

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2008

JULY 24, 2007.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Ms. DELAURO, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 3161]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2008.

INTRODUCTION

INVESTING IN RURAL AMERICA

RURAL HOUSING

The Committee held a special hearing to discuss economic conditions in rural America with USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS). A recent ERS report found that 302 of the America's non-metro counties are "housing stressed." ERS said:

In these counties, at least 30 percent of households failed to meet widely used standards for minimum basic amenities in 2000. This categorization of household-level housing stress requires that one or more of the following conditions be met: (1) housing expense/income threshold—expenses exceed 30 percent of income, (2) crowding—more household members than rooms, (3) incomplete plumb-

GA, \$4,000,000; U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, DC, \$1,000,000; University of Toledo Greenhouse and Hydroponic Research Complex, Toledo, OH, \$2,690,000; US Agricultural Research Facility, Knipling-Bushland Laboratory, Kerrville, TX, \$2,000,000; US Agricultural Research Service Laboratory, Canal Point, FL, \$750,000; US Agricultural Research Semce LabOratory, Pullman, WA, \$2,690,000; US Agricultural Research Service Sugarcane Research Laboratory, Houma, LA, \$2,690,000; and US Agricultural Research Station, Salinas, CA, \$2,690,000;

COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE

The budget request for the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) programs totals more than \$1 billion. These programs give support to our universities and to rural communities and help address critical needs. However, the Committee believes that, given the growth in the number of authorized activities funded, there may be programs within CSREES that unnecessarily duplicate the work of other programs in CSREES and that there must be measures of the effectiveness of each program in achieving its goals. While CSREES does have a strategic plan, it does not specify how each program funded contributes to the agency's goals. The Committee requests that the Secretary provide a report by October 1, 2007, describing in clear, concrete terms, what has been achieved in the past and what would be achieved in the future for each activity for which the administration sought funding in the fiscal year 2008 budget.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

2007 appropriation	\$671,419,000
2008 budget estimate	562,518,000
Provided in the bill	671,419,000
Comparison:	
2007 appropriation	---
2008 budget estimate	+108,901,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Research and Education Activities, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$671,419,000, the same as the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$108,901,000 above the budget request.

For payments under the Hatch Act, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$195,817,000, a decrease of \$126,780,000 below the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$31,387,000 above the budget request.

For cooperative forestry research, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$23,318,000, a decrease of \$6,690,000 below the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$2,831,000 above the budget request.

For the Evans-Allen Program, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$42,000,000, an increase of \$1,320,000 above the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$3,669,000 above the budget request.

For the National Research Initiative, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$190,229,000, the same amount as available in fiscal year 2007 and a decrease of \$66,271,000 below the budget request. The Committee directs the Secretary to provide the requested increase for bioenergy and biobased fuels research within the funds provided.

For Hispanic Education Partnership Grants, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$6,237,000, an increase of \$297,000 above the amount available in fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$649,000 above the budget request.

For the Veterinary Medical Services Act, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,000,000, an increase of \$505,000 above the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$1,000,000 above the budget request.

Food safety.—The Committee recognizes the contributions that the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) has made toward ensuring the security of the nation's food supply. The Committee is concerned that, although USDA is fully aware of the public reliance on the database and its importance in maintaining food safety, it has continued to rely on Congress to earmark funds for the initiative, neither requesting funding in its annual budget submission nor providing another source for this information, which relates directly to the department's core mission. The Committee directs USDA to report to the Committees on Appropriations in the House and Senate within 45 days of enactment on its long-term plans to maintain the critical function that FARAD has provided in protecting the U.S. livestock industry from accidental or deliberate contamination.

The following table reflects the amount provided by the Committee:

