing the amount of market gain reported in such return.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6039I the following new item:

''Sec. 6039J. Information reporting with respect to Commodity Credit Corporation transactions.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to loans repaid on or after January 1, 2007.

SEC. 12504. MODIFICATION OF SECTION 1031 TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN REAL ESTATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1031 (relating to exchange of property held for productive use or investment), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) SPECIAL RULE FOR AGRICULTURAL REAL PROPERTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Unimproved agricultural real property and improved real property are not property of a like kind.

''(2) UNIMPROVED AGRICULTURAL REAL PROPERTY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'unimproved agricultural real property' means real property—

''(A) which is unimproved;

''(B) which is used for farming purposes (within the meaning of section 2032A(e)(5)); and

''(C) with respect to which a taxpayer receives, in the taxable year in which an exchange of such property is made, any benefits under subtitle A or B of title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 or Commodity Credit Corporation loans.

''(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to any unimproved agricultural real property which, not later than the date of the exchange, is permanently retired from any program under which any payment, loan, or benefit described in paragraph (2)(C) is made.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to exchanges completed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12505. MODIFICATION OF EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEASING PROVISIONS OF THE AMERICAN JOBS CREATION ACT OF 2004.

(a) LEASES TO FOREIGN ENTITIES.—Section 849(b) of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) LEASES TO FOREIGN ENTITIES.—In the case of tax-exempt use property leased to a tax-exempt entity which is a foreign person or entity, the amendments made by this part shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006, with respect to leases entered into on or before March 12, 2004.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004.

SEC. 12506. TIME FOR PAYMENT OF CORPORATE ESTIMATED TAXES.

The percentage under subparagraph (B) of section 401(1) of the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act is increased by 7.00 percentage points.

SEC. 12507. INELIGIBILITY OF COLLECTIBLES FOR NONTAXABLE LIKE KIND EXCHANGE TREATMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1031(a)(2) (relating to exception) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (F) and inserting '', or'', and by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following new subparagraph:

''(G) collectibles (as defined in section 408(m)(2)).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to exchanges completed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12508. DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 162 (relating to trade or business expenses) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no deduction otherwise allowable shall be allowed under this chapter for any amount paid or incurred (whether by suit, agreement, or otherwise) to, or at the direction of, a government or entity described in paragraph (4) in relation to—

''(A) the violation of any law, or

''(B) an investigation or inquiry into the potential violation of any law which is initiated by such government or entity.

''(2) EXCEPTION FOR AMOUNTS CONSTITUTING RESTITUTION OR PAID TO COME INTO COMPLIANCE WITH LAW.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount which—

''(A) the taxpayer establishes—

''(i) constitutes restitution (or remediation of property) for damage or harm caused by, or which may be caused by, the violation of any law or the potential violation of any law, or

''(ii) is paid to come into compliance with any law which was violated or involved in the investigation or inquiry, and

''(B) is identified as an amount described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A), as the case may be, in the court order or settlement agreement, except that the requirement of this subparagraph shall not apply in the case of any settlement agreement which requires the taxpayer to pay or incur an amount not greater than $1,000,000.

A taxpayer shall not meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) solely by reason of an identification under subparagraph (B). This paragraph shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred as reimbursement to the government or entity for the costs of any investigation or litigation unless such amount is paid or incurred for a cost or fee regularly charged for any routine audit or other customary review performed by the government or entity.

''(3) EXCEPTION FOR AMOUNTS PAID OR INCURRED AS THE RESULT OF CERTAIN COURT ORDERS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred by order of a court in a suit in which no government or entity described in paragraph (4) is a party.

''(4) CERTAIN NONGOVERNMENTAL REGULATORY ENTITIES.—An entity is described in this paragraph if it is—

''(A) a nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers (including imposing sanctions) in connection with a qualified board or exchange (as defined in section 1256(g)(7)), or

''(B) to the extent provided in regulations, a nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers (including imposing sanctions) as part of performing an essential governmental function.

''(5) EXCEPTION FOR TAXES DUE.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred as taxes due.''.

(b) REPORTING OF DEDUCTIBLE AMOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after section 6050V the following new section:

''SEC. 6050W. INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.

''(a) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The appropriate official of any government or entity which is described in section 162(f)(4) which is involved in a suit or agreement described in paragraph (2) shall make a return in such form as determined by the Secretary setting forth—

''(A) the amount required to be paid as a result of the suit or agreement to which paragraph (1) of section 162(f) applies,

''(B) any amount required to be paid as a result of the suit or agreement which constitutes restitution or remediation of property, and

''(C) any amount required to be paid as a result of the suit or agreement for the purpose of coming into compliance with any law which was violated or involved in the investigation or inquiry.

''(2) SUIT OR AGREEMENT DESCRIBED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A suit or agreement is described in this paragraph if—

''(i) it is—

''(I) a suit with respect to a violation of any law over which the government or entity has authority and with respect to which there has been a court order, or

''(II) an agreement which is entered into with respect to a violation of any law over which the government or entity has authority, or with respect to an investigation or inquiry by the government or entity into the potential violation of any law over which such government or entity has authority, and

''(ii) the aggregate amount involved in all court orders and agreements with respect to the violation, investigation, or inquiry is $600 or more.

''(B) ADJUSTMENT OF REPORTING THRESHOLD.—The Secretary may adjust the $600 amount in subparagraph (A)(ii) as necessary in order to ensure the efficient administration of the internal revenue laws.

''(3) TIME OF FILING.—The return required under this subsection shall be filed not later than—

''(A) 30 days after the date on which a court order is issued with respect to the suit or the date the agreement is entered into, as the case may be, or

''(B) the date specified by the Secretary.

''(b) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN THE SETTLEMENT.—Every person required to make a return under subsection (a) shall furnish to each person who is a party to the suit or agreement a written statement showing—

''(1) the name of the government or entity, and

''(2) the information supplied to the Secretary under subsection (a)(1).

The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished to the person at the same time the government or entity provides the Secretary with the information required under subsection (a).

''(c) APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term 'appropriate official' means the officer or employee having control of the suit, investigation, or inquiry or the person appropriately designated for purposes of this section.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6050V the following new item:

''Sec. 6050W. Information with respect to certain fines, penalties, and other amounts''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that such amendments shall not apply to amounts paid or incurred under any binding order or agreement entered into before such date. Such exception shall not apply to an order or agreement requiring court approval unless the approval was obtained before such date.

SEC. 12509. INCREASE IN INFORMATION RETURN PENALTIES.

(a) FAILURE TO FILE CORRECT INFORMATION RETURNS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6721(a)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$50'' and inserting ''$250'', and

(B) by striking ''$250,000'' and inserting ''$3,000,000''.

(2) REDUCTION WHERE CORRECTION IN SPECIFIED PERIOD.—

(A) CORRECTION WITHIN 30 DAYS.—Section 6721(b)(1) is amended—

(i) by striking ''$15'' and inserting ''$50'',

(ii) by striking ''$50'' and inserting ''$250'', and

(iii) by striking ''$75,000'' and inserting ''$500,000''.

(B) FAILURES CORRECTED ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1.—Section 6721(b)(2) is amended—

(i) by striking ''$30'' and inserting ''$100'',

(ii) by striking ''$50'' and inserting ''$250'', and

(iii) by striking ''$150,000'' and inserting ''$1,500,000''.

(3) LOWER LIMITATION FOR PERSONS WITH GROSS RECEIPTS OF NOT MORE THAN $5,000,000.—Section 6721(d)(1) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''$100,000'' and inserting ''$1,000,000'', and

(ii) by striking ''$250,000'' and inserting ''$3,000,000'',

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''$25,000'' and inserting ''$175,000'', and

(ii) by striking ''$75,000'' and inserting ''$500,000'', and

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking ''$50,000'' and inserting ''$500,000'', and

(ii) by striking ''$150,000'' and inserting ''$1,500,000''.

(4) PENALTY IN CASE OF INTENTIONAL DISREGARD.—Section 6721(e) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$100'' in paragraph (2) and inserting ''$500'',

(B) by striking ''$250,000'' in paragraph (3)(A) and inserting ''$3,000,000''.

(b) FAILURE TO FURNISH CORRECT PAYEE STATEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6722(a) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$50'' and inserting ''$250'', and

(B) by striking ''$100,000'' and inserting ''$1,000,000''.

(2) PENALTY IN CASE OF INTENTIONAL DISREGARD.—Section 6722(c) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$100'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''$500'', and

(B) by striking ''$100,000'' in paragraph (2)(A) and inserting ''$1,000,000''.

(c) FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH OTHER INFORMATION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 6723 is amended—

(1) by striking ''$50'' and inserting ''$250'', and

(2) by striking ''$100,000'' and inserting ''$1,000,000''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to information returns required to be filed on or after January 1, 2008.

PART II—ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE DOCTRINE

SEC. 12511. CLARIFICATION OF ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE DOCTRINE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7701 is amended by redesignating subsection (p) as subsection (q) and by inserting after subsection (o) the following new subsection:

''(p) CLARIFICATION OF ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE DOCTRINE; ETC.—

''(1) GENERAL RULES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a court determines that the economic substance doctrine is relevant for purposes of this title to a transaction (or series of transactions), such transaction (or series of transactions) shall have economic substance only if the requirements of this paragraph are met.

''(B) DEFINITION OF ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A transaction has economic substance only if—

''(I) the transaction changes in a meaningful way (apart from Federal tax effects) the taxpayer's economic position, and

''(II) subject to clause (iii), the taxpayer has a substantial purpose (other than a Federal tax purpose) for entering into such transaction.

''(ii) SPECIAL RULE WHERE TAXPAYER RELIES ON PROFIT POTENTIAL.—A transaction shall not be treated as having economic substance solely by reason of having a potential for profit unless the present value of the reasonably expected pre-Federal tax profit from the transaction is substantial in relation to the present value of the expected net Federal tax benefits that would be allowed if the transaction were respected. In determining pre-Federal tax profit, there shall be taken into account fees and other transaction expenses and to the extent provided by the Secretary, foreign taxes.

''(iii) SPECIAL RULES FOR DETERMINING WHETHER NON-FEDERAL TAX PURPOSE.—For purposes of clause (i)(II)—

''(I) a purpose of achieving a financial accounting benefit shall not be taken into account in determining whether a transaction has a substantial purpose (other than a Federal tax purpose) if the origin of such financial accounting benefit is a reduction of Federal tax, and

''(II) the taxpayer shall not be treated as having a substantial purpose (other than a Federal tax purpose) with respect to a transaction if the only such purpose is the reduction of non-Federal taxes and the transaction will result in a reduction of Federal taxes substantially equal to, or greater than, the reduction in non-Federal taxes because of similarities between the laws imposing the taxes.

''(2) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE DOCTRINE.—The term 'economic substance doctrine' means the common law doctrine under which tax benefits under subtitle A with respect to a transaction are not allowable if the transaction does not have economic substance or lacks a business purpose.

''(B) EXCEPTION FOR PERSONAL TRANSACTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS.—In the case of an individual, this subsection shall apply only to transactions entered into in connection with a trade or business or an activity engaged in for the production of income.

''(3) OTHER PROVISIONS NOT AFFECTED.—Except as specifically provided in this subsection, the provisions of this subsection shall not be construed as altering or supplanting any other rule of law or provision of this title, and the requirements of this subsection shall be construed as being in addition to any such other rule of law or provision of this title.

''(4) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subsection. Such regulations may include exemptions from the application of this subsection.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transactions entered into after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12512. PENALTY FOR UNDERSTATEMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TRANSACTIONS LACKING ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE, ETC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by inserting after section 6662A the following new section:

''SEC. 6662B. PENALTY FOR UNDERSTATEMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TRANSACTIONS LACKING ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE, ETC.

''(a) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—If a taxpayer has an noneconomic substance transaction understatement for any taxable year, there shall be added to the tax an amount equal to 30 percent of the amount of such understatement.

''(b) REDUCTION OF PENALTY FOR DISCLOSED TRANSACTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting '20 percent' for '30 percent' with respect to the portion of any noneconomic substance transaction understatement with respect to which the relevant facts affecting the tax treatment of the item are adequately disclosed in the return or a statement attached to the return.

''(c) NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTION UNDERSTATEMENT.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'noneconomic substance transaction understatement' means any amount which would be an understatement under section 6662A(b)(1) if section 6662A were applied by taking into account items attributable to noneconomic substance transactions rather than items to which section 6662A would apply without regard to this paragraph.

''(2) NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTION.—The term 'noneconomic substance transaction' means any transaction if there is a lack of economic substance (within the meaning of section 7701(p)(1)(B)) for the transaction giving rise to the claimed benefit.

''(d) RULES APPLICABLE TO ASSERTION, COMPROMISE, AND COLLECTION OF PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Only the Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service may assert a penalty imposed under this section or may compromise all or any portion of such penalty. The Chief Counsel may delegate the authority under this paragraph only to an individual holding the position of chief of a branch within the Office of the Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service.

''(2) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) ASSERTION OF PENALTY.—The Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service (or the Chief Counsel's delegate under paragraph (1)) shall not assert a penalty imposed under this section unless, before the assertion of the penalty, the taxpayer is provided—

''(i) a notice of intent to assert the penalty, and

''(ii) an opportunity to provide to the Commissioner (or the Chief Counsel's delegate under paragraph (1)) a written response to the proposed penalty within a reasonable period of time after such notice.

''(B) COMPROMISE OF PENALTY.—A compromise shall not result in a reduction in the penalty imposed by this section in an amount greater than the amount which bears the same ratio to the amount of the penalty determined without regard to the compromise as—

''(i) the reduction under the compromise in the noneconomic substance transaction understatement to which the penalty relates, bears to

''(ii) the amount of the noneconomic substance transaction understatement determined without regard to the compromise.

''(3) RULES RELATING TO RELEVANCY REQUIREMENT.—

''(A) DETERMINATION OF RELEVANCE BY CHIEF COUNSEL.—The Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service (or the Chief Counsel's delegate under paragraph (1)) may assert, compromise, or collect a penalty imposed by this section with respect to a noneconomic substance transaction even if there has not been a court determination that the economic substance doctrine was relevant for purposes of this title to the transaction if the Chief Counsel (or delegate) determines that either was so relevant.

''(B) FINAL ORDER OF COURT.—If there is a final order of a court that determines that the economic substance doctrine was not relevant for purposes of this title to a transaction (or series of transactions), any penalty imposed under this section with respect to the transaction (or series of transactions) shall be rescinded.

''(4) APPLICABLE RULES.—The rules of paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 6707A(d) shall apply to a compromise under paragraph (1).

''(e) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PENALTIES.—Except as otherwise provided in this part, the penalty imposed by this section shall be in addition to any other penalty imposed by this title.

''(f) CROSS REFERENCES.—

''(1) For coordination of penalty with understatements under section 6662 and other special rules, see section 6662A(e).

''(2) For reporting of penalty imposed under this section to the Securities and Exchange Commission, see section 6707A(e).''.

(b) COORDINATION WITH OTHER UNDERSTATEMENTS AND PENALTIES.—

(1) The second sentence of section 6662(d)(2)(A) is amended by inserting ''and without regard to items with respect to which a penalty is imposed by section 6662B'' before the period at the end.

(2) Subsection (e) of section 6662A is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and noneconomic substance transaction understatements'' after ''reportable transaction understatements'' both places it appears,

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) by inserting ''6662B or'' before ''6663'' in the text, and

(ii) by striking ''PENALTY'' in the heading and inserting ''AND ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE PENALTIES'',

(C) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by inserting ''and section 6662B'' after ''This section'', and

(ii) by striking ''PENALTY'' in the heading and inserting ''AND ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE PENALTIES'',

(D) in paragraph (3), by inserting ''or noneconomic substance transaction understatement'' after ''reportable transaction understatement'', and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTION UNDERSTATEMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'noneconomic substance transaction understatement' has the meaning given such term by section 6662B(c).''.

(3) Subsection (e) of section 6707A is amended—

(A) by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (B), and

(B) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following new subparagraphs:

''(C) is required to pay a penalty under section 6662B with respect to any noneconomic substance transaction, or

''(D) is required to pay a penalty under section 6662(h) with respect to any transaction and would (but for section 6662A(e)(2)(B)) have been subject to penalty under section 6662A at a rate prescribed under section 6662A(c) or to penalty under section 6662B,''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part II of subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6662A the following new item:

''Sec. 6662B. Penalty for understatements attributable to transactions lacking economic substance, etc.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transactions entered into after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12513. DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR INTEREST ON UNDERPAYMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 163(m) (relating to interest on unpaid taxes attributable to nondisclosed reportable transactions) is amended—

(1) by striking ''attributable'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''attributable to—

''(1) the portion of any reportable transaction understatement (as defined in section

6662A(b)) with respect to which the requirement of section 6664(d)(2)(A) is not met, or

''(2) any noneconomic substance transaction understatement (as defined in section 6662B(c)).'', and

(2) by inserting ''AND NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTIONS'' in the heading thereof after ''TRANSACTIONS''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transactions after the date of the enactment of this Act in taxable years ending after such date.

Subtitle F—Protection of Social Security

SEC. 12601. PROTECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY.

To ensure that the assets of the trust funds established under section 201 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401) are not reduced as a result of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer annually from the general revenues of the Federal Government to those trust funds the following amounts:

(1) For fiscal year 2009, $86,000,000.
(2) For fiscal year 2010, $90,000,000.
(3) For fiscal year 2011, $88,000,000.
(4) For fiscal year 2012, $88,000,000.
(5) For fiscal year 2013, $5,000,000.
(6) For fiscal year 2014, $5,000,000.
(7) For fiscal year 2015, $4,000,000.
(8) For each fiscal year after fiscal year 2015, $2,000,000.

SA 3501. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Section 7307 is amended by striking the matter preceding paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

(a) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—The Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) is amended in subsection (b)—

Section 7307 is amended by adding at the end the following:

(b) NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECT-7.—The Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(1) NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECT-7.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) PROJECT.—The term 'project' means the project established by the Secretary under paragraph (2).

''(B) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

''(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish the National Research Support Project-7—

''(A) to assist in the registration or reregistration of minor use animal drugs;

''(B) to identify the animal drug needs for—

''(i) minor species; and

''(ii) minor uses in major species;

''(C) to generate and disseminate data to ensure the safe, effective, and lawful use of drugs to be used primarily for the therapy or reproductive management of minor animal species; and

''(D) to facilitate the approval of drugs for minor species, and minor uses in major species, by the Center for Veterinary Medicine of the Food and Drug Administration.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION OF PROJECT.—

''(A) NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECT-7.—The Secretary shall carry out the project in accordance with each purpose and principle of the National Research Support Project-7 carried out by the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service as of the day before the date of enactment of this subsection.

''(B) CONSULTATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES.—The Secretary shall carry out the project in consultation with—

''(i) the Commissioner of Food and Drugs;

''(ii) State agricultural experiment stations;

''(iii) institutions of higher education;

''(iv) private entities; and

''(v) any other interested individual or entity.

''(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.''.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at 10 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership as it relates to U.S. policy on nuclear fuel management.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510–6150, or by email to Rosemarie_Calabro@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Jonathan Epstein at (202) 228–3031 or Rosemarie Calabro at (202) 224–5039.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to inform the Members that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship will hold a public markup of S. 2300, the Small Business Contracting Revitalization Act of 2007, on Wednesday, November 7, 2007, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Camila Knowles of my staff have floor privileges for the duration of the debate on the farm bill, and that Alan Mackey and Patty Lawrence, detailees from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on my committee staff, have floor privileges for today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Amanda Taylor be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of the consideration of the farm bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LYTTON RANCHERIA TRIBAL LANDS HELD IN TRUST

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of calendar No. 452, S. 1347.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1347) to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is deemed to be held in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1347) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1347

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LYTTON RANCHERIA OF CALIFORNIA.

Section 819 of the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act (Public Law 106–568; 114 Stat. 2919) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''Notwithstanding'' and inserting the following:

''(a) ACCEPTANCE OF LAND.—Notwithstanding'';

(2) in the second sentence, by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(b) DECLARATION.—The Secretary''; and

(3) by striking the third sentence and inserting the following:

''(c) TREATMENT OF LAND FOR PURPOSES OF CLASS II GAMING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Lytton Rancheria of California may conduct activities for class II gaming (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)) on the land taken into trust under this section.

''(2) REQUIREMENT.—The Lytton Rancheria of California shall not expand the exterior physical measurements of any facility on the Lytton Rancheria in use for class II gaming activities on the date of enactment of this paragraph.

''(d) TREATMENT OF LAND FOR PURPOSES OF CLASS III GAMING.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), for purposes of class III gaming (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)), the land taken into trust under this section shall be treated, for purposes of section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2719), as if the land was acquired on October 9, 2003, the date on which the Secretary took the land into trust.''.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it

stand adjourned until 10 a.m. Tuesday, November 6; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period for the transaction of morning business for 60 minutes with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each and the time equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half; that at the close of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2419; further, that on Tuesday, the Senate stand in recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. for the respective party conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, if there is no further business, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:58 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING CONGRESSMAN MIKE MCNULTY FOR HIS YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, in his nearly 20 years as a Member of the House, Congressman MIKE MCNULTY has tirelessly served the people of New York with distinction. As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security, Congressman MCNULTY has been a leader in the efforts to ensure America's seniors earn the guaranteed benefit they were promised.

The Democratic Caucus, his constituents, and indeed the American people will miss the energy and intellect he brought to every endeavor. I wish him well and know he will enjoy spending more time with his children and grandchildren.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JAY SHEPHERD

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Jay M. Shepherd. Mr. Shepherd passed from this life on September 23, 2007, and his family will hold a memorial celebration of his life on November 3, 2007.

Mr. Shepherd was born May 27, 1946 in Ashtabula, OH. He graduated from Wellington High School in 1964 and received a Bachelor's degree from Bowling Green State University in 1968.

He and his wife Judith Lee Greening were married on August 3, 1968, and together they raised a son, Patrick.

A Vietnam veteran (1969–1971), Mr. Shepherd was awarded the Bronze Star for his service. Upon his return, he managed the family business, Shepherd Chevrolet-Oldsmobile in Wellington. He operated the business until 1984, whereupon he was employed at Forest City Technologies until 2007, working as the Customer Service Manager and most recently as System Software Integration Manager.

Jay Shepherd was an avid photographer for most of his life. He served in a volunteer capacity as official photographer for Team MGD Racing. He enjoyed computers, motorcycles, and cars. He was a fan of the Cleveland Indians, Cleveland Browns, and NASCAR auto racing. He loved animals and nature.

Mr. Shepherd was a proud veteran, loving family man, community-minded businessman, an avid sports fan, and enjoyed his hobbies. He enjoyed life and the friends and family around him. We join his family, friends, colleagues, community, and neighbors in honoring this life well-lived as they celebrate his memory and the joy he brought to all who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 1023, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MS. ELOISE R. BAZA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life of Ms. Eloise R. Baza, the first woman to serve as the president of the Guam Chamber of Commerce and whose service to the community extended beyond her duties and responsibilities to the private sector. Eloise started her Chamber career as the assistant to the president in 1981. When then-president James McDonald stepped down in 1985, Ms. Baza was named to the position to fill the unexpired term. She was then elected in her own right and held it successfully until her untimely death on October 29, 2007.

Eloise will be missed not only by the members of the Chamber of Commerce and Guam's business community, but also by our island community. She contributed significantly to the improvement of our island, both in her capacity as Chamber president and as a devoted daughter of Guam. Eloise believed in our youth and supported programs to keep Guam's children drug free and to help them as future prospects in education, athletics and business careers in Guam. She promoted and advocated entrepreneurship among Guam's young people through regular participation and support for Guam's Junior Achievement Program; scholarships for business students attending the University of Guam, and as a speaker at many public and private Career Day activities. She was an active member of the Islandwide Beautification Task Force, the Summer Youth Swimming and Water Safety Program, and was especially proud of the Guam Juvenile Drug Court Program, which she started with former high school classmate and lifelong friend, Judge Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson.

Eloise was a member of the Asia-Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce, APCAC, and its committees on Trade & Investment/Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, Tax & Finance, and Intellectual Property Rights Protection; and the American Council of Chamber of Commerce Executives and its Small Business Council. She was also a member of Andersen Air Force Bases' Civilian Advisory Council, the Guam Territorial Aquarium Council, and the Guam Police Department's Community Assisted Policing Effort, CAPE, Program, in which she was named Honorary Deputy Chief of Police and proudly displayed the badge she had been given.

Eloise was a strong advocate of women in business and, by example, proved the value and insight of women's business acumen. She managed her family-owned apartment building, and handled the financial reporting, securing tenants and overseeing the maintenance of the units. Her unassailable integrity, her leadership, and her commitment to the field of commerce and free enterprise in general and to the Guam business community in particular made her truly a driving force behind the Guam Chamber of Commerce. She gave the Chamber an important and respected voice in our community. She also served as the Chamber's chief operating officer in charge of administration and management of all of the Chamber's operations and direction of all its projects, programs and activities. She played a central role in the Chamber's advocacy of sound economic policy, government reform, and community service.

Eloise R. Baza graduated from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam, AOLG, in 1971. She maintained close relationships with her classmates over the years and spearheaded the committee that created AOLG's Hall of Fame to inspire young ladies and promote "values, vision, and voice" in measuring success of family, civic and professional life. In 1974, Eloise earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from the College of Notre Dame in Belmont, California. She then came home and worked for the Guam Department of Commerce from 1975 until 1981. In 1979, she became an associate economist in the Commerce Department's Economic Research Center, where she prepared an action plan to centralize all economic development planning functions of the Government of Guam within the Department of Commerce. She also initiated Guam's participation in various federal economic development financing programs which funded infrastructure improvements island-wide. Her action plan was implemented as Commerce Department's Economic Development & Planning Division. Having initiated the establishment of the division, Eloise was named its chief in 1981. During her tenure, Eloise oversaw the preparation of the "Overall Economic Development Plan for Guam," the "Tumon Bay Master Plan," the "Ten Year Tourism Master Plan," and the "Aquaculture Development Plan for Guam." Additionally, she supervised all economic development federal program funds and directed their use to finance infrastructure to support industry expansion. Also in 1981, Eloise undertook graduate coursework toward an MBA in International Business Management from Babson College in Wellesley, MA.

My sympathies and prayers go out to Eloise's family: her parents, Rosa Rivera Baza

and the late Jose Camacho Baza and Luis Camacho Baza; her loved one, Joseph Barrtoe; her siblings and their spouses, Evelyn Baza and Joseph F. Soriano, Leonard Rivera and Margaret Salas Baza, Rosa Duenas and Fred Manglona, Lucille Baza and Geronimo Castro, Luis Rivera and Marcia Woolley Baza, Barbara Baza and Daniel Ninete, Felisa Rivera Baza and Carisa San Agustin, Carmen Rivera Baza and Mark Timcoe, and her many relatives and friends.

CONGRATULATING MR. NENO SARTINI FOR HIS YEARS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE ON BEHALF OF UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERANS

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Neno Sartini, of Wilkes-Barre, PA, who is being honored for his many years of service to military veterans that stems from his unyielding love of country and those who serve to protect it.

Mr. Sartini graduated in 1948 from Plains Township High School. He subsequently enlisted in the United States Air Force and is a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He retired after 26 years of service with the rank of TSgt.

During his military service he was stationed in Greenland, Guam, Japan, and several stateside bases.

Mr. Sartini is a recipient of the Bronze Star, Republic of South Vietnam Medal of Honor, Army/Air Force Good Conduct Medal with silver clasp, Air Force Commendation Medal with silver clasp, and the Vietnam Campaign Service Medal with two stars.

In 1977, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the highest peacetime award given by the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Sartini is a recipient of the ''Chapel of Four Chaplains'' Legion of Honor Award, the American Legion's William Brace Award for Public Service, and the American Spirit Award for patriotism and service to country.

Mr. Sartini has logged more than 2,300 hours of volunteer service at the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Medical Center over a period of 13 years.

He was a driving force in the creation of the Luzerne County Vietnam War Memorial that reposes on the south lawn of the county Courthouse in Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. Sartini has been a tireless advocate for all military service veterans and he has been an active member in the Italian American Veterans of Luzerne County where he served as commander. He served as vice commander of the Veterans of the Vietnam War Post 2 and is a member of the Korean War veterans of Luzerne County, Plains Township American Legion, Order of the Sons of Italy and Masonic Lodge, No. 61.

Mr. Sartini has been cited repeatedly over the years for his aggressive style of approaching all challenges, whether it be keeping military operating equipment in peak electrical condition and readiness; recruiting other young men and women for service in the United States Air Force; advising community leaders on important issues of the day, or volunteering his time and expertise to improve the quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Sartini. His love for this Nation and the men and women who have served in uniform to protect this land and the freedoms we enjoy as United States citizens knows no bounds. Clearly, Mr. Sartini has improved the quality of life for all with whom he comes into contact and, as such, he has earned our respect and deepest gratitude.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 1021, had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HONORABLE JUDGE EDGAR C. NEMOYER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend, and an outstanding citizen of Buffalo and western New York, the Honorable Edgar C. ''Mickey'' NeMoyer. Mickey was a neighbor and a longtime friend and mentor; a great South Buffalonian, and a dear friend whose sudden passing this past weekend is a great shock to us all.

Mickey was born in Buffalo's First Ward in 1932, and soon after graduated from St. Theresa's Grammar School and Canisius High School, Mick pursued his higher education at Georgetown University, the University at Buffalo Law School, and the University of Wisconsin Law School. Later he shared his love and knowledge of the government process by teaching others as an Associate Professor at the State University of New York Albany Graduate School of Criminal Justice.

As a young man, Mickey served this Nation in the United States Air Force, rising to the rank of captain. Following military service, Mickey returned to the city of Buffalo and took a hands-on approach to law enforcement by joining the Buffalo Police Department, while at the same time working as a longshoreman as he made his way through law school. After earning his law degree he answered the call again, working in the general counsel's office of the U.S. Public Health Administration during the tenure of President John F. Kennedy.

Upon returning to Buffalo, Mickey began a long and distinguished career as an attorney and judge, working in private practice with the firm Boreanaz, NeMoyer, and Baker, and later serving as Deputy Corporation Counsel for the city of Buffalo. Mickey's legal and prosecutorial career flourished, as he served as an Assistant United States Attorney and later as First Assistant and Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of New York. His distinguished career was capped by his service as a justice of the New York State Supreme Court and by his 17 years as a justice of the New York State Court of Claims.

As a judge, the law prohibited Mickey from engaging in partisan politics. But it was throughout this time that he became a great mentor to me and someone to whom I consistently looked for advice and counsel throughout my own career. Indeed, in January 1999, as a newly-elected member of the New York State Legislature, I was honored to have my oath of office administered by the Honorable Justice Edgar C. NeMoyer. Fittingly, it was his example that helped to drive my own ambition to serve.

In his retirement years, Mickey and his loving wife Josephine were regulars on the political circuit in south Buffalo and throughout Erie County. Dozens of elected officials and would-be officials sought his counsel, and he and Josephine were great supporters of Democrats throughout our region. It was delightful to see Mickey during these times; unfettered by the political constraints placed upon a member of the bench, he was free to express himself politically, and we were all the better for it.

Mickey's love for the law and for our community was surpassed only by his love for his family, including his brother, New York State Supreme Court Justice Patrick H. NeMoyer, his children, Patricia, Daniel and Michael, and the late Michelle and Nora, and his grandchildren, whom he loved and spoke about so often.

When someone you love passes on suddenly, we always express gratitude that our friend and loved one did not suffer, but pain remains for those left behind. I am thankful, Madam Speaker, that you have allowed me to recognize a great and proud son of south Buffalo, the late Honorable Judge Edgar C. NeMoyer, a devoted advocate and defender of the laws and principles on which this great Nation was founded. His work to make this community safer and stronger will be sorely missed though his spirit lives on through the many lives he touched.

''WHEN EVEN THE POWERFUL CAN'T SPEAK THE TRUTH''

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD this important article on our colleague Congressman PETE STARK.

[From the Alameda Sun, October 26, 2007]

WHEN EVEN THE POWERFUL CAN'T SPEAK THE TRUTH

Rep. Fortney ''Pete'' Stark, D-Fremont, the normally calm, grandfatherly and moderate (for the Bay Area) congressman found himself at the center of a rhetorical hornet's nest last week after daring to tell his colleagues that paying for children's health insurance should come before throwing money at President Bush's bungling military adventurism.

With the president's approval rating at 24 percent, about as low as former President Nixon's was when he left office, according to a Reuters/Zogby poll released last week, it was only too predictable that Bush's few remaining supporters would immediately leap from their foxholes to shoot the messenger.

The messenger, in this case was Stark. His words were crude and offensive but his frank oration is admirable. Stark could have chosen his words more carefully, a fact the Democratic leadership made apparent when they dragged him behind the woodshed. But love him or hate him, Stark had the guts to speak in a way that most of his 434 colleagues won't.

Stark cut through the vapid pablum that passes for political debate in this country; the junk-food rhetoric composed by spin-doctors, tested by focus groups, and proofread by campaign consultants and lobbyists. Just listen to what emanates from the mouths of the leading candidates of both parties in the lead up to November 2008. Or watch the drivel passed off as incisive political coverage on the 24-hour cable TV stations. Whether it's Hillary, Romney, Guiliani, Edwards, or McCain, not one policy or word is uttered without first being massaged and sanitized, calculated not to enlighten or lead, but to win votes without offending any demographic.

Obama, who was catapulted into second place in the polls because he appeared sincere in the spring, has receded after picking up the playbook of ''serious candidate.''

