

Smith-Lever

As the land-grant system marks its 150th anniversary, sustained funding is critically needed for the Cooperative Extension System, to help producers, consumers, families, and communities find science-based solutions to problems large and small.

Established by Congress in the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, the Cooperative Extension System (CES) is a unique educational partnership of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and America’s land-grant universities. The base source of funding for the CES is the annual Smith-Lever 3(b)-3(c) appropriation 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. Among many other things, Smith-Lever funds are vital to:

- Sustain profitable plant and animal production systems while adapting to varying climate.
- Ensure an abundant and safe food supply for all while conserving valuable soil and water resources.
- Prepare youth for success in the global workforce and all aspects of life.
- Contribute to community economic vitality.
- Help individuals and families improve health.

To mark the sesquicentennial of the land-grant system, A·P·L·U urges Congress to appropriate not less than \$294.000 million for the Smith-Lever program (the same amount as last year) and protect this program from the sequestration that could occur on Jan. 1, 2013.



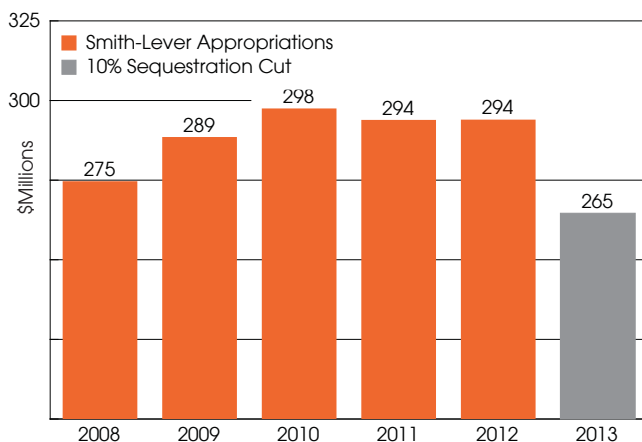
A·P·L·U PRIORITY REQUEST FOR F Y 2013

Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c).....\$294.000 M

A CROSS-SECTION OF SMITH-LEVER SUCCESSES

- Agro-economic studies have shown that each public dollar invested in agricultural research and extension generates \$20 or more in public benefits.
- Water quality in more than 100 watersheds is improving without harming crop productivity and farm profits. In fact, one study showed net farm savings of \$3,000 per year.
- The Master Gardener program annually provides more than 4.5 million volunteer hours, public value of \$96.5 million, and more than 800,000 pounds of produce for local food banks.
- The 6 million 4-H youth and 500,000 volunteers create positive change in every community. And, compared to their peers, 4-H youth are twice as likely to go to college and three times more likely to contribute to their communities.
- Community-based approaches are successfully changing nutritional behaviors, reducing risk factors for chronic disease, and producing significant health care cost savings.

Potential Impact of Sequestration?



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)

Appropriations Bill

Agriculture

Agency

National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Account

Extension Activities

Program

Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)

Requested Amount

\$294,000,000

Program Description

This program provides funding for delivery for Cooperative Extension System's wide array of programs which benefit the people of the United States.

Authorization

7 U.S.C. 341, (Sections 3(b)-(c) of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, as amended).

Eligible / Final Recipients

1862 land-grant universities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories.

Matching Funds

States are required to provide at least a one-to-one match; most states provide much more than the minimum.

President's FY 2013 Budget Request

\$292,411,000

Five-Year Funding History

FY 2012	\$294,000,000
FY 2011	\$293,911,000
FY 2010	\$297,500,000
FY 2009	\$288,548,000
FY 2008	\$274,660,000

A · P · L · U requests that \$294,000,000 be included within FY 2013 Agriculture Appropriations bill for the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) program at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

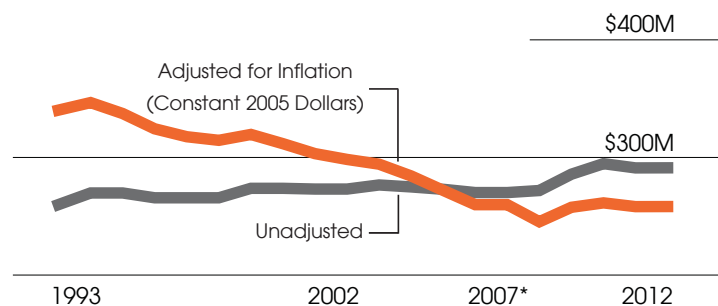
Benefits / Impacts

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 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.
- Provides capacity for rapid response to urgent societal needs, such as the devastation to families and communities as a result of natural disasters.

Smith-Lever Appropriation Must be Maintained

Basic federal support for state Cooperative Extension Services declined for more than 15 years until a bipartisan effort reversed the trend.



*Data for FY 2007 not included in this chart because of a funding anomaly.