

Section-by-Section
Subtitle __ – Crop Insurance

SEC. -1. RENEGOTIATION OF STANDARD REINSURANCE AGREEMENT.

- Provides that following the reinsurance year ending June 30, 2009, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation may renegotiate the financial terms of the standard reinsurance agreement once during each period of five reinsurance years.
- Stipulates that changes in Federal law that require the Corporation to revise the financial terms of the standard reinsurance agreement will not be considered to be a renegotiation of the agreement.
- Provides that approved insurance providers may confer with each other during the renegotiation process.

SEC. -2. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTS FOR ORGANIC PRODUCTION COVERAGE IMPROVEMENTS.

- Mandates that the Corporation enter into one or more contracts for the development of improvements in Federal crop insurance policies for organically raised crops.
- Any such contracts must review the underwriting, risk, and loss experience of organic crops in order for the Corporation to determine variation in loss history between organic and non-organic production. The Corporation shall eliminate or reduce the premium surcharge if it is necessary, based on the Corporation's determination following the review.
- Provides that a contract include the development of a procedure to offer producers of organic crops an additional price election reflecting actual retail or wholesale prices received.
- Requires that the Corporation submit an annual report to Congress on the progress made in developing and improving Federal crop insurance for organic crops.

SEC. -3. TARGETING RISK MANAGEMENT EDUCATION FOR BEGINNING FARMERS AND RANCHERS AND CERTAIN OTHER FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

- Requires the Secretary to include a special emphasis on risk management strategies and education and outreach to beginning farmers and ranchers, immigrant farmers and ranchers attempting to become established producers in the United States, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, farmers and ranchers who are preparing to retire and are trying to help new farmers and ranchers get started, and farmers and ranchers who are converting production and marketing systems to new markets.

SEC. -4. SESAME INSURANCE PILOT PROGRAM.

- Requires the Secretary to establish a pilot program under which sesame producers may obtain crop insurance.

SEC. -5. DESIGNATION OF SEPARATE COTTON-PRODUCING STATES UNDER COTTON RESEARCH AND PROMOTION ACT.

- Amends the definition of “cotton-producing State” in the Cotton Research and Promotion Act to include Kansas, Virginia, and Florida as each being considered separate cotton producing States under the Act, beginning with the 2008 crop of cotton.

SEC. -6. COTTON CLASSIFICATION SERVICES.

- Extends the authority of the Secretary to make cotton classification services available to producers of cotton and to collect classification fees from participating producers.