Stark got into hot water while speaking of the fundamental choice of policy-makers: one framed as ''guns or butter.'' Eventually societies must choose between military spending and the needs of its citizenry.

The statement was uttered during debate on the House floor following Bush's veto of the popular State Children's Health Care Program (SCHIP), an $11.2 billion annual program that helps poor parents buy health insurance for their children.

Compare that figure to this week's White House request for $46 billion more to shovel into the quagmires in Iraq and Afghanistan. According to an estimate by the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, if the above figure is included, by the time the clock runs out on Bush's administration, U.S. taxpayers will be on the hook for $808 billion for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. That's roughly 10 times what Bush's father spent to humble Saddam Hussein in 1991.

China won't keep lending us that money forever. Sooner or later, the bill will come due.

What Stark actually told his colleagues: ''The Republicans are worried that they can't pay for insuring an additional 10 million children.''

''They sure don't care about finding $200 billion to fight the illegal war in Iraq. Where are you going to get that money? Are you going to tell us lies like you're telling us today? Is that how you're going to fund the war?

''You don't have money to fund the (Iraq) war or children. But you're going to spend it to blow up innocent people—if we can get enough kids to grow old enough for you to send to Iraq to get their heads blown off for the president's amusement.''

These incendiary words launched an explosive backlash from pundits who immediately demanded Stark's head.

Stark was next criticized by the Democratic Party leadership, but survived a vote of official reprimand that Democrats tabled. Stark then publicly apologized Tuesday saying: ''I want to apologize to my colleagues, many of whom I have offended, to the president, his family, (and) to the troops. I apologize for this reason: I think we have serious issues before us, the issue of providing medical care to children, the issue about what we're going to do about a war that we're divided about how to end.''

If a U.S. congressman can be shouted down for speaking an essential truth: that blood and treasure is being spilled in a perverse quest by the current resident of 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. to outshine the legacy of his own father, these are truly dire days for our republic.

One wonders what reactions would spew forth from the mouths of those who vilify Stark had they read the words of another great American, a true Republican: Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower:

''In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.

''We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes. We should take nothing for granted only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.''

Too bad his warning so quickly landed in the ashcan of history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 1022. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

HONORING DEL RIO COUNTRY CLUB

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Del Rio Country Club on celebrating their 60th anniversary in business. A celebration in honor of this achievement is to be held on Saturday, November 3, 2007.

The Del Rio Country Club was founded in 1946 by a small group of community leaders. It was shortly after the end of World War II, gas prices were high and esteems were low. The local community leaders took the gently rolling terrain just north of Modesto, California and invited William P. Bell to design the original eighteen holes. In 1996, the course grew. Del Rio was granted permission from the Federal Government to use the 150 acres as a combination of riparian habitat and golf course. Architect Robert Muir Graves was asked to design a second nine hole course, the River Nine. Then in 1998, the course was updated one more time. Architect John Harbottle supervised the reconstruction of all tees, greens and bunkers on William Bell's original layout.

Today, the Del Rio Country Club has 2 courses. One course is overlooked by a club house that features the Redwood Dining Room. The Country Club also features tennis courts and other family activities. The course is ranked among the top 20 golf courses in Northern California.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Del Rio Country Club on 60 years of business. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Del Rio Country Club many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 968, on passage of H.R. 3678, the Internet Tax Freedom Act Amendments Act of 2007, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

HONORING THE PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE STATE CHAMPION SCHOOLS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize and honor the 2006–2007 President's Challenge State Champion schools named by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. In particular, I would like to recognize two Tennessee schools, Percy Priest Elementary School in Nashville and Bartlett Elementary School in Bartlett, TN.

These two Tennessee schools have set examples that others would do well to follow. They have shown commitment to educating students on the benefits of physical activity and maintaining healthy lifestyles. Across the state of Tennessee, these two schools had the highest proportion of students scoring at or above the 85th percentile on the President's Challenge Physical Fitness Test for the 2006–2007 school year.

To promote overall health and well-being, the President's Challenge program encourages all Americans to make being active part of their everyday lives. Percy Priest and Bartlett Elementary embraced these goals and in so doing succeeded in obtaining State Champion status.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the President's Challenge State Champions for being role models for other schools and for improving the overall health and well-being of their students.

HONORING THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NAPA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Christian Church of Napa, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary. The Church has a storied history in the Napa Valley, where it has become a fixture in our community and an important place for people to come together and worship.

The First Christian Church of Napa was founded in 1857 by G.O. Burnett. Its success built on the work of ''Stormy John'' McCorkle, who had founded the first congregation in the valley under a Madrona tree near modern-day Rutherford. With the motto ''Let's go Forward through Faith'', the Church has expanded well beyond the original eight families who formed the charter group. In 1872, members of the congregation came together to purchase a piece of land for the church building, and began construction. Lacking a resident minister in these years, four men worked in concert to lead the Church. These ''Four Horsemen'', who helped provide spiritual guidance and leadership in the church were A.A. Whitman, T.N. Mount, A.D. Butler, and W.P. Prall.

In 1951, the First Christian Church moved to its current location on First Street in Napa. While promoting an active spiritual life in the congregation, the church has reached out to the community and the world. Members of the church have worked on Christian humanitarian missions on six continents in a wide variety of different countries. Additionally, church members have worked in inner-city Los Angeles and San Francisco, and locally volunteer time with the Napa Valley Food Bank, Church Women United and other community benefit groups.

The First Christian Church has always taken pride in the sense of community among its members, and the work that goes in to helping members of the congregation have full lives and strong interpersonal relationships. By emphasizing the importance of family and fidelity, the church has drawn membership from families for many generations.

Madam Speaker, at this time it is appropriate that we congratulate the First Christian Church of Napa on its 150th anniversary, and thank the congregation for all it does in our community.

IN TRIBUTE TO SISTER ANN HALLORAN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sr. Ann Halloran, a community leader, co-founder and executive director of the Dominican Center for Women located in the Fourth Congressional District. The Milwaukee Archdiocese has recently presented Sr. Ann Halloran with the 2007 Vatican II ''Service to Society'' Award.

Sr. Ann Halloran and Sr. Anne-Marie Doyle founded the Dominican Center for Women in 1990 in a near north-side Milwaukee neighborhood with no formal clubs or community-based organizations. The mission of this human service agency is to help create a beautiful and safe central city neighborhood by providing services in three programmatic areas: Education, employment and housing. Sr. Ann Halloran believes this three-pronged approach is essential to dismantling poverty.

The programs at the Dominican Center for Women are offered free of charge to approximately 120 area residents. Initially, the center began by offering educational programs and employment counseling. As a result of participant surveys and with the urging of residents, a housing program utilizing a 12-block area surrounding the center was initiated in 1999. The housing program, designed to lead to home ownership, has become a primary focus of the center. The center leverages strategic partnerships and collaborations including Federal, State and local governmental agencies, faith-based organizations, sweat equity, volunteerism and the financial resources of a Habitat for Humanity loan, barter grants, IDA accounts and other resources found in the community, into affordable home ownership. Sixty-seven center program participants are now homeowners; they are primarily African-American women, single heads of households, who would not have been considered by mainstream conventional lending institutions.

The center continues to work with new homeowners after acquisition of the home by convening monthly meetings to encourage them to voice neighborhood concerns, take group action toward resolution, and ultimately ensure retention of their homes. The Dominican Center for Women and the participants in its program have been so successful that beginning in 2004 they hosted their first annual ''Parade of Homes'' in this previously blighted area.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Sr. Ann Halloran's contributions to the Fourth Congressional District. She has helped to transform a neighborhood into a community.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF TOLEDOAN SAM SZOR

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, since 1953, Samuel Szor has been an integral part of Toledo's music scene, earning him the title of Toledo's ''Mr. Music.'' Mr. Szor ends his 55th season as the conductor/music director of the immensely popular Music under the Stars summer concert series held at the Toledo Zoo Amphitheater. Each summer our community happily anticipates the inception of another summer of the concert series of Music under the Stars. Because of Mr. Szor, music-lovers can rest in the Toledo Zoo's amphitheater taking in the beautiful sounds and sights of Toledo. Besides his dedication to bringing a collection of classical, patriotic and spirited pieces to Toledo residents, he holds an extensive list of additional credits.

In his early years after graduating with degrees from University of Michigan, he played bassoon with the Toledo Symphony, Toledo Opera Orchestra and the University of Toledo Woodwind Quintet and Trio as well as playing jazz saxophone in area bands and clubs. His conducting credits include the Casual concert series and other concerts with Toledo Symphony, twenty years with the Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra, guest conductor with the famous Goldman Memorial Band in New York City, and conductor/music director for opera, musical comedy and ballet theatre in the Toledo area. In the choral realm, he has been conductor/music director of The Toledo Choral Society for 49 years and was a director of church music for over 40 years. In addition to his conducting credits, he was a music educator serving for 32 years in the secondary and college levels in Toledo.

Mr. Szor has received numerous awards for his distinguished work, most recently including a national award from the American Hungarian foundation and the Ovation Award from the Vocal Arts Resource Network of Ohio. Toledo garners much pride in his commitment to evoke a mosaic of melodies to our community for decades. Sam Szor is an inspiration to conductors and musicians everywhere by his grace, ease and spirit toward music.

HONORING COPPELL MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH BAND

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Coppell Middle School North Band on being named an Outstanding National Wind Band and winning the 1–A Middle School Division.

Coppell Middle School North was among 81 bands selected in the top 25 percent of recordings submitted to the National Winds Band Honors competition. Each band was judged once again and narrowed the selection down to the National Honor in each classification. Charles Peltz, director of the New England Conservatory of Music, and noted composer John Mackey were the judges for this event.

All National award-winner bands will be invited to perform in the prestigious National Theatre in Washington, D.C. in May 2008.

Coppell Middle School North's band is under the direction of Joey Ashbrook and assistant director, Jeremy Lindquist.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent Coppell Middle School North and their exceptional band department in the 24th District of Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF T. J. LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND THE IRVING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate T. J. Lee Elementary School and the Irving Independent School District (IISD) Food Service Department for being awarded the coveted Gold School Award by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

T. J. Lee Elementary is the first school in Texas to receive this prestigious honor. As part of the USDA's HealthierUS School Challenge program, schools around the nation are awarded two levels of certification: Silver and Gold. IISD eagerly took on this challenge and assumed a leadership role to ensure that our students are being served healthy school meals in addition to providing nutrition education and a variety of physical activities. Given the variety of food available, particularly fast food and snacks in vending machines, the

students at T. J. Lee are taking steps toward a healthier future by making important nutrition choices at a young age.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating them for receiving this tremendous honor.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LAVACE STEWART ELEMENTARY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate LaVace Stewart Elementary School in Kemah, Texas, in my congressional district, for being awarded a No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon award. LaVace Stewart Elementary School earned this award by going from acceptable to exemplary in State accountability ratings in less than 4 years.

LaVace Stewart Elementary School is one of only 23 Texas schools selected for the Blue Ribbon award, which honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools that demonstrate superior academic performance or high gains in student achievement.

LaVace Stewart is certainly worthy of this award. As Dr. Sandra Mossman, superintendent of schools for Clear Creek Independent School District said, ''[W]hen you walk into [LaVace Stewart] you can immediately feel the enthusiasm for learning and witness the compassion for children.''

