

Throughout the past 150 years, UNUM has stayed true to the charge of its founder Elisha B. Pratt to "find the better way" and is known today as the company that "sees farther."

UNUM has become the world leader in disability insurance and consistently ranks among the best places to work in America.

UNUM has chosen to celebrate its July 17 anniversary by having thousands of its employees volunteer a "Day of Sharing" to more than 200 community service projects in six countries.

UNUM's "Day of Sharing" builds on a record of community partnership that includes contributing more than 75,000 employee volunteer hours during each of the past five years and the UNUM Foundation contributing \$2 million to community programs last year alone.

Not only is UNUM an outstanding and exemplary business leader, providing insurance protection to its customers, it is also an invaluable community partner, improving the communities where its employees have lived and worked for 150 years.

Today, I ask my colleagues in the Senate to join me in congratulating and commending UNUM on its 150th anniversary and its outstanding achievements as a business leader and community partner.●

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I have spoken here many times in the past expressing strong support on the issues of pension reform and pension portability, and I would like to do so again today.

I believe that the accumulation and availability of retirement savings is one of the most significant issues we face in our new economy. Yet while much of the current debate is focused on the viability of the Social Security system—and rightly so—we must not forget that this is only part of the administrative mechanisms we have in place that allow people to move from job to job and take care of their families. As my good friend and colleague from Vermont has already outlined in detail the specifics involved in our Retirement Portability Account bill, I will limit my own comments at this time to some issues I consider to be of special importance.

Currently, employers and employees face three specific problems as individuals attempt to take their retirement funds with them as they change jobs over their career.

The first problem is the specialized rules that have been established for the various kinds of accounts now available to employees. 401(k) plans for the private sector, 403(b) plans for non-profit organizations, 457 plans for state and local government employees, and so on all possess unique characteristics that are beneficial to individual employers and employees, but also make administrative compatibility between the plans problematic.

The second problem concerns control of the funds accumulated by the em-

ployee, that is who is responsible for the paperwork as employees change jobs. This has been one of the foremost concerns of small business owners as they create accounts for a highly-mobile workforce.

The third problem involves the ability of employees to "park" their accumulated funds somewhere until they have a new retirement plan. Here, the key has been to find a convenient way to use so-called "conduit IRA's" as a transfer mechanism into which funds can be transferred on their way to a different retirement savings plan.

The Retirement Account Portability bill offered by Senator JEFFORDS and I has been developed to remedy these problems and more. This bill—a companion bill to the bipartisan bill introduced by our House colleagues, Representatives EARL POMEROY and JIM KOLBE—is designed to accomplish two very specific and very important goals.

First, the bill will begin the removal of the all too numerous and overly complex barriers that prevent employees from taking their retirement savings with them as they switch jobs. By both eliminating the redtape in the IRS Tax Code that unduly compartmentalizes various plan options and enhancing the effectiveness of conduit IRA's, it will allow individuals to roll their accumulated funds over into accounts at their current place of employment.

This offers two tangible outcomes. First, it allows employees to keep track of their savings in an efficient manner. Second, it alleviates the burden placed on employers in terms of tracking and managing accounts of individuals that have moved on to other jobs. Based on discussions with my constituents, these represent dramatic improvements to current law, and, most significantly, allows individuals the opportunity to take advantage of the best investment options available to them.

The second goal of the bill is, in my view, equally important. As you know, I believe that an internationally competitive economy entails first and foremost an effective diffusion of knowledge between firms and within regions. In the most dynamic regions in our country—Silicon Valley, Route 128, the Research Triangle—this is accomplished primarily by the movement of individuals from firm to firm and the iterative and cumulative interaction that results. This activity should be encouraged in every way possible, and the elimination of restrictions that prevent pension portability will assist in this effort.

In conclusion, let me say that I consider this bill to be an initial but very important step to where we want to go in this country in terms of our savings policy. Our overarching goal is to increase the financial security of all Americans and create an economic environment where each and every individual can prosper.

I would like to thank Senator JEFFORDS on the effort he has expended in

crafting this bill, and I look forward to working with him in the future on ever more effective legislation.●

#### AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

The text of the bill (H.R. 4101), as amended and passed by the Senate on July 16, 1998, is as follows:

*Resolved*, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 4101) entitled "An Act to making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.", do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

*That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, namely:*

##### TITLE I

##### AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

##### PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING

##### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, and not to exceed \$75,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$2,836,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$11,000 of this amount, along with any unobligated balances of representation funds in the Foreign Agricultural Service, shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary.*

##### EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

##### CHIEF ECONOMIST

*For necessary expenses of the Chief Economist, including economic analysis, risk assessment, cost-benefit analysis, and the functions of the World Agricultural Outlook Board, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622g), and including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$5,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$5,048,000.*

##### NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

*For necessary expenses of the National Appeals Division, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$25,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$11,718,000.*

##### OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

*For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$5,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$5,986,000.*

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$5,551,000.*

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

*For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section*

706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$4,283,000: Provided, That the Chief Financial Officer shall actively market cross-servicing activities of the National Finance Center.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration to carry out the programs funded by this Act, \$613,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES AND RENTAL PAYMENTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 486, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for the operation, maintenance, and repair of Agriculture buildings, \$132,184,000: Provided, That in the event an agency within the Department should require modification of space needs, the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer a share of that agency's appropriation made available by this Act to this appropriation, or may transfer a share of this appropriation to that agency's appropriation, but such transfers shall not exceed 5 percent of the funds made available for space rental and related costs to or from this account. In addition, for construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the programs of the Department, where not otherwise provided, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended; making a total appropriation of \$137,184,000.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9607(g), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6961, \$15,700,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Waste Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For Departmental Administration, \$27,034,000, to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration and disaster management of the Department, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 is for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided, That this appropriation shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551-558.

OUTREACH FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279), \$3,000,000, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional

Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch, \$3,668,000: Provided, That no other funds appropriated to the Department by this Act shall be available to the Department for support of activities of congressional relations: Provided further, That not less than \$2,241,000 shall be transferred to agencies funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry on services relating to the coordination of programs involving public affairs, for the dissemination of agricultural information, and the coordination of information, work, and programs authorized by Congress in the Department, \$8,138,000, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), of which not to exceed \$10,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, and not to exceed \$2,000,000 may be used for farmers' bulletins.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$63,128,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, including a sum not to exceed \$50,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; and including a sum not to exceed \$125,000, for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95-452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97-98: Provided, That funds transferred to the Office of the Inspector General through forfeiture proceedings or from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund or the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund, as a participating agency, as an equitable share from the forfeiture of property in investigations in which the Office of the Inspector General participates, or through the granting of a Petition for Remission or Mitigation, shall be deposited to the credit of this account for law enforcement activities authorized under the Inspector General Act of 1978, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, \$28,759,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND ECONOMICS

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Economic Research Service, the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the Agricultural Research Service, and the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, \$540,000.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service in conducting economic research and analysis, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627) and other laws, \$53,109,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225).

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service in conducting statistical reporting and service work, including crop and livestock estimates, statistical coordination and improvements, marketing surveys, and the Census of Agriculture, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-

1627), the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-113), and other laws, \$103,964,000, of which up to \$23,599,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$40,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to enable the Agricultural Research Service to perform agricultural research and demonstration relating to production, utilization, marketing, and distribution (not otherwise provided for); home economics or nutrition and consumer use including the acquisition, preservation, and dissemination of agricultural information; and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, \$768,221,000: Provided, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for temporary employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$115,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed \$250,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to \$1,000,000, and except for ten buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed \$500,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or \$250,000, whichever is greater: Provided further, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, including an easement to the University of Maryland to construct the Transgenic Animal Facility which upon completion shall be accepted by the Secretary as a gift: Provided further, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): Provided further, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law. None of the funds in the foregoing paragraph shall be available to carry out research related to the production, processing or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products.

In the fiscal year 1999, the agency is authorized to charge fees, commensurate with the fair market value, for any permit, easement, lease, or other special use authorization for the occupancy or use of land and facilities (including land and facilities at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center) issued by the agency, as authorized by law, and such fees shall be credited to this account, and remain available until expended, for authorized purposes.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research

programs of the Department of Agriculture, where not otherwise provided, \$31,930,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); Provided, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing any research facility of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law, and an additional \$13,500,000 is provided to be available on October 1, 1999 under the provisions of this paragraph.

COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, including \$173,796,000 to carry into effect the provisions of the Hatch Act (7 U.S.C. 361a-i); \$21,112,000 for grants for cooperative forestry research (16 U.S.C. 582a-a7); \$28,567,000 for payments to the 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University (7 U.S.C. 3222); \$51,400,000 for special grants for agricultural research (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)); \$15,048,000 for special grants for agricultural research on improved pest control (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)); \$92,200,000 for competitive research grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)); \$4,918,000 for the support of animal health and disease programs (7 U.S.C. 3195); \$550,000 for supplemental and alternative crops and products (7 U.S.C. 3319d); \$600,000 for grants for research pursuant to the Critical Agricultural Materials Act of 1984 (7 U.S.C. 178) and section 1472 of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3318), to remain available until expended; \$3,000,000 for higher education graduate fellowship grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(6)), to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); \$4,350,000 for higher education challenge grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)); \$1,000,000 for a higher education multicultural scholars program (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(5)), to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); \$2,500,000 for an education grants program for Hispanic-serving Institutions (7 U.S.C. 3241); \$1,000,000 for a secondary agriculture education program (7 U.S.C. 3152 (h)); \$4,000,000 for aquaculture grants (7 U.S.C. 3322); \$8,000,000 for sustainable agriculture research and education (7 U.S.C. 5811); \$9,200,000 for a program of capacity building grants (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(4)) to colleges eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C. 321–326 and 328), including Tuskegee University, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b); \$1,494,000 for payments to the 1994 Institutions pursuant to section 534(a)(1) of Public Law 103–382; and \$10,247,000 for necessary expenses of Research and Education Activities, of which not to exceed \$100,000 shall be for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; in all, \$432,982,000: Provided, That of the \$2,000,000 made available for a food safety competitive research program at least \$550,000 shall be available for research on E.coli:0157H7.

None of the funds in the foregoing paragraph shall be available to carry out research related to the production, processing or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products.

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

For establishment of a Native American institutions endowment fund, as authorized by Public Law 103–382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), \$4,600,000.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, and American Samoa: For payments for cooperative extension work under the Smith-Lever Act, to be distributed under sections 3(b) and 3(c) of said Act, and under section 208(c) of Public Law 93–471, for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents and for costs of penalty mail for cooperative extension agents and State extension directors, \$276,548,000; payments for extension work at the 1994 Institutions

under the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3)), \$2,060,000; payments for the nutrition and family education program for low-income areas under section 3(d) of the Act, \$58,695,000; payments for the pest management program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$10,783,000; payments for the farm safety program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$2,855,000; payments for the pesticide impact assessment program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$3,214,000; payments to upgrade 1890 land-grant college research, extension, and teaching facilities as authorized by section 1447 of Public Law 95–113 (7 U.S.C. 3222b), \$8,304,000, to remain available until expended; payments for the rural development centers under section 3(d) of the Act, \$908,000; payments for a groundwater quality program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$9,061,000; payments for the agricultural telecommunications program, as authorized by Public Law 101–624 (7 U.S.C. 5926), \$900,000; payments for youth-at-risk programs under section 3(d) of the Act, \$9,554,000; payments for a food safety program under section 3(d) of the Act, \$2,365,000; payments for carrying out the provisions of the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978, \$3,192,000; payments for Indian reservation agents under section 3(d) of the Act, \$1,756,000; payments for sustainable agriculture programs under section 3(d) of the Act, \$3,309,000; payments for rural health and safety education as authorized by section 2390 of Public Law 101–624 (7 U.S.C. 2661 note, 2662), \$2,628,000; payments for cooperative extension work by the colleges receiving the benefits of the second Morrill Act (7 U.S.C. 321–326 and 328) and Tuskegee University, \$25,843,000; and for Federal administration and coordination including administration of the Smith-Lever Act, and the Act of September 29, 1977 (7 U.S.C. 341–349), and section 1361(c) of the Act of October 3, 1980 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), and to coordinate and provide program leadership for the extension work of the Department and the several States and insular possessions, \$10,206,000; in all, \$432,181,000: Provided, That funds hereby appropriated pursuant to section 3(c) of the Act of June 26, 1953, and section 506 of the Act of June 23, 1972, shall not be paid to any State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, or the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, and American Samoa prior to availability of an equal sum from non-Federal sources for expenditure during the current fiscal year.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs to administer programs under the laws enacted by the Congress for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Agricultural Marketing Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, \$618,000.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, including those pursuant to the Act of February 28, 1947 (21 U.S.C. 114b–c), necessary to prevent, control, and eradicate pests and plant and animal diseases; to carry out inspection, quarantine, and regulatory activities; to discharge the authorities of the Secretary of Agriculture under the Act of March 2, 1931 (46 Stat. 1468; 7 U.S.C. 426–426b); and to protect the environment, as authorized by law, \$419,473,000, of which \$3,099,000 shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions: Provided, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for

field employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$40,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed four, of which two shall be for replacement only: Provided further, That, in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with the Act of February 28, 1947, and section 102 of the Act of September 21, 1944, and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the next preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building: Provided further, That, of the amounts made available under this heading, not less than \$22,970,000 shall be used for fruit fly exclusion and detection.

