

106th CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H.R. 1906

## CONFERENCE REPORT

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1906) "making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, 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:

*That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, namely:*

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

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, and not to exceed \$75,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$15,436,000, of which, \$12,600,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available only for the development and implementation of a common computing environment: Provided, That not to exceed \$11,000 of this amount, along with any unobligated balances of representation funds in the Foreign Agricultural Service, shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That the funds made available for the development and implementation of a common computing environment shall only be available upon approval of the Committees on Appropriations and Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Senate of a plan for the development and implementation of a common computing environment: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel of the Department of Agriculture*

*to carry out section 793(c)(1)(C) of Public Law 104–127: Provided further, That none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enforce section 793(d) of Public Law 104–127.*

***EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS***

***CHIEF ECONOMIST***

*For necessary expenses of the Chief Economist, including economic analysis, risk assessment, cost-benefit analysis, energy and new uses, and the functions of the World Agricultural Outlook Board, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622g), and including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$5,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$6,411,000.*

***NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION***

*For necessary expenses of the National Appeals Division, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$25,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$11,718,000.*

***OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS***

*For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of*

1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$5,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$6,583,000.

*OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER*

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$6,051,000.*

*OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER*

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$4,783,000.*

*OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR*

*ADMINISTRATION*

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration to carry out the programs funded by this Act, \$613,000.*

*AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES AND RENTAL*

*PAYMENTS*

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator*

*of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 486, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for the operation, maintenance, and repair of Agriculture buildings, \$140,364,000: Provided, That in the event an agency within the Department should require modification of space needs, the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer a share of that agency's appropriation made available by this Act to this appropriation, or may transfer a share of this appropriation to that agency's appropriation, but such transfers shall not exceed 5 percent of the funds made available for space rental and related costs to or from this account.*

#### ***HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT***

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9607(g), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6961, \$15,700,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Waste Management may be transferred to any agency of the Depart-*

*ment for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.*

***DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION***

***(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)***

*For Departmental Administration, \$34,738,000, to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration and disaster management of the Department, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided, That this appropriation shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551–558.*

***OUTREACH FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS***

*For grants and contracts pursuant to section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279), \$3,000,000, to remain available until expended.*

*OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR*

*CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS*

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch, \$3,568,000: Provided, That no other funds appropriated to the Department by this Act shall be available to the Department for support of activities of congressional relations: Provided further, That not less than \$2,241,000 shall be transferred to agencies funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level.*

*OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS*

*For necessary expenses to carry on services relating to the coordination of programs involving public affairs, for the dissemination of agricultural information, and the coordination of information, work, and programs authorized by Congress in the Department, \$8,138,000, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, and not to exceed \$2,000,000 may be used for farmers' bulletins.*

*OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$65,128,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, including not to exceed \$50,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; and including not to exceed \$125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95-452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97-98.*

*OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL*

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, \$29,194,000.*

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

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Economic Research Service, the National Agricultural Sta-*

*tistics Service, the Agricultural Research Service, and the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, \$540,000.*

***ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE***

*For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service in conducting economic research and analysis, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627) and other laws, \$65,419,000: Provided, That \$1,000,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Food and Nutrition Service, Food Program Administration” for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225).*

***NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE***

*For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service in conducting statistical reporting and service work, including crop and livestock estimates, statistical coordination and improvements, marketing surveys, and the Census of Agriculture, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627, Public Law 105–113, and other laws, \$99,405,000, of which up to \$16,490,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Or-*

*ganic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$40,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.*

*AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE*

*For necessary expenses to enable the Agricultural Research Service to perform agricultural research and demonstration relating to production, utilization, marketing, and distribution (not otherwise provided for); home economics or nutrition and consumer use including the acquisition, preservation, and dissemination of agricultural information; and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, \$834,322,000: Provided, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for temporary employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$115,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: Provided further, That appropriations here-*

*under shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed \$250,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to \$1,000,000, and except for ten buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed \$500,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or \$250,000, whichever is greater: Provided further, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, including an easement to the University of Maryland to construct the Transgenic Animal Facility which upon completion shall be accepted by the Secretary as a gift: Provided further, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): Provided further, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any*

*research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law.*

*None of the funds in the foregoing paragraph shall be available to carry out research related to the production, processing or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products.*

*In fiscal year 2000, the agency is authorized to charge fees, commensurate with the fair market value, for any permit, easement, lease, or other special use authorization for the occupancy or use of land and facilities (including land and facilities at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center) issued by the agency, as authorized by law, and such fees shall be credited to this account and shall remain available until expended for authorized purposes.*

#### *BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES*

*For acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture, where not otherwise provided, \$52,500,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Provided, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing any research facility of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law.*

*COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND**EXTENSION SERVICE**RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES*

*For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, including \$180,545,000 to carry into effect the provisions of the Hatch Act (7 U.S.C. 361a-i); \$21,932,000 for grants for cooperative forestry research (16 U.S.C. 582a-a7); \$30,676,000 for payments to the 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University (7 U.S.C. 3222), of which \$1,000,000 shall be made available to West Virginia State College in Institute, West Virginia, which for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter shall be designated as an eligible institution under section 1445 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222); \$63,238,000 for special grants for agricultural research (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)); \$13,721,000 for special grants for agricultural research on improved pest control (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)); \$119,300,000 for competitive research grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)); \$5,109,000 for the support of animal health and disease programs (7 U.S.C. 3195); \$750,000 for supplemental and alternative crops and products (7 U.S.C. 3319d); \$650,000 for grants for research pursuant to the Critical Agricultural Materials Act of 1984 (7 U.S.C. 178) and section 1472 of the*

*Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3318), to remain available until expended; \$500,000 for the 1994 research program (7 U.S.C. 301 note); \$3,000,000 for higher education graduate fellowship grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(6)), to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); \$4,350,000 for higher education challenge grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)); \$1,000,000 for a higher education multicultural scholars program (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(5)), to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); \$2,850,000 for an education grants program for Hispanic-serving Institutions (7 U.S.C. 3241); \$500,000 for a secondary agriculture education program and two-year post-secondary education (7 U.S.C. 3152(h)); \$4,000,000 for aquaculture grants (7 U.S.C. 3322); \$8,000,000 for sustainable agriculture research and education (7 U.S.C. 5811); \$9,200,000 for a program of capacity building grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(4)) to colleges eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C. 321–326 and 328), including Tuskegee University, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); \$1,552,000 for payments to the 1994 Institutions pursuant to section 534(a)(1) of Public Law 103–382; and \$14,825,000 for necessary expenses of Research and Education Activities, of which not to exceed \$100,000 shall be for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; in all, \$485,698,000.*

*None of the funds in the foregoing paragraph shall be available to carry out research related to the production, processing or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products.*

**NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND**

*For establishment of a Native American institutions endowment fund, as authorized by Public Law 103–382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), \$4,600,000.*

**EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

*Payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, and American Samoa: For payments for cooperative extension work under the Smith-Lever Act, to be distributed under sections 3(b) and 3(c) of said Act, and under section 208(c) of Public Law 93–471, for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents and for costs of penalty mail for cooperative extension agents and State extension directors, \$276,548,000; payments for extension work at the 1994 Institutions under the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3)), \$3,060,000; payments for the nutrition and family education program for low-income areas under section 3(d) of the Act, \$58,695,000; payments for the pest management program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$10,783,000; payments for the farm safety program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$4,000,000; payments to upgrade research, extension, and teaching facilities at the 1890 land-grant colleges, includ-*

*ing Tuskegee University, as authorized by section 1447 of Public Law 95-113 (7 U.S.C. 3222b), \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended; payments for the rural development centers under section 3(d) of the Act, \$908,000; payments for youth-at-risk programs under section 3(d) of the Act, \$9,000,000; payments for carrying out the provisions of the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978, \$3,192,000; payments for Indian reservation agents under section 3(d) of the Act, \$1,714,000; payments for sustainable agriculture programs under section 3(d) of the Act, \$3,309,000; payments for rural health and safety education as authorized by section 2390 of Public Law 101-624 (7 U.S.C. 2661 note, 2662), \$2,628,000; payments for cooperative extension work by the colleges receiving the benefits of the second Morrill Act (7 U.S.C. 321-326 and 328) and Tuskegee University, \$26,843,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall be made available to West Virginia State College in Institute, West Virginia, which for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter shall be designated as an eligible institution under section 1444 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221); and for Federal administration and coordination including administration of the Smith-Lever Act, and the Act of September 29, 1977 (7 U.S.C. 341-349), and section 1361(c) of the Act of October 3, 1980 (7 U.S.C.*

*301 note), and to coordinate and provide program leadership for the extension work of the Department and the several States and insular possessions, \$12,242,000; in all, \$424,922,000: Provided, That funds hereby appropriated pursuant to section 3(c) of the Act of June 26, 1953, and section 506 of the Act of June 23, 1972, shall not be paid to any State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, or the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, and American Samoa prior to availability of an equal sum from non-Federal sources for expenditure during the current fiscal year.*

#### *INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES*

*For the integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants programs, including necessary administrative expenses, \$39,541,000, as follows: payments for the water quality program, \$13,000,000; payments for the food safety program, \$15,000,000; payments for the national agriculture pesticide impact assessment program, \$4,541,000; payments for the Food Quality Protection Act risk mitigation program for major food crop systems, \$4,000,000; payments for the crops affected by Food Quality Protection Act implementation, \$1,000,000; and payments for the methyl bromide transition program, \$2,000,000, as authorized under section 406 of the Agricul-*

*tural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7626).*

**OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS**

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs to administer programs under the laws enacted by the Congress for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Agricultural Marketing Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, \$618,000.*

**ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

*For expenses, not otherwise provided for, including those pursuant to the Act of February 28, 1947 (21 U.S.C. 114b-c), necessary to prevent, control, and eradicate pests and plant and animal diseases; to carry out inspection, quarantine, and regulatory activities; to discharge the authorities of the Secretary of Agriculture under the Act of March 2, 1931 (46 Stat. 1468; 7 U.S.C. 426-426b); and to protect the environment, as authorized by law, \$441,263,000, of which \$4,105,000 shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions: Provided,*

*That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for field employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$40,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed four, of which two shall be for replacement only: Provided further, That, in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with the Act of February 28, 1947, and section 102 of the Act of September 21, 1944, and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the next preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant*

*to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.*

*In fiscal year 2000, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.*

*Of the total amount available under this heading in fiscal year 2000, \$87,000,000 shall be derived from user fees deposited in the Agricultural Quarantine Inspection User Fee Account.*

#### *BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES*

*For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as*

*authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, \$5,200,000, to remain available until expended.*

*AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE*

*MARKETING SERVICES*

*For necessary expenses to carry on services related to consumer protection, agricultural marketing and distribution, transportation, and regulatory programs, as authorized by law, and for administration and coordination of payments to States, including field employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225) and not to exceed \$90,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$51,625,000, including funds for the wholesale market development program for the design and development of wholesale and farmer market facilities for the major metropolitan areas of the country: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.*

*Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701).*

*LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES*

*Not to exceed \$60,730,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: Provided, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Appropriations Committees.*

*FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND**SUPPLY (SECTION 32)**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c) shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of August 8, 1956; (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than \$12,443,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961.*

*PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS*

*For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), \$1,200,000.*

*GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS**ADMINISTRATION**SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

*For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the United States Grain Standards Act, for the administration of the Packers and Stockyards Act, for certifying procedures used to protect purchasers of farm products, and the standardization activities related to grain under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, including field employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$25,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$26,448,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.*

*LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES**EXPENSES*

*Not to exceed \$42,557,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: Provided, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded*

*by up to 10 percent with notification to the Appropriations Committees.*

***OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY***

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, \$446,000.*

***FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE***

*For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, \$649,411,000, of which no less than \$544,902,000 shall be available for federal food inspection, and in addition, \$1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1017 of Public Law 102-237: Provided, That this appropriation shall not be available for shell egg surveillance under section 5(d) of the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1034(d)): Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for field employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$75,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration*

*and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.*

*OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES*

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services to administer the laws enacted by Congress for the Farm Service Agency, the Foreign Agricultural Service, the Risk Management Agency, and the Commodity Credit Corporation, \$572,000.*

*FARM SERVICE AGENCY*

*SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs administered by the Farm Service Agency, \$794,839,000: Provided, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: Provided further, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: Provided further, That these funds shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section*

*706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.*

*STATE MEDIATION GRANTS*

*For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (7 U.S.C. 5101-5106), \$3,000,000.*

*DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM*

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers for milk or cows producing such milk and manufacturers of dairy products who have been directed to remove their milk or dairy products from commercial markets because it contained residues of chemicals registered and approved for use by the Federal Government, and in making indemnity payments for milk, or cows producing such milk, at a fair market value to any dairy farmer who is directed to remove his milk from commercial markets because of: (1) the presence of products of nuclear radiation or fallout if such contamination is not due to the fault of the farmer; or (2) residues of chemicals or toxic substances not included under the first sentence of the Act of August 13, 1968 (7 U.S.C. 450j), if such chemicals or toxic substances were not used in a manner contrary to applicable regulations or labeling instructions provided at the time of use and the contamination is not*

*due to the fault of the farmer, \$450,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Provided, That none of the funds contained in this Act shall be used to make indemnity payments to any farmer whose milk was removed from commercial markets as a result of the farmer's willful failure to follow procedures prescribed by the Federal Government: Provided further, That this amount shall be transferred to the Commodity Credit Corporation: Provided further, That the Secretary is authorized to utilize the services, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation for the purpose of making dairy indemnity disbursements.*

*AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM*

*ACCOUNT*

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1928–1929, to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$559,422,000, of which \$431,373,000 shall be for guaranteed loans; operating loans, \$2,397,842,000, of which \$1,697,842,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans and \$200,000,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans; Indian tribe land acquisition loans as authorized by 25 U.S.C. 488, \$1,028,000; for emergency insured loans,*

*\$25,000,000 to meet the needs resulting from natural disasters; and for boll weevil eradication program loans as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1989, \$100,000,000.*

*For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$7,243,000, of which \$2,416,000, shall be for guaranteed loans; operating loans, \$70,860,000, of which \$23,940,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans and \$17,620,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans; Indian tribe land acquisition loans as authorized by 25 U.S.C. 488, \$21,000; and for emergency insured loans, \$3,882,000 to meet the needs resulting from natural disasters.*

*In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$214,161,000, of which \$209,861,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".*

*Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership and operating direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs with the prior approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.*

**RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

*For administrative and operating expenses, as authorized by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 6933), \$64,000,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$700 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).*

**CORPORATIONS**

*The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.*

**FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND**

*For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b).*

*COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND**REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES*

*For fiscal year 2000, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11).*

*OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE**MANAGEMENT*

*For fiscal year 2000, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than \$5,000,000 for expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9607(g), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6961: Provided, That expenses shall be for operations and maintenance costs only and that other hazardous waste management costs shall be paid for by the USDA Hazardous Waste Management appropriation in this Act.*

*TITLE II**CONSERVATION PROGRAMS**OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NATURAL**RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT*

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for*

*the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, \$693,000.*

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

**CONSERVATION OPERATIONS**

*For necessary expenses for carrying out the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 428a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, \$661,243,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b), of which not less than \$5,990,000 is for snow survey and water forecasting and not less than \$9,125,000 is for operation and establishment of the plant materials centers: Provided, That appropriations hereunder shall be available*

*pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed \$250,000: Provided further, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for technical assistance and related expenses to carry out programs authorized by section 202(c) of title II of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act of 1974 (43 U.S.C. 1592(c)): Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$25,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That qualified local engineers may be temporarily employed at per diem rates to perform the technical planning work of the Service (16 U.S.C. 590e-2).*

#### **WATERSHED SURVEYS AND PLANNING**

*For necessary expenses to conduct research, investigation, and surveys of watersheds of rivers and other waterways, and for small watershed investigations and planning, in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act approved August 4, 1954 (16 U.S.C.*

*1001–1009), \$10,368,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$110,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.*

#### **WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS**

*For necessary expenses to carry out preventive measures, including but not limited to research, engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, rehabilitation of existing works and changes in use of land, in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act approved August 4, 1954 (16 U.S.C. 1001–1005 and 1007–1009), the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a–f), and in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to the activities of the Department, \$99,443,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b) (of which up to \$15,000,000 may be available for the watersheds authorized under the Flood Control Act approved June 22, 1936 (33 U.S.C. 701 and 16 U.S.C. 1006a)): Provided, That not to exceed \$47,000,000 of this appropriation shall be available for technical assistance: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$200,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That not to*