Madam Speaker, I agree with Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings that ''It takes a lot of hard work by teachers and students to become a Blue Ribbon school, and it's a privilege to celebrate their great effort.'' I am pleased to extend my congratulations to the teachers, administrators, parents, and the students of LaVace Stewart Elementary School for the school's is named a Blue Ribbon School.

IN MEMORY OF STAFF SERGEANT JAMES DAVID BULLARD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Staff Sergeant James Bullard of South Carolina. Staff Sergeant Bullard was killed last week while serving with the South Carolina Army National Guard's 218th Brigade in Afghanistan.

Staff Sergeant Bullard is the second member of the 218th to lose his life serving during Operation Enduring Freedom. As a former member of the 218th brigade I wish to recognize the ultimate sacrifice made by Staff Sergeant Bullard and express my deepest condolences on behalf of the House of Representatives and my family to his wife, Amber, his son, his parents and family, friends, and fellow soldiers. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.

Just like the millions of brave men and women who served our country in uniform, Staff Sergeant Bullard was a true patriot who fought to defend our freedoms and to protect American families. We are forever grateful for his sacrifice and that of our military men and women around the world.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

TRIBUTE TO SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY BULLDOG FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the South Carolina State University Bulldog football team. This season the Bulldogs celebrate 100 years of play on the gridiron, and what a tremendous century it has been.

In 1907, what was then South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical College played its first game against Georgia State in Savannah. Just 3 years later, SC State became a charter member of the Georgia (GA)-South Carolina (SC) Athletic Association, which eventually changed its name to the South Atlantic Association.

In 1919, South Carolina State College won its first GA–SC Intercollegiate Association Championship. The Bulldogs were on their way to building a tremendous legacy.

Just 4 years later in 1923, SC State lost an important rivalry game with Tuskegee College, 13–6, in Orangeburg. However, the loss fueled the fire in the Bulldogs, and they went on 4 years later to a perfect 7–0 conference record and to capture their second South Atlantic Conference title. That season the team racked up six shutouts and lost only one game. This began the Bulldogs' reputation as a powerhouse in the South Atlantic Conference.

Oliver C. Dawson was named the Bulldogs' head football coach in 1937, marking the beginning of a new era. Coach Dawson was a beloved leader on campus—teaching classes and coaching multiple sports. During his tenure, the football team took a 2-year hiatus due to World War II, but they came back full of passion. In 1947, they went undefeated in regular season play and took on Shaw University for the Black National Championship in Washington, DC. Although SC State lost that game 8–0, the Bulldogs showed the tenacity for which they have become famous. Coach Dawson left such a legacy at SC State that the current football stadium bears his name.

Many trying years followed the 1947 successful season. The team struggled to regain its elite status, and then in 1965 tragedy struck. Player John Devlin of Greenwood was stricken while on the field and died. This sudden loss of a player and teammate revived the Bulldog spirit and the team went on to an 8–1–0 record that season under the leadership of Coach Oree Banks. Devlin's #31 jersey became the first ever retired in SC State athletic history. That same season, several Bulldog players received All-Conference honors, and Coach Banks was named SIAC and NAIA District 6 Coach of the Year.

In 1970, SC State President Maceo Nance led the school to become a charter member of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC). This transition was followed by the need to find a new head football coach. In 1973, SC State tapped alumnus Willie Jeffries to lead the Bulldogs. Prior to Coach Jeffries' arrival, the Bulldogs had posted a dismal 1–9 season. He followed that with a 7–3–1 record, which was just the beginning of a tremendous era in Bulldog football history.

Under Coach Jeffries, the SC State Bulldogs built a record of 50–13–4 in just six seasons, and won its first of eleven MEAC titles. In 1976, the team captured its first Black National Championship in a 26–10 win over Norfolk State.

Due to his great success, other football programs sought Coach Jeffries' leadership. In 1978, he left to make history as the first African American head coach at a majority white university at Wichita State.

The Bulldogs rallied under the helm of its former Assistant Coach Bill Davis, who led SC State to its second National Black Championship, and the first of two straight invitations to the prestigious Division IAAA playoffs. Coach Davis led the Bulldogs to dominate the MEAC in the 1980s with back-to-back, 10-game seasons in 1980 and 1981.

Coach Davis was succeeded by Dennis Thomas in 1985, who coached the Bulldogs for three seasons. Then in 1989, the Bulldogs' favorite son, Willie Jeffries, returned as head coach.

In his second stint, Coach Jeffries produced seven winning teams. In 1994, he led the Bulldogs to a 10–2 season, again winning the MEAC championship. Coach Jeffries ended his career as the Bulldogs head football coach in 2002, and he was succeeded by another SC State alumnus.

Coach Buddy Pough left his assistant coaching job at the University of South Carolina to return to Orangeburg to lead the team he loved. His passion for the team and the players showed, as he orchestrated a new era of Bulldog dominance. In 2004, SC State compiled a 9–2 record and the Bulldogs once again were at the top of the MEAC conference. That season, the team ranked number two in the final polls of both the Sheridan Broadcasting Network and the American Sports Wire. They earned a Top 25 Division I–AA poll ranking from both the Sports Network and USA Today/ESPN. Today, Buddy Pough continues to lead the Bulldogs with the same tenacity.

The South Carolina State Bulldog football team has compiled a vibrant 100-year history. Over the century, the Bulldogs have won eleven MEAC titles. They have three National Black Championships in 1976, 1981, and 1994, and earned NCAA Division I–AA berths in 1981 and 1982. Three of its players have been enshrined in the prestigious Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio—Marion Motley (Cleveland Browns, 1965), David ''Deacon'' Jones (Los Angeles Rams, 1980) and Harry Carson (New York Giants, 2006). In addition to retiring #31 John Devlin's jersey, four other Bulldog standouts have had their jerseys retired—#66 Deacon Jones, #75 Harry Carson, #90 Donnie Shell, and #94 Robert Porcher.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary 100-year history of the South Carolina State University football team. As an SC State alumnus and football fan who spent my entire

life enjoying the talented and tenacious Bulldog teams, I commend the coaches and players who have contributed to this program's tremendous success. Go Bulldogs!

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GEORGE SOLOMONOFF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of George Solomonoff. For 50 years, he was an admirable spokesman for peace and justice.

As a young man growing up in Cleveland, George was fascinated by the world around him and learned all he could, with a particular interest in Eastern philosophies. This interest would be a great influence in how he led his life, including his views on social justice. Shortly after graduating high school, he joined the Army as a radio operator in Europe, participating in various U.S. campaigns during World War II. These experiences would greatly contribute to his decision to work toward peace.

Most recently, George was an active member in many peace and justice groups, including the InterReligious Task Force, Cleveland Peace Action, Veterans for Peace, and Women Speak Out for Peace and Justice. As a member of the InterReligious Task Force, he organized the annual Cleveland protest against the School of the Americas. He was a constant presence on issues of peace and social justice in the greater Cleveland community, and was an ardent supporter of my legislation to create a Cabinet-level Department of Peace. He is survived by his sons, Dave and Alex; his daughter Nicole; and his brother Raymond. He will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure and privilege of knowing him.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering the life of George Solomonoff. May he rest in peace, and may his desire for a better world and a better future for humanity live on in all of us.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER ON HIS 86TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend birthday greetings to one of Maryland's most famous sons and elected officials.

Mr. William D. Schaefer turns 86 today. He was born and raised in Baltimore, dedicating his life to public service.

After graduating from the University of Baltimore School of Law in 1942, he joined the U.S. Army and served in World War II. He remained in the U.S. Army Reserves until 1979 when he retired with the rank of colonel.

Although he was unsuccessful in his first two bids for public office, ''Donald'' Schaefer, as he was fondly known, did not give up.

In 1955, he earned a seat on the Baltimore City Council; and in 1967, he was elected city council president. From that point onward, his career continued to soar.

In 1971, Donald Schaefer ran successfully for the mayor's office, a position to which he would dedicate himself until 1986. During his tenure, he was known for his attention to detail, taking notes of strewn garbage and other violations as he rode around town and ordering them to be fixed immediately.

There is also a famous photograph that shows him dressed in an old-fashioned striped bathing suit, ready to dive into the dolphin pool at the then-new National Aquarium in Baltimore to settle a wager that it would not be opened in time.

In 1986, Donald Schaefer was overwhelmingly elected Maryland's 58th governor with 82 percent of the vote, the largest percentage total ever for a contested statewide election. He was re-elected to a second term in 1990.

His legacy includes Oriole Park at Camden Yards, M&T Bank Stadium, stricter measures against pollution, and higher standards for public schools. He also pushed for the Light Rail Line of electric-powered trains that runs 30 miles through the central corridor of Maryland.

In 1998, Donald Schaefer returned to public office, winning the position of Comptroller of Maryland by a substantial margin, 62 percent to 38 percent. In 2002, he won re-election to that post, receiving almost 68 percent of the vote.

William D. Schaefer is revered in Baltimore City and the State of Maryland. Throughout more than 50 years of public service, he has been tenacious, colorful and visionary. It is with great pleasure that I wish him the best on his 86th birthday.

IN HONOR OF MR. FRANK BOZICK, THE OLDEST LIVING VETERAN IN THE STATE OF KANSAS

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, my state of Kansas is home to 235,000 veterans—brave men and women who served our nation in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq, and everywhere else that duty has called. Among all of those Kansas veterans, the oldest is Mr. Frank Bozick, who will soon celebrate his 105th birthday. I'd like to take a few moments today to honor his service to our country.

Mr. Bozick was born on February 11, 1903, in the southeast Kansas town of Frontenac. At the age of 17, he graduated from a local automobile and tractor college and began a career maintaining early-model cars. He soon settled into a comfortable life running a local gas station and tire business—only to find his routine disrupted on December 7, 1941, when the attack on Pearl Harbor launched America into World War II.

Like so many other Americans, Mr. Bozick interrupted his daily life and traveled overseas to support the war effort. He served for 3 years in the Army performing tank repair, and his duties carried him to England, Normandy, and Paris. When, at last, the war ended, Mr. Bozick returned home to Kansas, where he operated his gas station for 42 years.

Over his long life, Mr. Bozick has witnessed an extraordinary span of history. He has seen America advance from Model Ts to hybrid cars, from steam engines to rocket ships, from manual typewriters to the World Wide Web. But through a century of enormous change, one thing has remained constant: America's profound gratitude to our veterans, who risked their lives to secure our peace.

KEEPING THE PROMISE TO OUR DISABLED VETERANS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to speak about a bill that I have introduced to better the lives of our Nation's disabled veterans.

H.R. 4071, the Disabled Veterans Right to Commissaries and Space Available Travel Act, will extend commissary and exchange store privileges to service-disabled veterans with a rating of 30 percent or more and to their families. Congress must do all we reasonably can for the men and women who have become disabled in their service to our Nation. Our disabled veterans are important members of the greater military family, and they should be treated as such with every available opportunity.

This bill will also authorize transportation on military aircraft on a space-available basis to service-disabled veterans with a rating of 50 percent or more. Currently, members and retirees of the uniformed services and the reserves may travel free on Department of Defense (DoD) aircraft when space is available. This benefit is allowed when it does not interfere with military missions, and it recognizes that military careers are filled with rigorous duty.

But present policies do not extend this benefit to our disabled veterans. What more rigorous duty can be imagined than to become disabled in the service of our country? Why has the DoD chosen not to recognize the brave men and women who sacrificed their health and well-being while serving in uniform? This DoD policy needs to be corrected.