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Research and Education Activities
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	2007	2008	2008
	<u>enacted</u>	<u>request</u>	<u>Committee recomm.</u>
Hatch Act.....	\$322,597	\$164,430	\$195,817
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry.....	30,008	20,487	23,318
Evans-Allen Program (1890 Colleges and Tuskegee University).....	40,680	38,331	42,000
National Research Initiative.....	190,229	256,500	190,229
Special Research Grants:			
Global Change/ Ultraviolet Radiation.....	0	2,425	2,162
Minor Use Animal Drugs.....	0	582	0
National Biological Impact Assessment Program (VA).....	0	251	0
Other Special Research Grants.....	0	0	92,080
Improved Pest Control:			
Expert IPM Decision Support System.....	155	175	155
Integrated Pest Management.....	2,396	2,698	2,396
Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4).....	10,677	10,380	12,000
Pest Management Alternatives.....	1,422	1,603	1,422
Total, Improved Pest Control.....	<u>14,650</u>	<u>14,856</u>	<u>15,973</u>
Total, Special Research Grants.....	14,650	18,114	110,215
Animal Health and Disease (Sec. 1433).....	5,006	0	5,006
1994 Institutions Research Program.....	1,544	1,067	1,544
Joe Skeen Institute for Rangeland Restoration (NM, TX, MT).....	990	0	0
Graduate Fellowship Grants.....	3,701	4,455	3,701
Institution Challenge Grants.....	5,423	5,445	5,423
Multicultural Scholars Program.....	988	988	988
Hispanic Education Partnership Grants.....	5,940	5,588	6,237
Secondary/2-year Post-secondary.....	990	990	990
Capacity Building Grants (1890 Institutions).....	12,375	12,375	15,000
Payments to the 1994 Institutions (Tribal Colleges).....	3,342	2,227	3,342
Alaska Native-serving and Native Hawaiian-serving			
Education Grants.....	3,218	2,967	3,218
Resident Instruction Grants for Insular Areas.....	495	495	1,000
Veterinary Medical Services Act.....	495	0	1,000
Higher Education Agrosecurity Program.....	0	5,000	0
Subtotal.....	<u>642,671</u>	<u>539,459</u>	<u>609,028</u>

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Research and Education Activities
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	2007	2008	2008
	<u>enacted</u>	<u>request</u>	<u>Committee</u>
			<u>recomm.</u>
Federal Administration:			
Data Information System (REEIS).....	2,561	2,723	2,723
Electronic Grants Administration System.....	2,030	2,151	2,151
Office of Extramural Programs (Grants).....	419	443	443
Pay Costs and FERS.....	4,961	4,248	4,248
Peer Panels.....	307	400	400
Other Federal Administration.....	0	0	34,470
Total, Federal Administration.....	10,278	9,965	44,435
Other:			
Alternative Crops.....	1,175	0	0
Aquaculture Centers (Sec. 1475).....	3,928	3,956	3,956
Critical Agricultural Materials Act.....	1,091	0	0
Sustainable Agriculture.....	12,276	9,138	14,000
Total, Other.....	18,470	13,094	17,956
Total, Research and Education Activities.....	671,419	562,518	671,419

The Committee recommendation includes funding for other Special Research Grants as follows:

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Research and Education Activities
Other Special Research Grants
(Dollars in Thousands)**

Aegilops Cylindrica (Jointed Goatgrass) (WA, ID).....	\$351
Agricultural Diversification (HI).....	219
Agricultural Diversity/Red River Corridor (MN, ND).....	500
Agriculture Science (OH).....	547
Agroecology (MD).....	402
Air Quality (TX, KS).....	1,558
Alternative Uses for Tobacco (MD).....	400
Animal Disease Research (WY).....	347
Animal Science Food Safety Consortium (AR, KS, IA).....	1,418
Apple Fire Blight (MI, NY).....	495
Aquaculture (FL, CA, TX).....	594
Aquaculture (WA, ID).....	756
Aquaculture (LA).....	326
Aquaculture (NC).....	322
Aquaculture (VA).....	198
Armillaria Root Rot (MI).....	149
Asparagus Technology and Production (WA).....	246
Avian Bioscience (DE).....	99
Babcock Institute (WI).....	594
Barley for Rural Development (MT, ID).....	728
Beef Improvement Research (TX, MO).....	990
Biomass-based Energy Research (OK, MS).....	1,188
Biotechnology (NC).....	284
Biotechnology Test Production (IA).....	460
Bovine Tuberculosis (MI).....	352
Brucellosis Vaccine (MT).....	436
Chesapeake Bay Agroecology (MD).....	311
Citrus Canker/Greening (FL).....	1,740
Competitiveness of Agricultural Products (WA).....	672
Computational Agriculture (NY).....	237
Cool Season Legume Research (ID, WA, ND).....	558
Cotton Insect Management (GA).....	489
Cranberry/Blueberry (MA).....	158
Cranberry/Blueberry Disease and Breeding (NJ).....	644
Crop Integration and Production (SD).....	297
Crop Pathogens (NC).....	322
Dairy and Meat Goat Research (TX).....	149
Dairy Farm Profitability (PA).....	495

