



**Legislative Bulletin.....June 15, 2011**

**Contents:**

**Amendments to H.R. 2112 (PART II)**—FY 2012 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

**Order of Business:** The amendments to H.R. 2112, the FY 2012 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, are scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 under an open rule. The rule ([H.Res.300](#)) waives all points of order against consideration of the bill and those that fail to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI except for section 740, 741, 743, and 744. The rule also provides for the bill to be read for amendment by paragraph and under the five minute rule. The rule *provides priority for recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record* and provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

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**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS [Being Voted On](#)**

**DeLauro (D-CT).** This amendment would increase funding for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition by \$1,000,000. The sponsor’s office has yet to provide additional information regarding the corresponding reduction in this amendment.

**Sessions (R-TX).** This amendment strikes language in Title I that prohibits funding from being used for FAIR Act or Circular A-76 activities. Many conservatives support contracting government activities to the private sector when the private sector can handle those activities more efficiently. Rep. Sessions had a similar amendment to H.R. 2017, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations, that was approved by a roll call vote of [218-204](#). The Business Coalition for Fair Competition is publically supporting this amendment and is scoring this as a [key vote](#).

**Farr (D-CA).** This amendment would reduce funding for the maintenance, operation, improvement and repair of Department of Agriculture buildings by \$342,000. It would reduce funding for building operations and maintenance expenses by \$342,000. It would increase funding for the Agricultural Market Services Market Services by \$300,000.

**Broun (R-GA).** This amendment would reduce funds for Building and Rental Payment Accounts by 10% and place those amounts in the Spending Reduction Account.

**Chaffetz (R-UT).** This amendment would save taxpayers \$1.8 billion by lowering total appropriations in the bill to an amount consistent with the RSC budget’s discretionary spending allocation. The amendment achieves this savings by: **1)** reducing duplication in the Department’s research agencies, and **2)** by eliminating the “Food for Peace” foreign aid program.

The amendment would cut in half the *total* spending on duplicative research agencies at the Department of Agriculture. USDA has three different agencies that perform agricultural research and statistical gathering at the federal level, and a fourth that helps fund these activities at the state and local levels. Many of the functions of the Agricultural Research Service, the Economic Research Service, the National Agricultural Statistics Service, and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture could be consolidated or accomplished through private-sector efforts.

The RSC Amendment cuts spending on duplicative research agencies at the Department as follows: ***\$43 million*** cut to Economic Research Service; ***\$85 million*** cut to National Agricultural Statistics Service; and ***\$650 million*** cut to Agricultural Research Service.

The “Food for Peace” foreign aid program distributes agricultural commodities to foreign countries. By one [measurement](#), the developed world has spent \$2.3 trillion on foreign aid over the last 50 years. Despite this spending, many foreign aid critics point out that no nation has transitioned to prosperity because of this aid. Additionally, there are many other foreign aid programs (many funded through the State-Foreign Ops bill) that also provide money to countries that benefit from this program. The RSC amendment eliminates the ***\$1.04 billion*** of funding for the Title II portion of the “Food for Peace” program.

**Outside Groups in Support (as of press time):**

Center for Fiscal Accountability, Americans for Tax Reform  
Traditional Values Coalition  
CCAGW  
Citizens United  
Freedom Action (CEI)  
Center for Fiscal Accountability (ATR), NTU

**Broun (R-GA).** This amendment would reduce funding for the Economic Research Service by \$7,000,000, and would place \$7,000,000 in the Spending Reduction Account. This funding is currently set at \$70,000,000.

**Clarke (D-MI).** This amendment would reduce funding for Department of Agriculture buildings and facilities by \$1,000,000, and would increase funding to the Agricultural Market Service Market Services by \$1,000,000.

**Broun (R-GA).** This amendment would reduce funding from the Agriculture Marketing Service by \$7,700,000 and places that amount in the Spending Reduction Account.

**Richardson (D-CA).** This amendment decreases funding for the Salaries and Expenses section of the Farm Service Agency by \$10,000,000, and adds \$10,000,000 to the Commodity Assistance Program.

**Gosar (R-AZ).** This amendment would increase funding for the Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program by \$100,000,000. It would increase funding for the Rural Business-Cooperative Service Rural Business Program Account by \$100,000,000. This amendment would also reduce funding for the Food For Peace Title II Grants by \$200,000,000.

**Broun (R-GA).** This amendment would reduce funding for the Rural Housing Assistance by \$20,000,000 (back to the President's request) and transfer that amount to the Spending Reduction Account.

**Broun (R-GA).** This amendment would eliminate funding for the McGovern-Dole International Food For Education and Child Nutrition Program Grants and would save taxpayers 180,000,000. This amendment would place \$180,000,000 in the Spending Reduction Account.

**Broun (R-GA).** This amendment would eliminate funding for the Food for Peace Title II Grants, and would place \$940 million in the Spending Reduction Account.

**Foxx (R-NC).** This amendment would remove Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) funding in the bill for breastfeeding peer counselors (currently \$75,000,000) and breastfeeding performance awards (\$7,500,000). This amendment would place \$82,500,000 in the Spending Reduction Account.

**Gosar (R-AZ).** This amendment would reduce funding for the Food for Peace Title II Grants by \$100,000,000 and would move \$100,000,000 to the Spending Reduction Account.

**Broun (R-GA).** This amendment would eliminate funding for the McGovernDole International Food For Education and Child Nutrition Program Grants and would save taxpayers 180,000,000. This amendment would place \$180,000,000 in the Spending Reduction Account.

**Stearns (R-FL).** This amendment would reduce funding from the FDA Center for Tobacco products by \$392,000,000, and would transfer \$392,000,000 to the spending reduction account.