In fiscal year 1999, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

Of the total amount available under this heading in fiscal year 1999, \$88,000,000 shall be derived from user fees deposited in the Agricultural Quarantine Inspection User Fee Account.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, \$4,200,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service shall enter into a cooperative agreement for construction of a Federal large animal biosafety level-3 containment facility in Iowa.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses to carry on services related to consumer protection, agricultural marketing and distribution, transportation, and regulatory programs, as authorized by law, and for administration and coordination of payments to States; including field employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$90,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$45,567,000, including funds for the wholesale market development program for the design and development of wholesale and farmer market facilities for the major metropolitan areas of the country: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701).

**LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES**

Not to exceed \$59,521,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: Provided, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Appropriations Committees.

**FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c) shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of August 8, 1956; (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than \$10,998,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961.

**PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS**

For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), \$1,200,000.

**GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the United States Grain Standards Act, for the administration of the Packers and Stockyards Act, for certifying procedures used to protect purchasers of farm products, and the standardization activities related to grain under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, including field employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$25,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$26,390,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

**INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES**

**LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICE EXPENSES**

Not to exceed \$42,557,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: Provided, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Appropriations Committees.

**OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY**

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, \$446,000.

**FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses to carry on services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, \$605,149,000, and in addition, \$1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1017 of Public Law 102-237: Provided, That this appropriation shall not be available for shell egg surveillance under section 5(d) of the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1034(d)): Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for field employment pursuant to the sec-

ond sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$75,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

**OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES**

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services to administer the laws enacted by Congress for the Farm Service Agency, the Foreign Agricultural Service, the Risk Management Agency, and the Commodity Credit Corporation, \$572,000.

**FARM SERVICE AGENCY  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs administered by the Farm Service Agency, \$710,842,000: Provided, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: Provided further, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: Provided further, That these funds shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.

**STATE MEDIATION GRANTS**

For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (7 U.S.C. 5101-5106), \$2,000,000.

**DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers for milk or cows producing such milk and manufacturers of dairy products who have been directed to remove their milk or dairy products from commercial markets because it contained residues of chemicals registered and approved for use by the Federal Government, and in making indemnity payments for milk, or cows producing such milk, at a fair market value to any dairy farmer who is directed to remove his milk from commercial markets because of: (1) the presence of products of nuclear radiation or fallout if such contamination is not due to the fault of the farmer; or (2) residues of chemicals or toxic substances not included under the first sentence of the Act of August 13, 1968 (7 U.S.C. 450j), if such chemicals or toxic substances were not used in a manner contrary to applicable regulations or labeling instructions provided at the time of use and the contamination is not due to the fault of the farmer, \$450,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Provided, That none of the funds contained in this Act shall be used to make indemnity payments to any farmer whose milk was removed from commercial markets as a result of the farmer's willful failure to follow procedures prescribed by the Federal Government: Provided further, That this amount shall be transferred to the Commodity Credit Corporation: Provided further, That the Secretary is authorized to utilize the services, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation for the purpose of making dairy indemnity disbursements.

**AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND  
PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by

7 U.S.C. 1928-1929, to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$510,649,000, of which \$425,000,000 shall be for guaranteed loans; operating loans, \$1,788,378,000, of which \$992,906,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans and \$235,000,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans; Indian tribe land acquisition loans as authorized by 25 U.S.C. 488, \$1,000,000; for emergency insured loans, \$25,000,000 to meet the needs resulting from natural disasters; and for boll weevil eradication program loans as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1989, \$40,000,000.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$19,580,000, of which \$6,758,000 shall be for guaranteed loans; operating loans, \$70,337,000, of which \$11,518,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans and \$20,539,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans; Indian tribe land acquisition loans as authorized by 25 U.S.C. 488, \$153,000; for emergency insured loans, \$5,900,000 to meet the needs resulting from natural disasters; and for boll weevil eradication program loans as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1989, \$576,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$219,861,000, of which \$209,861,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

**RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING EXPENSES**

For administrative and operating expenses, as authorized by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 6933), \$64,000,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$700 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).

**CORPORATIONS**

The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.

**FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND**

For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b).

**COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND**

**REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES**

For fiscal year 1999, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed (estimated to be \$8,439,000,000 in the President's fiscal year 1999 Budget Request (H. Doc. 105-177)), but not to exceed \$8,439,000,000, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11).

**OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT**

For fiscal year 1999, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than \$5,000,000 for expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9607(g), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6961: Provided, That expenses shall be for operations and maintenance costs only and that other hazardous waste management costs shall be paid for by the USDA Hazardous Waste Management appropriation in this Act.

## DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to provide assistance to agricultural producers in a county with respect to which a disaster or emergency was declared by the President or the Secretary of Agriculture by July 15, 1998, as a result of drought and fire, through—

(1) the forestry incentives program established under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.), \$9,000,000;

(2) a livestock indemnity program carried out in accordance with part 1439 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, \$300,000;

(3) the emergency conservation program authorized under sections 401, 402, and 404 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201, 2202, 2204), \$2,000,000; and

(4) the disaster reserve assistance program established under section 813 of the Agricultural Act of 1970 (7 U.S.C. 1427a), \$10,000,000;

to remain available until expended: Provided, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent that the President submits to Congress an official budget request for a specific dollar amount that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.): Provided further, That the entire amount of funds necessary to carry out this paragraph is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement under section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)).

## RESERVE INVENTORIES

For the reserve established under section 813 of the Agricultural Act of 1970 (7 U.S.C. 1427a), \$500,000,000: Provided, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent that the President submits to Congress an official budget request for a specific dollar amount that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.): Provided further, That the entire amount of funds necessary to carry out this paragraph is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement under section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)).

## TITLE II

## CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, \$693,000.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for carrying out the programs administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, including the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 428a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft,

\$638,664,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b), of which not less than \$5,835,000 is for snow survey and water forecasting and not less than \$9,025,000 is for operation and establishment of the plant materials centers: Provided, That, of the total amount appropriated, \$433,000 shall be used, along with prior year appropriations provided for this project, to complete construction of the Alderson Plant Materials Center, Alderson, West Virginia: Provided, further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed \$250,000: Provided further, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for technical assistance and related expenses to carry out programs authorized by section 202(c) of title II of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act of 1974 (43 U.S.C. 1592(c)): Provided further, That no part of this appropriation may be expended for soil and water conservation operations under the Act of April 27, 1935 in demonstration projects: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$25,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That qualified local engineers may be temporarily employed at per diem rates to perform the technical planning work of the Service (16 U.S.C. 590e-2).

## WATERSHED SURVEYS AND PLANNING

For necessary expenses to conduct research, investigation, and surveys of watersheds of rivers and other waterways, and for small watershed investigations and planning, in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act approved August 4, 1954 (16 U.S.C. 1001-1009), \$11,190,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$110,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.

## WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out preventive measures, including but not limited to research, engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, rehabilitation of existing works and changes in use of land, in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act approved August 4, 1954 (16 U.S.C. 1001-1005, 1007-1009), the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), and in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to the activities of the Department, \$101,036,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b) (of which up to \$15,000,000 may be available for the watersheds authorized under the Flood Control Act approved June 22, 1936 (33 U.S.C. 701, 16 U.S.C. 1006a)): Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$200,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That not to exceed \$1,000,000 of this appropriation is available to carry out the purposes of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-205), including cooperative efforts as contemplated by that Act to relocate endangered or threatened species to other suitable habitats as may be necessary to expedite project construction.

## RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses in planning and carrying out projects for resource conservation and development and for sound land use pursuant to the provisions of section 32(e) of title III of the

Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010-1011; 76 Stat. 607), the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), and the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3451-3461), \$34,377,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$50,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.

## FORESTRY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to carry out the program of forestry incentives, as authorized by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101), including technical assistance and related expenses, \$6,325,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized by that Act.

## TITLE III

RURAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMSOFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development to administer programs under the laws enacted by the Congress for the Rural Housing Service, the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and the Rural Utilities Service of the Department of Agriculture, \$588,000.

RURAL COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1926, 1926a, 1926c, and 1932, except for sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009f), \$702,601,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$29,786,000 shall be for rural community programs described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act; of which \$622,522,000 shall be for the rural utilities programs described in section 381E(d)(2) of such Act; and of which \$47,893,000 shall be for the rural business and cooperative development programs described in section 381E(d)(3) of such Act: Provided, That of the amount appropriated for the rural business and cooperative development programs, not to exceed \$500,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, 3 percent shall be reserved for federally recognized Indian tribes through July 31, 1999, and if not used by Indian tribes shall be available for use by other qualified applicants: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$70,000 shall be available under 7 U.S.C. 381O and shall be used only for demonstration programs: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated for rural utilities programs, not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall be for water and waste disposal systems to benefit the Colonias along the United States/Mexico border, including grants pursuant to section 306C of such Act; not to exceed \$25,000,000 shall be for water and waste disposal systems for rural and native villages in Alaska pursuant to section 306D of such Act; not to exceed \$16,215,000 shall be for technical assistance grants for rural waste systems pursuant to section 306(a)(14) of such Act; and not to exceed \$5,200,000 shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, \$2,800,000 shall be available for a community improvement project in Arkansas: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$33,926,000 shall be available through June 30, 1999, for empowerment zones and enterprise communities, as authorized by Public Law 103-66, of which \$1,844,000 shall be for rural community programs described in section

381E(d)(1) of such Act; of which \$24,900,100 shall be for the rural utilities programs described in section 381E(d)(2) of such Act; of which \$8,134,000 shall be for the rural business and cooperative development programs described in section 381E(d)(3) of such Act.

RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM  
ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: \$4,000,000,000 for loans to section 502 borrowers, as determined by the Secretary, of which \$3,000,000,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; \$30,000,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; \$75,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; \$15,758,000 for section 514 farm labor housing; \$128,640,000 for section 515 rental housing; \$5,000,000 for section 524 site loans; \$25,000,000 for credit sales of acquired property, of which up to \$4,000,000 may be for multi-family credit sales; and \$5,000,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, \$120,900,000, of which \$2,700,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; section 504 housing repair loans, \$10,569,000; section 538 multi-family housing guaranteed loans, \$1,740,000; section 514 farm labor housing, \$8,199,000; section 515 rental housing, \$62,069,000; section 524 site loans, \$16,000; credit sales of acquired property, \$3,826,000, of which up to \$1,932,000 may be for multi-family credit sales; and section 523 self-help housing land development loans, \$282,000: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated in this paragraph, \$10,380,100 shall be for empowerment zones and enterprise communities, as authorized by Public Law 103-66: Provided further, That if such funds are not obligated for empowerment zones and enterprise communities by June 30, 1999, they shall remain available for other authorized purposes under this head.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$360,785,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Housing Service, Salaries and Expenses".

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) or agreements entered into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, \$583,397,000; and, in addition, such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: Provided, That of this amount, not more than \$5,900,000 shall be available for debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Act, and not to exceed \$10,000 per project for advances to nonprofit organizations or public agencies to cover direct costs (other than purchase price) incurred in purchasing projects pursuant to section 502(c)(5)(C) of the Act: Provided further, That agreements entered into or renewed during fiscal year 1999 shall be funded for a five-year period, although the life of any such agreement may be extended to fully utilize amounts obligated.

MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), \$26,000,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Provided, That

of the total amount appropriated, \$1,000,000 shall be for empowerment zones and enterprise communities, as authorized by Public Law 103-66: Provided further, That if such funds are not obligated for empowerment zones and enterprise communities by June 30, 1999, they shall remain available for other authorized purposes under this head.

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For grants and contracts for housing for domestic farm labor, very low-income housing repair, supervisory and technical assistance, compensation for construction defects, and rural housing preservation made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, 1479(c), 1486, 1490e, and 1490m, \$45,720,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,372,000 shall be for empowerment zones and enterprise communities, as authorized by Public Law 103-66: Provided further, That if such funds are not obligated for empowerment zones and enterprise communities by June 30, 1999, they shall remain available for other authorized purposes under this head.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Rural Housing Service, including administering the programs authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, title V of the Housing Act of 1949, and cooperative agreements, \$60,978,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$520,000 may be used for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That the Administrator may expend not more than \$10,000 to provide modest nonmonetary awards to non-USDA employees.

RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND PROGRAM  
ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, \$16,615,000, as authorized by the Rural Development Loan Fund (42 U.S.C. 9812(a)): Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans of \$33,000,000: Provided further, That through June 30, 1999, of the total amount appropriated, \$3,215,520 shall be available for the cost of direct loans for empowerment zones and enterprise communities, as authorized by title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, \$7,246,000: Provided further, That if such funds are not obligated for empowerment zones and enterprise communities by June 30, 1999, they shall remain available for other authorized purposes under this head.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, \$3,482,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Salaries and Expenses".

