

FY2011 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Hatch Act

Sustained research investment is needed to maintain vibrant agricultural economies relevant to each state and a strong national emergency response capability at land-grant universities and related institutions.

America's national network of state-based, federally-supported food and agricultural research laboratories is the envy of the world. These "State Agricultural Experiment Stations" were established under the Hatch Act of 1887 and receive appropriations through the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). Funds are distributed by statutory formula to each of the 50 states, D.C., and the territories. A dollar-for-dollar match is required from the states, but this is the minimum requirement and many jurisdictions provide a greater amount.

Congress has long agreed with the land-grant system's proposition that strong Hatch Act funding is critical to maintaining vibrant agricultural economies relevant to each state and region with opportunities and needs identified at the state level. Congress has also concurred with our argument that modest growth in the Hatch Act appropriation is essential to maintain a strong national emergency response capability and the research infrastructure required to meet both U.S. imperatives and global food security requirements. Still, as shown below, the Hatch Act appropriation failed to keep pace with inflation for 15 years!

A·P·L·U appreciates the fact that the House has recognized the significant national value of the Hatch Act program by recommending a funding level of \$221.763 million in H.R. 1, the FY2011 Full Year Continuing Resolution.



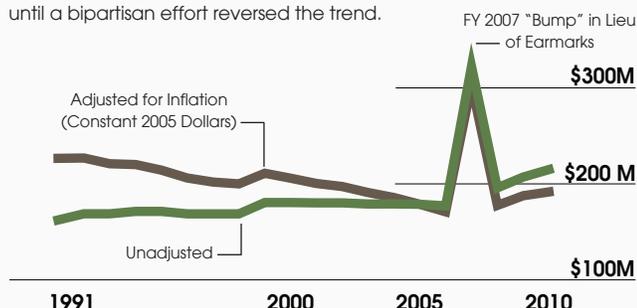
Priority Areas for Hatch Funding Touch Every State:

- Develop new biofuels and bioproducts, enhance energy efficiency and reduce dependence on foreign oil.
- Improve knowledge concerning the complex linkages between food, nutrition, and human health and combat the obesity epidemic.
- Increase productivity to address the global food price crisis.
- Protect America's food supply and ensure our biosecurity.
- Preserve the nation's natural resources.
- Maintain competitiveness of U.S. food, fiber, and fuel producers in global marketplace.

A·P·L·U urges members of the Senate and House to support the highest possible FY2011 Hatch Act appropriation. Since both chambers have instituted an earmark moratorium, we urge the reallocation of these project funds to the Hatch Act account and our other NIFA priorities.

Hatch Act Appropriation Must be Maintained

Basic federal support for State Agriculture Experiment Stations declined over 15 years until a bipartisan effort reversed the trend.



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

www.land-grant.org