*exceed \$1,000,000 of this appropriation is available to carry out the purposes of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Public Law 93–205), including cooperative efforts as contemplated by that Act to relocate endangered or threatened species to other suitable habitats as may be necessary to expedite project construction: Provided further, That of the funds available for Emergency Watershed Protection activities, \$8,000,000 shall be available for Mississippi, New Mexico, Ohio and Wisconsin for financial and technical assistance for pilot rehabilitation projects of small, upstream dams built under the Watershed and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001 et seq., section 13 of the Act of December 22, 1994; Public Law 78–534; 58 Stat. 905), and the pilot watershed program authorized under the heading “FLOOD PREVENTION” of the Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act, 1954 (Public Law 83–156; 67 Stat. 214).*

#### *RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT*

*For necessary expenses in planning and carrying out projects for resource conservation and development and for sound land use pursuant to the provisions of section 32(e) of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010–1011; 76 Stat. 607), the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a–f), and the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3451–3461), \$35,265,000, to remain*

*available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$50,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.*

***FORESTRY INCENTIVES PROGRAM***

*For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to carry out the program of forestry incentives, as authorized by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101), including technical assistance and related expenses, \$6,325,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized by that Act.*

***TITLE III***

***RURAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS***

***OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT***

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development to administer programs under the laws enacted by the Congress for the Rural Housing Service, the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and the Rural Utilities Service of the Department of Agriculture, \$588,000.*

*RURAL COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1926, 1926a, 1926c, 1926d, and 1932, except for sections 381E–H, 381N, and 381O of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009f), \$718,837,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$23,150,000 shall be for rural community programs described in section 381E(d)(1) of such Act; of which \$631,088,000 shall be for the rural utilities programs described in section 381E(d)(2), 306C(a)(2), and 306D of such Act; and of which \$64,599,000 shall be for the rural business and cooperative development programs described in section 381E(d)(3) of such Act: Provided, That of the amount appropriated for rural community programs, \$6,000,000 shall be available for a Rural Community Development Initiative: Provided further, That such funds shall be used solely to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, and low income rural communities to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas: Provided further, That such funds shall be made available to qualified private and public (including tribal) intermediary organizations proposing to carry out a program of technical*

assistance: Provided further, That such intermediary organizations shall provide matching funds from other sources in an amount not less than funds provided: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated for the rural business and cooperative development programs, not to exceed \$500,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated for rural utilities programs, not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall be for water and waste disposal systems to benefit the Colonias along the United States/Mexico borders, including grants pursuant to section 306C of such Act; not to exceed \$12,000,000 shall be for water and waste disposal systems to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, including grants pursuant to section 306C of such Act: Provided further, That the Federally Recognized Native American Tribe is not eligible for any other rural utilities programs set aside under the Rural Community Advancement Program; not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall be for water and waste disposal systems for rural and native villages in Alaska pursuant to section 306D of such Act with up to one percent available to administer the program and up to one percent available to improve interagency coordination; not to exceed \$16,215,000 shall be for technical as-

*sistance grants for rural waste systems pursuant to section 306(a)(14) of such Act; and not to exceed \$7,300,000 shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$45,245,000 shall be available through June 30, 2000, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones; of which \$34,704,000 shall be for the rural utilities programs described in section 381E(d)(2) of such Act; of which \$8,435,000 shall be for the rural business and cooperative development programs described in section 381E(d)(3) of such Act: Provided further, That any obligated and unobligated balances available from prior years for the “Rural Utilities Assistance Program” account shall be transferred to and merged with this account.*

#### *RURAL HOUSING SERVICE*

##### *RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT*

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: \$4,300,000,000 for loans to section 502 borrowers, as determined by the*

*Secretary, of which \$3,200,000,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; \$32,396,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; \$100,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; \$25,001,000 for section 514 farm labor housing; \$114,321,000 for section 515 rental housing; \$5,152,000 for section 524 site loans; \$7,503,000 for credit sales of acquired property, of which up to \$1,250,000 may be for multi-family credit sales; and \$5,000,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans.*

*For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, \$113,350,000, of which \$19,520,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; section 504 housing repair loans, \$9,900,000; section 538 multi-family housing guaranteed loans, \$480,000; section 514 farm labor housing, \$11,308,000; section 515 rental housing, \$45,363,000; section 524 site loans, \$4,000; credit sales of acquired property, \$874,000, of which up to \$494,250 may be for multi-family credit sales; and section 523 self-help housing land development loans, \$281,000: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated in this paragraph, \$11,180,000 shall be available through June 30, 2000, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and commu-*

*nities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.*

*In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$375,879,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Rural Housing Service, Salaries and Expenses”: Provided, That of this amount the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer up to \$7,000,000 to the appropriation for “Outreach for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers”.*

#### *RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM*

*For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) or agreements entered into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, \$640,000,000; and, in addition, such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: Provided, That of this amount, not more than \$5,900,000 shall be available for debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Act, and not to exceed \$10,000 per project for advances to nonprofit organizations or public agencies to cover direct costs (other than purchase price) incurred in purchasing*

*projects pursuant to section 502(c)(5)(C) of the Act: Provided further, That agreements entered into or renewed during fiscal year 2000 shall be funded for a five-year period, although the life of any such agreement may be extended to fully utilize amounts obligated.*

**MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS**

*For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), \$28,000,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Provided, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,000,000 shall be available through June 30, 2000, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.*

**RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

*For grants and contracts for housing for domestic farm labor, very low-income housing repair, supervisory and technical assistance, compensation for construction defects, and rural housing preservation made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, 1479(c), 1486, 1490e, and 1490m, \$45,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,200,000 shall be available through June 30, 2000, for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated*

*by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.*

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

*For necessary expenses of the Rural Housing Service, including administering the programs authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, title V of the Housing Act of 1949, and cooperative agreements, \$61,979,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$520,000 may be used for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That the Administrator may expend not more than \$10,000 to provide modest nonmonetary awards to non-USDA employees.*

**RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE**

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For the cost of direct loans, \$16,615,000, as authorized by the Rural Development Loan Fund (42 U.S.C. 9812(a)): 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 these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans of \$38,256,000: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, \$3,216,000 shall be available through June*

*30, 2000, for the cost of direct loans for authorized empowerment zones and enterprise communities and communities designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.*

*In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, \$3,337,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Salaries and Expenses”.*

**RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM**

**ACCOUNT**

**(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)**

*For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, \$15,000,000.*

*For the cost of direct loans, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, \$3,453,000.*

*Of the funds derived from interest on the cushion of credit payments in fiscal year 2000, as authorized by section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, \$3,453,000 shall not be obligated and \$3,453,000 are rescinded.*

**RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**

*For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural*

*Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), \$6,000,000, of which \$1,500,000 shall be available for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program: Provided, That at least twenty-five percent of the total amount appropriated shall be made available to cooperatives or associations of cooperatives that assist small, minority producers.*

#### *SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

*For necessary expenses of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, including administering the programs authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act; section 1323 of the Food Security Act of 1985; the Cooperative Marketing Act of 1926; for activities relating to the marketing aspects of cooperatives, including economic research findings, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946; for activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements, \$24,612,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$260,000 may be used for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.*

*RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE**RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*Insured loans pursuant to the authority of section 305 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935) shall be made as follows: 5 percent rural electrification loans, \$121,500,000; 5 percent rural telecommunications loans, \$75,000,000; cost of money rural telecommunications loans, \$300,000,000; municipal rate rural electric loans, \$295,000,000; and loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural electric, \$1,700,000,000 and rural telecommunications, \$120,000,000, to remain available until expended.*

*For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, including the cost of modifying loans, of direct and guaranteed loans authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935 and 936), as follows: cost of direct loans, \$1,935,000; cost of municipal rate loans, \$10,827,000; cost of money rural telecommunications loans, \$2,370,000: Provided, That notwithstanding section 305(d)(2) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, borrower interest rates may exceed 7 percent per year.*

*In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$31,046,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Utilities Service, Salaries and Expenses".*

**RURAL TELEPHONE BANK PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

*The Rural Telephone Bank is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available to such corporation 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, as may be necessary in carrying out its authorized programs. During fiscal year 2000 and within the resources and authority available, gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans shall be \$175,000,000.*

*For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, including the cost of modifying loans, of direct loans authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935), \$3,290,000.*

*In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the loan programs, \$3,000,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Utilities Service, Salaries and Expenses".*

*DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM*

*For the cost of direct loans and grants, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., \$20,700,000, to remain available until expended, to be available for loans and grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas: Provided, That the costs of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.*

*SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

*For necessary expenses of the Rural Utilities Service, including administering the programs authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, and the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, and for cooperative agreements, \$34,107,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$105,000 may be used for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.*

*TITLE IV**DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS**OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD,**NUTRITION AND CONSUMER SERVICES*

*For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer*

*Services to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Food and Nutrition Service, \$554,000.*

**FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE**

**CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS**

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For necessary expenses to carry out the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; \$9,554,028,000, to remain available through September 30, 2001, of which \$4,618,829,000 is hereby appropriated and \$4,935,199,000 shall be derived by transfer from funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c): Provided, That, except as specifically provided under this heading, none of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, up to \$7,000,000 shall be for school breakfast pilot projects, including the evaluation required under section 18(e) of the National School Lunch Act: Provided further, That up to \$4,363,000 shall be available for independent verification of school food service claims: Provided further, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available unless the value of bonus commodities provided under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (49 Stat. 774, chapter 641; 7 U.S.C. 612c), and section 416 of the Agri-*

*cultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431) is included in meeting the minimum commodity assistance requirement of section 6(g) of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1755(g)).*

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR  
WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)**

*For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), \$4,032,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2001: Provided, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That of the total amount available, the Secretary shall obligate \$10,000,000 for the farmers' market nutrition program within 45 days of the enactment of this Act, and an additional \$5,000,000 for the farmers' market nutrition program from any funds not needed to maintain current caseload levels: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay administrative expenses of WIC clinics except those that have an announced policy of prohibiting smoking within the space used to carry out the program: Provided further, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of the Child Nu-*

*trition Act of 1966: Provided further, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other federal government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.*

#### **FOOD STAMP PROGRAM**

*For necessary expenses to carry out the Food Stamp Act (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), \$21,071,751,000, of which \$100,000,000 shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: Provided, That none of the funds made available under this head shall be used for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food Stamp Act: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: Provided further, That funds made available for Employment and Training under this head shall remain available until expended, as authorized by section 16(h)(1) of the Food Stamp Act.*

#### **COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

*For necessary expenses to carry out the commodity supplemental food program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of*

1983, \$133,300,000, to remain available through September 30, 2001: Provided, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the program.

#### **FOOD DONATIONS PROGRAMS**

*For necessary expenses to carry out section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973; special assistance for the nuclear affected islands as authorized by section 103(h)(2) of the Compacts of Free Association Act of 1985, as amended; and section 311 of the Older Americans Act of 1965, \$141,081,000, to remain available through September 30, 2001.*

#### **FOOD PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

*For necessary administrative expenses of the domestic food programs funded under this Act, \$111,561,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall be available only for simplifying procedures, reducing overhead costs, tightening regulations, improving food stamp coupon handling, and assisting in the prevention, identification, and prosecution of fraud and other violations of law and of which not less than \$3,000,000 shall be available to improve integrity in the Food Stamp and Child Nutrition programs: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed*

*\$150,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.*

**TITLE V**

**FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS**

**FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE AND GENERAL SALES**

**MANAGER**

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including carrying out title VI of the Agricultural Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1761–1768), market development activities abroad, and for enabling the Secretary to coordinate and integrate activities of the Department in connection with foreign agricultural work, including not to exceed \$128,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$109,203,000: Provided, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1737) and the foreign assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development.*

*None of the funds in the foregoing paragraph shall be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products.*

*PUBLIC LAW 480 PROGRAM AND GRANT ACCOUNTS*

*(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)*

*For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691, 1701–1704, 1721–1726a, 1727–1727e, 1731–1736g–3, and 1737), as follows: (1) \$155,000,000 for Public Law 480 title I credit, including Food for Progress programs; (2) \$21,000,000 is hereby appropriated for ocean freight differential costs for the shipment of agricultural commodities pursuant to title I of said Act and the Food for Progress Act of 1985; and (3) \$800,000,000 is hereby appropriated for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad pursuant to title II of said Act: Provided, That not to exceed 15 percent of the funds made available to carry out any title of said Act may be used to carry out any other title of said Act: Provided further, That such sums shall remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b).*

*For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct credit agreements as authorized by the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, and the Food for Progress Act of*

1985, including the cost of modifying credit agreements under said Act, \$127,813,000.

*In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the Public Law 480 title I credit program, and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, to the extent funds appropriated for Public Law 480 are utilized, \$1,850,000, of which \$1,035,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Foreign Agricultural Service and General Sales Manager” and \$815,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses”.*

**COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT LOANS**

**PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

*For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation’s export guarantee program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, \$3,820,000; to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, of which \$3,231,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Foreign Agricultural Service and General Sales Manager” and \$589,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses”.*

**TITLE VI****RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION****DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES****FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION****SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

*For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; and for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$25,000; \$1,186,072,000, of which not to exceed \$145,434,000 in prescription drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379(h) may be credited to this appropriation and remain available until expended: Provided, That fees derived from applications received during fiscal year 2000 shall be subject to the fiscal year 2000 limitation: Provided further, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C.*

9701: *Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated: (1) \$269,245,000 shall be for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (2) \$309,026,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs, of which no less than \$11,542,000 shall be available for grants and contracts awarded under section 5 of the Orphan Drug Act (21 U.S.C. 360ee); (3) \$132,092,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (4) \$48,821,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (5) \$154,271,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs, of which \$1,000,000 shall be for premarket review, enforcement and oversight activities related to users and manufacturers of all reprocessed medical devices as authorized by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), and of which no less than \$55,500,000 and 522 full-time equivalent positions shall be for premarket application review activities to meet statutory review times; (6) \$34,536,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) \$34,000,000 shall be for the Office*

*of Tobacco; (8) \$25,855,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration; (9) \$100,180,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent and related costs; and (10) \$78,046,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner; the Office of Policy; the Office of the Senior Associate Commissioner; the Office of International and Constituent Relations; the Office of Policy, Legislation, and Planning; and central services for these offices: Provided further, That funds may be transferred from one specified activity to another with the prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.*

*In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263(b) may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.*

*In addition, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381 may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.*

#### **BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES**

*For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, \$11,350,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b).*

*INDEPENDENT AGENCIES**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION*

*For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; and not to exceed \$25,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$63,000,000, including not to exceed \$1,000 for official reception and representation expenses: Provided, That for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter, the Commission is authorized to charge reasonable fees to attendees of Commission sponsored educational events and symposia to cover the Commission's costs of providing those events and symposia, and notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, said fees shall be credited to this account, to be available without further appropriation.*

*FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION**LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES*

*Not to exceed \$35,800,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions and from the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: Provided, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships.*

## TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

*SEC. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations made for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year 2000 under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed 365 passenger motor vehicles, of which 361 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles.*

*SEC. 702. Funds in this Act available to the Department of Agriculture shall be available for uniforms or allowances therefor as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).*

*SEC. 703. Not less than \$1,500,000 of the appropriations of the Department of Agriculture in this Act for research and service work authorized by the Acts of August 14, 1946, and July 28, 1954 (7 U.S.C. 427 and 1621–1629), and by chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available for contracting in accordance with said Acts and chapter.*

*SEC. 704. The cumulative total of transfers to the Working Capital Fund for the purpose of accumulating growth capital for data services and National Finance Center operations shall not exceed \$2,000,000: Provided, That no funds in this Act appropriated to an agency of the Department shall be transferred to the Working Cap-*

*ital Fund without the approval of the agency administrator.*

*SEC. 705. New obligational authority provided for the following appropriation items in this Act shall remain available until expended: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the contingency fund to meet emergency conditions, fruit fly program, integrated systems acquisition project, boll weevil program, up to 10 percent of the screwworm program, and up to \$2,000,000 for costs associated with colocating regional offices; Food Safety and Inspection Service, field automation and information management project; funds appropriated for rental payments; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, funds for competitive research grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)) and funds for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund; Farm Service Agency, salaries and expenses funds made available to county committees; and Foreign Agricultural Service, middle-income country training program.*

*SEC. 706. 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. 707. Not to exceed \$50,000 of the appropriations available to the Department of Agriculture in this Act*

*shall be available to provide appropriate orientation and language training pursuant to Public Law 94-449.*

*SEC. 708. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.*

*SEC. 709. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, commodities acquired by the Department in connection with Commodity Credit Corporation and section 32 price support operations may be used, as authorized by law (15 U.S.C. 714c and 7 U.S.C. 612c), to provide commodities to individuals in cases of hardship as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.*

*SEC. 710. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to restrict the authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation to lease space for its own use or to lease space*

*on behalf of other agencies of the Department of Agriculture when such space will be jointly occupied.*

*SEC. 711. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs charged against competitive agricultural research, education, or extension grant awards issued by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service that exceed 19 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award: Provided, That notwithstanding section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310), funds provided by this Act for grants awarded competitively by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service shall be available to pay full allowable indirect costs for each grant awarded under the Small Business Innovation Development Act of 1982, Public Law 97-219 (15 U.S.C. 638).*

*SEC. 712. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, all loan levels provided in this Act shall be considered estimates, not limitations.*

*SEC. 713. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective on September 29, 1999, appropriations made available to the Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account for the costs of direct and guaranteed loans and to the Rural Housing Assistance Grants Account in fiscal years 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999 shall re-*

*main available until expended to cover obligations made in each of those fiscal years respectively with regard to each account.*

*SEC. 714. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in fiscal year 2000 shall remain available until expended to cover obligations made in fiscal year 2000 for the following accounts: the rural development loan fund program account; the Rural Telephone Bank program account; the rural electrification and telecommunications loans program account; the Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account; and the rural economic development loans program account.*

*SEC. 715. Such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2000 pay raises for programs funded by this Act shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated by this Act.*

*SEC. 716. Notwithstanding the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act, marketing services of the Agricultural Marketing Service; Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; and the food safety activities of the Food Safety and Inspection Service may use cooperative agreements to reflect a relationship between the Agricultural Marketing Service; the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; the Animal and Plant*

*Health Inspection Service; or the Food Safety and Inspection Service and a State or Cooperator to carry out agricultural marketing programs, to carry out programs to protect the Nation's animal and plant resources, or to carry out educational programs or special studies to improve the safety of the Nation's food supply.*

*SEC. 717. Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including provisions of law requiring competition), the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements (which may provide for the acquisition of goods or services, including personal services) with a State, political subdivision, or agency thereof, a public or private agency, organization, or any other person, if the Secretary determines that the objectives of the agreement will (1) serve a mutual interest of the parties to the agreement in carrying out the Wetlands Reserve Program; (2) all parties will contribute resources to the accomplishment of these objectives: Provided, That Commodity Credit Corporation funds obligated for such purposes shall not exceed the level obligated by the Commodity Credit Corporation for such purposes in fiscal year 1998.*

*SEC. 718. None of the funds in this Act may be used to retire more than 5 percent of the Class A stock of the Rural Telephone Bank or to maintain any account or sub-account within the accounting records of the Rural Tele-*

*phone Bank the creation of which has not specifically been authorized by statute: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer to the Treasury or to the Federal Financing Bank any unobligated balance of the Rural Telephone Bank telephone liquidating account which is in excess of current requirements and such balance shall receive interest as set forth for financial accounts in section 505(c) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990.*

*SEC. 719. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than \$1,800,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants: Provided, That interagency funding is authorized to carry out the purposes of the National Drought Policy Commission.*

*SEC. 720. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to carry out the provisions of section 918 of Public Law 104-127, the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act.*

*SEC. 721. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or of-*

*fice funded by this Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.*

*SEC. 722. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-Department of Agriculture employee questions or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process.*

*SEC. 723. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Information Officer without the prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.*

*SEC. 724. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agen-*

*cies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2000, 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 which: (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 offices, programs, or activities; or (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; unless the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified fifteen days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.*

*(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2000, 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 for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that: (1) augments existing programs, projects, or activi-*

*ties; (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 Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified fifteen days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.*

*SEC. 725. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the transfer or obligation of fiscal year 2000 funds under the provisions of section 793 of Public Law 104-127.*

*SEC. 726. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who carry out an environmental quality incentives program authorized by sections 334-341 of Public Law 104-127 in excess of \$174,000,000.*

*SEC. 727. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise available to the Department of Agriculture in fiscal year 2000 or thereafter may be used to administer the provision of contract payments to a producer under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) for*

*contract acreage on which wild rice is planted unless the contract payment is reduced by an acre for each contract acre planted to wild rice.*

*SEC. 728. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to enroll in excess of 150,000 acres in the fiscal year 2000 wetlands reserve program as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 3837.*

*SEC. 729. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the transfer or obligation of fiscal year 2000 funds under the provisions of section 401 of Public Law 105–185, the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems.*

*SEC. 730. Notwithstanding section 381A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009), in fiscal year 2000 and thereafter, the definitions of rural areas for certain business programs administered by the Rural Business-Cooperative Service and the community facilities programs administered by the Rural Housing Service shall be those provided for in statute and regulations prior to the enactment of Public Law 104–127.*

*SEC. 731. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to carry out*

*any commodity purchase program that would prohibit eligibility or participation by farmer-owned cooperatives.*

*SEC. 732. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a conservation farm option program, as authorized by section 335 of Public Law 104-127.*

*SEC. 733. None of the funds made available to the Food and Drug Administration by this Act shall be used to close or relocate, or to plan to close or relocate, the Food and Drug Administration Division of Drug Analysis in St. Louis, Missouri, or the Food and Drug Administration Detroit, Michigan, District Office Laboratory; or to reduce the Detroit, Michigan, Food and Drug Administration District Office below the operating and full-time equivalent staffing level of July 31, 1999; or to change the Detroit District Office to a station, residence post or similarly modified office; or to reassign residence posts assigned to the Detroit District Office.*

*SEC. 734. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act for any fiscal year may be used to carry out section 302(h) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622(h)) unless the Secretary of Agriculture inspects and certifies agricultural processing equipment, and imposes a fee for the inspection and certifi-*

cation, in a manner that is similar to the inspection and certification of agricultural products under that section, as determined by the Secretary: Provided, That this provision shall not affect the authority of the Secretary to carry out the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.), or the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031 et seq.).

SEC. 735. None of the funds appropriated by this Act or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's Budget submission to the Congress of the United States for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the Budget unless such Budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the users fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2001 appropriations Act.

SEC. 736. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to establish

*an Office of Community Food Security or any similar office within the United States Department of Agriculture without the prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.*

*SEC. 737. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to carry out provision of section 612 of Public Law 105-185.*

*SEC. 738. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the emergency food assistance program authorized by section 27(a) of the Food Stamp Act (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)) if such program exceeds \$98,000,000.*

*SEC. 739. None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be used to propose or issue rules, regulations, decrees, or orders for the purpose of implementation, or in preparation for implementation of the Kyoto Protocol which was adopted on December 11, 1997, in Kyoto, Japan.*

*SEC. 740. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2000 and thereafter, permanent employees of county committees employed on or after October 1, 1998, pursuant to 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590h(b)) shall be considered as having Federal Civil Service status only for the*

*purpose of applying for United States Department of Agriculture Civil Service vacancies.*

*SEC. 741. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to declare excess or surplus all or part of the lands and facilities owned by the Federal Government and administered by the Secretary of Agriculture at Fort Reno, Oklahoma, or to transfer or convey such lands or facilities, without the specific authorization of Congress.*

*SEC. 742. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service shall provide funds, within discretionary amounts available, for the settlement of claims associated with the Chuquatonchee Watershed Project in Mississippi to close out this project.*

*SEC. 743. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall offer to enter into an agreement with the Governor of the State of Hawaii to conduct a pilot program to inspect mail entering the State of Hawaii for any plant, plant product, plant pest, or other organism that is subject to Federal quarantine laws.*

*(b) The agreement described in subsection (a) shall contain the same terms and conditions as are contained in the memorandum of understanding entered into between*

*the Secretary and the State of California, dated February 1, 1999, unless the Secretary and the Governor agree to different terms or conditions.*

*(c) Unless the Secretary and the Governor agree otherwise, the agreement described in subsection (b) shall terminate on the later of—*

*(1) the date that is 1 year after the date the agreement becomes effective; or*

*(2) the date that the February 1, 1999 memorandum of understanding terminates.*

*SEC. 744. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary is authorized under section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1926), to provide guaranteed lines of credit, including working capital loans, for health care facilities, to address Year 2000 computer conversion issues.*

*SEC. 745. After taking any action involving the seizure, quarantine, treatment, destruction, or disposal of wheat infested with Karnal bunt, the Secretary of Agriculture shall compensate the producers and handlers for economic losses incurred as the result of the action not later than 45 days after receipt of a claim that includes all appropriate paperwork.*

*SEC. 746. In addition to amounts otherwise appropriated or made available by this Act, \$2,000,000 is ap-*

*propriated for the purpose of providing Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowships through the Congressional Hunger Center, which is an organization described in subsection (c)(3) of section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under subsection (a) of such section.*

*SEC. 747. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there are hereby appropriated \$250,000 for the program authorized under section 388 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, solely for use in the State of New Hampshire.*

*SEC. 748. The Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1188 et seq.) is amended: (a) in section 218(c)(1) by striking “60 days” and inserting “45 days”, and (b) in section 218(c)(3)(A) by striking “20 days” and inserting “30 days”.*

***SEC. 749. SUCCESSORSHIP PROVISIONS RELATING TO BARGAINING UNITS AND EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVES.***

***(a) VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT.—***

*(1) IN GENERAL.—If the exercise of the Secretary of Agriculture’s authority under this section results in changes to an existing bargaining unit that has been certified under chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, the affected parties shall attempt to reach a vol-*

*unitary agreement on a new bargaining unit and an exclusive representative for such unit.*

(2) *CRITERIA.—In carrying out the requirements of this subsection, the affected parties shall use criteria set forth in—*

*(A) sections 7103(a)(4), 7111(e), 7111(f)(1), and 7120 of title 5, United States Code, relating to determining an exclusive representative; and*

*(B) section 7112 of title 5, United States Code (disregarding subsections (b)(5) and (d) thereof), relating to determining appropriate units.*

(b) *EFFECT OF AN AGREEMENT.—*

(1) *IN GENERAL.—If the affected parties reach agreement on the appropriate unit and the exclusive representative for such unit under subsection (a), the Federal Labor Relations Authority shall certify the terms of such agreement, subject to paragraph (2)(A). Nothing in this subsection shall be considered to require the holding of any hearing or election as a condition for certification.*

(2) *RESTRICTIONS.—*

*(A) CONDITIONS REQUIRING NONCERTIFICATION.—The Federal Labor Relations Authority*

*may not certify the terms of an agreement under paragraph (1) if—*

- (i) it determines that any of the criteria referred to in subsection (a)(2) (disregarding section 7112(a) of title 5, United States Code) have not been met; or*
- (ii) after the Secretary's exercise of authority and before certification under this section, a valid election under section 7111(b) of title 5, United States Code, is held covering any employees who would be included in the unit proposed for certification.*

**(B) TEMPORARY WAIVER OF PROVISION THAT WOULD BAR AN ELECTION AFTER A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT IS REACHED.**—*Nothing in section 7111(f)(3) of title 5, United States Code, shall prevent the holding of an election under section 7111(b) of such title that covers employees within a unit certified under paragraph (1), or giving effect to the results of such an election (including a decision not to be represented by any labor organization), if the election is held before the end of the 12-*

*month period beginning on the date such unit is so certified.*

(C) *CLARIFICATION.—The certification of a unit under paragraph (1) shall not, for purposes of the last sentence of section 7111(b) of title 5, United States Code, or section 7111(f)(4) of such title, be treated as if it had occurred pursuant to an election.*

(3) *DELEGATION.—*

(A) *IN GENERAL.—The Federal Labor Relations Authority may delegate to any regional director (as referred to in section 7105(e) of title 5, United States Code) its authority under the preceding provisions of this subsection.*

(B) *REVIEW.—Any action taken by a regional director under subparagraph (A) shall be subject to review under the provisions of section 7105(f) of title 5, United States Code, in the same manner as if such action had been taken under section 7105(e) of such title, except that in the case of a decision not to certify, such review shall be required if application therefore is filed by an affected party within the time specified in such provisions.*

(c) *DEFINITION.*—For purposes of this section, the term “affected party” means—

- (1) with respect to an exercise of authority by the Secretary of Agriculture under this section, any labor organization affected thereby; and
- (2) the Department of Agriculture.

*SEC. 750. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used for the implementation of a Support Services Bureau or similar organization.*

*SEC. 751. CONTRACTS FOR PROCUREMENT OR PROCESSING OF CERTAIN COMMODITIES.* (a) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

(1) *HUBZONE SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT.*—The term “HUBZone sole source contract” means a sole source contract authorized by section 31 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657a).

(2) *HUBZONE PRICE EVALUATION PREFERENCE.*—The term “HUBZone price evaluation preference” means a price evaluation preference authorized by section 31 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657a).

(3) *QUALIFIED HUBZONE SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.*—The term “qualified HUBZone small business concern” has the meaning given the term in

*section 3(p) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(p)).*

*(4) COVERED PROCUREMENT.—The term “covered procurement” means a contract for the procurement or processing of a commodity furnished under title II or III of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.), section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431(b)), the Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o), or any other commodity procurement or acquisition by the Commodity Credit Corporation under any other law.*

*(b) PROHIBITION OF USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used:*

*(1) to award a HUBZone sole source contract or a contract awarded through full and open competition in combination with a HUBZone price evaluation preference to any qualified HUBZone small business concern in any covered procurement if performance of the contract by the business concern would exceed the production capacity of the business concern or would require the business concern to subcontract to any other company or enterprise for the purchase of the commodity being procured through the covered procurement.*

(2) in any contract awarded through full and open competition in any covered procurement,

(A) to fund a price evaluation preference greater than 5 percent if the dollar value of the contract awarded is not greater than 50 percent of the total dollar value being procured in a single tender for a commodity, or

(B) to fund any price evaluation preference at all if the dollar value of the contract awarded is greater than 50 percent of the total dollar value being procured in a single tender for a commodity.

*SEC. 752. REDESIGNATION OF NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT AS RICHARD B. RUSSELL NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT.* (a) *IN GENERAL.*—The first section of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 note) is amended by striking “National School Lunch Act” and inserting “Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act”.

(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—The following provisions of law are amended by striking “National School Lunch Act” each place it appears and inserting “Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act”:

(1) *Sections 3 and 13(3)(A) of the Commodity Distribution Reform Act and WIC Amendments of 1987 (7 U.S.C. 612c note; Public Law 100-237).*

(2) *Section 404 of the Agricultural Act of 1949*  
*(7 U.S.C. 1424).*

(3) *Section 201(a) of the Act entitled “An Act to extend the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, and for other purposes”, approved September 21, 1959 (7 U.S.C. 1431c(a); 73 Stat. 610).*

(4) *Section 211(a) of the Agricultural Trade Suspension Adjustment Act of 1980 (7 U.S.C. 4004(a)).*

(5) *Section 245A(h)(4)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1255a(h)(4)(A)).*

(6) *Sections 403(c)(2)(C), 422(b)(3), 423(d)(3), 741(a)(1), and 742 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1613(c)(2)(C), 1632(b)(3), 1183a note, 42 U.S.C. 1751 note, 8 U.S.C. 1615; Public Law 104-193).*

(7) *Section 2243(b) of title 10, United States Code.*

(8) *Sections 404B(g)(1)(A), 404D(c)(2), and 404F(a)(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a-22(g)(1)(A), 1070a-24(c)(2), 1070a-26(a)(2); Public Law 105-244).*

(9) Section 231(d)(3)(A)(i) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act (20 U.S.C. 2341(d)(3)(A)(i)).

(10) Section 1113(a)(5) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6313(a)(5)).

(11) Section 1397E(d)(4)(A)(iv)(II) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(12) Sections 254(b)(2)(B) and 263(a)(2)(C) of the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1633(b)(2)(B), 1643(a)(2)(C)).

(13) Section 3803(c)(2)(C)(xiii) of title 31, United States Code.

(14) Section 602(d)(9)(A) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 474(d)(9)(A)).

(15) Sections 2(4), 3(1), and 301 of the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 1751 note; Public Law 103-448).

(16) Sections 3, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16(b), 17, and 19(d) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1772, 1773, 1776, 1779, 1782, 1785(b), 1786, 1788(d)).

(17) Section 6580(b)(3) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858m(b)(3)).

