

# APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

## Smith-Lever

*Greater funding needed for the Cooperative Extension System, to help producers, consumers, families, and communities find science-based solutions to problems large and small.*

**E**stablished by Congress in the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, the Cooperative Extension System is a unique educational partnership comprised of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and America's land-grant universities. With offices located in more than 3,000 counties across the United States, Cooperative Extension agents and professionals help producers, consumers, families, and communities find science-based solutions to problems large and small.

The base source of funding for the CES is the annual appropriation provided by Congress to the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) account within the budget for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. These funds are matched at least dollar-for-dollar (most states provide a higher match) and leverage county funds and other public/private monies. Smith-Lever funds are vital to:

- Sustain profitable plant and animal production systems.
- Prepare youth, families and individuals for success in the global workforce and all aspects of life.
- Create pathways to energy independence.
- Ensure an abundant and safe food supply for all.
- Assist in effective decision-making regarding environmental stewardship.
- Assist communities in becoming sustainable and resilient to the uncertainties of economics, weather, health, and security.
- Help families, youth and individuals to become physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy.

Limited federal funding has made it increasingly difficult to maintain basic Extension services in many states. This situation has reached a critical juncture. Smith-Lever funds are the financial backbone of the Cooperative Extension System.

**Measured in constant 2005 dollars, Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) funding has fallen by \$88 million since 1991. Congress must begin to rectify this situation by providing \$350 million in the FY 2011 Agriculture Appropriations bill.**



### A·P·L·U PRIORITY REQUEST FOR FY 2011

Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c).....\$350 M

#### Smith-Lever funding...

- Helps U.S. farmers be the most productive in the world.
- Provides information to consumers on selecting safe and nutritious food and products.
- Attacks obesity and diabetes through nutrition, diet, and exercise.
- Provides citizens access to CES resources 24/7/365 by using cutting-edge technology.
- Enables Extension to respond to emergency needs on farms and in communities.
- Sponsors programs helping farmers and consumers use energy more efficiently.
- Supports 6.5 million youth through 4-H programs in science, engineering, technology, citizenship, and healthy living.
- Saves millions of pounds of unneeded agricultural inputs and improves water quality in America's streams and lakes.
- Helps communities find solutions to issues of economic development and leadership.

For additional information, see page two or email Hunt Shipman (hshipman@cgagroup.com) or Jim Richards (jrichards@cgagroup.com). Phone: 202.448.9500.

# Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)

<b>Appropriations Bill</b>	Agriculture				
<b>Agency</b>	National Institute of Food and Agriculture				
<b>Account</b>	Extension Activities				
<b>Program Name</b>	Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)				
<b>Requested Amount</b>	<b>\$350,000,000</b>				
<b>Authorization</b>	7 U.S.C. 341, (Sections 3(b)-(c) of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, as amended).				
<b>Description</b>	This program provides funding for delivery for Cooperative Extension System's wide array of programs which benefit the people of the United States.				
<b>Benefits/Impacts</b>	<p>Smith-Lever funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Helps U.S. farmers be the most productive and lowest cost producers in the world.</li> <li>■ Provides information to consumers on selecting safe and nutritious food and products.</li> <li>■ Attacks obesity and diabetes through nutrition, diet, and exercise.</li> <li>■ Provides citizens access to CES resources 24/7/365 by using cutting-edge technology.</li> <li>■ Enables Extension to respond to emergency needs on farms and in communities.</li> <li>■ Sponsors programs helping farmers and consumers use energy more efficiently.</li> <li>■ Supports 6.5 million youth through 4-H programs in science, engineering, technology, citizenship, and healthy living.</li> <li>■ Saves millions of pounds of unneeded agricultural inputs and improves water quality in America's streams and lakes.</li> <li>■ Helps communities find solutions to issues of economic development and leadership.</li> </ul>				
<b>Funding History</b>					
<b>FY 2011 President's Budget</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>
\$297,500,000	\$297,500,000	\$288,548,000	\$274,660,000	\$285,565,000	\$272,973,000
<b>Misc. Information</b>					
<b>Matching Funds</b>	States are required to provide at least a one-to-one match; most states provide much more than the minimum.				
<b>Final Recipients</b>	1862 land-grant universities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories.				
<b>Note for Senate Offices</b>	Funding is not being requested for this program through another appropriations bill.				
<b>Additional Information</b>	<a href="http://www.land-grant.org/kb.html">www.land-grant.org/kb.html</a>				

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities represents 218 U.S. universities and has members in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories.