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## Senate

### AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001—Continued

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3457, 3933 TO 3457, 3965, 3966, 3967, 3968, 3969, 3970, 3971, 3972, 3973, 3974, 3975, AND 3976, EN BLOC

Mr. COCHRAN. I further ask consent that the Harkin amendment No. 3964 and the other emergency designation amendments now pending at the desk be considered en bloc and agreed to en bloc and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3964) was agreed to.

The amendments, en bloc, were agreed to as follows:

#### AMENDMENT NO. 3457

(Purpose: To provide market and quality loss assistance for certain commodities)

On page 75, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 7. APPLE MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE AND QUALITY LOSS PAYMENTS FOR APPLES AND POTATOES.—(a) APPLE MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to provide relief for loss of markets for apples, the Secretary of Agriculture shall use \$100,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make payments to apple producers.

(2) PAYMENT QUANTITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the payment quantity of apples for which the producers on a farm are eligible for payments under this subsection shall be equal to the average quantity of the 1994 through 1999 crops of apples produced by the producers on the farm.

(B) MAXIMUM QUANTITY.—The payment quantity of apples for which the producers on a farm are eligible for payments under this subsection shall not exceed 1,600,000 pounds of apples produced on the farm.

(b) QUALITY LOSS PAYMENTS FOR APPLES AND POTATOES.—In addition to the assistance provided under subsection (a), the Secretary shall use \$15,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make payments to apple producers, and potato producers, that suffered quality losses to the

1999 crop of potatoes and apples, respectively, due to, or related to, a 1999 hurricane or other weather-related disaster.

(c) NONDUPLICATION OF PAYMENTS.—A producer shall be ineligible for payments under this section with respect to a market or quality loss for apples or potatoes to the extent that the producer is eligible for compensation or assistance for the loss under any other Federal program, other than the Federal crop insurance program established under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).

(d) EMERGENCY REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The entire amount necessary to carry out this section shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request for the entire amount, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.) is transmitted by the President to Congress.

(2) DESIGNATION.—The entire amount necessary to carry out this section is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of that Act (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)).

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I have an amendment which would assist apple growers who suffered losses from fire blight and other weather related and economic damage. The amendment is cosponsored by Senators COLLINS, SCHUMER, GORTON, MURRAY, SNOWE, LEAHY, JEFFORDS, MOYNIHAN, DURBIN, ROCKEFELLER, ROBB, ABRAHAM, and LIEBERMAN. This spring, apple growers in Michigan suffered huge crop losses and damage due to several hail storms which caused thousands of acres of apple trees to be infected with fire blight. Fire blight is a bacterium that has destroyed thousands of acres of fruit trees in Michigan. Experts at Michigan State University anticipate that ¼ of all MI apple farmers have trees that are afflicted by fire blight. As a result of this weather related disaster, many of Michigan's best apple producers face diminished production this fall, and decreased revenues for many years to come. My amendment provides essential assistance for apple

and potato producers that have suffered quantity losses due to fire blight or other weather related disasters. These hardships could not come at a worse time for our nation's apple farmers who, according to USDA, have lost nearly \$1 billion over the past three years due to a variety of factors including diseases, such as fire blight. This legislation also includes assistance for apple and potato farmers who have incurred quality losses due to weather-related disasters.

The Agricultural Risk Protection Act, which President Clinton signed into law, included some emergency assistance for our nation's farmers. However, much remains to be done to address the myriad of problems facing out nation's apple farmers. That is why with 13 cosponsors I have introduced amendment No. 3457 that would provide \$100 million in assistance this year for quantitative losses of our nation's apple farmers. A second degree amendment that would provide \$60 million for qualitative losses, suffered by apple and potato farmers, was attached to my amendment by Senators ABRAHAM and SCHUMER. Articles from a number of Michigan papers show the plight of apple farmers, and mentions the need for direct assistance, in the form of this amendment, to our apple farmers. I ask unanimous consent that these articles be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Herald-Palladium, June 22, 2000]

BAD APPLES: FIRE BLIGHT IS TAKING BITE  
OUT OF AREA CROPS

FARMERS SEEK FEDERAL FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANCE FOR ACRES OF DYING TREES

(By Michael Eliasohn)

WATERVLIIET—The name of Rodney Winkel's farm is Grandview Orchards, but the view these days is far from grand.

A building on Winkel's Bainbridge Township farm Wednesday morning was the location for a meeting of about 80 Southwest Michigan farmers who have the same view—brown dead leaves on dying apple trees.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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