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM  
ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, \$23,000,000.

For the cost of direct loans, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, \$5,801,000.

Of the funds derived from interest on the cushion of credit payments in fiscal year 1999, as authorized by section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, \$3,783,000 shall not be obligated and \$3,783,000 are rescinded.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), \$3,000,000, of which \$1,300,000 shall be available for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program and \$250,000 shall be available for an agribusiness and cooperative development program.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, including administering the programs authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act; section 1323 of the Food Security Act of 1985; the Cooperative Marketing Act of 1926; for activities relating to the marketing aspects of cooperatives, including economic research findings, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946; for activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements; \$25,680,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$260,000 may be used for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.

ALTERNATIVE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND  
COMMERCIALIZATION CORPORATION REVOLVING  
FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5901-5908), \$7,000,000 are appropriated to the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Corporation Revolving Fund.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Insured loans pursuant to the authority of section 305 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935) shall be made as follows: 5 percent rural electrification loans, \$71,500,000; 5 percent rural telecommunications loans, \$75,000,000; cost of money rural telecommunications loans, \$250,000,000; municipal rate rural electric loans, \$295,000,000; and loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural electric, \$700,000,000 and rural telecommunications, \$120,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, including the cost of modifying loans, of direct and guaranteed loans authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935 and 936), as follows: cost of direct loans, \$16,667,000; cost of municipal rate loans, \$25,842,000; cost of money rural telecommunications loans, \$675,000: Provided, That notwithstanding section 305(d)(2) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, borrower interest rates may exceed 7 percent per year.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$29,982,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Utilities Service, Salaries and Expenses".

RURAL TELEPHONE BANK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The Rural Telephone Bank is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available to such corporation in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as may be necessary in carrying out its authorized programs. During fiscal year 1999 and within the resources and authority available, gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans shall be \$140,000,000.

For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, including the

cost of modifying loans, of direct loans authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935), \$3,710,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the loan programs, \$3,000,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Utilities Service, Salaries and Expenses".

**DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM**

For the cost of direct loans and grants, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., \$12,680,000, to remain available until expended, to be available for loans and grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas: Provided, That the costs of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Rural Utilities Service, including administering the programs authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, and the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, and for cooperative agreements, \$33,000,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$105,000 may be used for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.

**TITLE IV**

**DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS**

**OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION AND CONSUMER SERVICES**

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Food and Nutrition Service, \$554,000.

**CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For necessary expenses to carry out the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; \$9,219,897,000, to remain available through September 30, 2000, of which \$4,171,747,000 are hereby appropriated and \$5,048,150,000 shall be derived by transfer from funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c): Provided, That up to \$4,300,000 shall be available for independent verification of school food service claims: Provided further, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available unless the value of bonus commodities provided under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (49 Stat. 774, chapter 641; 7 U.S.C. 612c), and section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431) is included in meeting the minimum commodity assistance requirement of section 6(g) of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1755(g)).

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)**

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), \$3,948,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2000: Provided, That up to \$15,000,000 may be used to carry out the farmers' market nutrition program: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay administrative expenses of WIC clinics, except those that have an announced policy of prohibiting smoking within the space used to carry out the program: Provided further, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM**

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food Stamp Act (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), \$23,781,806,000,

of which \$100,000,000 shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: Provided, That not to exceed \$5,700,000 of the funds made available under this head shall be used for studies and evaluations: Provided further, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food Stamp Act: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: Provided further, That funds made available for Employment and Training under this head shall remain available until expended, as authorized by section 16(h)(1) of the Food Stamp Act.

**COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

For necessary expenses to carry out the commodity supplemental food program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note) and the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983, \$141,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2000: Provided, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the program.

**FOOD DONATIONS PROGRAMS FOR SELECTED GROUPS**

For necessary expenses to carry out section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note), and section 311 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030a), \$141,081,000, to remain available through September 30, 2000.

**FOOD PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

For necessary administrative expenses of the domestic food programs funded under this Act, \$109,069,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall be available only for simplifying procedures, reducing overhead costs, tightening regulations, improving food stamp coupon handling, and assistance in the prevention, identification, and prosecution of fraud and other violations of law: Provided, That this appropriation shall be available for employment pursuant to the second sentence of section 706(a) of the Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2225), and not to exceed \$150,000 shall be available for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109.

**TITLE V**

**FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS**

**FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE AND GENERAL SALES MANAGER**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including carrying out title VI of the Agricultural Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1761-1768), market development activities abroad, and for enabling the Secretary to coordinate and integrate activities of the Department in connection with foreign agricultural work, including not to exceed \$128,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$131,795,000: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated, up to \$2,000,000 is available solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates and these funds and any other funds that are deposited into the overseas exchange rate account shall be available until expended: Provided further, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1736) and the foreign assistance programs of the International Development Cooperation Administration (22 U.S.C. 2392).

None of the funds in the foregoing paragraph shall be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products.

**PUBLIC LAW 480 PROGRAM AND GRANT ACCOUNTS (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691, 1701-1704, 1721-1726a, 1727-1727e, 1731-1736g-3, and 1737), as follows: (1) \$203,475,000 for Public Law 480 title I credit, including Food for Progress programs; (2) \$17,608,000 is hereby appropriated for ocean freight differential costs for the shipment of agricultural commodities pursuant to title I of said Act and the Food for Progress Act of 1985; (3) \$837,000,000 is hereby appropriated for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad pursuant to title II of said Act; and (4) \$30,000,000 is hereby appropriated for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad pursuant to title III of said Act: Provided, That not to exceed 15 percent of the funds made available to carry out any title of said Act may be used to carry out any other title of said Act: Provided further, That such sums shall remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b).

For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct credit agreements as authorized by the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, including the cost of modifying credit agreements under said Act, \$176,596,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the Public Law 480 title I credit program, and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, to the extent funds appropriated for Public Law 480 are utilized, \$1,850,000, of which \$1,035,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Foreign Agricultural Service and General Sales Manager" and \$815,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

**COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's export guarantee program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, \$3,820,000; to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, of which \$3,231,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Foreign Agricultural Service and General Sales Manager" and \$589,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

**TITLE VI**

**RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; and for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$25,000; \$1,072,640,000, of which not to exceed \$132,273,000 in fees pursuant to section 736 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act may be credited to this appropriation and remain available until expended: Provided, That fees derived from applications received during fiscal

year 1999 shall be subject to the fiscal year 1999 limitation: Provided further, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701.

In addition, fees pursuant to section 354 of the Public Health Service Act may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

In addition, fees pursuant to section 801 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, \$12,350,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b).

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

##### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICE

##### PAYMENTS TO THE FARM CREDIT SYSTEM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CORPORATION

For necessary payments to the Farm Credit System Financial Assistance Corporation by the Secretary of the Treasury, as authorized by section 6.28(c) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, for reimbursement of interest expenses incurred by the Financial Assistance Corporation on obligations issued through 1994, as authorized, \$2,565,000.

#### INDEPENDENT AGENCY

##### COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; and not to exceed \$25,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; \$61,000,000, including not to exceed \$1,000 for official reception and representation expenses: Provided, That the Commission is authorized to charge reasonable fees to attendees of Commission sponsored educational events and symposia to cover the Commission's costs of providing those events and symposia, and notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, said fees shall be credited to this account, to be available without further appropriation.

#### TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations made for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year 1999 under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed 440 passenger motor vehicles, of which 437 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles.

SEC. 702. Funds in this Act available to the Department of Agriculture shall be available for uniforms or allowances therefor as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 703. Not less than \$1,500,000 of the appropriations of the Department of Agriculture in this Act for research and service work authorized by the Acts of August 14, 1946, and July 28, 1954 (7 U.S.C. 427, 1621–1629), and by chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available for contracting in accordance with said Acts and chapter.

SEC. 704. The cumulative total of transfers to the Working Capital Fund for the purpose of accumulating growth capital for data services and National Finance Center operations shall not exceed \$2,000,000: Provided, That no funds in this Act appropriated to an agency of the Department shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the approval of the agency administrator.

SEC. 705. New obligatory authority provided for the following appropriation items in this Act shall remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b): Animal and Plant Health Inspection

Service, the contingency fund to meet emergency conditions, fruit fly program, integrated systems acquisition project, and up to \$2,000,000 for costs associated with collocating regional offices; Farm Service Agency, salaries and expenses funds made available to county committees; and Foreign Agricultural Service, middle-income country training program.

New obligatory authority for the boll weevil program; up to 10 percent of the screwworm program of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; Food Safety and Inspection Service, field automation and information management project; funds appropriated for rental payments; funds for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund in the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; and funds for the competitive research grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)), shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 706. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 707. Not to exceed \$50,000 of the appropriations available to the Department of Agriculture in this Act shall be available to provide appropriate orientation and language training pursuant to Public Law 94–449.

SEC. 708. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SEC. 709. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, commodities acquired by the Department in connection with Commodity Credit Corporation and section 32 price support operations may be used, as authorized by law (15 U.S.C. 714c and 7 U.S.C. 612c), to provide commodities to individuals in cases of hardship as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 710. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to restrict the authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation to lease space for its own use or to lease space on behalf of other agencies of the Department of Agriculture when such space will be jointly occupied.

SEC. 711. With the exception of grants awarded under the Small Business Innovation Development Act of 1982, Public Law 97–219 (15 U.S.C. 638), none of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs on research grants awarded competitively by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service that exceed 14 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award.

SEC. 712. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, all loan levels provided in this Act shall be considered estimates, not limitations.

SEC. 713. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in fiscal year 1999 shall remain available until expended to cover obligations made in fiscal year 1999 for the following accounts: the rural development loan fund program account; the Rural Telephone Bank program account; the rural electrification and telecommunications loans program account; and the rural economic development loans program account.

SEC. 714. Such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 1999 pay raises for programs funded by this Act shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated by this Act.

SEC. 715. Notwithstanding the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act, marketing services of the Agricultural Marketing Service and

the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service may use cooperative agreements to reflect a relationship between the Agricultural Marketing Service or the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and a State or Cooperator to carry out agricultural marketing programs or to carry out programs to protect the Nation's animal and plant resources.

SEC. 716. None of the funds in this Act may be used to retire more than 5 percent of the Class A stock of the Rural Telephone Bank or to maintain any account or subaccount within the accounting records of the Rural Telephone Bank the creation of which has not specifically been authorized by statute: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer to the Treasury or to the Federal Financing Bank any unobligated balance of the Rural Telephone Bank telephone liquidating account which is in excess of current requirements and such balance shall receive interest as set forth for financial accounts in section 505(c) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990.

SEC. 717. Hereafter, none of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture may be used to provide assistance to, or to pay the salaries of personnel who carry out a market promotion/market access program pursuant to section 203 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5623) that provides assistance to the United States Mink Export Development Council or any mink industry trade association.

SEC. 718. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than \$1,350,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.

SEC. 719. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to carry out the provisions of section 918 of Public Law 104–127, the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act.

SEC. 720. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 721. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-Department of Agriculture employee questions or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process.

SEC. 722. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board.

SEC. 723. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 1999, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds which: (1) creates new programs; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed

by Federal employees; unless the Appropriations Committees of both Houses of Congress are notified fifteen days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 1999, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that: (1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities; (2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or (3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Appropriations Committees of both Houses of Congress are notified fifteen days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

SEC. 724. Hereafter, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise available to the Department of Agriculture may be used to administer the provision of contract payments to a producer under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) for contract acreage on which wild rice is planted unless the contract payment is reduced by an acre for each contract acre planted to wild rice.

SEC. 725. The Federal facility located in Stuttgart, Arkansas, and known as the "United States National Rice Germplasm Evaluation and Enhancement Center", shall be known and designated as the "Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center": Provided, That any reference in law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to such federal facility shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center".

SEC. 726. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Agriculture, subject to the reprogramming requirements established by this Act, may transfer up to \$26,000,000 in discretionary funds made available by this Act among programs of the Department, not otherwise appropriated for a specific purpose or a specific location, for distribution to or for the benefit of the Lower Mississippi Delta Region, as defined in Public Law 100-460, prior to normal state or regional allocation of funds: Provided, That any funds made available through Chapter Four of Title III, Subtitle D of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 may be included in any amount reprogrammed under this section if such funds are used for a purpose authorized by such Chapter.

SEC. 727. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 793 of Public Law 104-127.

SEC. 728. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to enroll in excess of 120,000 acres in the fiscal year 1999 wetlands reserve program as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 3837.

SEC. 729. Notwithstanding section 27(a) of the Food Stamp Act, the amount specified for allocation under such section for fiscal year 1999 shall be \$80,000,000.

SEC. 730. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a conservation farm option program, as authorized by section 335 of Public Law 104-127.