(18) Subsection (b) of the first section of Public Law 87-688 (48 U.S.C. 1666(b)).

(19) Section 10405(a)(2)(H) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-239; 103 Stat. 2489).

SEC. 753. Public Law 105-199 (112 Stat. 641) is amended in section 3(b)(1)(G) by striking “persons”, and inserting in lieu thereof “governors, who may be represented on the Commission by their respective designees.”.

SEC. 754. Section 889 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting “HARRY K. DUPREE” before “STUTTGART”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in the heading, by inserting “HARRY K. DUPREE” before “STUTTGART”; and

(B) in subparagraphs (A) and (B), by inserting “Harry K. Dupree” before “Stuttgart National Aquaculture Research Center” each place it appears.

SEC. 755. TOBACCO LEASING AND INFORMATION. (a) CROSS-COUNTY LEASING.—Section 319(l) of the Agricul-

tural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1314e(l)) is amended in the second sentence by inserting “, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky,” after “Tennessee”.

(b) **TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND MARKETING INFORMATION.**—Part I of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1311 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 320D. TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND MARKETING INFORMATION.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may, subject to subsection (b), release marketing information submitted by persons relating to the production and marketing of tobacco to State trusts or similar organizations engaged in the distribution of national trust funds to tobacco producers and other persons with interests associated with the production of tobacco, as determined by the Secretary.

“(b) **LIMITATIONS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Information may be released under subsection (a) only to the extent that—

“(A) the release is in the interest of tobacco producers, as determined by the Secretary; and

“(B) the information is released to a State trust or other organization that is created to, or charged with, distributing funds to tobacco pro-

*ducers or other parties with an interest in tobacco production or tobacco farms under a national or State trust or settlement.*

“(2) *EXEMPTION FROM RELEASE.*—*The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, in advance of making a release of information under subsection (a), allow, by announcement, a period of at least 15 days for persons whose consent would otherwise be required by law to effectuate the release, to elect to be exempt from the release.*

“(c) *ASSISTANCE.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*In making a release under subsection (a), the Secretary may provide such other assistance with respect to information released under subsection (a) as will facilitate the interest of producers in receiving the funds that are the subject of a trust described in subsection (a).*

“(2) *FUNDS.*—*The Secretary shall use amounts made available for salaries and expenses of the Department to carry out paragraph (1).*

“(d) *RECORDS.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*A person who obtains information described in subsection (a) shall maintain records that are consistent with the purposes of the re-*

*lease and shall not use the records for any purpose not authorized under this section.*

“(2) *PENALTY.*—A person who knowingly violates this subsection shall be fined not more than \$10,000, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

“(e) *APPLICATION.*—This section shall not apply to—

“(1) records submitted by cigarette manufacturers with respect to the production of cigarettes;

“(2) records that were submitted as expected purchase intentions in connection with the establishment of national tobacco quotas; or

“(3) records that aggregate the purchases of particular buyers.”.

*SEC. 756. Notwithstanding section 306(a)(7) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(7)), the city of Berlin, New Hampshire, shall be eligible during fiscal year 2000 for a rural utilities grant or loan under the Rural Community Advancement Program.*

*SEC. 757. CRANBERRY MARKETING ORDERS. (a) PAID ADVERTISING FOR CRANBERRIES AND CRANBERRY PRODUCTS.—Section 8c(6)(I) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(6)(I)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended in the first proviso—*

(1) by striking "or Florida grown strawberries" and inserting ", Florida grown strawberries, or cranberries"; and

(2) by striking "and Florida Indian River grapefruit" and inserting "Florida Indian River grapefruit, and cranberries".

(b) *COLLECTION OF CRANBERRY INVENTORY DATA.*—

*Section 8d of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608d), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended by adding at the end the following:*

"(3) *COLLECTION OF CRANBERRY INVENTORY DATA.*—

"(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*If an order is in effect with respect to cranberries, the Secretary of Agriculture may require persons engaged in the handling or importation of cranberries or cranberry products (including producer-handlers, second handlers, processors, brokers, and importers) to provide such information as the Secretary considers necessary to effectuate the declared policy of this title, including information on acquisitions, inventories, and dispositions of cranberries and cranberry products.*

"(B) *DELEGATION TO COMMITTEE.*—*The Secretary may delegate the authority to carry out sub-*

*paragraph (A) to any committee that is responsible for administering an order covering cranberries.*

*“(C) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Paragraph (2) shall apply to information provided under this paragraph.*

*“(D) VIOLATIONS.—Any person who violates this paragraph shall be subject to the penalties provided under section 8c(14).”.*

*SEC. 758. Beginning in fiscal year 2001 and thereafter, the Food Stamp Act (Public Law 95–113, section 16(a)) is amended by inserting after the phrase “Indian reservation under section 11(d) of this Act” the following new phrase: “or in a Native village within the State of Alaska identified in section 11(b) of Public Law 92–203, as amended.”.*

*SEC. 759. EDUCATION GRANTS TO ALASKA NATIVE SERVING INSTITUTIONS AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN SERVING INSTITUTIONS. (a) EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM FOR ALASKA NATIVE SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—*

*(1) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Agriculture may make competitive grants (or grants without regard to any requirement for competition) to Alaska Native serving institutions for the purpose of promoting and strengthening the ability of Alaska Native serving institutions to carry out education,*

*applied research, and related community development programs.*

*(2) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—Grants made under this section shall be used—*

*(A) to support the activities of consortia of Alaska Native serving institutions to enhance educational equity for under represented students;*

*(B) to strengthen institutional educational capacities, including libraries, curriculum, faculty, scientific instrumentation, instruction delivery systems, and student recruitment and retention, in order to respond to identified State, regional, national, or international educational needs in the food and agriculture sciences;*

*(C) to attract and support undergraduate and graduate students from under represented groups in order to prepare them for careers related to the food, agricultural, and natural resource systems of the United States, beginning with the mentoring of students at the high school level including by village elders and continuing with the provision of financial support for students through their attainment of a doctoral degree; and*

(D) to facilitate cooperative initiatives between two or more Alaska Native serving institutions, or between Alaska Native serving institutions and units of State government or the private sector, to maximize the development and use of resources, such as faculty, facilities, and equipment, to improve food and agricultural sciences teaching programs.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

*There are authorized to be appropriated to make grants under this subsection \$10,000,000 in fiscal years 2001 through 2006.*

(b) EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—

(1) GRANT AUTHORITY.—*The Secretary of Agriculture may make competitive grants (or grants without regard to any requirement for competition) to Native Hawaiian serving institutions for the purpose of promoting and strengthening the ability of Native Hawaiian serving institutions to carry out education, applied research, and related community development programs.*

(2) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—*Grants made under this section shall be used—*

- (A) to support the activities of consortia of Native Hawaiian serving institutions to enhance educational equity for under represented students;
- (B) to strengthen institutional educational capacities, including libraries, curriculum, faculty, scientific instrumentation, instruction delivery systems, and student recruitment and retention, in order to respond to identified State, regional, national, or international educational needs in the food and agriculture sciences;
- (C) to attract and support undergraduate and graduate students from under represented groups in order to prepare them for careers related to the food, agricultural, and natural resource systems of the United States, beginning with the mentoring of students at the high school level and continuing with the provision of financial support for students through their attainment of a doctoral degree; and
- (D) to facilitate cooperative initiatives between two or more Native Hawaiian serving institutions, or between Native Hawaiian serving institutions and units of State government or the private sector, to maximize the development and

*use of resources, such as faculty, facilities, and equipment, to improve food and agricultural sciences teaching programs.*

(3) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*

*There are authorized to be appropriated to make grants under this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2006.*

*SEC. 760. Effective October 1, 1999, section 8c(11) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(11)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended by adding at the end the following: “The price of milk paid by a handler at a plant operating in Clark County, Nevada shall not be subject to any order issued under this section.”.*

*SEC. 761. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the City of Olean, New York, shall be eligible for grants and loans administered by the Rural Utilities Service.*

*SEC. 762. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Municipality of Carolina, Puerto Rico shall be eligible for grants and loans administered by the Rural Utilities Service.*

*SEC. 763. Section 1232(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832(a)) is amended—*

- (1) in paragraph (9), by adding “and” after the semicolon at the end;
- (2) in paragraph (10), by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and
- (3) by striking paragraph (11).

*SEC. 764. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act shall be used to implement Notice CRP-338, issued by the Farm Service Agency on March 10, 1999, nor shall funds be used to implement any related administrative action including implementation of such procedures published in Farm Service Agency program manuals: Provided, That rental payments for any lands enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program under this section shall be reduced by an amount equal to the federal cost of any remaining value of a federally cost-shared conservation practice as determined by the Secretary.*

*SEC. 765. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act shall be used to implement Notice CRP-327, issued by the Farm Service Agency on October 26, 1998, nor shall funds be used to implement any related administrative action including implementation of such procedures published in Farm Service Agency program manuals: Provided, That this section shall not apply to any lands for which there is not full compliance with the con-*

*servation practices required under terms of the CRP contract.*

*SEC. 766. The federal facility located in Riverside, California, and known as the “U.S. Salinity Laboratory”, shall be known and designated as the “George E. Brown, Jr., Salinity Laboratory”: Provided, That any reference in law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to such federal facility shall be deemed to be a reference to the “George E. Brown, Jr., Salinity Laboratory”.*

*SEC. 767. Sections 657, 658, 1006, 1014 of title 18, United States Code, are amended by—*

- (1) inserting “or successor agency” after “Farmers Home Administration” each place it appears; and
- (2) inserting “or successor agency” after “Rural Development Administration” each place it appears.

*SEC. 768. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the maximum income limits established for single family housing for families and individuals in the high cost areas of Alaska shall be 150 percent of the state metropolitan income level for Alaska.*

*SEC. 769. Section 1232(a)(7) of the Food Security Act of 1985 is amended—*

(1) by striking "except that the Secretary may permit harvesting" and inserting "except that the Secretary—

"(A) may permit—

"(i) harvesting";

(2) by striking "emergency, and the Secretary may permit limited" and inserting "emergency; and "(ii) limited";

(3) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) shall approve not more than 6 projects, no more than 1 of which may be in any state, under which land subject to the contract may be harvested for recovery of biomass used in energy production if—

"(i) no acreage subject to the contract is harvested more than once every other year;

"(ii) not more than 25 percent of the total acreage enrolled in the program under this subchapter in any crop reporting district (as designated by the Secretary), is harvested in any 1 year;

*“(iii) no portion of the crop is used for any commercial purpose other than energy production from biomass;*

*“(iv) no wetland, or acreage of any type enrolled in a partial field conservation practice (including riparian forest buffers, filter strips, and buffer strips), is harvested;*

*“(v) the owner or operator agrees to a payment reduction under this section in an amount determined by the Secretary.*

*“(C) the total acres for all of the projects shall not exceed 250,000 acres.”.*

## **TITLE VIII—EMERGENCY AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR PRODUCERS**

### **Subtitle A—Crop and Market Loss Assistance**

#### **SEC. 801. CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE.**

*(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this title as the “Secretary”) shall use \$1,200,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make emergency financial assistance available to producers on a farm that have incurred losses in a 1999 crop due to a disaster, as determined by the Secretary.*

(b) *ADMINISTRATION.*—*The Secretary shall make assistance available under this section in the same manner as provided under section 1102 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note; Public Law 105–277), including using the same loss thresholds as were used in administering that section.*

(c) *QUALIFYING LOSSES.*—*Assistance under this section may be made for losses associated with crops that are, as determined by the Secretary—*

- (1) *quantity losses;*
- (2) *quality losses; or*
- (3) *severe economic losses due to damaging weather or related condition.*

(d) *CROPS COVERED.*—*Assistance under this section shall be applicable to losses for all crops (including losses of trees from which a crop is harvested, livestock, and fisheries), as determined by the Secretary, due to disasters.*

(e) *CROP INSURANCE.*—*In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall not discriminate against or penalize producers on a farm that have purchased crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).*

(f) *RICE LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.*—*In the case of producers of the 1999 crop of rice that harvested such*

rice on or before August 4, 1999, the Secretary may use funds made available under this section to—

- (1) make loan deficiency payments to producers that received, or that were eligible to receive, such payments under section 135 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7235) in a manner that results in the same total payment that would have been made if the payment had been requested by the producers on August 5, 1999; and
- (2) recalculate any repayment made for a marketing assistance loan for the 1999 crop of rice on or before August 4, 1999, as if the repayment had been made on August 5, 1999.

(g) *HONEY RE COURSE LOANS.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order to assist producers of honey to market their honey in an orderly manner during a period of disastrously low prices, the Secretary may use funds made available under this section to make available recourse loans to producers of the 1999 crop of honey on fair and reasonable terms and conditions, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) *LOAN RATE.*—The loan rate of the loans shall be 85 percent of the average price of honey during the 5-crop year period preceding the 1999 crop year, ex-

*cluding the crop year in which the average price of honey was the highest and the crop year in which the average price of honey was the lowest in the period.*

*(h) RE COURSE LOANS FOR MOHAIR.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2) and notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2000, the Secretary may use funds made available under this section to make recourse loans available in accordance with section 137(c) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7237(c)) to producers of mohair produced during or before that fiscal year.*

*(2) INTEREST.—Section 137(c)(4) of that Act shall not apply to a loan made under paragraph (1).*

***SEC. 802. MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE.***

*(a) ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall use not more than \$5,544,453,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide assistance to owners and producers on a farm that are eligible for final payments for fiscal year 1999 under a production flexibility contract for the farm under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.).*

*(b) AMOUNT.—The amount of assistance made available to owners and producers on a farm under this section shall be proportionate to the amount of the contract pay-*

*ment received by the owners and producers for fiscal year 1999 under a production flexibility contract for the farm under the Agricultural Market Transition Act.*

(c) *PROTECTION OF TENANTS AND SHARECROPPERS; SHARING OF PAYMENTS.*—Sections 111(c) and 114(g) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7211(c), 7214(g)) shall apply to the payments made under subsection (a).

***SEC. 803. SPECIALTY CROPS.***

(a) *PEANUTS.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall use such amounts as are necessary of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide payments to producers of quota peanuts or additional peanuts to partially compensate the producers for continuing low commodity prices, and increasing costs of production, for the 1999 crop year.

(2) *AMOUNT.*—The amount of a payment made to producers on a farm of quota peanuts or additional peanuts under paragraph (1) shall be equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

(A) the quantity of quota peanuts or additional peanuts produced or considered produced by the producers; and

(B) an amount equal to 5 percent of the loan rate established for quota peanuts or additional peanuts, respectively, under section 155 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7271).

(b) *CONDITION ON PAYMENT OF SALARIES AND EXPENSES.*—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel of the Department of Agriculture to carry out or enforce section 156(f) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7272(f)) through fiscal year 2001.

(c) *TOBACCO.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall use \$328,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make payments to States on behalf of persons described in paragraph (2) for the reduction in the quantity of quota allotted to certain farms under part I of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1311 et seq.) from the 1998 crop year to the 1999 crop year.

(2) *ELIGIBLE PERSONS.*—To be eligible to receive a payment under paragraphs (1) through (5), a person must own or operate, or produce tobacco on, a farm—

- (A) for which the quantity of quota allotted to the farm under part I of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1311 et seq.) was reduced from the 1998 crop year to the 1999 crop year; and
- (B) that was used for the production of tobacco during the 1998 or 1999 crop year.

(3) *ALLOCATION TO STATES.*—The Secretary shall allocate funds made available under paragraph (1) to States with eligible persons described in paragraph (2) in proportion to the relative quantity of quota allotted to farms in the States that was reduced from the 1998 crop year to the 1999 crop year.

(4) *DISTRIBUTION BY STATES.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—In the case of a State described in paragraph (3) that is a party to the National Tobacco Grower Settlement Trust, the State shall distribute funds made available under paragraph (3) to eligible persons in the State in accordance with the formulas established pursuant to the Trust.

(B) *OTHER STATES.*—Subject to the approval of the Secretary, in the case of a State described in paragraph (3) that is not a party to the National Tobacco Grower Settlement Trust,

*the State shall distribute funds made available under paragraph (3) to eligible persons in the State in a manner determined by the State.*

(5) *ALTERNATIVE DISTRIBUTION.—In lieu of making payments under this subsection to States, the Secretary may distribute funds directly to eligible persons using the facilities of private disbursing agents, facilities of the Farm Service Agency, or other available facilities.*

(6) *FLUE-CURED TOBACCO.—*

(A) *LIMITATION ON QUANTITY OF ALLOTMENT LEASED OR SOLD.—Section 316(e) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1316(e)) is amended—*

*(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “farm or, in” and all that follows through “: Provided, That in” and inserting “farm. In”;*

*(ii) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and*

*(iii) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:*

*“(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to flue-cured tobacco.”.*

(B) TRANSFERS OF QUOTA OR ALLOTMENT

ACROSS COUNTY LINES IN A STATE.—*Section 316(g) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1314b(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

“(3) TRANSFERS ALLOWED BY REFERENDUM.—

“(A) REFERENDUM.—*On the request of at least 25 percent of the active flue-cured tobacco producers within a State, the Secretary shall conduct a referendum of the active flue-cured tobacco producers within the State to determine whether the producers favor or oppose permitting the sale of a flue-cured tobacco allotment or quota from a farm in a State to any other farm in the State.*

“(B) APPROVAL.—*If the Secretary determines that a majority of the active flue-cured tobacco producers voting in the referendum approves permitting the sale of a flue-cured tobacco allotment or quota from a farm in the State to any other farm in the State, the Secretary shall permit the sale of a flue-cured tobacco allotment or quota from a farm in the State to any other farm in the State.”.*

(C) SAME GROWER IN CONTIGUOUS COUNTRIES.—*Section 379(b) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1379(b)) is amended by inserting “or flue-cured” after “Burley”.*

**SEC. 804. OILSEEDS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—*The Secretary shall use \$475,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make payments to producers of the 1999 crop of oilseeds that are eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan under section 131 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7231).*

(b) COMPUTATION.—*A payment to producers on a farm under this section for an oilseed shall be equal to the product obtained by multiplying—*

- (1) *a payment rate determined by the Secretary;*
- (2) *the acreage of the producers on the farm for the oilseed, as determined under subsection (c); and*
- (3) *the yield of the producers on the farm for the oilseed, as determined under subsection (d).*

(c) ACREAGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—*Except as provided in paragraph (2), the acreage of the producers on the farm for an oilseed under subsection (b)(2) shall be equal to the greater of—*

(A) the number of acres planted to the oilseed by the producers on the farm during the 1997 crop year, as reported by the producers on the farm to the Secretary (including any acreage reports that are filed late); or

(B) the number of acres planted to the oilseed by the producers on the farm during the 1998 crop year, as reported by the producers on the farm to the Secretary (including any acreage reports that are filed late).

(2) NEW PRODUCERS.—In the case of producers on a farm that planted acreage to an oilseed during the 1999 crop year but not the 1997 or 1998 crop year, the acreage of the producers for the oilseed under subsection (b)(2) shall be equal to the number of acres planted to the oilseed by the producers on the farm during the 1999 crop year, as reported by the producers on the farm to the Secretary (including any acreage reports that are filed late).

(d) YIELD.—

(1) SOYBEANS.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), in the case of soybeans, the yield of the producers on a farm under subsection (b)(3) shall be equal to the greatest of—

- (A) the average county yield per harvested acre for each of the 1994 through 1998 crop years, excluding the crop year with the highest yield per harvested acre and the crop year with the lowest yield per harvested acre;
- (B) the actual yield of the producers on the farm for the 1997 crop year; or
- (C) the actual yield of the producers on the farm for the 1998 crop year.
- (2) OTHER OILSEEDS.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), in the case of oilseeds other than soybeans, the yield of the producers on a farm under subsection (b)(3) shall be equal to the greatest of—
- (A) the average national yield per harvested acre for each of the 1994 through 1998 crop years, excluding the crop year with the highest yield per harvested acre and the crop year with the lowest yield per harvested acre;
- (B) the actual yield of the producers on the farm for the 1997 crop year; or
- (C) the actual yield of the producers on the farm for the 1998 crop year.
- (3) NEW PRODUCERS.—In the case of producers on a farm that planted acreage to an oilseed during the 1999 crop year but not the 1997 or 1998 crop

*year, the yield of the producers on a farm under subsection (b)(3) shall be equal to the greater of—*

- (A) the average county yield per harvested acre for each of the 1994 through 1998 crop years, excluding the crop year with the highest yield per harvested acre and the crop year with the lowest yield per harvested acre; or*
- (B) the actual yield of the producers on the farm for the 1999 crop.*

*(4) DATA SOURCE.—To the maximum extent available, the Secretary shall use data provided by the National Agricultural Statistics Service to carry out this subsection.*

***SEC. 805. LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY.***

*The Secretary shall use \$325,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide assistance directly to livestock and dairy producers, in a manner determined appropriate by the Secretary, to compensate the producers for economic losses incurred during 1999.*

***SEC. 806. UPLAND COTTON.***

- (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 136(a) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7236(a)) is amended—
  - (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “or cash payments” and inserting “or cash payments, at the option of the recipient,”;**

(2) by striking “3 cents per pound” each place it appears and inserting “1.25 cents per pound”;

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the first sentence of subparagraph (A), by striking “owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation in such manner, and at such price levels, as the Secretary determines will best effectuate the purposes of cotton user marketing certificates” and inserting “owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation or pledged to the Commodity Credit Corporation as collateral for a loan in such manner, and at such price levels, as the Secretary determines will best effectuate the purposes of cotton user marketing certificates, including enhancing the competitiveness and marketability of United States cotton”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the second sentence; and

(4) by striking paragraph (4).

(b) ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF UPLAND COTTON.—Section 136(b) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7236(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The President shall carry out an import quota program during the period ending July 31, 2003, as provided in this subsection.*

“(B) *PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.*—*Except as provided in subparagraph (C), 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<sup>3</sup>/<sub>32</sub>-inch cotton, delivered C.I.F. Northern Europe, adjusted for the value of any certificate issued under subsection (a), exceeds the Northern Europe price by more than 1.25 cents per pound, there shall immediately be in effect a special import quota.*

“(C) *TIGHT DOMESTIC SUPPLY.*—*During any month for which the Secretary estimates the season-ending United States upland cotton stocks-to-use ratio, as determined under subparagraph (D), to be below 16 percent, the Secretary, in making the determination under subparagraph (B), shall not adjust the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced United States growth, as quoted for Mid-*

*dling (M) 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>32</sub>-inch cotton, delivered C.I.F. Northern Europe, for the value of any certificates issued under subsection (a).*

**“(D) SEASON-ENDING UNITED STATES STOCKS-TO-USE RATIO.**—For the purposes of making estimates under subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall, on a monthly basis, estimate and report the season-ending United States upland cotton stocks-to-use ratio, excluding projected raw cotton imports but including the quantity of raw cotton that has been imported into the United States during the marketing year.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

**“(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 5 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.”.

**SEC. 807. MILK.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 141 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7251) is amended—

- (1) in subsection (b)(4), by striking “calendar year 1999” and inserting “each of calendar years 1999 and 2000”; and
- (2) in subsection (h), by striking “1999” each place it appears and inserting “2000”.

(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—Section 142(e) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7252(e)) is amended by striking “2000” and inserting “2001”.

## ***Subtitle B—Other Assistance***

***SEC. 811. AUTHORITY FOR ADVANCE PAYMENT IN FULL OF  
REMAINING PAYMENTS UNDER PRODUCTION  
FLEXIBILITY CONTRACTS.***

Section 112(d)(3) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7212(d)(3)) is amended—

- (1) in the paragraph heading, by striking “FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999”; and
- (2) by striking “for fiscal year 1999” and inserting “for any of fiscal years 1999 through 2002”.

***SEC. 812. COMMODITY CERTIFICATES.***

*Subtitle E of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7281 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

**"SEC. 166. COMMODITY CERTIFICATES.**

"(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*In making in-kind payments under subtitle C, the Commodity Credit Corporation may—*

"(1) *acquire and use commodities that have been pledged to the Commodity Credit Corporation as collateral for loans made by the Corporation;*

"(2) *use other commodities owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation; and*

"(3) *redeem negotiable marketing certificates for cash under terms and conditions established by the Secretary.*

"(b) *METHODS OF PAYMENT.*—*The Commodity Credit Corporation may make in-kind payments—*

"(1) *by delivery of the commodity at a warehouse or other similar facility;*

"(2) *by the transfer of negotiable warehouse receipts;*

"(3) *by the issuance of negotiable certificates, which the Commodity Credit Corporation shall exchange for a commodity owned or controlled by the Corporation in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Corporation; or*

"(4) *by such other methods as the Commodity Credit Corporation determines appropriate to promote the efficient, equitable, and expeditious receipt of*

*the in-kind payments so that a person receiving the payments receives the same total return as if the payments had been made in cash.*

**“(c) ADMINISTRATION.—**

*“(1) FORM.—At the option of a producer, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall make negotiable certificates authorized under subsection (b)(3) available to the producer, in the form of program payments or by sale, in a manner that the Corporation determines will encourage the orderly marketing of commodities pledged as collateral for loans made to producers under subtitle C.*

*“(2) TRANSFER.—A negotiable certificate issued in accordance with this subsection may be transferred to another person in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary.”.*

**SEC. 813. LIMITATION ON MARKETING LOAN GAINS AND  
LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.**

*(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 1001(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308(1)), the total amount of the payments specified in section 1001(3) of that Act that a person shall be entitled to receive under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) for 1 or more contract commodities and oilseeds produced during the 1999 crop year may not exceed \$150,000.*

(b) 1999 MARKETINGS.—*In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall allow a producer that has marketed a quantity of an eligible 1999 crop for which the producer has not received a loan deficiency payment or marketing loan gain under section 134 or 135 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7234, 7235) to receive such payment or gain as of the date on which the quantity was marketed or redeemed, as determined by the Secretary.*

**SEC. 814. ASSISTANCE FOR PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL CROP INSURANCE COVERAGE.**

*The Secretary shall transfer \$400,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to be used to assist agricultural producers in purchasing additional coverage for the 2000 crop year under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).*

**SEC. 815. FORGIVENESS OF CERTAIN WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL LOANS.**

*The Secretary shall forgive the principal indebtedness and accrued interest owed by the City of Stroud, Oklahoma, to the Rural Utilities Service on water and waste disposal loans numbered 9105 and 9107.*

**SEC. 816. NATIONAL SHEEP INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT CEN-****TER.**

(a) *DEFINITIONS.*—Section 375(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) *INTERMEDIARY.*—The term ‘intermediary’ means a financial institution receiving Center funds for establishing a revolving fund and relending to an eligible entity.”.

(b) *REVOLVING FUND.*—Section 375(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The Center may use amounts in the Fund to make direct loans, loan guarantees, cooperative agreements, equity interests, investments, repayable grants, and grants to eligible entities, either directly or through an intermediary, in accordance with a strategic plan submitted under subsection (d).”;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by adding at the end the following: “*The Fund is intended to furnish the initial capital for a revolving fund that will eventually be privatized for the purposes of*

assisting the United States sheep and goat industries.”;

(C) by striking subparagraph (D);

(D) by striking subparagraph (E) and inserting the following:

“(E) ADMINISTRATION.—The Center may not use more than 3 percent of the amounts in the portfolio of the Center for each fiscal year for the administration of the Center. The portfolio shall be calculated at the beginning of each fiscal year and shall include a total of—

“(i) all outstanding loan balances;

“(ii) the Fund balance;

“(iii) the outstanding balance to intermediaries; and

“(iv) the amount the Center paid for all equity interests.”;

(E) in subparagraph (H)—

(i) in clause (v), by striking “or” at the end;

(ii) in clause (vi), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(vii) purchase equity interests.”; and

(F) by redesignating subparagraphs (E) through (H) as subparagraphs (D) through (G), respectively; and

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking subparagraph (D).

(c) *BOARD OF DIRECTORS.*—Section 375(f) of the *Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j(f))* is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) review any contract, direct loan, loan guarantee, cooperative agreement, equity interest, investment, repayable grant, and grant to be made or entered into by the Center and any financial assistance provided to the Center;”;

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) *REAPPOINTMENT.*—A voting member may be reappointed for not more than 1 additional term.”; and

(3) in paragraph (6), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) *REAPPOINTMENT.*—A voting member appointed to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term may be reappointed for 1 full term.”.

(d) *PRIVATIZATION.*—Section 375 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) *PRIVATIZATION.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Privatization of a revolving fund for the purposes of assisting the United States sheep and goat industries shall occur on the earlier of—

“(A) September 30, 2006; or

“(B) the date as of which a total of \$30,000,000 has been appropriated for the Center under subsection (e)(6)(C).

“(2) *PRIVATIZATION PROPOSAL.*—On privatization of a revolving fund in accordance with paragraph (1), the Board shall submit to the Secretary, for approval, a privatization proposal that—

“(A) delineates a private successor entity to the Center; and

“(B) establishes a transition plan.

“(3) *PRIVATE SUCCESSOR ENTITY.*—The private successor entity shall—

“(A) have the purposes described in subsection (c);

“(B) be organized under the laws of 1 of the States; and

“(C) be able to continue the activities of the Center.

“(4) TRANSITION PLAN.—The transition plan shall—

“(A) identify any continuing role of the Federal Government with respect to the Center;

“(B) provide for the transfer of all Center assets and liabilities to the private successor entity; and

“(C) delineate the status of the Board and employees of the Center.

“(5) IMPLEMENTATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—On approval by the Secretary of the private successor entity and the transition plan, the Center shall create the private successor entity and implement the transition plan.

“(B) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall have all necessary authority to implement the transition plan.

“(6) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—On creation of the private successor entity, all funds held by the Department of the Treasury pursuant to this section shall be transferred to the private successor entity.

“(7) *REPEAL.*—On the date the Secretary publishes notice in the Federal Register that the transition plan is complete, this section is repealed.”.

**SEC. 817. FISHERIES.**

(a) *NORTON SOUND FISHERIES FAILURE.*—

(1) *INCOME ELIGIBILITY.*—Section 763(a) of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (112 Stat. 2681–36), is amended by striking “federal poverty level” and inserting “income eligibility level established for Alaska under the temporary assistance to needy families (TANF) program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)”.

(2) *EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.*—Section 1124 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (112 Stat. 2681–45), is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “or a fisheries failure in the Norton Sound region of Alaska that has resulted in the closure of commercial and subsistence fisheries to persons that depend on fish as their primary source of food and income”.

(3) *APPROPRIATION.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*In addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act, there is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture for fiscal year 2001, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended, to provide emergency disaster assistance to persons or entities affected by the 1999 fisheries failure in the Norton Sound region of Alaska.*

(B) *TRANSFER.*—*To carry out this paragraph, the Secretary shall transfer to the Secretary of Commerce for obligation and expenditure—*

(i) *\$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 for grants under section 209 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3149); and*

(ii) *\$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 for carrying out section 312 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861a).*

(b) *COMMERCIAL FISHERIES FAILURE.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*In addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act,*

*there is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture for fiscal year 2001, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be transferred to the Department of Commerce to provide emergency disaster assistance for the commercial fishery failure under section 308(b)(1) of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4107(b)(1)) with respect to Northeast multispecies fisheries.*

*(2) USE.—Amounts made available under this subsection shall be used to support cooperative research and management activities administered by the National Marine Fisheries Services and based on recommendations by the New England Fishery Management Council.*

***SEC. 818. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING FAST-TRACK AUTHORITY AND FUTURE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION NEGOTIATIONS.***

*It is the sense of Congress that—*

- (1) the President should make a formal request for appropriate fast-track authority for future United States trade negotiations;*
- (2) regarding future World Trade Organization negotiations—*

(A) rules for trade in agricultural commodities should be strengthened and trade-distorting import and export practices should be eliminated or substantially reduced;

(B) the rules of the World Trade Organization should be strengthened regarding the practices or policies of a foreign government that unreasonably—

(i) restrict market access for products of new technologies, including products of biotechnology; or

(ii) delay or preclude implementation of a report of a dispute panel of the World Trade Organization; and

(C) negotiations within the World Trade Organization should be structured so as to provide the maximum leverage possible to ensure the successful conclusion of negotiations on agricultural products;

(3) the President should—

(A) conduct a comprehensive evaluation of all existing export and food aid programs, including—

(i) the export credit guarantee program established under section 202 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5622);

(ii) the market access program established under section 203 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 5623);

(iii) the export enhancement program established under section 301 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 5651);

(iv) the foreign market development co-operator program established under section 702 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 5722); and

(v) programs established under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.); and

(B) transmit to Congress—

(i) the results of the evaluation under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) recommendations on maximizing the effectiveness of the programs described in subparagraph (A); and

(4) the Secretary should carry out a purchase and donation or concessional sales initiative in each of fiscal years 1999 and 2000 to promote the export

*of additional quantities of soybeans, beef, pork, poultry, and products of such commodities (including soybean meal, soybean oil, textured vegetable protein, and soy protein concentrates and isolates) using programs established under—*

- (A) *the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.);*
- (B) *section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431);*
- (C) *titles I and II of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and*
- (D) *the Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o).*

## ***Subtitle C—Administration***

### ***SEC. 821. COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.***

*The Secretary shall use the funds, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out this title.*

### ***SEC. 822. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.***

*(a) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary may reserve up to \$56,000,000 of the amounts made available under subtitle A to cover administrative costs incurred by the Farm Service Agency directly related to carrying out that subtitle.*

(b) *PROPORTIONAL RESERVATION.*—The amount reserved by the Secretary from the amounts made available under each section of subtitle A (other than section 802) shall bear the same proportion to the total amount reserved under subsection (a) as the administrative costs incurred by the Farm Service Agency to carry out that section (other than section 802) bear to the total administrative costs incurred by the Farm Service Agency to carry out that subtitle (other than section 802).