Space-available travel for these disabled veterans would cost the federal government nothing and would not interfere with active-duty personnel. Current military is always given priority, and H.R. 4071 would do nothing to change that. What my bill will do is allow seats that would otherwise go unused to be occupied by men and women who have been disabled when serving their Nation.

This bill is the right step to take for our disabled veterans! They have sacrificed their health and well-being for their country, and they have earned the right to these privileges. Please support H.R. 4071 and work with me for its passage.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAVIER LOPEZ, M.D., F.A.C.S. UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE SAINT VINCENT CHARITY HOSPITAL'S SOCIETY OF SAINT LUKE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of my dear friend and mentor, Javier Lopez, M.D., upon his induction into St. Vincent Charity Hospital's Society of Saint Luke, an honor that reflects his immeasurable contribution to the health and well-being of countless individuals and families, from Cleveland, Ohio to Colombia, South America. His compassion and expertise continues to have the greatest impact on the poor of our community, whose lives are uplifted, inspired and made whole again by the healing compassion that defines the life and work of Dr. Javier Lopez.

A highly skilled surgeon and general family practitioner in the Cleveland area for more than 40 years, Dr. Lopez's brilliant medical expertise is equaled by his patience, caring, compassion, and dedication to every patient, regardless of their ability to pay. More than forty years ago, Dr. Lopez journeyed from his beautiful homeland of Medellín, Colombia, to Cleveland, Ohio, to complete his residency at St. Alexis Hospital. The people of North and South Broadway, including myself and my family, were immediately taken by his kind, gentle and humble nature. Dr. Lopez's talent as a gifted doctor could have landed him a successful medical practice in any wealthy suburb, yet he chose to stay in the inner city, on Broadway Avenue, wholly dedicated to treating those who embraced him as a young man so many years ago.

I have been fortunate to have known Dr. Lopez since I was a young man, and even more fortunate to have cultivated a close friendship with him. The positive impact that he has had on my life and the lives of so many others is truly indescribable in mere words. His excellence as a physician is surpassed by none, yet it is his deep sense of humanity that sets him apart from most others. Dr. Lopez continues to be a guiding beacon of hope along Broadway Avenue, uplifting the spirits, hearts and lives of countless individuals, including my own.

Dr. Lopez lives his life dedicated to his faith, his family, and the communities of North and South Broadway and St. Vincent's. His vocation in medicine reflects his unwavering faith and is captured in the biblical reference: "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me." Dr. Lopez offers the same compassion, concern and medical expertise to the forgotten homeless man as he does to the successful attorney. Despite his great achievements in the field of medicine, Dr. Lopez's sense of humanity has always been blind to social or economic status.

Although Dr. Lopez has wholly embraced his Cleveland community, he never forgets the struggles of the people of his Colombian birthplace. An international ambassador of healing, Dr. Lopez continues to lead regular medical missions to Colombia and Honduras, where he donates his time, expertise, medicine and medical supplies to war-torn and impoverished communities, forging healing, peace and hope for a better day. In Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Lopez's lifelong commitment to healing is reflected every day within his modest medical office on Broadway Avenue.

His office still remains across the street from where St. Alexis Hospital once stood, and in 2003, Dr. Lopez became an integral member of the medical staff of St. Vincent Charity Hospital. He immediately garnered the respect, admiration and adoration of St. Vincent Hospital staff members and patients—everyone from the front desk receptionists to the nurses and surgical specialists.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dr. Javier Lopez, upon his induction into the Society of Saint Luke. Dr. Lopez' medical insight, intellect, grace, wisdom, leadership and friendship—and above all else, his compassion, kindness and heart, continues to raise the lives of so many of us onto a platform of hope, survival, peace and healing.

Dr. Lopez strengthens our entire community by caring for us, and by caring, especially—"for the least of us." I am grateful and honored to call Dr. Lopez my friend, and I thank him for enriching my life by his close and consistent presence in it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present on November 1, 2007, I would have voted as follows: rollcall vote 1032, on motion to recommit with instructions—H.R. 2262, the Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act—I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote 1033, on passage—H.R. 2262, the Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act—I would have voted "nay."

INTRODUCTION OF THE SAFE AND HEALTHY EMERGENCY HOUSING ACT OF 2007

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Safe and Healthy Emergency Housing Act, which underscores the Federal Government's obligation to provide safe emergency housing units to disaster victims during times of need.

I am glad to be joined today in introducing this bill by the chairman of the Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response, HENRY CUELLAR from Texas, and Representative GENE TAYLOR, who knows firsthand the importance of providing adequate housing to disaster victims.

I would also like to thank Representatives CLARKE, JACKSON LEE, CHRISTENSEN, LOFGREN, and AL GREEN for signing on as original cosponsors.

Nearly 2½ years after Hurricane Katrina, we are still learning how we can improve our ability to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. The lessons we have learned cannot be ignored.

One of the most striking lessons we learned was that this country was ill-prepared to provide emergency housing to victims during a major catastrophe.

To house the number of individuals who lost their homes during Katrina and Rita, FEMA was forced to immediately purchase thousands of travel trailers. By the time the dust settled, FEMA had purchased over 100,000 of these units.

At the time, travel trailers appeared to be a logical choice because they can be produced much faster than other housing alternatives. However, as time passed, it became clear that travel trailers may not have been the best option.

By now, most of us are well aware that many of the travel trailers provided by FEMA were and remain contaminated with formaldehyde. Many of us, however, do not know why this happened.

Tests conducted in 2006 found that the formaldehyde levels in most of the trailers tested exceeded the Environmental Protection Agency's recommended limit. It's also important to note that formaldehyde is classified as a carcinogen by the International Agency for Research of Cancer.

I have continually raised concerns over the health impacts of formaldehyde exposure with the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC.

My Committee staff has also interviewed medical officials from the CDC Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry about a February 2007 report that focused on formaldehyde levels present in FEMA trailers. However, the study did not analyze the potential health impacts on travel trailers' residents.

After expressing my deep concerns with the DHS chief medical officer over the lack of such a study, FEMA announced that they would be entering into an agreement with the CDC to test the trailers for formaldehyde and to study what associated health impacts may have been encountered.

I anxiously await the results of this important study.

Madam Speaker, as you may know, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD, regulates formaldehyde emissions in manufactured housing. However, travel trailers are not considered to be "manufactured housing," and are, therefore, exempt from this regulation.

This legislation protects disaster victims by requiring that any emergency housing units provided by FEMA meet HUD regulations limiting formaldehyde emissions.

This legislation does not force the travel trailer industry to change the way they manufacture their product, it simply makes certain that FEMA will no longer provide formaldehyde-contaminated housing units to disaster victims.

While the health implications are still being studied, we do know that research has proven that the negative health effects can range anywhere from respiratory irritation to cancer. According to medical experts, the health impacts are most concerning for children whose lungs are still developing.

In closing Madam Speaker, let me say that our citizens' health should be a top priority

during times of disaster recovery. I believe this legislation will embrace that priority and make certain that this problem will not be encountered during future disasters.

LEGISLATION ALLOWING INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF UNPASTEURIZED MILK

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation that allows the transportation and sale in interstate commerce of unpasteurized milk and milk products, as long as the milk both originates from and is shipped to States that allow the sale of unpasteurized milk and milk products. This legislation removes an unconstitutional restraint on farmers who wish to sell unpasteurized milk and milk products, and people who wish to consume unpasteurized milk and milk products.

My office has heard from numerous people who would like to purchase unpasteurized milk. Many of these people have done their own research and come to the conclusion that unpasteurized milk is healthier than pasteurized milk. These Americans have the right to consume these products without having the Federal Government second-guess their judgment about what products best promote health. If there are legitimate concerns about the safety of unpasteurized milk, those concerns should be addressed at the State and local level.

I urge my colleagues to join me in promoting consumers' rights, the original intent of the Constitution, and federalism by cosponsoring my legislation to allow the interstate sale of unpasteurized milk and milk products.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, on October 31, 2007, I missed the following rollcall votes because I was attending to personal family matters in my District: rollcall vote No. 1024, the McCrery substitute amendment to H.R. 3920, the Trade and Globalization Act, rollcall vote No. 1025, passage of H.R. 3920, the Trade and Globalization Act; and rollcall vote No. 1026, the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3043, the Fiscal Year 2008 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill.

If present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall Nos. 1024 and 1026 and "aye" on rollcall No. 1025.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH A. SOPKO, M.D. UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE SAINT VINCENT CHARITY HOSPITAL'S SAINT LUKE SOCIETY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Joseph A. Sopko, M.D., upon his induction into St. Vincent Charity Hospital's St. Luke Society, for his contributions to pulmonary health education, residency program leadership, and for his community involvement, including his leadership and activism regarding tobacco use prevention.

Dr. Sopko has been a member of the medical staff at St. Vincent Charity Hospital for nearly 20 years. He earned his medical degree at Tufts University and completed his residency and fellowship training at the University of Iowa Hospitals. Dr. Sopko has held several significant roles at St. Vincent Charity Hospital, including: Medical Director of Pulmonary Services; Director of the Medical Intensive Care Unit; and educator within the Hospital's medical residency program. Moreover, Dr. Sopko played a critical role in establishing one of the first hospital-wide blood conservation programs in the nation—the Regional Center for Blood Conservation. For his service to students in the residency program, he was awarded the 2007 Teacher of the Year Award, given by the St. Vincent Charity Hospital Internal Medicine Program.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dr. Joseph A. Sopko, upon his induction into the Saint Luke Society. Dr. Sopko's medical expertise, caring demeanor and strong sense of volunteerism brings strength to St. Vincent's Hospital and superior health care for countless individuals throughout our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 1032, the Motion to Recommit with Instructions on H.R. 2262, the Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2007. I was delayed due to a meeting with constituents.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE MEMORY OF RALPH P. HARR

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ralph Harr of Bristol, Tennessee who passed away November 2, 2007.

Mr. Harr was born April 4, 1926 to the late William and Addie Cowan Harr, and he was a lifelong resident of Sullivan County. Ralph graduated from Blountville High School and attended King College. He served our great Nation in the U.S. Army.

Ralph was an established businessman. He co-owned and operated Bristol Auto Auction for over 48 years.

Mr. Harr was a dedicated public servant. He served from 1952 until 2001 as the Clerk and Master of Sullivan County Chancery Court. Ralph served as County Commissioner for 30 years and was a member of the influential Budget Committee and the Sullivan Partnership Network. It was evident to anyone who knew him, he cared for Sullivan County in a fashion that is difficult to find.

As a devoted family man, he will be missed by his wife of 43 years, Marjorie Willis Han, son Jon Paul, daughter Jackie, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and so many friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me this evening in honoring Ralph Harr for his service to this great Nation, commitment to making life better for those around him, and love for his family and friends. We have lost a tireless leader in the First District, he will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO DEREK WETSCH

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to Derek Wetsch, who received the highest rank in boy scouting; attaining the rank of Eagle Scout at his court of honor ceremony on November 4, 2007. He is a member of Troop 88, sponsored by First United Methodist Church in Elkins, West Virginia.

Derek took on quite an undertaking for his Eagle Scout project. As diligent student and member of the Elkins High Fighting Tiger Marching Band, he saw the need for a new sound system at the football stadium and improvement of its grounds. Thanks to his fundraising efforts, Wimer Field at Elkins High School has a new state-of-the-art sound system, which he installed himself.