SEC. 731. Public Law 102-237, Title X, Section 1013(a) and (b) (7 U.S.C. 426 note) is amended by striking ", to the extent practicable," in each instance in which it appears.

SEC. 732. Funds made available for conservation operations by this or any other Act, including prior-year balances, shall be available for financial assistance and technical assistance for Franklin County, Mississippi, in the amounts earmarked in appropriations report language.

SEC. 733. Notwithstanding section 381A of Public Law 104-127, the definitions of rural areas for certain business programs administered by the Rural Business-Cooperative Service and the community facilities programs administered by the Rural Housing Service shall be those provided for in statute and regulations prior to the enactment of Public Law 104-127.

SEC. 734. Section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926d) is amended by inserting "25 percent in" in lieu of "equal" in subsection (b), and by inserting "\$25,000,000" in lieu of "\$15,000,000" in subsection (d).

SEC. 735. None of the funds made available to the Food and Drug Administration by this Act shall be used to close or relocate, or to plan to close or relocate, the Food and Drug Administration Division of Drug Analysis in St. Louis, Missouri.

SEC. 736. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to carry out any commodity purchase program which would prohibit participation by a farmer-owned cooperative.

SEC. 737. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act for any fiscal year may be used to carry out section 302(h) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622(h)) unless the Secretary of Agriculture inspects and certifies agricultural processing equipment, and imposes a fee for the inspection and certification, in a manner that is similar to the inspection and certification of agricultural products under that section, as determined by the Secretary: Provided, That this provision shall not affect the authority of the Secretary to carry out the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.), or the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031 et seq.).

SEC. 738. (a) AMENDMENT OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.—Section 102(b)(2)(D) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2799aa-1(b)(2)(D)) is amended—

- (1) in clause (i) by striking "or" at the end;
- (2) in clause (ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting "; or"; and
- (3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following: "(iii) to any credit, credit guarantee, or other financial assistance provided by the Department of Agriculture for the purchase or other provision of food or other agricultural commodities."

(b) The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to any credit, credit guarantee, or other financial assistance approved by the Department of Agriculture before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) Amounts made available by this section are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended: Provided, That such amounts shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress.

SEC. 739. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to require any producer to pay an administrative fee for catastrophic risk protection under section 508(b)(5)(A) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(b)(5)(A)) in an amount that is greater than \$50 per crop per county.

SEC. 740. Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted or construed to alter the current implementation of the Wetlands Reserve Program, unless expressly provided herein.

SEC. 741. That notwithstanding section 4703(d)(1) of title 5, United States Code, the per-

sonnel management demonstration project established in the Department of Agriculture, as described at 55 FR 9062 and amended at 61 FR 9507 and 61 FR 49178, shall be continued indefinitely and become effective upon enactment of this Act.

SEC. 742. (a) The first sentence of section 509(f)(4)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1479(f)(4)(A)) is amended by striking "fiscal year 1998" and inserting "fiscal year 1999".

(b) Section 515(b)(4) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485(b)(4)) is amended by striking "September 30, 1998" and inserting "September 30, 1999".

(c) The first sentence of section 515(w)(1) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485(w)(1)) is amended by striking "fiscal year 1998" and inserting "fiscal year 1999".

(d) Section 538 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490p-2) is amended—

- (1) in subsection (t), by striking "fiscal year 1998" and inserting "fiscal year 1999"; and
- (2) in subsection (u), by striking "September 30, 1998" and inserting "September 30, 1999".

SEC. 743. METHYL BROMIDE ALTERNATIVES RESEARCH. (a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Agricultural Research Service, shall conduct a review of the methyl bromide alternatives research conducted by the Secretary that describes—

(1) the amount of funds expended by the Secretary since January 1, 1990, on methyl bromide alternatives research, including a description of the amounts paid for salaries, expenses, and actual research;

(2) plot and field scale testing of methyl bromide alternatives conducted by the Secretary since January 1, 1990, including a description of—

(A) the total amount of funds expended for the testing;

(B) the amount of funds expended for the testing as a portion of a larger project or independently of other projects; and

(C) the results of the testing and the impact of the results on future research; and

(3) variables that impact the effectiveness of methyl bromide alternatives, including a description of—

(A) the individual variables; and

(B) the plan of the Secretary for addressing each of the variables during the plot and field scale testing conducted by the Secretary.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriations committees of both Houses of Congress a report that describes the results of the review conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 744. SENSE OF SENATE ON DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR TEXAS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS. (a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) the statewide economic impact of the drought on agriculture in the State of Texas could be more than \$4,600,000,000 in losses, according to the Agricultural Extension Service of the State;

(2) the direct loss of income to agricultural producers in the State is \$1,500,000,000;

(3) the National Weather Service has reported that all 10 climatic regions in the State have received below-average rainfall from March through May of 1998, a critical time in the production of corn, cotton, sorghum, wheat, and forage;

(4) the total losses for cotton producers in the State have already reached an estimated \$500,000,000;

(5) nearly half of the rangeland in the State (as of May 31, 1998) was rated as poor or very poor as a result of the lack of rain;

(6) the value of lost hay production in the State will approach an estimated \$175,000,000 statewide, leading to an economic impact of \$582,000,000;

(7) dryland fruit and vegetable production losses in East Texas have already been estimated at \$33,000,000;

(8) the early rains in many parts of the State produced a large quantity of forage that is now extremely dry and a dangerous source of fuel for wildfires; and

(9) the Forest Service of the State has indicated that over half the State is in extreme or high danger of wildfires due to the drought conditions.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Agriculture should—

(1) streamline the drought declaration process to provide necessary relief to the State of Texas as quickly as is practicable;

(2) ensure that local Farm Service Agency offices in the State are equipped with full-time and emergency personnel in drought-stricken areas to assist agricultural producers with disaster loan applications;

(3) direct the Forest Service, and request the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to assist the State in repositioning fire fighting equipment and other appropriate resources in affected counties of the State;

(4) authorize haying and grazing on acreage in the State that is enrolled in the conservation reserve program carried out under section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831); and

(5) convene experts within the Department of Agriculture to develop and implement an emergency plan for the State to help prevent wildfires and to overcome the economic impact of the continuing drought by providing assistance from the Department in a rapid and efficient manner for producers that are suffering from drought conditions.

SEC. 745. Section 1237D(c)(1) of subchapter C of the Food Security Act of 1985 is amended by inserting after "perpetual" the following "or 30-year".

SEC. 746. Section 1237(b)(2) of subchapter C of the Food Security Act of 1985 is amended by adding the following:

"(C) For purposes of subparagraph (A), to the maximum extent practicable should be interpreted to mean that acceptance of wetlands reserve program bids may be in proportion to landowner interest expressed in program options."

SEC. 747. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION REFORM ACT OF 1998. (a) FOREST AND RANGELAND RENEWABLE RESOURCES RESEARCH.—Section 3(d)(3) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1642(d)(3)) (as amended by section 253(b) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998) is amended by striking "The Secretary" and inserting "At the request of the Governor of the State of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, or Vermont, the Secretary".

(b) HONEY RESEARCH, PROMOTION, AND CONSUMER INFORMATION.—Section 7(e)(2) of the Honey Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act (7 U.S.C. 4606(e)(2)) (as amended by section 605(f)(3) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998) is amended by striking "\$0.0075" each place it appears and inserting "\$0.01".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on the date of enactment of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998.

SEC. 748. None of the funds appropriated by this Act or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's Budget submission to the Congress of the United States for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the Budget unless such Budget submission identifies

which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2000 appropriations Act.

SEC. 749. PILOT PROGRAM TO PERMIT HAYING AND GRAZING ON CONSERVATION RESERVE LAND. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE STATE.—The term "eligible State" means any State that is approved by the Secretary for inclusion in the pilot program under subsection (b), except that the term shall not apply to more than 7 States.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(3) STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE.—The term "State technical committee" means the State technical committee for a State established under section 1261 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3861).

(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding section 1232(a)(7) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832(a)(7)), during the 4-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, on application by an owner or operator of a farm or ranch located in an eligible State who has entered into a contract with the Secretary under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of that Act (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.)—

(1) the Secretary shall permit harvesting and grazing on land on the farm or ranch that the Secretary determines has a sufficiently established cover to permit harvesting or grazing without undue harm to the purposes of the contract if—

(A) no land under the contract will be harvested or grazed more than once in a 4-year period;

(B) the owner or operator agrees to a payment reduction under that subchapter in an amount determined by the Secretary; and

(C) the owner or operator agrees to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary, in consultation with the State technical committee for the State, may establish to ensure that the harvesting or grazing is consistent with the purposes of the program established under that subchapter;

(2) the Secretary may permit grazing on land under the contract if—

(A) the grazing is incidental to the gleaning of crop residues;

(B) the owner or operator agrees to a payment reduction in annual rental payments that would otherwise be payable under that subchapter in an amount determined by the Secretary; and

(C) the owner or operator agrees to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary, in consultation with the State technical committee for the State, may establish to ensure that the grazing is consistent with the purposes of the program established under that subchapter; and

(3) the Secretary shall permit harvesting on land on the farm or ranch that the Secretary determines has a sufficiently established cover to permit harvesting without undue harm to the purposes of the contract if—

(A) land under the contract will be harvested not more than once annually for recovery of biomass used in energy production;

(B) the owner or operator agrees to a payment reduction under that subchapter in an amount determined by the Secretary; and

(C) the owner or operator agrees to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary, in consultation with the State technical committee for the State, may establish to ensure that the harvesting is consistent with the purposes of the program established under that subchapter.

(c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER HAYING AND GRAZING AUTHORITY.—During the 4-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, land that is located in an eligible State shall not be eligible for harvesting or grazing under section 1232(a)(7) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832(a)(7)).

(d) CONSERVATION PRACTICES AND TIMING RESTRICTIONS.—Not later than March 1 of each

year, the Secretary, in consultation with the State technical committee for an eligible State, shall determine any conservation practices and timing restrictions that apply to land in the State that is harvested or grazed under subsection (b).

(e) STUDY.—The Secretary shall make available not more than \$100,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to contract with the game, fish, and parks department of an eligible State to conduct an analysis of the program conducted under this section (based on information provided by all eligible States).

(f) REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue such regulations as are necessary to implement this Act.

(2) PROCEDURE.—The issuance of the regulations shall be made without regard to—

(A) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code;

(B) the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804), relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking; or

(C) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the "Paperwork Reduction Act").

SEC. 750. EGG GRADING AND SAFETY. (a) PROHIBITION ON PREVIOUS SHIPMENT OF SHELL EGGS UNDER VOLUNTARY GRADING PROGRAM.—Section 203(h) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following: "Shell eggs packed under the voluntary grading program of the Department of Agriculture shall not have been shipped for sale previous to being packed under the program, as determined under a regulation promulgated by the Secretary."

(b) REPORT ON EGG SAFETY AND REPACKAGING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall submit a joint status report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that describes actions taken by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services—

(1) to enhance the safety of shell eggs and egg products;

(2) to prohibit the grading, under the voluntary grading program of the Department of Agriculture, of shell eggs previously shipped for sale; and

(3) to assess the feasibility and desirability of applying to all shell eggs the prohibition on repackaging to enhance food safety, consumer information, and consumer awareness.

SEC. 751. (a) FINDINGS.—

(1) In contrast to our Nation's generally strong economy, in a number of States, agricultural producers and rural communities are experiencing serious economic hardship.

(2) Increased supplies of agricultural commodities in combination with weakened demand have caused prices of numerous farm commodities to decline dramatically.

(3) Demand for imported agricultural commodities has fallen in some regions of the world, due in part to world economic conditions, and United States agricultural exports have declined from their record level of \$60,000,000,000 in 1996.

(4) Prolonged periods of weather disasters and crop disease have devastated agricultural producers in a number of States.

(5) Certain States experienced declines in personal farm income between 1996 and 1997.

(6) June estimates by the Department of Agriculture indicate that net farm income for 1998 will fall to \$45,500,000,000, down 13 percent from the \$52,200,000,000 for 1996.

(7) Total farm debt for 1998 is expected to reach \$172,000,000,000, the highest level since 1985.

(8) Thousands of farm families are in danger of losing their livelihoods and life savings.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—Now, therefore, it is the sense of the Senate that immediate action by the President and Congress is necessary to respond to the economic hardships facing agricultural producers and their communities.

SEC. 752. ELIGIBILITY OF STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS. (a) FUND FOR RURAL AMERICA.—Section 793(c)(2)(B) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 2204f(c)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (iii), by striking “or” at the end; (2) in clause (iv), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: “(v) a State agricultural experiment station.”.

(b) INITIATIVE FOR FUTURE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS.—Section 401(d) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) a State agricultural experiment station.”.

SEC. 753. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS FROM UNITED STATES SANCTIONS. (a) FINDINGS.—(1) Prohibiting or otherwise restricting the donations or sales of food, other agricultural products, medicines or medical equipment in order to sanction a foreign government for actions or policies that the United States finds objectionable, unnecessarily harms innocent populations in the targeted country and rarely causes the sanctioned government to alter its actions or policies.