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Research and Education Activities
Other Special Research Grants
(Dollars in Thousands)**

Designing Foods for Health (TX).....	1,980
Drought Mitigation (NE).....	220
Efficient Irrigation (NM, TX).....	1,658
Environmental Biotechnology (RI).....	637
Environmental Research (NY).....	369
Environmental Risk Factors/Cancer (NY).....	215
Expanded Wheat Pasture (OK).....	320
Feed Efficiency in Cattle (FL).....	396
Feedstock Conversion (SD).....	668
Fish and Shellfish Technologies (VA)	471
Floriculture (HI)	348
Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute (IA, MO).....	1,596
Food Marketing Policy Center (CT).....	573
Food Safety (OK, ME).....	546
Food Safety Research Consortium (NY).....	990
Food Security (WA).....	394
Food Systems Research Group (WI).....	545
Forestry Research (AR).....	456
Fruit and Vegetable Market Analysis (AZ, MO).....	347
Future Foods (IL).....	659
Geographic Information System	1,784
Grain Sorghum (KS, TX).....	729
Grass Seed Cropping for Sustainable Agriculture (WA, OR, ID).....	446
Human Nutrition (IA).....	644
Human Nutrition (LA).....	699
Human Nutrition (NY).....	540
Hydroponic Production (OH).....	177
Illinois-Missouri Alliance for Biotechnology.....	1,158
Improved Dairy Management Practices (PA).....	348
Improved Fruit Practices (MI).....	210
Increasing Shelf Life of Agricultural Commodities (ID).....	854
Infectious Disease Research (CO).....	809
Initiative to Improve Blueberry Production and Efficiency (GA).....	300
Institute for Food Science and Engineering (AR).....	1,108
Institute of Agriculture-Phytosensors for Crop Security (TN).....	250
Integrated Fruit and Vegetable Research (GA).....	253
Integrated Production Systems (OK).....	252
International Arid Lands Consortium (AZ).....	573

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Research and Education Activities
Other Special Research Grants
(Dollars in Thousands)**

Livestock and Dairy Policy (NY, TX).....	990
Livestock Genome Sequencing (IL).....	807
Livestock Waste (IA).....	263
Lowbush Blueberry Research (ME).....	244
Meadow Foam (OR).....	257
Michigan Biotechnology Consortium.....	549
Midwest Poultry Consortium (IA).....	675
Milk Safety (PA).....	780
Molluscan Shellfish (OR).....	361
Multi-commodity Research (OR).....	349
National Beef Cattle Genetic Evaluation Consortium (NY, CO, GA).....	871
Organic Cropping (WA).....	355
Organic Waste Utilization (NM).....	92
Oyster Post Harvest Treatment (FL).....	442
Peach Tree Disease (SC).....	278
Perennial Wheat (WA).....	140
Pest Control Alternatives (SC).....	282
Phytophthora Research (GA).....	255
Phytophthora Research (MI).....	495
Pierce's Disease (CA).....	2,189
Potato Research.....	1,482
Preharvest Food Safety (KS).....	200
Preservation and Processing Research (OK).....	248
Protein Utilization (IA).....	837
Regional Barley Gene Mapping Project (OR).....	675
Regionalized Implications of Farm Programs (MO, TX).....	851
Rice Agronomy (MO).....	248
Ruminant Nutrition Consortium (MT, ND, SD, WY).....	489
Rural Development Centers (LA, ND).....	150
Rural Policies Institute (NE, IA, MO).....	1,193
Russian Wheat Aphid (CO).....	303
Seafood Safety (MA).....	453
Seed Technology (SD).....	356
Small Fruit Research (OR, WA, ID).....	439
Soil and Environmental Quality (DE).....	292
Southwest Consortium for Plant Genetics and Water Resources (NM).....	388
Soybean Cyst Nematode (MO).....	794
Soybean Research (IL).....	1,065

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Research and Education Activities
Other Special Research Grants
(Dollars in Thousands)**