Derek attended Elkins High School where he graduated in the top 10 percent of his class. A leader in his class, Derek was student body president, president of the band council, and a member of the National Honor Society. He remains an active volunteer with Boy Scouts of America.

Derek is a freshman at West Virginia University where he is a member of the Pride of West Virginia, Mountaineer Marching Band. He is majoring in Exercise Physiology and plans to attend dental school after his undergraduate studies.

I am proud to recognize Derek Wetsch for achieving the high honor of the Eagle Scout. West Virginia is fortunate to have him as a leader and I look forward to hearing about his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF HELMUT SCHREIBER, M.D., F.A.C.S. UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE SAINT VINCENT CHARITY HOSPITAL'S SAINT LUKE SOCIETY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Helmut Schreiber, M.D., F.A.C.S., upon his induction into St. Vincent Charity Hospital's St. Luke Society, for his pioneering achievements in the area of bariatric medicine, his innovative techniques in the surgical treatment of morbid obesity, and for his natural talents as teacher and mentor.

Dr. Schreiber has been a member of the medical staff at St. Vincent Charity Hospital for the past nineteen years. He earned his medical degree from Ohio State University, and completed his residency and internship at University Hospitals of Cleveland. In 1999, after working for several years as Director of Surgery at Saint Luke's Hospital, Dr. Schreiber accepted the position of Director of Surgery at Saint Vincent Charity Hospital. Motivated by his deep compassion for patients struggling with obesity, Dr. Schreiber founded the Cleveland Center for Bariatric Surgery. Dr. Schreiber has also served as teacher for residency students and, most significantly, he has provided surgical care to countless individuals in need, regardless of their ability to pay.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dr. Helmut Schreiber, upon his induction into the Saint Luke Society. Dr. Schreiber's medical excellence, pioneering achievements, and caring and compassionate nature, serves to bring light and hope into the lives of patients, colleagues, family and friends, uplifting our entire community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the vote on H.R. 2262. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the bill.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIE RACHEL CATRON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I regret that I must inform the House of the passing of a great American in my home community who stood tall on the mountaintop and watched over many people all around her.

Jennie Rachel Catron lived through more tragedy than most people, and in spite of it, showed leadership, stability, strength, love, discipline and direction until the day she left us at 91, on October 14, 2007. Her lesson to us is that it's not what happens to you in life that matters; it's what you do about it that counts.

To her children, she was their hero. To our community, she was our devoted volunteer. She inspired all of us to never quit and to never be counted out, but to move forward with compassion to put down adversity when it strikes.

Among the many causes Jennie Rachel dedicated herself to were the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Somerset-Pulaski County Rescue Squad, the PTA, the Homemaker's Club, and the Republican Women's Club. Through her efforts the uneducated were taught, the poor got a helping hand, and families were made stronger.

Her life appeared to be that of any wife, mother and then grandmother. But it was not—that life was violently taken away from her. She would lose her husband Harold, the Somerset Police Chief, to a criminal's bullet. And 45 years later, she lost her son Sam, the Sheriff of Pulaski County, the same way. Both times Jennie Rachel was only a few feet away. And both times, revenge was exacted against her husband and son for going after criminal enterprises.

Yet, she managed to build a new life. She devoted herself to her surviving son Lewis, daughter Nancy, grandchildren and great grandchildren. The community organizations she was involved in are too numerous to name.

The order in life that most of us expect, was upended for Jennie Rachel Catron. She rebuilt what was torn down—for her and the rest of us.

Her daughter Nancy read a verse at her mother's request and thus concluded her eulogy. It is a fitting tribute to a fine lady whose spirit is alive when we look across our community and see the good that is there.

Do not stand at my grave and weep:
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night,
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

We remember Jennie Rachel Catron.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARITY A. KANKAM, M.D., UPON HER INDUCTION INTO THE SAINT VINCENT CHARITY HOSPITAL'S SAINT LUKE SOCIETY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Charity A. Kankam, M.D., upon her induction into St. Vincent Charity Hospital's St. Luke Society, an honor that reflects not only her superior clinical skills, but most significantly, highlights her daily outreach, care and compassion for the most vulnerable citizens of our community.

Dr. Kankam has been an integral member of the St. Vincent staff for the past seventeen years. She was awarded a medical degree from the University of Toronto, where she completed her residency and fellowship training as well. Dr. Kankam specializes in nephrology and has served as the Director of Nephrology since 1994. She also dedicates her time as a teacher to medical residents and staff. Dr. Kankam's limitless compassion and her dedication to improving the well-being of others reaches from the St. Vincent community to her birthplace, Ghana. When Dr. Kankam learned that Ghana lacked a desperately needed dialysis center, she became the leading organizer in raising funds to build one. Last year, due to Dr. Kankam's determination and focus, a dialysis center was established in Ghana—one of only two in the country.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dr. Charity A. Kankam, upon her induction into the Saint Luke Society. Dr. Kankam's expertise in the area of nephrology is outshone only by her compassion and kindness, raising the spirits and lives of every patient into the realm of healing, strength and hope.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORTH HILLS HOSPITAL'S NEW HEART CENTER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of North Richland Hills' North Hills Hospital. North Hills Hospital is opening a new Heart Center that specializes in fast and efficient heart attack care.

North Hills Hospital has been leading the medical world in heart care. It is the first hospital in the United States to accomplish Cycle 2 Accreditation for its Chest Pain Center. The hospital is opening a Heart Center for its patients and will continue to lead the way in top-of-the-line cardiac care.

The Heart Center has been in construction for two years and consists of two operating rooms, 13 cardiac progressive care beds and eight cardiac intensive care beds. All of these rooms are on the same unit, which is helpful for transferring patients, and also for visiting families. The new model of the Heart Center is considered ground breaking in the medical field.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to the City of North Richland Hills and the North Hills Hospital. It is my hope that they will continue to serve patients of the 26th District of Texas with the same care and spirit of service that they have shown throughout the years.

TRIBUTE TO R.J. NATHE & SONS OF DADE CITY, FLORIDA ON 50TH YEAR IN BUSINESS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, throughout America, small businesses and entrepreneurs work each day

to help our nation prosper. One of these companies, R.J. Nathe & Sons of Dade City, Florida is celebrating their fiftieth anniversary this year. As one of the outstanding corporate citizens in Pasco County, the Nathe family deserves recognition for fifty years of giving back to the community.

In October of 1957, cousins R.J. Nathe and Walter Gude decided to go into the land clearing business, naming the company Nathe and Gude Landclering. Using an initial family loan to start the company, the cousins went out and put a down payment on two used bulldozers and two old pickup trucks. Reaching out to the growing citrus crop industry in Central Florida, they had plenty of proposed work until a bad freeze stopped their growing business in its tracks.

Once the cousins got back on their feet, they soon realized that while land clearing would make them money, the real business potential came from logging the timber that came off of the land they cleared. Over the years the business diversified even further to include extensive cattle and citrus operations.

When they incorporated the firm in 1980, the cousins decided to shorten the name to Nathe & Gude, Inc. in 1993 the Nathe family split with Gude, allowing Gude to take the cattle operation and the Nathe family keeping the original logging and land clearing part. The following year J.R. brought his five sons into the business and changed the name to R.J. Nathe & Sons, Inc. A very important part of the growing business is J.R.'s wife, Patsy, who keeps everyone coordinated and productive.

Over the years R.J. Nathe & Sons, Inc. has been recognized for its involvement in business and community actives. They have received numerous awards including Florida Logger of the Year in 1996, continuing on to win the Southeastern title and runner up for National Logger of the Year in 1997.

Along with timber harvesting and land clearing, Nathe & Sons now offers demolition and custom sawmilling. The business has strived to build strong customer relationships based on fairness, honesty and quality service. With a company motto of, ''Treating everyone's land as if our own,'' it is clear that Nathe & Sons has a commitment to customers that is necessary to maintain an outstanding reputation in the Dade City community. I congratulate Patsy and J.R. and the entire family on their first fifty years of service in Pasco County and look forward to working with them over the next fifty years.

CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO RESPOND TO AND PREVENT RAPE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN DARFUR, SUDAN, EASTERN CHAD AND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 726, to prevent and respond to acts of rape and sexual violence in the Darfur conflict region. This resolution calls on the President and the international community to recognize and respond to the horrific acts of sexual violence that are being committed by the Sudanese armed forces, the associated Janjaweed militia, and other armed combatants with alarming regularity. Women and girls in the crisis-affected region currently lack the medical and psychological services necessary to survive and recover from these personal atrocities. Today, Congress seeks to provide them with these basic services, and states our belief that the U.S. and the international community must continue applying pressure to the government in Khartoum to stop the use of rape and sexual violence as a tool of war.

The United Nations has recognized that rape is being used as a systematic weapon of war and that combatants are encouraged to employ it as yet another way to brutally terrorize a population. The impact on the individual, however, must not be forgotten. Rape not only brutalizes the woman, it can also rob her of her dignity and privacy, often leading to her being shunned by her family and community. The international community has thus far been unable to prevent sexual violence from becoming an almost daily event in many conflicts, including the one in Darfur. So when Congress has an opportunity to protect and aid the victims of these attacks, we must do so.

This bill calls on the President and international community to develop the Women and Girls of Darfur Initiative that would provide health care services, medical supplies, and psychological counseling to women in the conflict-affected region. The resolution also calls for preventative measures such as ensuring that a hybrid United Nations-African Union peacekeeping force is deployed to protect women and girls from acts of rape and sexual violence. Since the Sudanese Government refuses to provide its own women this protection, the hybrid peacekeeping force must be accorded all the necessary resources, including the $724 million that the U.S. has pledged to fund the U.N.'s mission in Darfur.

I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me and over 100 other cosponsors of this bill in fulfilling our moral obligation to protect the basic human rights of the women and girls in Darfur and the surrounding region.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 6, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 7

9:30 a.m.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, ''Small Business Contracting Revitalization Act of 2007''.

SR–428A

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the performance and structure of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

SD–562

2 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the United States government enforcement of intellectual property rights.

SD–226

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine carbon sequestration technologies.

SR–253

NOVEMBER 8

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine S. 2191, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases.

SD–406

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine localism, diversity, and media ownership.

SR–253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine ways to protect the employment rights of those who protect the United States.

SD–430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert D. Jamison, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for National Protection and Programs, and W. Ross Ashley, III, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

SD–342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 352, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, S. 2135, to prohibit the recruitment or use of child soldiers, to designate persons who recruit or use child soldiers as inadmissible aliens, to allow the deportation of persons who recruit or use child soldiers, S. 2248, to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, to modernize and streamline the provisions of that Act, and the nominations of Michael J. Sullivan, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Joseph N. Laplante, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire, Reed Charles O'Connor, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Thomas D. Schroeder, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, and Amul R. Thapar, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

SD–226

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

SH–216

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine outstanding issues relating to the 1992–1995 conflict in Bosnia, focusing on violent ethic cleansing, and how they shape politics, society, and economic development in Bosnia.

B–318-RHOB

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Near East and South and Central Asian Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Syria, focusing on options and implications for Lebanon and the surrounding region.