(2) For the United States as a matter of United States policy to deny access to United States food, other agricultural products, medicines and medical equipment by innocent men, women and children in other countries weakens the international leadership and moral authority of the United States.

(3) Sanctions on the sale or donations of American food, other agricultural products, medicine or medical equipment needlessly harm American farmers and workers employed in these sectors by foreclosing markets for these United States products.

(b)(1) EXCLUSION FROM SANCTIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President shall not restrict or otherwise prohibit any exports (including financing) of food, other agricultural products (including fertilizer), medicines or medical equipment as part of any policy of existing or future unilateral economic sanctions imposed against a foreign government.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (b)(1) of this section shall not apply to any regulations or restrictions with respect to such products for health or safety purposes or during periods of domestic shortages of such products.

(c) IMPOSE SANCTIONS.—The President may retain or impose sanctions covered under subsection (b)(1) if he determines that retaining or imposing such sanctions would further United States national security interests.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect one day after the date of enactment of this section into law.

(e) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, subsection (b)(2) shall read as follows:

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (b)(1) of this section shall not apply to any country that—

“(A) repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism, within the meaning of section 6(j)(1)(A) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2405(j)(1)(A)); or

“(B) systematically denies access to food, medicine, or medical care to persons on the basis of political beliefs or as a means of coercion or punishment.”.

SEC. 754. LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT. (a) DOMESTIC MARKET REPORTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 203(g) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622(g)) is amended—

(A) by striking “(g) To” and inserting the following:

“(g) COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF MARKETING INFORMATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall”;

(B) by adding at the end the following: “(2) DOMESTIC MARKET REPORTING.—

“(A) MANDATORY REPORTING PILOT PROGRAM.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a 3-year pilot program under which the Secretary shall require any person or class of persons engaged in the business of buying, selling, or marketing livestock, livestock products, meat, or meat products in an unmanufactured form to report to the Secretary in such manner as the Secretary shall require, such information relating to prices and the terms of sale for the procurement of livestock, livestock products, meat, or meat products in an unmanufactured form as the Secretary determines is necessary to carry out this subsection.

“(ii) NONCOMPLIANCE.—It shall be unlawful for a person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or marketing livestock, livestock products, meat, or meat products in an unmanufactured form to knowingly fail or refuse to provide to the Secretary information required to be reported under subparagraph (A).

“(iii) CEASE AND DESIST AND CIVIL PENALTY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary has reason to believe that a person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or marketing livestock, livestock products, meat, or meat products in an unmanufactured form is violating the provisions of subparagraph (A) (or regulation promulgated under subparagraph (A)), the Secretary after notice and opportunity for hearing, may make an order to cease and desist from continuing the violation and assess a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation.

“(1) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the amount of a civil penalty to be assessed under clause (i), the Secretary shall consider the gravity of the offense, the size of the business involved, and the effect of the penalty on the ability of the person to continue in business.

“(iv) REFERRAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—If, after expiration of the period for appeal or after the affirmance of a civil penalty assessed under clause (iii), the person against whom the civil penalty is assessed fails to pay the civil penalty, the Secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General, who may recover the amount of the civil penalty in a civil action in United States district court.

“(B) VOLUNTARY REPORTING.—The Secretary shall encourage voluntary reporting by persons engaged in the business of buying, selling, or marketing livestock, livestock products, meats, or meat products in an unmanufactured form that are not subjected to a mandatory reporting requirement under subparagraph (A).

“(C) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall make information received under this paragraph available to the public only in a form that ensures that—

“(i) the identity of the person submitting a report is not disclosed; and

“(ii) the confidentiality of proprietary business information is otherwise protected.

“(D) EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this paragraph restricts or modifies the authority of the Secretary to collect voluntary reports in accordance with other provisions of law.”.

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 203 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622) is amended—

(A) by striking “The Secretary is directed and authorized.”; and

(B) in the first sentence of each of subsections (a) through (f) and subsections (h) through (n), by striking “To” and inserting “The Secretary shall”.

(b) PROHIBITION ON NONCOMPETITIVE PRACTICES.—Section 202 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 192), is amended—

(1) in subsection (g), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(h) Engage in any practice or device that the Secretary by regulation, after consultation with producers of cattle, lamb, and hogs, and other persons in the cattle, lamb, and hog industries, determines is a detrimental noncompetitive practice or device relating to the price or a term of sale for the procurement of livestock or the sale of meat or other byproduct of slaughter.”.

(c) PROTECTION OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS AGAINST RETALIATION BY PACKERS.—

(1) RETALIATION PROHIBITED.—Section 202(b) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 192(b)), is amended—

(A) by striking “or subject” and inserting “subject”; and

(B) by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “, or retaliate against any livestock producer on account of any statement made by the producer (whether made to the Secretary or a law enforcement agency or in a public forum) regarding an action of any packer”.

(2) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING ALLEGATIONS OF RETALIATION.—Section 203 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 193), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) SPECIAL PROCEDURES REGARDING ALLEGATIONS OF RETALIATION.—

“(1) CONSIDERATION BY SPECIAL PANEL.—The President shall appoint a special panel consisting of 3 members to receive and initially consider a complaint submitted by any person that alleges prohibited packer retaliation under section 202(b) directed against a livestock producer.

“(2) COMPLAINT; HEARING.—If the panel has reason to believe from the complaint or resulting investigation that a packer has violated or is violating the retaliation prohibition under section 202(b), the panel shall notify the Secretary who shall cause a complaint to be issued against the packer, and a hearing conducted, under subsection (a).

“(3) EVIDENTIARY STANDARD.—In the case of a complaint regarding retaliation prohibited under section 202(b), the Secretary shall find that the packer involved has violated or is violating section 202(b) if the finding is supported by a preponderance of the evidence.”.

(3) DAMAGES FOR PRODUCERS SUFFERING RETALIATION.—Section 203 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 193) (as amended by subsection (b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) DAMAGES FOR PRODUCERS SUFFERING RETALIATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a packer violates the retaliation prohibition under section 202(b), the packer shall be liable to the livestock producer injured by the retaliation for not more than 3 times the amount of damages sustained as a result of the violation.

“(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The liability may be enforced either by complaint to the Secretary, as provided in subsection (e), or by suit in any court of competent jurisdiction.

“(3) OTHER REMEDIES.—This subsection shall not abridge or alter a remedy existing at common law or by statute. The remedy provided by this subsection shall be in addition to any other remedy.”.

(d) REVIEW OF FEDERAL AGRICULTURE CREDIT POLICIES.—The Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Chairman of the Board of the Farm Credit Administration, shall establish an interagency working group to study—

(1) the extent to which Federal lending practices and policies have contributed, or are contributing, to market concentration in the livestock and dairy sectors of the national economy; and

(2) whether Federal policies regarding the financial system of the United States adequately take account of the weather and price volatility risks inherent in livestock and dairy enterprises.

SEC. 755. METERED-DOSE INHALERS. (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer (referred to in this section as the "Montreal Protocol") requires the phaseout of products containing ozone-depleting substances, including chlorofluorocarbons;

(2) the primary remaining legal use in the United States of newly produced chlorofluorocarbons is in metered-dose inhalers;

(3) treatment with metered-dose inhalers is the preferred treatment for many patients with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease;

(4) the incidence of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is increasing in children and is most prevalent among low-income persons in the United States;

(5) the Parties to the Montreal Protocol have called for development of national transition strategies to non-chlorofluorocarbon metered-dose inhalers;

(6) the Commissioner of Food and Drugs published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking that suggested a tentative framework for how to phase out the use of metered-dose inhalers that contain chlorofluorocarbons in the Federal Register on March 6, 1997, 62 Fed. Reg. 10242 (referred to in this section as the "proposal"); and

(7) the medical and patient communities, while calling for a formal transition strategy issued by the Food and Drug Administration by rulemaking, have expressed serious concerns that the proposal, if implemented without change, could potentially place some patients at risk by causing the removal of metered-dose inhalers containing chlorofluorocarbons from the market before adequate non-chlorofluorocarbon replacements are available.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Food and Drug Administration should, in consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency, assess the risks and benefits to the environment and to patient health of the proposal and any alternatives;

(2) in conducting such assessments, the Food and Drug Administration should consult with patients, physicians, other health care providers, manufacturers of metered-dose inhalers, and other interested parties;

(3) using the results of these assessments, and the information contained in the comments the Food and Drug Administration has received on the proposal, the Food and Drug Administration should promptly issue a rule ensuring that a range of non-chlorofluorocarbon metered-dose inhaler alternatives is available for users, comparable to existing treatments in terms of safety, efficacy, and other appropriate parameters necessary to meet patient needs, which rule should not be based on a therapeutic class phaseout approach; and

(4) the Food and Drug Administration should issue a proposed rule described in paragraph (3) not later than May 1, 1999.

SEC. 756. REPORT ON MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Comptroller General of the United States, shall submit to the committees of Congress specified in subsection (c) a report that, as determined by the Secretary—

(1)(A) analyzes the costs and benefits of programs carried out under that section in compliance with the cost-benefit analysis guidelines established by the Office of Management and Budget in Circular A-94, dated October 29, 1992; and

(B) in any macroeconomic studies, treats resources in the United States as if the resources were likely to be fully employed;

(2) considers all potential costs and benefits of the programs carried out under that section, specifically noting potential distortions in the economy that could lower national output of goods and services and employment;

(3) estimates the impact of programs carried out under that section on the agricultural sector

and on consumers and other sectors of the economy in the United States;

(4) considers costs and benefits of operations relating to alternative uses of the budget for the programs under that section;

(5)(A) analyzes the relation between the priorities and spending levels of programs carried out under that section and the privately funded market promotion activities undertaken by participants in the programs; and

(B) evaluates the spending additionality for participants resulting from the program;

(6) conducts an analysis of the amount of export additionality for activities financed under programs carried out under that section in sponsored countries, controlling for relevant variables, including—

(A) information on the levels of private expenditures for promotion;

(B) government promotion by competitor nations;

(C) changes in foreign and domestic supply conditions;

(D) changes in exchange rates; and

(E) the effect of ongoing trade liberalization;

(7) provides an evaluation of the sustainability of promotional effort in sponsored markets for recipients in the absence of government subsidies.

(b) EVALUATION BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit an evaluation of the report to the committees specified in subsection (c).

(c) COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The committees of Congress referred to in subsection (a) are—

(1) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 757. SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN TO ALLEVIATE THE ECONOMIC EFFECT OF LOW COMMODITY PRICES. It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Congress should pass and the President should sign S.1269, which would reauthorize fast-track trading authority for the President;

(2) Congress should pass and the President should sign S.2078, the Farm and Ranch Risk Management Act, which would allow farmers and ranchers to better prepare for fluctuations in the agricultural economy;

(3) the House of Representatives should follow the Senate and provide full funding for the International Monetary Fund;

(4) Congress should pass and the President should sign sanctions reform legislation so that the agricultural economy of the United States is not harmed by sanctions on foreign trade;

(5) Congress should uphold the Presidential waiver of the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the 1974 Trade Act providing normal trade relations status for China and continue to pursue normal trade relations with China;

(6) the House and Senate should continue to pursue a package of capital gains and estate tax reforms;

(7) the President should pursue stronger oversight on all international trade agreements affecting agriculture and commerce dispute settlement procedures when countries are found to be violating such trade agreements;

(8) the President should sign legislation providing full deductibility of health care insurance for self-employed individuals;

(9) the Congress and the administration should pursue efforts to reduce regulations on farmers; and

(10) the President should use the administrative tools available to him to use Commodity Credit Corporation and unused Export Enhancement Program funds for humanitarian assistance.

SEC. 758. RESERVE INVENTORIES. Section 813 of the Agricultural Act of 1970 (7 U.S.C. 1427a) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by inserting "of agricultural producers" after "distress";

(2) in subsection (c), by inserting "the Secretary or" after "President or"; and

(3) in subsection (h)—

(A) by striking "(h) There is hereby" and inserting the following:

"(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—There are"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) USE OF FUNDS FOR CASH PAYMENTS.—The Secretary may use funds made available under this section to make, in a manner consistent with this section, cash payments that don't go for crop disasters, but for income loss to carry out the purposes of this section."

SEC. 759. FOOD SAFETY INITIATIVE. (a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the amounts made available under other provisions of this Act, there are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to carry out activities described in the Food Safety Initiative submitted by the President for fiscal year 1999—

(1) \$98,000 to the Chief Economist;

(2) \$906,000 to the Economic Research Service;

(3) \$8,920,000 to the Agricultural Research Service;

(4) \$11,000,000 to the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service;

(5) \$8,347,000 to the Food Safety and Inspection Service; and

(6) \$37,000,000 to the Food and Drug Administration.

(b) AMENDMENT OF THE NO NET COST FUND ASSESSMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF ALL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS NOT PREVIOUSLY COVERED AND ALL CROP INSURANCE COSTS FOR TOBACCO.—Section 106A of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1445-1(c)), is hereby amended by—in subsection (d)(7) changing "the Secretary" to "the Secretary; and" and by adding a new subsection (d)(8) to read as follows:

"(8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection or other law, that with respect to the 1999 and subsequent crops of tobacco for which price support is made available and for which a fund is maintained under this section, an additional assessment shall be remitted over and above that otherwise provided for in this subsection. Such additional assessment shall be equal to—(1) the administrative costs within the Department of Agriculture that is not otherwise covered under another assessment under this section or under another provision of law; and (2) any and all net losses in Federal crop insurance programs for tobacco, whether those losses be on price-supported tobacco or on other tobaccos. The Secretary shall estimate those administrative and insurance costs in advance. The Secretary may make such adjustments in the assessment under this paragraph for future crops as are needed to cover shortfalls or over-collections. The assessment shall be applied so that the additional amount to be collected under this paragraph shall be the same for all price support tobaccos (and imported tobacco of like kind) which are marketed or imported into the United States during the marketing year for the crops covered by this paragraph. For each domestically produced pound of tobacco the assessment amount to be remitted under this paragraph shall be paid by the purchaser of the tobacco. On imported tobacco, the assessment shall be paid by the importer. Monies collected pursuant to this section shall be commingled with other monies in the No Net Cost Fund maintained under this section. The administrative and crop insurance costs that are taken into account in fixing the amount of the assessment shall be a claim on the Fund and shall be transferred to the appropriate account for the payment of administrative costs and insurance costs at a time determined appropriate by the Secretary. Collections under this paragraph shall not affect the amount of any other collection established under this section or under another provision of law but shall be enforceable

in the same manner as other assessments under this section and shall be subject to the same sanctions for nonpayment.”.

(c) AMENDMENT OF THE NO NET COST ACCOUNT ASSESSMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF ALL ADMINISTRATIVE COST NOT PREVIOUSLY COVERED AND ALL CROP INSURANCE COSTS.—Section 106B of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1445-2), is amended by renumbering subsections “(i)” and “(j)” as “(j)” and “(k)” respectively, and by adding a new subsection “(i)” to read as follows:

“(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or other law, the Secretary shall require with respect to the 1999 and subsequent crops of tobacco for which price support is made available and for which an account is maintained under this section, that an additional assessment shall be remitted over and above that otherwise provided for in this subsection. Such additional assessment shall be equal to—(1) the administrative costs within the Department of Agriculture that are not otherwise covered under another assessment under this section or under another provision of law; and (2) any and all net losses in Federal crop insurance programs for tobacco, whether those losses be on price-supported tobacco or on other tobaccos. The Secretary shall estimate those administrative and insurance costs in advance. The Secretary may make such adjustments in the assessments under this subsection for future crops as are needed to cover shortfalls or over-collections. The assessment shall be applied so that the additional amount to be collected under this subsection shall be the same for all price support tobaccos (and imported tobacco of like kind) which are marketed or imported into the United States during the marketing year for the crops covered by this subsection. For each domestically produced pound of tobacco the assessment amount to be remitted under this subsection shall be paid by the purchaser of the tobacco. On imported tobacco, the assessment shall be paid by the importer. Monies collected pursuant to this section shall be commingled with other monies in the No Net Cost Account maintained under this section. The administrative and crop insurance costs that are taken into account in fixing the amount of the assessment shall be a claim on the account and shall be transferred to the appropriate account for the payment of administrative costs and insurance costs at a time determined appropriate by the Secretary. Collections under this subsection shall not effect the amount of any other collection established under this section or under another provision of law but shall be enforceable in the same manner as other assessments under this section and shall be subject to the same sanctions for nonpayment.”.

(d) ELIMINATION OF THE TOBACCO BUDGET ASSESSMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the provisions of section 106(g) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1445(g)), shall not apply or be extended to the 1999 crops of tobacco and shall not, in any case, apply to any tobacco for which additional assessments have been rendered under sections 1 and 2 of this Act.

(e) AMENDMENT OF THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION CHARTER ACT.—Section 4(g) of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714b(g)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “\$193,000,000” and inserting “\$178,000,000”.

SEC. 760. EXPENSES FOR COMPUTER-RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FUNDED THROUGH THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 161(b)(1)(A) OF PUBLIC LAW 104-127 IN FISCAL YEAR 1999 SHALL NOT EXCEED \$50,000,000: PROVIDED, THAT SECTION 4(g) OF THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION CHARTER ACT IS AMENDED BY STRIKING \$178,000,000 AND INSERTING \$173,000,000.

SEC. 761. WAIVER OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN DISCRIMINATION CLAIMS. (a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE CLAIM.—In this section, the

term “eligible claim” means a nonemployment-related claim that was filed with the Department of Agriculture on or before July 1, 1997 and alleges discrimination by the Department of Agriculture at any time during the period beginning on January 1, 1981, and ending on December 31, 1996—

(1) in violation of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (15 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.) in administering—

(A) a farm ownership, farm operating, or emergency loan funded from the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account; or

(B) a housing program established under title V of the Housing Act of 1949; or

(2) in the administration of a commodity program or a disaster assistance program.

(b) WAIVER.—To the extent permitted by the Constitution, an eligible claim, if commenced not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, shall not be barred by any statute of limitations.

(c) ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In lieu of bringing a civil action, a claimant may seek a written determination on the merits of an eligible claim by the Secretary of Agriculture if such claim is filed with the Secretary within two years of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) TIME PERIOD FOR RESOLUTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMS.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall, within 180 days from the date an eligible claim is filed with the Secretary under this subsection, conduct an investigation, issue a written determination, and propose a resolution in accordance with this subsection.

(3) HEARING AND AWARD.—The Secretary shall—

(A) provide the claimant an opportunity for a hearing before making the determination; and

(B) award the claimant such relief as would be afforded under the applicable statute from which the eligible claim arose notwithstanding any statute of limitations.

(d) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—Federal courts reviewing an eligible claim under this section shall apply a de novo standard of review.

(e) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE AWARDS AND SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY AND EXTENSION OF TIME.—

(1) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE AWARDS AND SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY.—A proposed administrative award or settlement exceeding \$75,000 (other than debt relief) of an eligible claim—

(A) shall not take effect until 90 days after notice of the award or settlement is given to the Attorney General; and

(B) shall not take effect if, during that 90-day period, the Attorney General objects to the award or settlement.

(2) EXTENSION OF TIME.—Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), if an eligible claim is denied administratively, the claimant shall have at least 180 days to commence a cause of action in a Federal court of competent jurisdiction seeking a review of such denial.

SEC. 762. CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (7 U.S.C. 2204g) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b) by inserting at the end the following: “In fiscal year 1999 the Secretary of Agriculture is directed to continue to revise the Census of Agriculture to eliminate redundancies in questions asked of farmers by USDA.”.

(2) in subsection (d) by deleting in paragraph (1) “who willfully gives” and inserting in its place “shall not give”, and deleting “, shall be fined not more than \$500”.

(3) in subsection (d) by deleting in paragraph (2) “who refuses or willfully neglects” and inserting in its place “shall not refuse or willfully neglect”, and deleting “, shall not be fined more than \$100”.

SEC. 763. TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture may

use funds for tree assistance made available under Public Law 105-174, to carry out a tree assistance program to owners of trees that were lost or destroyed as a result of a disaster or emergency that was declared by the President or the Secretary of Agriculture during the period beginning May 1, 1998, and ending August 1, 1998, regardless of whether the damage resulted in loss or destruction after August 1, 1998.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary shall carry out the program, to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the tree assistance program established under part 783 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations.

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A person shall be presumed eligible for assistance under the program if the person demonstrates to the Secretary that trees owned by the person were lost or destroyed by May 31, 1999, as a direct result of fire blight infestation that was caused by a disaster or emergency described in subsection (a).

SEC. 764. STUDY OF FUTURE FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL POLICIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—On the request of the Commission on 21st Century Production Agriculture, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief Economist of the Department of Agriculture, shall make assistance and information available to the Commission to enable the Commission to conduct a study to guide the development of future Federal agricultural policies.

(b) DUTIES.—In conducting the study, the Commission shall—

(1) examine a range of future Federal agricultural policies that may succeed the policies established under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) for the 2003 and subsequent crops, and the impact of such policies on farm income, the structure of agriculture, trade competitiveness, conservation, the environment and other factors;

(2) assess the potential impact of any legislation enacted through the end of the 105th Congress on future Federal agricultural policies; and

(3) review economic agricultural studies that are relevant to future Federal agricultural policies.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 1999, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the results of the study conducted under this section.

SEC. 765. INDICATION OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF IMPORTED PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT.—The term “food service establishment” means a restaurant, cafeteria, lunch room, food stand, saloon, tavern, bar, lounge, or other similar facility, operated as an enterprise engaged in the business of selling foods to the public.

(2) PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY; RETAILER.—The terms “perishable agricultural commodity” and “retailer” have the meanings given the terms in section 1(b) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 499a(b)).

(b) NOTICE OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REQUIRED.—Except as provided in subsection (c), a retailer of a perishable agricultural commodity imported into the United States shall inform consumers, at the final point of sale of the perishable agricultural commodity to consumers, of the country of origin of the perishable agricultural commodity.

(c) EXEMPTION FOR FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS.—Subsection (b) shall not apply to a perishable agricultural commodity imported into the United States to the extent that the perishable agricultural commodity is—

(1) prepared or served in a food service establishment; and

(2) (A) offered for sale or sold at the food service establishment in normal retail quantities; or

(B) served to consumers at the food service establishment.

(d) METHOD OF NOTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The information required by subsection (b) may be provided to consumers by means of a label, stamp, mark, placard, or other clear and visible sign on the imported perishable agricultural commodity or on the package, display, holding unit, or bin containing the commodity at the final point of sale to consumers.

(2) LABELED COMMODITIES.—If the imported perishable agricultural commodity is already individually labeled regarding country of origin by the packer, importer, or another person, the retailer shall not be required to provide any additional information to comply with this section.

(e) VIOLATIONS.—If a retailer fails to indicate the country of origin of an imported perishable agricultural commodity as required by subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture may assess a civil penalty on the retailer in an amount not to exceed—

(1) \$1,000 for the first day on which the violation occurs; and

(2) \$250 for each day on which the same violation continues.

(f) DEPOSIT OF FUNDS.—Amounts collected under subsection (e) shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

(g) APPLICATION OF SECTION.—This section shall apply with respect to a perishable agricultural commodity imported into the United States after the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 766. (a) FINDINGS.—

(1) The President's budget submission includes unauthorized user fees.

(2) It is unlikely these fees will be authorized in the immediate future.

(3) The assumption of revenue from unauthorized user fees results in a shortfall of funds available for programs under the jurisdiction of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

(4) That among the programs for which additional funds can be justified are—

(A) human nutrition research;

(B) the Food Safety Initiative activities of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration;

(C) the Wetlands Reserve Program;

(D) the conservation Farm Option Program;

(E) the Farmland Protection Program;

(F) the Inspector General's Law Enforcement Initiative;

(G) the Food and Drug Administration pre-notification certification;

(H) the Food and Drug Administration clinical pharmacology;

(I) the Food and Drug Administration Office of Cosmetics and Color;

(J) the Rural Electric loan programs;

(K) the Pesticide Data Program;

(L) the Rural Community Advancement Program;

(M) civil rights activities; and

(N) the Fund for Rural America.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—Therefore, it is the sense of the Senate that in the event an additional allocation becomes available, the before mentioned programs should be considered for funding.

SEC. 767. OFFICE OF THE SMALL FARMS ADVOCATE. (a) DEFINITION OF SMALL FARM.—In this section, the term "small farm" has the meaning given the term in section 506 of the Rural Development Act of 1972 (7 U.S.C. 2666).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall establish and maintain in the Department of Agriculture an Office of the Small Farms Advocate.

(c) FUNCTIONS.—The Office of the Small Farms Advocate shall—

(1) cooperate with, and monitor, agencies and offices of the Department to ensure that the Department is meeting the needs of small farms;

(2) provide input to agencies and offices of the Department on program and policy decisions to ensure that the interests of small farms are represented; and

(3) develop and implement a plan to coordinate the effective delivery of services of the Department to small farms.

(d) ADMINISTRATOR.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Office of the Small Farms Advocate shall be headed by an Administrator, who shall be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize a net increase in the number of political appointees within the Department of Agriculture.

(2) DUTIES.—The Administrator shall—

(A) act as an advocate for small farms in connection with policies and programs of the Department; and

(B) carry out the functions of the Office of the Small Farms Advocate under subsection (b).

(3) EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE.—Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Administrator, Office of the Small Farms Advocate, Department of Agriculture."

(e) RESOURCES.—Using funds that are otherwise available to the Department of Agriculture, the Secretary shall provide the Office of the Small Farms Advocate with such human and capital resources as are sufficient for the Office to carry out its functions in a timely and efficient manner.

(f) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall annually submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate an annual report that describes actions taken by the Office of the Small Farms Advocate to further the interests of small farms.