STEEP III – Water Quality in Northwest.....	634
Sudden Oak Death (CA).....	97
Sustainable Agriculture (CA).....	510
Sustainable Agriculture (MI).....	380
Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources (PA).....	188
Sustainable Beef Supply (MT).....	974
Sustainable Engineered Materials from Renewable Sources (VA).....	693
Swine and Other Animal Waste Management (NC).....	484
Tick Borne Disease Prevention (RI).....	149
Tillage, Silviculture, Waste Management (LA).....	495
Tri-state Joint Peanut Research (AL).....	585
Tropical Aquaculture (FL).....	209
Tropical and Subtropical Research/T-Star.....	9,548
Uniform Farm Management Program (MN).....	295
Virtual Plant Database Enhancement Project (MO).....	698
Viticulture Consortium (NY, CA, PA).....	2,079
Water Use Efficiency and Water Quality Enhancements (GA).....	489
Wetland Plants (LA).....	557
Wheat Genetic Research (KS).....	341
Wine Grape Foundation Block (WA).....	319
Wood Utilization (OR, MS, NC, MN, ME, MI, ID, TN, AK, WV).....	6,371
Wool Research (TX, MT, WY).....	295
Total, Other Special Research Grants.....	92,080

The Committee recommendation includes funding for other Federal Administration grants as follows:

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Research and Education Activities
Other Federal Administration
(Dollars in Thousands)**

Ag-based Industrial Lubricants (IA).....	\$544
Agriculture Development in the American Pacific.....	481
Agriculture Water Policy (GA).....	882
Alternative Fuels Characterization Laboratory (ND).....	279
Animal Waste Management (OK).....	392
Applied Agriculture and Environmental Research (CA).....	990
Aquaculture (OH).....	891
Biodesign and Processing Research Center (VA).....	941
Botanical Research (UT).....	891
Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (IA).....	589
Center for Food Industry Excellence (TX).....	1,353
Center for Innovative Food Technology (OH).....	1,134
Center for North American Studies (TX).....	990
Climate Forecasting (FL).....	3,566
Connecticut Oyster Fisheries.....	400
Cotton Research (TX).....	2,475
Dietary Intervention (OH).....	1,238
Greenhouse Nurseries (OH).....	719
High Value Horticultural Crops (VA).....	718
Mariculture (NC).....	314
Monitoring Agricultural Sewage Sludge Application (OH).....	1,200
NE Center for Invasive Plants (CT, VT, ME).....	421
Pasteurization of Shell Eggs (MI).....	1,337
Phytoremediation Plant Research (OH).....	771
PM-10 Study (WA).....	383
Precision Agriculture, Tennessee Valley Research Center (AL).....	593
Shrimp Aquaculture (AZ, HI, MS, MA, SC, LA, TX).....	4,158
Sustainable Agricultural Freshwater Conservation (TX).....	2,050
Vitis Gene Discovery (MO).....	602
Water Quality (ND).....	495
Wetland Plants (WV).....	198
University of Wisconsin -Stevens Point Geographic Information System ...	2,475
Total, Other Federal Administration.....	34,470

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

2007 appropriation	\$12,000,000
2008 budget estimate	11,880,000
Provided in the bill	11,880,000
Comparison:	
2007 appropriation	- 120,000
2008 budget estimate	---

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund, the Committee provides \$11,880,000, a decrease of \$120,000 below the amount available in fiscal year 2007 and the same as the budget request.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

2007 appropriation	\$450,346,000
2008 budget estimate	431,125,000
Provided in the bill	463,886,000
Comparison:	
2007 appropriation	+13,540,000
2008 budget estimate	+32,761,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Extension Activities, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$463,886,000, an increase of \$13,540,000 above the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$32,761,000 above the budget request.

The following table reflects the amount provided by the Committee:

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Extension Activities
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	2007	2008	2008
	<u>enacted</u>	<u>request</u>	<u>Committee</u>
			<u>recomm.</u>
Smith-Lever Sections 3(b) and 3(c).....	\$285,565	\$273,181	\$281,429
Smith-Lever Section 3(d):			
Farm Safety.....	4,517	0	5,000
Food and Nutrition Education (EFNEP).....	63,538	62,280	68,500
Indian Reservation Agents/Federally-recognized Tribes Extension...	3,000	2,970	3,000
New Technologies for Ag Extension.....	1,485	2,970	1,485
Pest Management.....	9,860	10,651	9,860
Sustainable Agriculture.....	4,026	3,754	4,200
Youth at Risk.....	7,651	8,396	8,396
Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification.....	440	494	494
Total Section 3(d) Programs.....	<u>94,517</u>	<u>91,515</u>	<u>100,935</u>
1890 Colleges and Tuskegee.....	35,205	34,073	37,000
1890 Facilities Grants (Sec. 1447).....	16,777	16,609	18,000
Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA).....	4,019	4,052	4,052
Rural Health and Safety Education.....	1,946	0	0
Extension Services at the 1994 Institutions.....	3,321	3,240	3,321
Grants to Youth Organizations.....	1,980	0	1,980
Subtotal.....	<u>443,330</u>	<u>422,670</u>	<u>446,717</u>
Federal Administration and Special Grants:			
Ag in the Classroom.....	0	742	742
General Administration.....	7,016	7,713	7,713
Other Federal Administration.....	0	0	8,714
Total, Federal Administration.....	<u>7,016</u>	<u>8,455</u>	<u>17,169</u>
Total, Extension Activities.....	<u>450,346</u>	<u>431,125</u>	<u>463,886</u>