(c) *EXCEPTION FOR MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE.*—The Secretary may not reserve any portion of the amount made available under section 802 to pay administrative costs.

**SEC. 823. EMERGENCY REQUIREMENT.**

The entire amount necessary to carry out this title and the amendments made by this title shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request for the entire amount, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress: Provided, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act.

**SEC. 824. REGULATIONS.**

(a) *PROMULGATION.*—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Commodity Credit Corporation, as appropriate, shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement subtitle A and the amendments made by subtitle A. The promulgation of the regulations and administration of subtitle A shall be made without regard to—

- (1) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code;
- (2) 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
- (3) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”).

(b) *CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULEMAKING.*—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall use the authority provided under section 808 of title 5, United States Code.

**SEC. 825. LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY ASSISTANCE.**

(a) *LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE.*—Of the funds provided in sections 801 and 805, no less than \$200,000,000 shall be in the form of assistance to livestock producers for losses due to drought or other natural disasters.

(b) *DAIRY ASSISTANCE.*—*Of the funds provided in section 805, no less than \$125,000,000 shall be in the form of assistance to dairy producers.*

(c) *FORM OF ASSISTANCE.*—*Assistance for livestock losses shall be in the form of grants and or other in-kind assistance, but shall not include loans.*

## ***TITLE IX—LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING***

### ***SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE.***

*This title may be cited as the “Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999”.*

### ***Subtitle A—Livestock Mandatory Reporting***

#### ***SEC. 911. LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING.***

*The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.) is amended—*

*(1) by inserting before section 202 (7 U.S.C. 1621) the following:*

#### ***“Subtitle A—General Provisions”;***

*and*

*(2) by adding at the end the following:*

## **“Subtitle B—Livestock Mandatory Reporting”**

### **“CHAPTER 1—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS”**

#### **“SEC. 211. PURPOSE.”**

*“The purpose of this subtitle is to establish a program of information regarding the marketing of cattle, swine, lambs, and products of such livestock that—*

*“(1) provides information that can be readily understood by producers, packers, and other market participants, including information with respect to the pricing, contracting for purchase, and supply and demand conditions for livestock, livestock production, and livestock products;*

*“(2) improves the price and supply reporting services of the Department of Agriculture; and*

*“(3) encourages competition in the marketplace for livestock and livestock products.*

#### **“SEC. 212. DEFINITIONS.”**

*“In this subtitle:*

*“(1) BASE PRICE.—The term ‘base price’ means the price paid for livestock, delivered at the packing plant, before application of any premiums or discounts, expressed in dollars per hundred pounds of carcass weight.*

“(2) *BASIS LEVEL.*—The term ‘basis level’ means the agreed-on adjustment to a future price to establish the final price paid for livestock.

“(3) *CURRENT SLAUGHTER WEEK.*—The term ‘current slaughter week’ means the period beginning Monday, and ending Sunday, of the week in which a reporting day occurs.

“(4) *F.O.B.*—The term ‘F.O.B.’ means free on board, regardless of the mode of transportation, at the point of direct shipment by the seller to the buyer.

“(5) *LIVESTOCK.*—The term ‘livestock’ means cattle, swine, and lambs.

“(6) *LOT.*—The term ‘lot’ means a group of 1 or more livestock that is identified for the purpose of a single transaction between a buyer and a seller.

“(7) *MARKETING.*—The term ‘marketing’ means the sale or other disposition of livestock, livestock products, or meat or meat food products in commerce.

“(8) *NEGOTIATED PURCHASE.*—The term ‘negotiated purchase’ means a cash or spot market purchase by a packer of livestock from a producer under which—

“(A) the base price for the livestock is determined by seller-buyer interaction and agreement on a day; and

“(B) the livestock are scheduled for delivery to the packer not later than 14 days after the date on which the livestock are committed to the packer.

“(9) NEGOTIATED SALE.—The term ‘negotiated sale’ means a cash or spot market sale by a producer of livestock to a packer under which—

“(A) the base price for the livestock is determined by seller-buyer interaction and agreement on a day; and

“(B) the livestock are scheduled for delivery to the packer not later than 14 days after the date on which the livestock are committed to the packer.

“(10) PRIOR SLAUGHTER WEEK.—The term ‘prior slaughter week’ means the Monday through Sunday prior to a reporting day.

“(11) PRODUCER.—The term ‘producer’ means any person engaged in the business of selling livestock to a packer for slaughter (including the sale of livestock from a packer to another packer).

“(12) REPORTING DAY.—The term ‘reporting day’ means a day on which—

“(A) a packer conducts business regarding livestock committed to the packer, or livestock purchased, sold, or slaughtered by the packer;

“(B) the Secretary is required to make information concerning the business described in subparagraph (A) available to the public; and

“(C) the Department of Agriculture is open to conduct business.

“(13) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Agriculture.

“(14) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of the 50 States.

## **“CHAPTER 2—CATTLE REPORTING**

### **“SEC. 221. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this chapter:

“(1) CATTLE COMMITTED.—The term ‘cattle committed’ means cattle that are scheduled to be delivered to a packer within the 7-day period beginning on the date of an agreement to sell the cattle.

“(2) CATTLE TYPE.—The term ‘cattle type’ means the following types of cattle purchased for slaughter:

“(A) Fed steers.

“(B) Fed heifers.

“(C) *Fed Holsteins and other fed dairy steers and heifers.*

“(D) *Cows.*

“(E) *Bulls.*

“(3) *FORMULA MARKETING ARRANGEMENT.*—The term ‘formula marketing arrangement’ means the advance commitment of cattle for slaughter by any means other than through a negotiated purchase or a forward contract, using a method for calculating price in which the price is determined at a future date.

“(4) *FORWARD CONTRACT.*—The term ‘forward contract’ means—

“(A) an agreement for the purchase of cattle, executed in advance of slaughter, under which the base price is established by reference to—

“(i) prices quoted on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange; or

“(ii) other comparable publicly available prices; or

“(B) such other forward contract as the Secretary determines to be applicable.

“(5) *PACKER.*—The term ‘packer’ means any person engaged in the business of buying cattle in

*commerce for purposes of slaughter, of manufacturing or preparing meats or meat food products from cattle for sale or shipment in commerce, or of marketing meats or meat food products from cattle in an unmanufactured form acting as a wholesale broker, dealer, or distributor in commerce, except that—*

“(A) the term includes only a cattle processing plant that is federally inspected;

“(B) for any calendar year, the term includes only a cattle processing plant that slaughtered an average of at least 125,000 head of cattle per year during the immediately preceding 5 calendar years; and

“(C) in the case of a cattle processing plant that did not slaughter cattle during the immediately preceding 5 calendar years, the Secretary shall consider the plant capacity of the processing plant in determining whether the processing plant should be considered a packer under this chapter.

“(6) PACKER-OWNED CATTLE.—The term ‘packer-owned cattle’ means cattle that a packer owns for at least 14 days immediately before slaughter.

“(7) *TERMS OF TRADE.*—The term ‘terms of trade’ includes, with respect to the purchase of cattle for slaughter—

“(A) whether a packer provided any financing agreement or arrangement with regard to the cattle;

“(B) whether the delivery terms specified the location of the producer or the location of the packer’s plant;

“(C) whether the producer is able to unilaterally specify the date and time during the business day of the packer that the cattle are to be delivered for slaughter; and

“(D) the percentage of cattle purchased by a packer as a negotiated purchase that are delivered to the plant for slaughter more than 7 days, but fewer than 14 days, after the earlier of—

“(i) the date on which the cattle were committed to the packer; or

“(ii) the date on which the cattle were purchased by the packer.

“(8) *TYPE OF PURCHASE.*—The term ‘type of purchase’, with respect to cattle, means—

“(A) a negotiated purchase;

“(B) a formula market arrangement; and

“(C) a forward contract.

**“SEC. 222. MANDATORY REPORTING FOR LIVE CATTLE.**

“(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—The Secretary shall establish a program of live cattle price information reporting that will—

“(1) provide timely, accurate, and reliable market information;

“(2) facilitate more informed marketing decisions; and

“(3) promote competition in the cattle slaughtering industry.

“(b) *GENERAL REPORTING PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO PACKERS AND THE SECRETARY.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Whenever the prices or quantities of cattle are required to be reported or published under this section, the prices or quantities shall be categorized so as to clearly delineate—

“(A) the prices or quantities, as applicable, of the cattle purchased in the domestic market; and

“(B) the prices or quantities, as applicable, of imported cattle.

“(2) *PACKER-OWNED CATTLE.*—Information required under this section for packer-owned cattle shall

include quantity and carcass characteristics, but not price.

“(c) DAILY REPORTING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer processing plant shall report to the Secretary at least twice each reporting day (including once not later than 10:00 a.m. Central Time and once not later than 2:00 p.m. Central Time) the following information for each cattle type:

“(A) The prices for cattle (per hundred-weight) established on that day, categorized by—

“(i) type of purchase;

“(ii) the quantity of cattle purchased on a live weight basis;

“(iii) the quantity of cattle purchased on a dressed weight basis;

“(iv) a range of the estimated live weights of the cattle purchased;

“(v) an estimate of the percentage of the cattle purchased that were of a quality grade of choice or better; and

“(vi) any premiums or discounts associated with—

“(I) weight, grade, or yield; or

“(II) any type of purchase.

“(B) The quantity of cattle delivered to the packer (quoted in numbers of head) on that day, categorized by—

“(i) type of purchase;

“(ii) the quantity of cattle delivered on a live weight basis; and

“(iii) the quantity of cattle delivered on a dressed weight basis.

“(C) The quantity of cattle committed to the packer (quoted in numbers of head) as of that day, categorized by—

“(i) type of purchase;

“(ii) the quantity of cattle committed on a live weight basis; and

“(iii) the quantity of cattle committed on a dressed weight basis.

“(D) The terms of trade regarding the cattle, as applicable.

“(2) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make the information available to the public not less frequently than 3 times each reporting day.

“(d) WEEKLY REPORTING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer proc-

*essing plant shall report to the Secretary, on the first reporting day of each week, not later than 9:00 a.m. Central Time, the following information applicable to the prior slaughter week:*

*“(A) The quantity of cattle purchased through a forward contract that were slaughtered.*

*“(B) The quantity of cattle delivered under a formula marketing arrangement that were slaughtered.*

*“(C) The quantity and carcass characteristics of packer-owned cattle that were slaughtered.*

*“(D) The quantity, basis level, and delivery month for all cattle purchased through forward contracts that were agreed to by the parties.*

*“(E) The range and average of intended premiums and discounts that are expected to be in effect for the current slaughter week.*

*“(2) FORMULA PURCHASES.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer processing plant shall report to the Secretary, on the first reporting day of each week, not later than 9:00 a.m. Central Time, the following information for cattle purchased through a formula marketing ar-*

*rangement and slaughtered during the prior slaughter week:*

“(A) *The quantity (quoted in both numbers of head and hundredweights) of cattle.*

“(B) *The weighted average price paid for a carcass, including applicable premiums and discounts.*

“(C) *The range of premiums and discounts paid.*

“(D) *The weighted average of premiums and discounts paid.*

“(E) *The range of prices paid.*

“(F) *The aggregate weighted average price paid for a carcass.*

“(G) *The terms of trade regarding the cattle, as applicable.*

“(3) *PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make available to the public the information obtained under paragraphs (1) and (2) on the first reporting day of the current slaughter week, not later than 10:00 a.m.*

*Central Time.*

“(e) *REGIONAL REPORTING OF CATTLE TYPES.—*

“(1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall determine whether adequate data can be obtained on a regional basis for fed Holsteins and other fed dairy*

*steers and heifers, cows, and bulls based on the number of packers required to report under this section.*

*“(2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subtitle, 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 determination of the Secretary under paragraph (1).*

**“SEC. 223. MANDATORY PACKER REPORTING OF BOXED**

***BEEF SALES.***

*“(a) DAILY REPORTING.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer processing plant shall 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 boxed beef sales, including—*

*“(1) the price for each lot of each negotiated boxed beef sale (determined by seller-buyer interaction and agreement), quoted in dollars per hundredweight (on a F.O.B. plant basis);*

*“(2) the quantity for each lot of each sale, quoted by number of boxes sold; and*

*“(3) information regarding the characteristics of each lot of each sale, including—*

- “(A) the grade of beef (USDA Choice or better, USDA Select, or ungraded no-roll product);
- “(B) the cut of beef; and
- “(C) the trim specification.

“(b) *PUBLICATION*.—The Secretary shall make available to the public the information required to be reported under subsection (a) not less frequently than twice each reporting day.

### **“CHAPTER 3—SWINE REPORTING**

#### **“SEC. 231. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this chapter:

- “(1) *AFFILIATE*.—The term ‘affiliate’, with respect to a packer, means—
  - “(A) a person that directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds with power to vote, 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting securities of the packer;
  - “(B) a person 5 percent or more of whose outstanding voting securities are directly or indirectly owned, controlled, or held with power to vote, by the packer; and
  - “(C) a person that directly or indirectly controls, or is controlled by or under common control with, the packer.

“(2) APPLICABLE REPORTING PERIOD.—The term ‘applicable reporting period’ means the period of time prescribed by the prior day report, the morning report, and the afternoon report, as required under section 232(c).

“(3) BARROW.—The term ‘barrow’ means a neutered male swine.

“(4) BASE MARKET HOG.—The term ‘base market hog’ means a hog for which no discounts are subtracted from and no premiums are added to the base price.

“(5) BRED FEMALE SWINE.—The term ‘bred female swine’ means any female swine, whether a sow or gilt, that has been mated or inseminated and is assumed, or has been confirmed, to be pregnant.

“(6) FORMULA PRICE.—The term ‘formula price’ means a price determined by a mathematical formula under which the price established for a specified market serves as the basis for the formula.

“(7) GILT.—The term ‘gilt’ means a young female swine that has not produced a litter.

“(8) HOG CLASS.—The term ‘hog class’ means, as applicable—

“(A) barrows or gilts;

“(B) sows; or

“(C) boars or stags.

“(9) NONCARCASS MERIT PREMIUM.—The term ‘noncarcass merit premium’ means an increase in the base price of the swine offered by an individual packer or packing plant, based on any factor other than the characteristics of the carcass, if the actual amount of the premium is known before the sale and delivery of the swine.

“(10) OTHER MARKET FORMULA PURCHASE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘other market formula purchase’ means a purchase of swine by a packer in which the pricing mechanism is a formula price based on any market other than the market for swine, pork, or a pork product.

“(B) INCLUSION.—The term ‘other market formula purchase’ includes a formula purchase in a case in which the price formula is based on 1 or more futures or options contracts.

“(11) OTHER PURCHASE ARRANGEMENT.—The term ‘other purchase arrangement’ means a purchase of swine by a packer that—

“(A) is not a negotiated purchase, swine or pork market formula purchase, or other market formula purchase; and

“(B) does not involve packer-owned swine.

“(12) *PACKER.*—The term ‘packer’ means any person engaged in the business of buying swine in commerce for purposes of slaughter, of manufacturing or preparing meats or meat food products from swine for sale or shipment in commerce, or of marketing meats or meat food products from swine in an unmanufactured form acting as a wholesale broker, dealer, or distributor in commerce, except that—

“(A) the term includes only a swine processing plant that is federally inspected;

“(B) for any calendar year, the term includes only a swine processing plant that slaughtered an average of at least 100,000 swine per year during the immediately preceding 5 calendar years; and

“(C) in the case of a swine processing plant that did not slaughter swine during the immediately preceding 5 calendar years, the Secretary shall consider the plant capacity of the processing plant in determining whether the processing plant should be considered a packer under this chapter.

“(13) *PACKER-OWNED SWINE.*—The term ‘packer-owned swine’ means swine that a packer (includ-

*ing a subsidiary or affiliate of the packer) owns for at least 14 days immediately before slaughter.*

“(14) *PACKER-SOLD SWINE.*—The term ‘packer-sold swine’ means the swine that are—

“(A) owned by a packer (including a subsidiary or affiliate of the packer) for more than 14 days immediately before sale for slaughter; and

“(B) sold for slaughter to another packer.

“(15) *PORK.*—The term ‘pork’ means the meat of a porcine animal.

“(16) *PORK PRODUCT.*—The term ‘pork product’ means a product or byproduct produced or processed in whole or in part from pork.

“(17) *PURCHASE DATA.*—The term ‘purchase data’ means all of the applicable data, including weight (if purchased live), for all swine purchased during the applicable reporting period, regardless of the expected delivery date of the swine, reported by—

“(A) hog class;

“(B) type of purchase; and

“(C) packer-owned swine.

“(18) *SLAUGHTER DATA.*—The term ‘slaughter data’ means all of the applicable data for all swine slaughtered by a packer during the applicable report-

*ing period, regardless of when the price of the swine was negotiated or otherwise determined, reported by—*

- “(A) hog class;
- “(B) type of purchase; and
- “(C) packer-owned swine.

“(19) *SOW.*—The term ‘sow’ means an adult female swine that has produced 1 or more litters.

“(20) *SWINE.*—The term ‘swine’ means a porcine animal raised to be a feeder pig, raised for seedstock, or raised for slaughter.

“(21) *SWINE OR PORK MARKET FORMULA PURCHASE.*—The term ‘swine or pork market formula purchase’ means a purchase of swine by a packer in which the pricing mechanism is a formula price based on a market for swine, pork, or a pork product, other than a future or option for swine, pork, or a pork product.

“(22) *TYPE OF PURCHASE.*—The term ‘type of purchase’, with respect to swine, means—

- “(A) a negotiated purchase;
- “(B) other market formula purchase;
- “(C) a swine or pork market formula purchase; and
- “(D) other purchase arrangement.

**"SEC. 232. MANDATORY REPORTING FOR SWINE.**

"(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—The Secretary shall establish a program of swine price information reporting that will—

"(1) provide timely, accurate, and reliable market information;

"(2) facilitate more informed marketing decisions; and

"(3) promote competition in the swine slaughtering industry.

"(b) *GENERAL REPORTING PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO PACKERS AND THE SECRETARY.*—

"(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall establish and implement a price reporting program in accordance with this section that includes the reporting and publication of information required under this section.

"(2) *PACKER-OWNED SWINE.*—Information required under this section for packer-owned swine shall include quantity and carcass characteristics, but not price.

"(3) *PACKER-SOLD SWINE.*—If information regarding the type of purchase is required under this section, the information shall be reported according to the numbers and percentages of each type of purchase comprising—

“(A) packer-sold swine; and

“(B) all other swine.

“(4) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—

“(A) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall review the information required to be reported by packers under this section at least once every 2 years.

“(B) OUTDATED INFORMATION.—After public notice and an opportunity for comment, subject to subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall promulgate regulations that specify additional information that shall be reported under this section if the Secretary determines under the review under subparagraph (A) that—

“(i) information that is currently required no longer accurately reflects the methods by which swine are valued and priced by packers; or

“(ii) packers that slaughter a significant majority of the swine produced in the United States no longer use backfat or lean percentage factors as indicators of price.

“(C) LIMITATION.—Under subparagraph (B), the Secretary may not require packers to provide any new or additional information that—

“(i) is not generally available or maintained by packers; or  
“(ii) would be otherwise unduly burdensome to provide.

“(c) DAILY REPORTING.—

“(1) PRIOR DAY REPORT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer processing plant shall report to the Secretary, for each business day of the packer, such information as the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate to—

“(i) comply with the publication requirements of this section; and

“(ii) provide for the timely access to the information by producers, packers, and other market participants.

“(B) REPORTING DEADLINE AND PLANTS REQUIRED TO REPORT.—Not later than 7:00 a.m. Central Time on each reporting day, a packer required to report under subparagraph (A) shall report information regarding all swine purchased, priced, or slaughtered during the prior business day of the packer.

“(C) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—The information from the prior business day of a packer required under this paragraph shall include—

“(i) all purchase data, including—

“(I) the total number of—

“(aa) swine purchased; and

“(bb) swine scheduled for delivery; and

“(II) the base price and purchase data for slaughtered swine for which a price has been established;

“(ii) all slaughter data for the total number of swine slaughtered, including—

“(I) information concerning the net price, which shall be equal to the total amount paid by a packer to a producer (including all premiums, less all discounts) per hundred pounds of carcass weight of swine delivered at the plant—

“(aa) including any sum deducted from the price per hundredweight paid to a producer that reflects the repayment of a balance owed by the producer to

*the packer or the accumulation of a balance to later be repaid by the packer to the producer; and*

*“(bb) excluding any sum earlier paid to a producer that must later be repaid to the packer;*

*“(II) information concerning the average net price, which shall be equal to the quotient (stated per hundred pounds of carcass weight of swine) obtained by dividing—*

*“(aa) the total amount paid for the swine slaughtered at a packing plant during the applicable reporting period, including all premiums and discounts, and including any sum deducted from the price per hundredweight paid to a producer that reflects the repayment of a balance owed by the producer to the packer, or the accumulation of a balance to later be repaid by the packer to the producer, less all discounts; by*

“(bb) the total carcass weight  
(in hundred pound increments) of  
the swine;

“(III) information concerning the  
lowest net price, which shall be equal  
to the lowest net price paid for a single  
lot or a group of swine slaughtered at  
a packing plant during the applicable  
reporting period per hundred pounds  
of carcass weight of swine;

“(IV) information concerning the  
highest net price, which shall be equal  
to the highest net price paid for a sin-  
gle lot or group of swine slaughtered at  
a packing plant during the applicable  
reporting period per hundred pounds  
of carcass weight of swine;

“(V) the average carcass weight,  
which shall be equal to the quotient ob-  
tained by dividing—

“(aa) the total carcass weight  
of the swine slaughtered at the  
packing plant during the applica-  
ble reporting period; by

“(bb) the number of the swine described in item (aa); adjusted for special slaughter situations (such as skinning or foot removal), as the Secretary determines necessary to render comparable carcass weights;

“(VI) the average sort loss, which shall be equal to the average discount (in dollars per hundred pounds carcass weight) for swine slaughtered during the applicable reporting period, resulting from the fact that the swine did not fall within the individual packer’s established carcass weight or lot variation range;

“(VII) the average backfat, which shall be equal to the average of the backfat thickness (in inches) measured between the third and fourth from the last ribs, 7 centimeters from the carcass split (or adjusted from the individual packer’s measurement to that reference point using an adjustment made by the Secretary) of the swine

*slaughtered during the applicable reporting period;*

*“(VIII) the average lean percentage, which shall be equal to the average percentage of the carcass weight comprised of lean meat for the swine slaughtered during the applicable reporting period, except that when a packer is required to report the average lean percentage under this subclause, the packer shall make available to the Secretary the underlying data, applicable methodology and formulae, and supporting materials used to determine the average lean percentage, which the Secretary may convert to the carcass measurements or lean percentage of the swine of the individual packer to correlate to a common percent lean measurement; and*

*“(IX) the total slaughter quantity, which shall be equal to the total number of swine slaughtered during the applicable reporting period, including all*

*types of purchases and packer-owned swine; and*

*“(iii) packer purchase commitments, which shall be equal to the number of swine scheduled for delivery to a packer for slaughter for each of the next 14 calendar days.*

*“(D) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish the information obtained under this paragraph in a prior day report not later than 8:00 a.m. Central Time on the reporting day on which the information is received from the packer.*

*“(2) MORNING REPORT.—*

*“(A) IN GENERAL.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer processing plant shall report to the Secretary not later than 10:00 a.m. Central Time each reporting day—*

*“(i) the packer’s best estimate of the total number of swine, and packer-owned swine, expected to be purchased throughout the reporting day through each type of purchase;*

“(ii) the total number of swine, and packer-owned swine, purchased up to that time of the reporting day through each type of purchase;

“(iii) the base price paid for all base market hogs purchased up to that time of the reporting day through negotiated purchases; and

“(iv) the base price paid for all base market hogs purchased through each type of purchase other than negotiated purchase up to that time of the reporting day, unless such information is unavailable due to pricing that is determined on a delayed basis.

“(B) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish the information obtained under this paragraph in the morning report as soon as practicable, but not later than 11:00 a.m. Central Time, on each reporting day.

“(3) AFTERNOON REPORT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer processing plant shall report to the Secretary not later than 2:00 p.m. Central Time each reporting day—

“(i) the packer’s best estimate of the total number of swine, and packer-owned swine, expected to be purchased throughout the reporting day through each type of purchase;

“(ii) the total number of swine, and packer-owned swine, purchased up to that time of the reporting day through each type of purchase;

“(iii) the base price paid for all base market hogs purchased up to that time of the reporting day through negotiated purchases; and

“(iv) the base price paid for all base market hogs purchased up to that time of the reporting day through each type of purchase other than negotiated purchase, unless such information is unavailable due to pricing that is determined on a delayed basis.

“(B) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish the information obtained under this paragraph in the afternoon report as soon as practicable, but not later than 3:00 p.m. Central Time, on each reporting day.

“(d) *WEEKLY NONCARCASS MERIT PREMIUM REPORT.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 4:00 p.m. Central Time on the first reporting day of each week, the corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer processing plant shall report to the Secretary a noncarcass merit premium report that lists—

“(A) each category of standard noncarcass merit premiums used by the packer in the prior slaughter week; and

“(B) the amount (in dollars per hundred pounds of carcass weight) paid to producers by the packer, by category.

“(2) *PREMIUM LIST.*—A packer shall maintain and make available to a producer, on request, a current listing of the dollar values (per hundred pounds of carcass weight) of each noncarcass merit premium used by the packer during the current or the prior slaughter week.

“(3) *AVAILABILITY.*—A packer shall not be required to pay a listed noncarcass merit premium to a producer that meets the requirements for the premium if the need for swine in a given category is filled at a particular point in time.

“(4) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish the information obtained under this subsection as soon as practicable, but not later than 5:00 p.m. Central Time, on the first reporting day of each week.

## **“CHAPTER 4—LAMB REPORTING**

### **“SEC. 241. MANDATORY REPORTING FOR LAMBS.**

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary may establish a program of mandatory lamb price information reporting that will—

“(1) provide timely, accurate, and reliable market information;

“(2) facilitate more informed marketing decisions; and

“(3) promote competition in the lamb slaughtering industry.

“(b) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—If the Secretary establishes a mandatory price reporting program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for comment on proposed regulations to establish the program during the 30-day period beginning on the date of the publication of the proposed regulations.

## **“CHAPTER 5—ADMINISTRATION**

### **“SEC. 251. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

“(a) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The Secretary shall make available to the public information, statistics, and docu-

ments obtained from, or submitted by, packers, retail entities, and other persons under this subtitle in a manner that ensures that confidentiality is preserved regarding—

“(1) the identity of persons, including parties to a contract; and

“(2) proprietary business information.

“(b) *DISCLOSURE BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to paragraph (2), no officer, employee, or agent of the United States shall, without the consent of the packer or other person concerned, divulge or make known in any manner, any facts or information regarding the business of the packer or other person that was acquired through reporting required under this subtitle.

“(2) *EXCEPTIONS.*—Information obtained by the Secretary under this subtitle may be disclosed—

“(A) to agents or employees of the Department of Agriculture in the course of their official duties under this subtitle;

“(B) as directed by the Secretary or the Attorney General, for enforcement purposes; or

“(C) by a court of competent jurisdiction.

“(3) *DISCLOSURE UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.*—Notwithstanding any other provision

*of law, no facts or information obtained under this subtitle shall be disclosed in accordance with section 552 of title 5, United States Code.*

*“(c) REPORTING BY PACKERS.—A packer shall report all information required under this subtitle on an individual lot basis.*

*“(d) REGIONAL REPORTING AND AGGREGATION.—The Secretary shall make information obtained under this subtitle available to the public only in a manner that—*

*“(1) ensures that the information is published on a national and a regional or statewide basis as the Secretary determines to be appropriate;*

*“(2) ensures that the identity of a reporting person is not disclosed; and*

*“(3) conforms to aggregation guidelines established by the Secretary.*

*“(e) ADJUSTMENTS.—Prior to the publication of any information required under this subtitle, the Secretary may make reasonable adjustments in information reported by packers to reflect price aberrations or other unusual or unique occurrences that the Secretary determines would distort the published information to the detriment of producers, packers, or other market participants.*

*“(f) VERIFICATION.—The Secretary shall take such actions as the Secretary considers necessary to verify the*

*accuracy of the information submitted or reported under chapter 2, 3, or 4.*

*“(g) ELECTRONIC REPORTING AND PUBLISHING.—*

*The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide for the reporting and publishing of the information required under this subtitle by electronic means.*

*“(h) REPORTING OF ACTIVITIES ON WEEKENDS AND*

*HOLIDAYS.—*

*“(1) IN GENERAL.—Livestock committed to a packer, or purchased, sold, or slaughtered by a packer, on a weekend day or holiday shall be reported by the packer to the Secretary (to the extent required under this subtitle), and reported by the Secretary, on the immediately following reporting day.*

*“(2) LIMITATION ON REPORTING BY PACKERS.—*

*A packer shall not be required to report actions under paragraph (1) more than once on the immediately following reporting day.*

*“(i) EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this subtitle, the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999, or amendments made by that Act restricts or modifies the authority of the Secretary to—*

*“(1) administer or enforce the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 181 et seq.);*

“(2) administer, enforce, or collect voluntary reports under this title or any other law; or

“(3) access documentary evidence as provided under sections 9 and 10 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 49, 50).

**“SEC. 252. UNLAWFUL ACTS.**

“It shall be unlawful and a violation of this subtitle for any packer or other person subject to this subtitle (in the submission of information required under chapter 2, 3, or 4, as determined by the Secretary) to willfully—

“(1) fail or refuse to provide, or delay the timely reporting of, accurate information to the Secretary (including estimated information);

“(2) solicit or request that a packer, the buyer or seller of livestock or livestock products, or any other person fail to provide, as a condition of any transaction, accurate or timely information required under this subtitle;

“(3) fail or refuse to comply with this subtitle; or

“(4) report estimated information in any report required under this subtitle in a manner that demonstrates a pattern of significant variance in accuracy when compared to the actual information that is reported for the same reporting period, or as deter-

*mined by any audit, oversight, or other verification procedures of the Secretary.*

**“SEC. 253. ENFORCEMENT.**

**“(a) CIVIL PENALTY.—**

*“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any packer or other person that violates this subtitle may be assessed a civil penalty by the Secretary of not more than \$10,000 for each violation.*

*“(2) CONTINUING VIOLATION.—Each day during which a violation continues shall be considered to be a separate violation.*

*“(3) FACTORS.—In determining the amount of a civil penalty to be assessed under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider the gravity of the offense, the size of the business involved, and the effect of the penalty on the ability of the person that has committed the violation to continue in business.*

*“(4) MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS.—In determining whether to assess a civil penalty under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider whether a packer or other person subject to this subtitle has engaged in a pattern of errors, delays, or omissions in violation of this subtitle.*

*“(b) CEASE AND DESIST.—In addition to, or in lieu of, a civil penalty under subsection (a), the Secretary may*

*issue an order to cease and desist from continuing any violation.*

*“(c) NOTICE AND HEARING.—No penalty shall be assessed, or cease and desist order issued, by the Secretary under this section unless the person against which the penalty is assessed or to which the order is issued is given notice and opportunity for a hearing before the Secretary with respect to the violation.*

*“(d) FINALITY AND JUDICIAL REVIEW.—*

*“(1) IN GENERAL.—The order of the Secretary assessing a civil penalty or issuing a cease and desist order under this section shall be final and conclusive unless the affected person files an appeal of the order of the Secretary in United States district court not later than 30 days after the date of the issuance of the order.*

*“(2) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—A finding of the Secretary under this section shall be set aside only if the finding is found to be unsupported by substantial evidence.*

*“(e) ENFORCEMENT.—*

*“(1) IN GENERAL.—If, after the lapse of the period allowed for appeal or after the affirmance of a penalty assessed under this section, the person against which the civil penalty is assessed fails to pay the*