SEC. 768. LIMIT ON PENALTY FOR INADVERTENT VIOLATION OF CONTRACT UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL MARKET TRANSITION ACT. If an owner or producer, in good faith, inadvertently plants edible beans during the 1998 crop year on acreage covered by a contract under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.), the Secretary of Agriculture shall minimize penalties imposed for the planting to prevent economic injury to the owner or producer.

SEC. 769. The Secretary of Agriculture shall present to Congress by March 1, 1999 a report on whether to recommend lifting the ban on the interstate-distribution of State inspected meat.

SEC. 770. PROHIBITION ON LOAN GUARANTEES TO BORROWERS THAT HAVE RECEIVED DEBT FORGIVENESS. Section 373 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008h) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) PROHIBITION OF LOANS FOR BORROWERS THAT HAVE RECEIVED DEBT FORGIVENESS.—

"(1) PROHIBITIONS.—Except as provided in paragraph (2)—

"(A) the Secretary may not make a loan under this title to a borrower that has received debt forgiveness on a loan made or guaranteed under this title; and

"(B) the Secretary may not guarantee a loan under this title to a borrower that has received—

"(i) debt forgiveness after April 4, 1996, on a loan made or guaranteed under this title; or

"(ii) received debt forgiveness on no more than 3 occasions on or before April 4, 1996.

"(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make a direct or guaranteed farm operating loan for paying annual farm or ranch operating expenses of a borrower that was restructured with a write-down under section 353.

"(B) EMERGENCY LOANS.—The Secretary may make an emergency loan under section 321 to a borrower that—

"(i) on or before April 4, 1996, received not more than 1 debt forgiveness on a loan made or guaranteed under this title; and

"(ii) after April 4, 1996, has not received debt forgiveness on a loan made or guaranteed under this title."

SEC. 771. DEFINITION OF FAMILY FARM. (a) REAL ESTATE LOANS.—Section 302 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1922) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) DETERMINATION OF QUALIFICATION FOR LOAN.—

"(1) PRIMARY FACTOR.—The primary factor to be considered in determining whether an applicant for a loan under this subtitle is engaged primarily and directly in farming or ranching shall be whether the applicant is participating in routine, ongoing farm activities and in overall decisionmaking with regard to the farm or ranch.

"(2) NO BASIS FOR DENIAL OF LOAN.—The Secretary may not deny a loan under this subtitle solely because 2 or more individuals are employed full-time in the farming operation for which the loan is sought."

(b) OPERATING LOANS.—Section 311 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1941) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) DETERMINATION OF QUALIFICATION FOR LOAN.—

"(1) PRIMARY FACTOR.—The primary factor to be considered in determining whether an applicant for a loan under this subtitle is engaged primarily and directly in farming or ranching shall be whether the applicant is participating in routine, ongoing farm activities and in overall decisionmaking with regard to the farm or ranch.

"(2) NO BASIS FOR DENIAL OF LOAN.—The Secretary may not deny a loan under this subtitle solely because 2 or more individuals are employed full-time in the farming operation for which the loan is sought."

(c) EMERGENCY LOANS.—Section 321 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) DETERMINATION OF QUALIFICATION FOR LOAN.—

"(1) PRIMARY FACTOR.—The primary factor to be considered in determining whether an applicant for a loan under this subtitle is engaged primarily and directly in farming or ranching shall be whether the applicant is participating in routine, ongoing farm activities and in overall decisionmaking with regard to the farm or ranch.

"(2) NO BASIS FOR DENIAL OF LOAN.—The Secretary may not deny a loan under this subtitle solely because 2 or more individuals are employed full-time in the farming operation for which the loan is sought."

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall be considered to have been in effect as of January 1, 1977.

SEC. 772. APPLICABILITY OF DISASTER LOAN COLLATERAL REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT. Section 324(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1964(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking "(d) All loans" and inserting the following:

"(d) REPAYMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.— All loans"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) NO BASIS FOR DENIAL OF LOAN.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall not deny a loan under this subtitle to a borrower by reason of the fact that the borrower lacks a particular amount of collateral for the loan if the Secretary is reasonably certain that the borrower will be able to repay the loan.

"(B) REFUSAL TO PLEDGE AVAILABLE COLLATERAL.—The Secretary may deny or cancel a loan under this subtitle if a borrower refuses to pledge available collateral on request by the Secretary."

SEC. 773. NOTIFICATION OF RECALLS OF DRUGS AND DEVICES. (a) MATTHEW'S LAW.—This section shall be referred to as "Matthew's Law".

(b) DRUGS.—Section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(o)(1) If the Secretary withdraws an application for a drug under paragraph (1) or (2) of the first sentence of subsection (e) and a class I recall for the drug results, the Secretary shall take such action as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate to ensure timely notification of the recall to individuals that received the drug, including using the assistance of health professionals that prescribed or dispensed the drug to such individuals.

“(2) In this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘Class I’ refers to the corresponding designation given recalls in subpart A of part 7 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, or a successor regulation.

“(B) The term ‘recall’ means a recall, as defined in subpart A of part 7 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, or a successor regulation, of a drug.”

(c) DEVICES.—Section 518(e) of such Act (21 U.S.C. 360h(e)) is amended—

(1) in the last sentence of paragraph (2), by inserting “or if the recall is a class I recall,” after “cannot be identified”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) In this subsection, the term ‘Class I’ refers to the corresponding designation given recalls in subpart A of part 7 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, or a successor regulation.”

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 705(b) of such Act (21 U.S.C. 375(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking “or gross” and inserting “gross”; and

(2) by striking the period and inserting “, or a class I recall of a drug or device as described in section 505(o)(1) or 518(e)(2).”

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect one day after the date of enactment of this Act.

#### TITLE VIII—AGRICULTURAL CREDIT RESTORATION ACT

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the “Agricultural Credit Restoration Act”.

SEC. 802. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSOLIDATED FARM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ACT. (a) Section 343(a)(12)(B) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(12)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The term ‘debt forgiveness’ does not include—

“(i) consolidation, rescheduling, reamortization, or deferral of a loan;

“(ii) 1 debt forgiveness in the form of a restructuring, write-down, or net recovery buy-out, which occurred prior to date of enactment and was due to a financial problem of the borrower relating to a natural disaster or a medical condition of the borrower or of a member of the immediate family of the borrower (or, in the case of a borrower that is an entity, a principal owner of the borrower or a member of the immediate family of such an owner); and

“(iii) any restructuring, write-down, or net recovery buy-out provided as a part of a resolution of a discrimination complaint against the Secretary.”

(b) Section 355(c)(2) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 2003(c)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) RESERVATION AND ALLOCATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, to the greatest extent practicable, reserve and allocate the proportion of each State’s loan funds made available under subtitle B that is equal to that State’s target participation rate for use by the socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers in that State. The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, distribute the total so derived on a county by county basis according to the number of socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers in the county.

“(B) REALLOCATION OF UNUSED FUNDS.—The Secretary may pool any funds reserved and allocated under this paragraph with respect to a

State that are not used as described in subparagraph (A) in a State in the first 10 months of a fiscal year with the funds similarly not so used in other States, and may reallocate such pooled funds in the discretion of the Secretary for use by socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in other States.”

(c) Section 373(b)(1) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 2008h(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this paragraph and in paragraph (2), the Secretary may not make or guarantee a loan under subtitle A or B to a borrower who received debt forgiveness on a loan made or guaranteed under this title unless such forgiveness occurred prior to April 4, 1996.”

SEC. 803. REGULATIONS. Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the amendments made by this Act, without regard to—

(1) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) the statement of policy of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking that became effective on July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804).

#### TITLE IX—INDIA-PAKISTAN RELIEF ACT

SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the “India-Pakistan Relief Act of 1998”.

SEC. 902. WAIVER AUTHORITY. (a) AUTHORITY.—The President may waive for a period not to exceed one year upon enactment of this Act with respect to India or Pakistan the application of any sanction or prohibition (or portion thereof) contained in section 101 or 102 of the Arms Export Control Act, section 620E(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, or section 2(b)(4) of the Export Import Bank Act of 1945.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The authority provided in subsection (a) shall not apply to any restriction in section 102(b)(2) (B), (C), or (G) of the Arms Export Control Act.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts made available by this section are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended: Provided, That such amounts shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress.

SEC. 903. CONSULTATION. Prior to each exercise of the authority provided in section 902, the President shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 904. REPORTING REQUIREMENT. Not later than 30 days prior to the expiration of a one-year period described in section 902, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on economic and national security developments in India and Pakistan.

SEC. 905. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED. In this title, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

#### TITLE X—MEAT LABELING

SEC. 1001. DEFINITIONS. Section 1 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(w) BEEF.—The term ‘beef’ means meat produced from cattle (including veal).

“(x) LAMB.—The term ‘lamb’ means meat, other than mutton, produced from sheep.

“(y) BEEF BLENDED WITH IMPORTED MEAT.—The term ‘beef blended with imported meat’ means ground beef, or beef in another meat food

product that contains United States beef and any imported meat.

“(z) LAMB BLENDED WITH IMPORTED MEAT.—The term ‘lamb blended with imported meat’ means ground meat, or lamb in another meat food product, that contains United States lamb and any imported meat.

“(aa) IMPORTED BEEF.—The term ‘imported beef’ means any beef, including any fresh muscle cuts, ground meat, trimmings, and beef in another meat food product, that is not United States beef, whether or not the beef is graded with a quality grade issued by the Secretary.

“(bb) IMPORTED LAMB.—The term ‘imported lamb’ means any lamb, including any fresh muscle cuts, ground meat, trimmings, and lamb in another meat food product, that is not United States lamb, whether or not the lamb is graded with a quality grade issued by the Secretary.

“(cc) UNITED STATES BEEF.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘United States beef’ means beef produced from cattle slaughtered in the United States.

“(2) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘United States beef’ does not include—

“(A) beef produced from cattle imported into the United States in sealed trucks for slaughter;

“(B) beef produced from imported carcasses;

“(C) imported beef trimmings; or

“(D) imported boxed beef.

“(dd) UNITED STATES LAMB.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘United States lamb’ means lamb, except mutton, produced from sheep slaughtered in the United States.

“(2) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘United States lamb’ does not include—

“(A) lamb produced from sheep imported into the United States in sealed trucks for slaughter;

“(B) lamb produced from an imported carcass;

“(C) imported lamb trimmings; or

“(D) imported boxed lamb.”

SEC. 1002. LABELING OF IMPORTED MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS. (a) LABELING REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1(n) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601(n)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(13)(A) If it is imported beef or imported lamb offered for retail sale as fresh muscle cuts of beef or lamb and is not accompanied by labeling that identifies it as imported beef or imported lamb.

“(B) If it is United States beef or United States lamb offered for retail sale, or offered and intended for export as fresh muscle cuts of beef or lamb, and is not accompanied by labeling that identifies it as United States beef or United States lamb.

“(C) If it is United States or imported ground beef or other processed beef or lamb product and is not accompanied by labeling that identifies it as United States beef or United States lamb, imported beef or imported lamb, beef blended with imported meat or lamb blended with imported meat, or other designation that identifies the percentage content of United States beef and imported beef United States lamb and imported lamb or contained in the product, as determined by the Secretary under section 7(g).”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 20(a) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 620(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following: “All imported beef or imported lamb offered for retail sale as fresh muscle cuts of beef or lamb shall be plainly and conspicuously marked, labeled, or otherwise identified as imported beef or imported lamb.”

(b) GROUND OR PROCESSED BEEF AND LAMB.—Section 7 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 607) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) GROUND OR PROCESSED BEEF AND LAMB.—

“(1) VOLUNTARY LABELING.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall provide by regulation for the voluntary labeling or identification of ground beef or lamb, other processed beef or lamb products as United States beef or United

States lamb, imported beef or imported lamb, beef blended with imported meat or lamb blended with imported meat, or other designation that identifies the percentage content of United States and imported beef or imported lamb contained in the product, as determined by the Secretary.

“(2) MANDATORY LABELING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall provide by regulation for the mandatory labeling or identification of ground beef or lamb, other processed beef or lamb products as United States beef or United States lamb, imported beef or imported lamb, beef blended with imported meat or lamb blended with imported meat, or other designation that identifies the percentage content of United States and imported beef or imported lamb contained in the product, as determined by the Secretary.

“(B) APPLICATION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the extent the Secretary determines that the costs associated with labeling under subparagraph (A) would result in an unreasonable burden on producers, processors, retailers, or consumers.”.

(c) GROUND BEEF AND GROUND LAMB LABELING STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall conduct a study of the effects of the mandatory use of imported, blended, or percentage content labeling on ground beef, ground lamb, and other processed beef or lamb products made from imported beef or imported lamb.

(2) COSTS AND RESPONSES.—The study shall be designed to evaluate the costs associated with and consumer response toward the mandatory use of labeling described in paragraph (1).

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report the findings of the study conducted under paragraph (1) to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

SEC. 1003. REGULATIONS. Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate final regulations to carry out the amendments made by this title.