The Committee recommendation includes funding for other Federal Administration grants as follows:

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Extension Activities
Other Federal Administration
(Dollars in Thousands)

Dairy Education (IA).....	\$227
Diabetes Detection, Prevention (WA).....	1,082
E-commerce (MS).....	328
Efficient Irrigation (NM, TX).....	2,302
Entrepreneurial Alternatives (PA).....	330
Income Enhancement Demonstration (OH).....	1,235
National Wild Turkey Federation.....	232
Nursery Production (RI).....	292
Pilot Technology Transfer (OK, MS).....	297
Pilot Technology Transfer (WI).....	248
Potato Pest Management (WI).....	396
Red Cliff Tribal Hatchery (WI).....	495
Wood Biomass as an Alternative Farm Product (NY).....	186
Total Other Federal Administration.....	<u>7,650</u>

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

2007 appropriation	\$55,234,000
2008 budget estimates	20,120,000
Provided in the bill	57,244,000
Comparison:	
2007 appropriation	+2,010,000
2008 budget estimate	+37,124,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For Integrated Activities, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$57,244,000, an increase of \$2,010,000 above the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and an increase of \$37,124,000 above the budget request.

The following table reflects the amount provided by the Committee:

**Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
Integrated Activities
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	2007	2008	2008
	<u>enacted</u>	<u>request</u>	<u>Committee</u>
			<u>recomm.</u>
Section 406 Legislative Authority:			
Water Quality.....	\$12,738	0	\$12,738
Food Safety.....	14,699	0	14,699
Regional Pest Management Centers.....	4,125	0	4,125
Crops at Risk from FQPA Implementation.....	1,375	0	1,375
FQPA Risk Mitigation Program for Major Food Crop Systems..	4,419	0	4,419
Methyl Bromide Transition Program.....	3,075	0	3,075
Organic Transition Program.....	1,855	0	1,855
Total, Section 406.....	<u>42,286</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>42,286</u>
International Science and Education Grants Program.....	990	\$1,990	3,000
Critical Issues Program.....	737	2,475	737
Regional Rural Development Centers Program.....	1,321	1,378	1,321
Homeland Security, Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative.....	9,900	14,277	9,900
Total, Integrated Activities.....	<u>55,234</u>	<u>20,120</u>	<u>57,244</u>

OUTREACH FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS

2007 appropriation	\$5,940,000
2008 budget estimate	6,930,000
Provided in the bill	6,930,000
Comparison:	
2007 appropriation	+990,000
2008 budget estimate	---

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Outreach for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Program, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$6,930,000, an increase of \$990,000 above the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and the same amount as the budget request.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

2007 appropriation	\$721,000
2008 budget estimate	792,000
Provided in the bill	759,000
Comparison:	
2007 appropriation	+38,000
2008 budget estimate	-33,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$759,000, an increase of \$38,000 above the amount available for fiscal year 2007 and \$33,000 below the budget request.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

2007 appropriation	\$846,230,000
2008 budget estimate	945,550,000
Provided in the bill	874,643,000
Comparison:	
2007 appropriation	+28,413,000
2008 budget estimate	-70,907,000

COMMITTEE PROVISIONS

For the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses, the Committee recommends an appropriation of \$874,643,000, an increase of \$28,413,000 above the amount appropriated in fiscal year 2007, and a decrease of \$70,907,000 below the budget request.

The Committee is aware of the proposal for user fees in the President's budget, but does not recommend establishing such fees in annual appropriations acts and will consider such fees should they achieve authorization.

Audit recommendations not achieving management decision within 180 days.—The Committee has received from the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the record a list of audit reports where management decisions have not been achieved within 180 days. Included on the list were four audit reports for APHIS, with a number of open recommendations. The Committee supports OIG in its