

Cornerstone Report from Washington

June 18, 2015

House Subcommittee Approves FY 2016 Agriculture Appropriations Bill

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies met today and approved its FY 2016 spending bill for USDA agencies, including the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. As shown below, the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative would receive a \$10 million boost, all other core funding priorities would remain at FY-15 levels.

Land-Grant NIFA Priorities in House Mark (\$Millions)

Priority	FY 15 Final	FY 16-House
Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)	300.000	300.000
Hatch-Act	243.701	243.701
Evans-Allen (1890s Research)	52.485	52.485
1890 Institutions Extension	43.920	43.920
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	33.961	33.961
1994 Research & Extension	6.247	6.247
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	325.000	335.000
Total	1,005.314	1015.314

Although the bill does provide the funding increases proposed in core capacity lines, it rejects proposed competitive set-asides within those lines. The Subcommittee bill does not fund the proposed Innovation Institutes.

The Subcommittee's discretionary budget allocation is \$20.65 billion, which is \$175 million less than the FY 2015 enacted level and \$1.1 billion below the President's budget request.

Next Steps

The House Appropriations Committee is expected to consider the Agriculture Appropriations bill next week with possible consideration on the House floor in July

As always, we will continue to keep you informed as further developments occur.

THE CORNERSTONE TEAM