TITLE XI—BIODIESEL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ACT

SEC. 1101. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS. (a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the “Biodiesel Energy Development Act of 1998”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this title is as follows:

- Sec. 1101. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 1102. Definitions.
- Sec. 1103. Amendments to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.
- Sec. 1104. Minimum Federal fleet requirement.
- Sec. 1105. State and local incentives programs.
- Sec. 1106. Alternative fuel bus program.
- Sec. 1107. Alternative fuel use in nonroad vehicles, engines, and marine vessels.
- Sec. 1108. Mandate for alternative fuel providers.
- Sec. 1109. Replacement fuel supply and demand program.
- Sec. 1110. Modification of goals; additional rulemaking authority.
- Sec. 1111. Fleet requirement program.
- Sec. 1112. Credits.
- Sec. 1113. Secretary’s recommendation to Congress.

SEC. 1102. DEFINITIONS. Section 301 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13211) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “derived from biological materials” and inserting “derived from domestically produced renewable biological materials (including biodiesel) at mixtures not less than 20 percent by volume”;

(2) in paragraph (8), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) a motor vehicle (other than an automobile) or marine vessel that is capable of operating on alternative fuel, gasoline, or diesel fuel, or an approved blend of alternative fuel and petroleum-based fuel.”;

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (11) through (14) as paragraphs (12), (14), (15), and (16), respectively;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (10) the following:

“(11) the term ‘heavy duty motor vehicle’ means a motor vehicle or marine vessel that is greater than 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating”;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (12) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)) the following:

“(13) the term ‘marine vessel’ means a motorized watercraft or other artificial contrivance used as a means of transportation primarily on the navigable waters of the United States”;

(6) in paragraph (15) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “biological materials” and inserting “domestically produced renewable biological materials (including biodiesel)”.

SEC. 1103. AMENDMENTS TO THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT. Section 400AA of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6374) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence of subsection (a)(3)(B), by striking “vehicles converted to use alternative fuels may be acquired if, after conversion,” and inserting “existing fleet vehicles may be converted to use alternative fuels at the time of a major vehicle overhaul or rebuild, or vehicles that have been converted to use alternative fuels may be acquired, if”;

(2) in subsection (g)—  
(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “derived from biological materials” and inserting “derived from domestically produced renewable biological materials (including biodiesel) at mixtures not less than 20 percent by volume”;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) a motor vehicle (other than an automobile) or marine vessel that is capable of operating on alternative fuel, gasoline, or diesel fuel, or an approved blend of alternative fuel and petroleum-based fuel; and”;

(C) in paragraph (6), by inserting “or marine vessel” after “a vehicle”.

SEC. 1104. MINIMUM FEDERAL FLEET REQUIREMENT. Section 303 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13212) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (d) through (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) HEAVY DUTY AND DUAL-FUELED VEHICLE COMPLIANCE CREDITS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of meeting the requirements of this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, if appropriate, shall permit a Federal fleet to acquire 1 heavy duty alternative fueled vehicle in place of 2 light duty alternative fueled vehicles.

“(2) ADDITIONAL CREDITS.—For purposes of this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, if appropriate, shall permit a Federal fleet to take an additional credit for the purchase and documented use of alternative fuel used in a dual-fueled vehicle, comparable conventionally-fueled motor vehicle, or marine vessel.

“(3) ACCOUNTING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In allowing a credit for the purchase of a dual-fueled vehicle or alternative fuel, the Secretary may request a Federal agency to provide an accounting of the purchase.

“(B) GUIDELINES.—The Secretary shall include any request made under subparagraph (A) in the guidelines required under section 308.

“(4) FUEL AND VEHICLE NEUTRALITY.—The Secretary shall carry out this subsection in a manner that is, to the maximum extent prac-

ticable, neutral with respect to the type of fuel and vehicle used.”.

SEC. 1105. STATE AND LOCAL INCENTIVES PROGRAMS. (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Section 409(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13235(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “alternative fueled vehicles” and inserting “light and heavy duty alternative fueled vehicles and increasing the use of alternative fuels”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—  
(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting after “introduction of” the following: “converted or acquired light and heavy duty”;

(B) in subparagraph (E), by inserting after “of sales of” the following: “, incentives toward use of, and reporting requirements relating to”;

(C) in subparagraph (G)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (i) through (iii) as clauses (ii) through (iv), respectively; and

(ii) by inserting after “cost of—” the following:

“(I) alternative fuels”.

(b) FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES.—Section 409(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13235(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—  
(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) grants of Federal financial assistance for the incremental purchase cost of alternative fuels.”;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting after “be introduced” the following: “and the volume of alternative fuel likely to be consumed”;

(3) in paragraph (3)—  
(A) by inserting “alternative fuels and” after “in procuring”;

(B) by inserting “fuels and” after “of such”.

(c) GENERAL PROVISIONS.—Section 409(c)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13235(c)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting after “alternative fueled vehicles in use” the following: “and volume of alternative fuel consumed”.

SEC. 1106. ALTERNATIVE FUEL BUS PROGRAM. Section 410(c) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13236(c)) is amended in the second sentence by striking “and the conversion of school buses to dedicated vehicles” and inserting “the incremental cost of alternative fuels used in flexible fueled school buses, and the conversion of school buses to alternative fueled vehicles”.

SEC. 1107. ALTERNATIVE FUEL USE IN NONROAD VEHICLES, ENGINES, AND MARINE VESSELS. Section 412 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13238) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “and engines” and inserting “, engines, and marine vessels”;

(2) by striking “vehicles and engines” each place it appears in subsections (a) and (b) and inserting “vehicles, engines, and marine vessels”;

(3) in subsection (a)—  
(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “NONROAD VEHICLES AND ENGINES” and inserting “IN GENERAL”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the first sentence, by striking “a study” and inserting “studies”;

(ii) in the second sentence—

(I) by striking “study” and inserting “studies”;

(II) by striking “2 years” and inserting “2, 6, and 10 years”;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “study” each place it appears and inserting “studies”;

(ii) in the second sentence, by inserting “or marine vessels” after “such vehicles”;

(D) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking “report” and inserting “reports”;

(ii) by striking "may" and inserting "shall"; and

(4) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking "AND ENGINES" and inserting "ENGINES, AND MARINE VESSELS"; and

(B) by striking "rail transportation, vehicles used at airports, vehicles or engines used for marine purposes, and other vehicles or engines" and inserting "rail and waterway transportation, vehicles used at airports and seaports, vehicles or engines used for marine purposes, marine vessels, and other vehicles, engines, or marine vessels".

SEC. 1108. MANDATE FOR ALTERNATIVE FUEL PROVIDERS. Section 501 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13251) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting "or heavy" after "new light"; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) allow the conversion of an existing fleet vehicle into a dual-fueled alternative fueled vehicle at the time of a major overhaul or rebuild of the vehicle, if the original equipment manufacturer's warranty continues to apply to the vehicle, pursuant to an agreement between the original equipment manufacturer and the person performing the conversion."

SEC. 1109. REPLACEMENT FUEL SUPPLY AND DEMAND PROGRAM. Section 502 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13252) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by inserting "and heavy" after "in light"; and

(2) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by inserting after "October 1, 1993," the following: "and every 5 years thereafter through October 1, 2008,".

SEC. 1110. MODIFICATION OF GOALS; ADDITIONAL RULEMAKING AUTHORITY. Section 504 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13254) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by striking "and periodically thereafter" and inserting "consistent with the reporting requirements of section 502(b)"; and

(2) in subsection (c), by inserting after the first sentence the following: "Any additional regulation issued by the Secretary shall be, to the maximum extent practicable, neutral with respect to the type of fuel and vehicle used."

SEC. 1111. FLEET REQUIREMENT PROGRAM. (a) FLEET PROGRAM PURCHASE GOALS.—Section 507(a)(1) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13257(a)(1)) is amended by inserting "acquired as, or converted into," after "shall be".

(b) FLEET REQUIREMENT PROGRAM.—Section 507(g) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13257(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting "acquired as, or converted into," after "shall be";

(2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

"(4) SUBSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary shall, by rule, permit fleets covered under this section to substitute the acquisition or conversion of 1 heavy duty alternative fueled vehicle for 2 light duty vehicle acquisitions to meet the requirements of this subsection."

(c) CONVERSIONS.—Section 507(j) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13257(j)) is amended—

(1) by striking "Nothing in" and inserting the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), nothing in"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) CONVERSION INTO ALTERNATIVE FUELED VEHICLES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A fleet owner shall be permitted to convert an existing fleet vehicle into an alternative fueled vehicle, and purchase the

alternative fuel for the converted vehicle, for the purpose of compliance with this title or an amendment made by this title, if the original equipment manufacturer's warranty continues to apply to the vehicle, pursuant to an agreement between the original equipment manufacturer and the person performing the conversion.

"(B) CREDITS.—A fleet owner shall be allowed a credit for the conversion of an existing fleet vehicle and the purchase of alternative fuel for the vehicle."

(d) MANDATORY STATE FLEET PROGRAMS.—Section 507(o) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13257(o)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting "or heavy" after "new light"; and

(B) by inserting "or converted" after "acquired"; and

(2) in the first sentence of paragraph (2)(A)—

(A) by striking "this Act" and inserting "the Biodiesel Energy Development Act of 1997"; and

(B) by inserting after "of light" the following: "or heavy duty alternative fueled".

SEC. 1112. CREDITS. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 508(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13258(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "The Secretary" and inserting the following:

"(1) ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUELED VEHICLES.—The Secretary"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) ALTERNATIVE FUEL.—The Secretary shall allocate a credit to a fleet or covered person that acquires a volume of alternative fuel equal to the estimated need for 1 year for any dual-fueled vehicle acquired or converted by the fleet or covered person as required under this title."

(b) ALLOCATION.—Section 508(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13258(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking "In allocating credits under subsection (a)," and inserting the following:

"(1) ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUELED VEHICLES.—In allocating credits under subsection (a)(1),"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) DUAL-FUELED VEHICLES; ALTERNATIVE FUEL.—In allocating credits under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall allocate 2 credits to a fleet or covered person for acquiring or converting a dual-fueled vehicle and acquiring a volume of alternative fuel equal to the estimated need for 1 year for any dual-fueled vehicle if the dual-fueled vehicle acquired is in excess of the number that the fleet or covered person is required to acquire or is acquired before the date that the fleet or covered person is required to acquire the number under this title."

SEC. 1113. SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDATION TO CONGRESS. Section 509(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13259(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: "and exempting replacement fuels from taxes levied on non-replacement fuels"; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting "and converters" after "suppliers"; and

(B) by inserting before the semicolon the following: "including the conversion and warranty of motor vehicles into alternative fueled vehicles".

This Act may be cited as the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999".

#### AMENDMENT 3186

(The corrected text of amendment No. 3186, as agreed to on July 16, 1998, follows:)

#### AMENDMENT NO. 3186

(Purpose: To allow the USDA Rural Housing Service Administrator to provide non-monetary awards to non-USDA employees)

On page 40, line 20, strike the last period and replace with ";

On page 40, line 20, after the ";" insert the following: "Provided further, That the Administrator may expend not more than \$10,000 to provide modest non-monetary awards to non-USDA employees."

#### SHACKLEFORD BANKS WILD HORSES PROTECTION ACT

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 229, H.R. 765.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 765) to ensure maintenance of a herd of wild horses in Cape Lookout National Seashore.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Shackleford Banks Wild Horses Protection Act".

#### SEC. 2. MAINTENANCE OF WILD HORSES IN CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE.

Section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Cape Lookout National Seashore in the State of North Carolina, and for other purposes", approved March 10, 1966 (Public Law 89-366; 16 U.S.C. 459g-4), is amended by inserting "(a)" after "Sec. 5.", and by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b)(1) The Secretary, in accordance with this subsection, shall allow a herd of free-roaming horses in Cape Lookout National Seashore (hereinafter referred to as the 'Seashore').

"(2) Within 180 days after enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the Foundation for Shackleford Horses (a non-profit corporation established under the laws of the State of North Carolina), or another qualified non-profit entity, to provide for management of free-roaming horses in the seashore. The agreement shall—

"(A) provide for cost-effective management of the horses while ensuring that natural resources within the seashore are not adversely impacted; and,

"(B) allow the authorized entity to adopt any of those horses that the Secretary removes from the seashore.

"(3) The Secretary shall not remove, assist in, or permit the removal of any free-roaming horses from Federal lands within the boundaries of the seashore—

"(A) unless the entity with whom the Secretary has entered into the agreement under paragraph (2), following notice and a 90-day response period, fails to meet the terms and conditions of the agreement; or

"(B) unless the number of free-roaming horses on Federal lands within Cape Lookout National Seashore exceeds 110; or

"(C) except in the case of an emergency, or to protect public health and safety.

"(4) The Secretary shall annually monitor, assess, and make available to the public findings regarding the population structure and health of the free-roaming horses in the national seashore.

"(5) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as creating liability for the United States for any damages caused by the free-roaming horses to property located inside or outside the boundaries of the seashore."