

## **Fact Sheet: Fiscal Year 2010 Agriculture Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2997)**

The Agriculture Appropriations legislation contains a total of \$123.8 billion in both mandatory and discretionary spending. Discretionary spending in the bill totals \$22.9 billion – which is 12% or \$2.44 billion over last year's level.

The proposed legislation funds several important and necessary government programs, including farm lending and safety-net food and nutrition programs. However, while adequate funding for these critical programs is needed – especially in this time of economic struggle – the proposal over-compensates with unsustainable, double digit funding increases throughout the bill.

A 12% increase in overall agriculture spending in one year is out of touch with our current fiscal reality. Many of these programs are important and should be funded at reasonable levels, but they simply do not warrant these huge spending increases paid for with borrowed money. In addition, many of these programs received enormous increases over their normal appropriation levels in supplemental appropriations in 2008, the recently enacted “stimulus” bill or the 2009 supplemental.

Appropriations Committee Republicans offered an alternate proposal that would have limited Agriculture Appropriations spending to 2% - or the rate of inflation. That proposal failed in Committee on a party-line vote.

### **Bill Highlights/Concerns:**

#### **Agriculture Programs:**

Production Processing and Marketing Agencies and programs within the Department of Agriculture will receive \$29.9 billion in the bill, or \$4.1 billion over last year's level. This includes funding for the Agriculture Research Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Farm Service Agency, and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and the Commodity Credit Corporation and Agriculture Marketing Agency among others.

#### **Food and Nutrition Programs:**

Food and nutrition programs within the Department of Agriculture are funded at record levels of \$86.1 billion, \$9.2 billion above last year's level. This funding will allow those with low or no income will receive all the benefits available to them during this period of severe economic downturn, but also includes substantial cushions of extra funding.

#### **Conservation Programs:**

The bill provides \$981 million – or \$12 million over last year – for various conservation programs. Some of these programs include the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative, payments to States through the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and watershed and flood prevention and rehabilitation grants and operations. The NRCS also administers most of the conservation programs authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill.

#### **Rural Economic Development:**

The bill includes \$2.8 billion in funding to support \$18.0 billion in grants and loans to help rural communities with economic development and infrastructure improvements, including broadband development and implementation. In addition, the bill also provides \$430 million in funding to support grants and over \$4 billion in new lending for farm operations and ownership, which will help meet the rising demand for Federal loans replacing private sector lending that has been severely curtailed in the current economic downturn.

#### **Food Safety:**

The bill provides \$423 million - or a 10% increase in funding and fees – for food safety programs in both the USDA and the Food and Drug Administration. This will help address concerns with the detection and handling of cases associated with food borne illness. The FDA receives a total of almost \$3 billion in the bill – or \$373 million over last year’s level.

**Proper Use of Funds:**

The bill includes report language - inserted by Ranking Member Jack Kingston - requiring USDA to determine remedies for widespread improper payments made by entities administering USDA nutrition programs and to review options for recovering erroneous payments already made. In 2005 and 2006 the Food and Nutrition Service identified about \$850 million in misspent funds to providers of the school lunch program; the USDA has identified \$50 million in inappropriate farm benefit payments to ineligible individuals; and current estimates indicate that overpayments by States to individuals of more than \$1.2 billion have occurred in the SNAP program. None of these agencies have so far made serious attempts to remedy these wasteful problems or recover the improper payments.

**Agriculture, FDA and Related Agencies**  
*(in millions)*

			Dollars In Millions		
<b>Agency/ program</b>	<b>FY 2009 enacted</b>	<b>FY 2010 Request</b>	<b>H.R. 2997</b>	<b>H.R. 2997 vs. Request</b>	<b>H.R. 2997 vs. 2009 Enacted</b>
<b>Department of Agriculture</b>					
<b>Title I: Production Processing and Marketing</b>					
Executive Operations	58.9	117.9	111.3	-6.6	52.4
Research	2,641.0	2,564.5	2,683.9	119.4	42.9
Animal, Plant Health Inspections	881.4	877.1	885.7	8.6	4.3
Agriculture Marketing	1,347.2	1,496.8	1,496.8	0.0	149.6
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards	40.3	41.9	41.9	0.0	1.6
FSIS	971.6	1,018.5	1,018.5	0.0	46.9
Farm Assistance and Services	1,723.9	1,780.5	1,774.9	-5.6	51.0
Corporations	17,689.3	21,380.7	21,380.7	0.0	3,691.4
<b>Total Title I</b>	<b>25,727.4</b>	<b>29,769.8</b>	<b>29,876.0</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>4,148.5</b>
Mandatory	18,877.2	22,701.6	22,701.6	0.0	3,824.4
Discretionary	6,850.2	7,068.0	7,174.3	106.2	324.2
<b>Title II: Conservation (Discretionary)</b>	<b>969.2</b>	<b>908.3</b>	<b>981.1</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>11.9</b>
<b>Title III: Rural Development (Discretionary)</b>					
Rural Housing Service	1,753.7	1,894.6	1,803.1	-91.5	49.3
Rural Business Cooperative Services	132.0	256.6	161.2	-95.5	29.1
Rural Utilities Service	653.4	667.9	667.9	0.0	14.5

<b>Title IV: Domestic food Programs</b>					
WIC (Discretionary)	6,860.1	7,777.1	7,541.1	-236.0	681.0
Child Nutrition	14,951.9	16,797.2	16,799.6	2.3	1,847.7
SNAP	53,969.3	61,351.8	61,351.8	0.0	7,382.6
Commodity Assistance program	230.8	233.4	255.6	22.2	24.8
<b>Total Title IV</b>					
Mandatory	68,921.2	78,144.1	78,146.4	-214.0	9,200.0
Discretionary	7,234.0	8,166.3	7,949.9	-216.3	716.0
<b>Title V: Foreign Agriculture Service (Discretionary)</b>					
Expenses	165.4	180.4	177.1	-3.2	11.7
PL 480	1,228.6	1,692.8	1,692.8	0.0	464.2
McGovern-Dole	100.0	199.5	199.5	0.0	99.5
<b>Food and Drug Administration</b>					
Appropriations	2,051.4	2,350.1	2,350.1	0.0	298.7
Total with fees	2,664.3	3,037.4	3,037.4	0.0	373.1
<b>CFTC</b>	146.0	160.0	160.0	0.0	14.0
<b>Total for Bill</b>	<b>108,400.4</b>	<b>123,824.5</b>	<b>123,748.1</b>	<b>-76.4</b>	<b>15,347.7</b>
<b>Discretionary Appropriations</b>	<b>20,456.0</b>	<b>22,978.8</b>	<b>22,900.0</b>	<b>-78.8</b>	<b>2,444.0</b>

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