*penalty, the Secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General who may recover the penalty by an action in United States district court.*

*“(2) FINALITY.—In the action, the final order of the Secretary shall not be subject to review.*

*“(f) INJUNCTION OR RESTRAINING ORDER.—*

*“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary has reason to believe that any person subject to this subtitle has failed or refused to provide the Secretary information required to be reported pursuant to this subtitle, and that it would be in the public interest to enjoin the person from further failure to comply with the reporting requirements, the Secretary may notify the Attorney General of the failure.*

*“(2) ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may apply to the appropriate district court of the United States for a temporary or permanent injunction or restraining order.*

*“(3) COURT.—When needed to carry out this subtitle, the court shall, on a proper showing, issue a temporary injunction or restraining order without bond.*

*“(g) FAILURE TO OBEY ORDERS.—*

*“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a person subject to this subtitle fails to obey a cease and desist or civil pen-*

*alty order issued under this subsection after the order has become final and unappealable, or after the appropriate United States district court has entered a final judgment in favor of the Secretary, the United States may apply to the appropriate district court for enforcement of the order.*

*“(2) ENFORCEMENT.—If the court determines that the order was lawfully made and duly served and that the person violated the order, the court shall enforce the order.*

*“(3) CIVIL PENALTY.—If the court finds that the person violated the cease and desist provisions of the order, the person shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each offense.*

***“SEC. 254. FEES.***

*“The Secretary shall not charge or assess a user fee, transaction fee, service charge, assessment, reimbursement, or any other fee for the submission or reporting of information, for the receipt or availability of, or access to, published reports or information, or for any other activity required under this subtitle.*

***“SEC. 255. RECORDKEEPING.***

*“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), each packer required to report information to the Secretary*

*under this subtitle shall maintain, and make available to the Secretary on request, for 2 years—*

*“(1) the original contracts, agreements, receipts and other records associated with any transaction relating to the purchase, sale, pricing, transportation, delivery, weighing, slaughter, or carcass characteristics of all livestock; and*

*“(2) such records or other information as is necessary or appropriate to verify the accuracy of the information required to be reported under this subtitle.*

*“(b) LIMITATIONS.—Under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary may not require a packer to provide new or additional information if—*

*“(1) the information is not generally available or maintained by packers; or*

*“(2) the provision of the information would be unduly burdensome.*

*“(c) PURCHASES OF CATTLE OR SWINE.—A record of a purchase of a lot of cattle or a lot of swine by a packer shall evidence whether the purchase occurred—*

*“(1) before 10:00 a.m. Central Time;*

*“(2) between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Central Time; or*

*“(3) after 2:00 p.m. Central Time.*

**"SEC. 256. VOLUNTARY REPORTING.**

*"The Secretary shall encourage voluntary reporting by packers (as defined in section 201 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 191)) to which the mandatory reporting requirements of this subtitle do not apply.*

**"SEC. 257. PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION ON RETAIL PUR-**

**CHASE PRICES FOR REPRESENTATIVE MEAT  
PRODUCTS.**

*"(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subtitle, the Secretary shall compile and publish at least monthly (weekly, if practicable) information on retail prices for representative food products made from beef, pork, chicken, turkey, veal, or lamb.*

*"(b) INFORMATION.—The report published by the Secretary under subsection (a) shall include—*

*"(1) information on retail prices for each representative food product described in subsection (a); and*

*"(2) information on total sales quantity (in pounds and dollars) for each representative food product.*

*"(c) MEAT PRICE SPREADS REPORT.—During the period ending 2 years after the initial publication of the report required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall continue to publish the Meat Price Spreads Report in the*

*same manner as the Report was published before the date of enactment of this subtitle.*

*“(d) INFORMATION COLLECTION.—*

*“(1) IN GENERAL.—To ensure the accuracy of the reports required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall obtain the information for the reports from 1 or more sources including—*

*“(A) a consistently representative set of retail transactions; and*

*“(B) both prices and sales quantities for the transactions.*

*“(2) SOURCE OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary may—*

*“(A) obtain the information from retailers or commercial information sources; and*

*“(B) use valid statistical sampling procedures, if necessary.*

*“(3) ADJUSTMENTS.—In providing information on retail prices under this section, the Secretary may make adjustments to take into account differences in—*

*“(A) the geographic location of consumption;*

*“(B) the location of the principal source of supply;*

“(C) distribution costs; and

“(D) such other factors as the Secretary determines reflect a verifiable comparative retail price for a representative food product.

“(e) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The Secretary—

“(1) shall collect information under this section only on a voluntary basis; and

“(2) shall not impose a penalty on a person for failure to provide the information or otherwise compel a person to provide the information.

**“SEC. 258. SUSPENSION AUTHORITY REGARDING SPECIFIC TERMS OF PRICE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may suspend any requirement of this subtitle if the Secretary determines that application of the requirement is inconsistent with the purposes of this subtitle.

“(b) **SUSPENSION PROCEDURE.**—

“(1) **PERIOD.**—A suspension under subsection (a) shall be for a period of not more than 240 days.

“(2) **ACTION BY CONGRESS.**—If an Act of Congress concerning the requirement that is the subject of the suspension under subsection (a) is not enacted by the end of the period of the suspension established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall implement the requirement.

**"SEC. 259. FEDERAL PREEMPTION.**

*"In order to achieve the goals, purposes, and objectives of this title on a nationwide basis and to avoid potentially conflicting State laws that could impede the goals, purposes, or objectives of this title, no State or political subdivision of a State may impose a requirement that is in addition to, or inconsistent with, any requirement of this subtitle with respect to the submission or reporting of information, or the publication of such information, on the prices and quantities of livestock or livestock products.".*

**SEC. 912. UNJUST DISQUALIFICATION.**

*Section 202(b) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 192(b)), is amended by striking "whatsoever" each place it appears.*

**SEC. 913. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

*(a) Section 416 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 229a), is repealed.*

*(b) Section 1127 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note; Public Law 105-277), is amended—*

*(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:*

*"(b) EXPORT MARKET REPORTING.—The Secretary shall—*

*“(1) implement a streamlined electronic system for collecting export sales and shipments data, in the least intrusive manner possible, for fresh or frozen muscle cuts of meat food products; and*

*“(2) develop a data-reporting program to disseminate summary information in a timely manner (in the case of beef, consistent with the reporting under section 602(a) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5712(a))).”; and*

*(2) in subsection (c), by striking “this section of the Act” and inserting “subsection (b)”.*

## ***Subtitle B—Related Beef Reporting Provisions***

### ***SEC. 921. BEEF EXPORT REPORTING.***

*Section 602(a)(1) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5712(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “, beef,” after “cotton”.*

### ***SEC. 922. EXPORT CERTIFICATES FOR MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS.***

*Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall fully implement a program, through the use of a streamlined electronic online system, to issue and report export certificates for all meat and meat products.*

**SEC. 923. IMPORTS OF BEEF, BEEF VARIETY MEATS, AND CATTLE.**

(a) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall—*

*(1) obtain information regarding the import of beef and beef variety meats (consistent with the information categories reported for beef exports under section 602(a) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5712(a))) and cattle using available information sources; and*

*(2) publish the information in a timely manner weekly and in a form that maximizes the utility of the information to beef producers, packers, and other market participants.*

(b) *CONTENT.—The published information shall include information reporting the year-to-date cumulative annual imports of beef, beef variety meats, and cattle for the current and prior marketing years.*

**SEC. 924. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

*There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out sections 922 and 923.*

## ***Subtitle C—Related Swine Reporting Provisions***

### ***SEC. 931. IMPROVEMENT OF HOGS AND PIGS INVENTORY***

#### ***REPORT.***

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Effective beginning not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall publish on a monthly basis the Hogs and Pigs Inventory Report.

(b) *GESTATING SOWS.*—The Secretary shall include in a separate category of the Report the number of bred female swine that are assumed, or have been confirmed, to be pregnant during the reporting period.

(c) *PHASE-OUT.*—Effective for a period of 8 quarters after the implementation of the monthly report required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall continue to maintain and publish on a quarterly basis the Hogs and Pigs Inventory Report published on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

### ***SEC. 932. BARROW AND GILT SLAUGHTER.***

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Agriculture shall promptly obtain and maintain, through an appropriate collection system or valid sampling system at packing plants, information on the total slaughter of swine that reflects differences in numbers between barrows and gilts, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) *AVAILABILITY.*—*The information shall be made available to swine producers, packers, and other market participants in a report published by the Secretary not less frequently than weekly.*

(c) *ADMINISTRATION.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall administer the collection and compilation of information, and the publication of the report, required by this section.*

(2) *NONDELEGATION.*—*The Secretary shall not delegate the collection, compilation, or administration of the information required by this section to any packer (as defined in section 201 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 191)).*

**SEC. 933. AVERAGE TRIM LOSS CORRELATION STUDY AND**

**REPORT.**

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Agriculture shall contract with a qualified contractor to conduct a correlation study and prepare a report establishing a baseline and standards for determining and improving average trim loss measurements and processing techniques for pork processors to employ in the slaughter of swine.*

(b) *CORRELATION STUDY AND REPORT.*—*The study and report shall—*

(1) analyze processing techniques that would assist the pork processing industry in improving procedures for uniformity and transparency in how trim loss is discounted (in dollars per hundred pounds carcass weight) by different packers and processors;

(2) analyze slaughter inspection procedures that could be improved so that trimming procedures and policies of the Secretary are uniform to the maximum extent determined practicable by the Secretary;

(3) determine how the Secretary may be able to foster improved breeding techniques and animal handling and transportation procedures through training programs made available to swine producers so as to minimize trim loss in slaughter processing; and

(4) make recommendations that are designed to effect changes in the pork industry so as to achieve continuous improvement in average trim losses and discounts.

(c) *SUBSEQUENT REPORTS ON STATUS OF IMPROVEMENTS AND UPDATES IN BASELINE.*—Not less frequently than once every 2 years after the initial publication of the report required under this section, the Secretary shall make subsequent periodic reports that—

(1) examine the status of the improvement in reducing trim loss discounts in the pork processing industry; and

(2) update the baseline to reflect changes in trim loss discounts.

(d) *SUBMISSION OF REPORTS TO CONGRESS, PRODUCERS, PACKERS, AND OTHERS.*—The reports required under this section shall be made available to—

(1) the public on the Internet;

(2) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;

(3) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(4) producers and packers; and

(5) other market participants.

**SEC. 934. SWINE PACKER MARKETING CONTRACTS.**

*Title II of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 191 et seq.) is amended—*

(1) by inserting before section 201 (7 U.S.C. 191) the following:

**“Subtitle A—General Provisions”;**

and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

***“Subtitle B—Swine Packer  
Marketing Contracts”***

***“SEC. 221. DEFINITIONS.***

“Except as provided in section 223(a), in this subtitle:

“(1) *MARKET*.—The term ‘market’ means the sale or disposition of swine, pork, or pork products in commerce.

“(2) *PACKER*.—The term ‘packer’ has the meaning given the term in section 231 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.

“(3) *PORK*.—The term ‘pork’ means the meat of a porcine animal.

“(4) *PORK PRODUCT*.—The term ‘pork product’ means a product or byproduct produced or processed in whole or in part from pork.

“(5) *STATE*.—The term ‘State’ means each of the 50 States.

“(6) *SWINE*.—The term ‘swine’ means a porcine animal raised to be a feeder pig, raised for seedstock, or raised for slaughter.

“(7) *TYPE OF CONTRACT*.—The term ‘type of contract’ means the classification of contracts or risk management agreements for the purchase of swine by—

“(A) the mechanism used to determine the base price for swine committed to a packer, grouped into practicable classifications by the Secretary (including swine or pork market formula purchases, other market formula purchases, and other purchase arrangements); and

“(B) the presence or absence of an accrual account or ledger that must be repaid by the producer or packer that receives the benefit of the contract pricing mechanism in relation to negotiated prices.

“(8) OTHER TERMS.—Except as provided in this subtitle, a term has the meaning given the term in section 212 or 231 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.

**“SEC. 222. SWINE PACKER MARKETING CONTRACTS OFFERED TO PRODUCERS.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations to carry out this section, the Secretary shall establish and maintain a library or catalog of each type of contract offered by packers to swine producers for the purchase of all or part of the producers’ production of swine (including swine that are purchased or committed for delivery), including all available noncarcass merit premiums.

“(b) *AVAILABILITY.*—The Secretary shall make available to swine producers and other interested persons information on the types of contracts described in subsection (a), including notice (on a real-time basis if practicable) of the types of contracts that are being offered by each individual packer to, and are open to acceptance by, producers for the purchase of swine.

“(c) *CONFIDENTIALITY.*—The reporting requirements under subsections (a) and (b) shall be subject to the confidentiality protections provided under section 251 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.

“(d) *INFORMATION COLLECTION.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall—

“(A) obtain (by a filing or other procedure required of each individual packer) information indicating what types of contracts for the purchase of swine are available from each packer; and

“(B) make the information available in a monthly report to swine producers and other interested persons.

“(2) *CONTRACTED SWINE NUMBERS.*—Each packer shall provide, and the Secretary shall collect and publish in the monthly report required under paragraph (1)(B), information specifying—

“(A) the types of existing contracts for each packer;

“(B) the provisions contained in each contract that provide for expansion in the numbers of swine to be delivered under the contract for the following 6-month and 12-month periods;

“(C) an estimate of the total number of swine committed by contract for delivery to all packers within the 6-month and 12-month periods following the date of the report, reported by reporting region and by type of contract; and

“(D) an estimate of the maximum total number of swine that potentially could be delivered within the 6-month and 12-month periods following the date of the report under the provisions described in subparagraph (B) that are included in existing contracts, reported by reporting region and by type of contract.

“(e) VIOLATIONS.—It shall be unlawful and a violation of this title for any packer to willfully fail or refuse to provide to the Secretary accurate information required under, or to willfully fail or refuse to comply with any requirement of, this section.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as necessary to carry out this section.*

**“SEC. 223. REPORT ON THE SECRETARY’S JURISDICTION,**

**POWER, DUTIES, AND AUTHORITIES.**

“(a) DEFINITION OF PACKER.—*In this section, the term ‘packer’ has the meaning given the term in section 201 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 191).*

“(b) REPORT.—*Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subtitle, the Comptroller General of the United States shall provide 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 jurisdiction, powers, duties, and authorities of the Secretary that relate to packers and other persons involved in procuring, slaughtering, or processing swine, pork, or pork products that are covered by this Act and other laws, including—*

“(1) *the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.), especially sections 6, 8, 9, and 10 of that Act (15 U.S.C. 46, 48, 49, 50); and*

“(2) *the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.).*

*“(c) CONTENTS.—The Comptroller General shall include in the report an analysis of—*

*“(1) burdens on and obstructions to commerce in swine, pork, and pork products by packers, and other persons that enter into arrangements with the packers, that are contrary to, or do not protect, the public interest;*

*“(2) noncompetitive pricing arrangements between or among packers, or other persons involved in the processing, distribution, or sale of pork and pork products, including arrangements provided for in contracts for the purchase of swine;*

*“(3) the effective monitoring of contracts entered into between packers and swine producers;*

*“(4) investigations that relate to, and affect, the disclosure of—*

*“(A) transactions involved in the business conduct and practices of packers; and*

*“(B) the pricing of swine paid to producers by packers and the pricing of products in the pork and pork product merchandising chain;*

*“(5) the adequacy of the authority of the Secretary to prevent a packer from unjustly or arbitrarily refusing to offer a producer, or disqualifying*

*a producer from eligibility for, a particular contract or type of contract for the purchase of swine; and*

*“(6) the ability of the Secretary to cooperate with and enhance the enforcement of actions initiated by other Federal departments and agencies, or Federal independent agencies, to protect trade and commerce in the pork and pork product industries against unlawful restraints and monopolies.”.*

***SEC. 935. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.***

*There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle.*

***Subtitle D—Implementation***

***SEC. 941. REGULATIONS.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall publish final regulations to implement this title and the amendments made by this title.*

*(b) PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish proposed regulations to implement this title and the amendments made by this title.*

*(c) COMMENT PERIOD.—The Secretary shall provide an opportunity for comment on the proposed regulations*

*during the 30-day period beginning on the date of the publication of the proposed regulations.*

*(d) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the comment period, the Secretary shall publish the final regulations and implement this title and the amendments made by this title.*

***SEC. 942. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.***

*The authority provided by this title and the amendments made by this title terminate 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.*

*This Act may be cited as the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000”.*

And the Senate agree to the same.