SD–419

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 86, to designate segments of Fossil Creek, a tributary to the Verde River in the State of Arizona, as wild and scenic rivers, S. 1365, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with any of the management partners of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, S. 1449, to establish the Rocky Mountain Science Collections Center to assist in preserving the archeological, anthropological, paleontological, zoological, and geologic artifacts and archival documentation from the Rocky Mountain region through the construction of an on-site, secure collections facility for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in Denver, Colorado, S. 1921, to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, S. 1941, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Wolf House, located in Norfolk, Arkansas, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 1961, to expand the boundaries of the Little River Canyon National Preserve in the State of Alabama, S. 1991, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation and return phases of the expedition, S. 2098, to establish the Northern Plains Heritage Area in the State of North Dakota, S. 2220, to amend the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1963 to authorize certain appropriations, and H.R. 1191, to authorize the National Park Service to pay for services rendered by subcontractors under a General Services Administration Indefinite Deliver Indefinite Quantity Contract issued for work to be completed at the Grand Canyon National Park.

SD–366

Intelligence

Meeting of conferees on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2008 for the intelligence community.

S–407, Capitol

NOVEMBER 13

10 a.m.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Small Business Administration, focusing on preventing loan fraud and improving regulation of lenders.

SR–428A

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (Public Law 95–87), focusing on policy issues thirty years later.

SD–366

NOVEMBER 14

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to markup pending legislation; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael W. Hager, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Human Resources and Management).

SD–562

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership relating to the United States policy on nuclear fuel management.

SD–366

2 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine sovereign wealth fund acquisitions and other foreign government investments in the United States, focusing on economic and national security implications.

SD–538

NOVEMBER 15

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the state of the United States Army.

SH–216

CANCELLATIONS

NOVEMBER 7

10 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office report focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution.

SR–301

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S13739–S13938

Measures Introduced: Five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2304–2308, and S. Res. 366. **Page S13768**

Measures Passed:

Omnibus Indian Advancement Act Amendment: Senate passed S. 1347, to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is deemed to be held in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land. **Page S13937**

Measures Considered:

Farm Bill Extension Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pending:

Harkin Amendment No. 3500, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S13743–63**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing further consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Tuesday, November 6, 2007. **Page S13938**

Messages from the House: **Page S13768**

Measures Referred: **Page S13768**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S13768**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S13768–69**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S13769–74**

Additional Statements: **Page S13767**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S13774–S13937**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S13937**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S13937**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 6:58 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, November 6, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13937–38.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 4071–4081; 2 private bills, H. Res. 797–798; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 795–796 were introduced. **Pages H12738–39**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H12739–40**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3688, to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (H. Rept. 110–421);

H. Res. 793, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3685) to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (H. Rept. 110–422);

Recommending that the House of Representatives find Harriet Miers and Joshua Bolten, Chief of Staff, White House, in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with Subpoenas Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary (H. Rept. 110–423);

Conference report on H.R. 3043, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 (H. Rept. 110–424);

H.R. 3495, to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters and a National Resource Center on Children and Disasters, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–425);

H.R. 3997, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide earnings assistance and tax relief to members of the uniformed services, volunteer firefighters, and Peace Corps volunteers, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–426); and

H. Res. 794, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 (H. Rept. 110–427). **Page H12738**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Mahoney to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H12457**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:37 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H12457**

Presidential Veto Message—Water Resources Development Act of 2007: Read a message from the President wherein he announced his veto of H.R. 1495, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources and to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and explained his reasons therefor—ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–71).

Pages H12458–59

Pursuant to the order of the House of November 1, 2007, further consideration of the veto message and the bill is postponed until Tuesday, November 6th.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Stop Tuberculosis (TB) Now Act of 2007: H.R. 1567, amended, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide increased assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis;

Pages H12459–62

Eurasia Foundation Act: H.R. 2949, amended, to authorize grants to the Eurasia Foundation;

Pages H12462–64

Expressing concern relating to the threatening behavior of the Iranian regime and its leader Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and the activities of terrorist organizations sponsored by that regime in Latin America: H. Res. 435, amended, to express concern relating to the threatening behavior of the Iranian regime and its leader Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and the activities of terrorist organizations sponsored by that regime in Latin America;

Pages H12465–68

Congratulating the people of Ethiopia on the second millennium of Ethiopia: H. Res. 550, amended, to congratulate the people of Ethiopia on the second millennium of Ethiopia; **Pages H12469–71**

National Heroes Credit Protection Act: H.R. 513, amended, to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance the protection of credit ratings of active duty military personnel who are activated for military service, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 349 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 1035;

Pages H12471–72, H12481–82

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance the protection of credit ratings of members of the reserve component who serve on active duty in support of a contingency operation, and for other purposes.''. **Page H12482**

Expressing support for designation of a National Veterans History Project Week to encourage public participation in a nationwide project that collects and preserves the stories of the men and women who served our nation in times of war and conflict: H. Res. 770, to express support for designation of a National Veterans History Project Week to encourage public participation in a nationwide project that collects and preserves the stories of the men and women who served our nation in times of war and conflict; **Pages H12472–74**

Expressing support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students (VETS) Day: H. Con. Res. 60, to express support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students (VETS) Day;

Pages H12475–76

Recognizing the contributions of Native American veterans and calling upon the President to issue a proclamation urging the people of the United States to observe a day in honor of Native American veterans: H. Res. 744, to recognize the contributions of Native American veterans and to call upon the President to issue a proclamation urging the people of the United States to observe a day in honor of Native American veterans, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 351 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 1036; **Pages H12476–77, H12482**

Providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: S.J. Res. 7, to provide for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a

citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution—clearing the measure for the President; and **Pages H12477–78**

Providing technical corrections to Public Law 109–116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks: S. 2206, to provide technical corrections to Public Law 109–116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks—clearing the measure for the President. **Pages H12478–80**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:09 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H12480**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Congratulating Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France: H. Res. 379, amended, to congratulate Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France and **Pages H12464–65**

Recognizing the close relationship between the United States and the Republic of San Marino: H. Con. Res. 236, amended, to recognize the close relationship between the United States and the Republic of San Marino. **Pages H12468–69**

Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2008—Motion to go to Conference: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment and agreed to a conference on H.R. 3222, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. **Page H12480**

Appointed as conferees: Representatives Murtha, Dicks, Visclosky, Moran (VA), Kaptur, Cramer, Boyd (FL), Rothman, Bishop (GA), Obey, Young (FL), Hobson, Frelinghuysen, Tiahrt, Wicker, Kingston, and Lewis (CA). **Page H12480**

Agreed to close portions of the conference by a yea-and-nay vote of 351 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 1034. **Pages H12480–81**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on page H12458.

Quorum Calls Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H12480–81, H12481, H12482. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 11:33 p.m.

Committee Meetings

EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Committee granted, by a vote of 9 to 3, a structured rule providing 1 hour of general debate on H. R. 3685, Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2007, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions of the bill are waived.

The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. The amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI are waived. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally the rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman George Miller of California, and Representatives Andrews, Frank of Massachusetts, Baldwin, and McKeon.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS—CONFERENCE REPORT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 3, a conference report rule waiving all points of order against the conference report and providing that the conference report shall be considered as read. The rule also provides that any motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3688 pursuant to section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 shall be in order only if offered by the Majority Leader or his designee. The rule provides that, upon receipt of a message from the Senate transmitting H.R. 3042, with a Senate amendment thereto, it shall be in order to take the same from the Speaker's table and to consider in the House a motion offered by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations that the House concur in such amendment. The Senate amendment and the

motion shall be considered as read and shall be debatable for one hour. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. Testimony was heard from Chairman Obey and Representative Walsh.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP FOR CLEAN ENERGY AND A HEALTHY CLIMATE

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global warming: Held a hearing on Youth Leadership for Clean Energy and a Healthy Climate. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

SECURITY IN THE OSCE REGION

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine the twenty-first century security in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) region, focusing on challenges among member states, protracted and unresolved conflicts, shifting political and military alliances, while still confronting the threat of terrorism, after receiving testimony from David Kramer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; Daniel Fata, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Europe and NATO; Nicolae Chirtoaca, Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova to the United States, Chisinsau, Moldova; and Vasil Sikharulidze, Ambassador of Georgia to the United States, Tbilisi, Georgia.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D1464)*

H.R. 327, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop and implement a comprehensive program designed to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans. Signed on November 5, 2007. (Public Law 110–110)

H.R. 1284, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2007, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans. Signed on November 5, 2007. (Public Law 110–111)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the efficacy of the domestic energy industry, focusing on its available workforce to meet our nation's growing needs, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions and Family Policy, to hold hearings to examine the Government Pension Offset (GPO), and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), focusing on policies affecting pensions from work not covered by Social Security, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to continue consideration of the nomination of Michael B. Mukasey, of New York, to be Attorney General, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the hiring practices and quality control in Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities, 10 a.m., SD–562.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled "Comprehensive Children's Product Safety and Consumer Product Safety Commission Reform Legislation," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 3915, Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act of 2007; H.R. 3837, Escrow, Appraisal, and Mortgage Servicing Improvements Act; H.R. 4051, Housing Assistance Authorization Act of 2007; H.R. 4043, Preserving and Expanding Minority Depository Institutions Act; and H.R. 4050, Levee-Like Structure Consideration Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on Yahoo! Inc.'s Provision of False Information to Congress, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight, hearing on Human Rights Concerns in Vietnam, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing entitled "Using the Web as a Weapon: the Internet as a Tool for Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism," 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, oversight hearing on the Congressional Review Act, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, hearing and mark up of H.R. 1759, Managing Arson Through Criminal History (MATCH) Act of 2007, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia, hearing on Telework: Breaking New Ground, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, and Foreign Affairs, to continue hearings on Six Years Later: Smart Power and the U.S. Strategy for Security in a Post-9/11 World, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, to consider the following: H.R. 3688, United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act; and H.R. 3355, Homeowners' Defense Act of 2007, 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, to continue hearings on

Globalization of R&D and Innovation, Part IV: Implications for the Science and Engineering Workforce, 2:30 p.m., 2318 Rayburn,

Joint Meetings

Conference: closed meeting of conferees on H.R. 3222, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, 10 a.m., HC–5, Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, November 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 60 minutes), Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 2419, Farm Bill Extension Act.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Tuesday, November 6

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of the following suspensions: (1) H. Con. Res. 162—Expressing the sense of Congress that Congress and the President should increase basic pay for members of the Armed Forces; (2) H.R. 3997—The ''Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2007''; (3) H. Res. 787—Expressing the support and sympathy of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the tragic fire that occurred in Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, on October 28, 2007; (4) H. Res. 728—Expressing the support and sympathy of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the devastating flooding that occurred across many parts of Ohio in August 2007 and commending the communities, volunteer organizations, churches and emergency response agencies for their continuing work to restore the affected areas across the state; (5) H. Res. 782—Expressing the sense of the House with respect to the Boston Red Sox victory in the 2007 Major League Baseball World Series; (6) H.R. 1119—Purple Heart Family Equity Act of 2007; (7) H.R. 2884—Kendell Frederick Citizenship Assistance Act; (8) H.R. 3866—Small Business Programs Act of 2007; (9) H.R. 3495—Kids in Disasters Well-being, Safety, and Health Act of 2007; and (10) S. 2265—A bill to extend the existing provisions regarding the eligibility for essential air service subsidies through fiscal year 2008. Vote on the President's Veto of H.R. 1495—Water Resources Development Act of 2007. Consideration of Conference Report on H.R. 3043—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008.

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