

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-193, §871(d)(4), added subsec. (c) and struck out heading and text of former subsec. (c). Text read as follows: "Subject to subsections (e) and (f) of this section, or subsection (j) of this section if applicable, purchases under this section shall be made by the Secretary at such times and under such conditions as the Secretary determines appropriate within each fiscal year. All such commodities purchased for each such fiscal year shall be delivered at reasonable intervals to States based on the allotments calculated under subsection (f) of this section, or reallocated under subsection (g) of this section, or calculated under subsection (j) of this section if applicable, before the end of such fiscal year. Each State shall be entitled to receive that value of additional commodities that results from the application of the formula set forth in this section to the total value of additional commodities."

Pub. L. 104-193, §871(d)(1), (2), redesignated subsec. (h) as (c) and struck out former subsec. (c) which authorized Secretary to purchase additional commodities to supplement commodities otherwise provided under program authorized by this chapter.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 104-193, §871(d)(5), struck out "or reduce the amount of funds available for other nutrition programs in the State in each fiscal year" after "such organizations".

Pub. L. 104-193, §871(d)(1), (2), redesignated subsec. (i) as (d) and struck out former subsec. (d) which provided for types and varieties of commodities which could be purchased under this section.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 104-193, §871(d)(1), struck out subsec. (e) which appropriated amounts through fiscal year 2002 for purchase of additional commodities under this section.

Pub. L. 104-127, §403(c)(2), substituted "2002" for "1995" in two places.

Subsecs. (f) to (i). Pub. L. 104-193, §871(d)(2), redesignated subsecs. (f) to (i) as (a) to (d), respectively.

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 104-193, §871(d)(1), struck out subsec. (j) which authorized Secretary to promulgate new formula for allocation of additional commodities to States.

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-624, §1772(g)(1), substituted "fiscal years 1991 through 1995" for "fiscal years 1989 and 1990".

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 101-624, §1772(g)(2), added subsec. (e) and struck out heading and text of former subsec. (e). Text read as follows: "During each of the fiscal years 1989 and 1990, the Secretary shall spend \$120,000,000 to purchase, process, and distribute additional commodities under this section."

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 101-624, §1772(h)(1), struck out heading and text of subsec. (k). Text read as follows: "There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Section 871(h) of Pub. L. 104-193 provided that: "The amendments made by subsection (d) [amending this section] shall become effective on October 1, 1996."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1772(g) of Pub. L. 101-624 effective Oct. 1, 1990, and amendment by section 1772(h)(1) of Pub. L. 101-624 effective Nov. 28, 1990, see section 1781(b)(1), (2) of Pub. L. 101-624, set out as a note under section 2012 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section to be effective and implemented on Oct. 1, 1988, see section 701(a) of Pub. L. 100-435, set out as an Effective Date of 1988 Amendment note under section 2012 of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 2036, 7501, 7512, 7514 of this title.

§ 7516. Settlement and adjustment of claims

(a) In general

The Secretary or a designee of the Secretary shall have the authority to—

- (1) determine the amount of, settle, and adjust any claim arising under this chapter; and
- (2) waive such a claim if the Secretary determines that to do so will serve the purposes of this chapter.

(b) Litigation

Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to diminish the authority of the Attorney General of the United States under section 516 of title 28 to conduct litigation on behalf of the United States.

(Pub. L. 98-8, title II, §215, as added Pub. L. 102-237, title IX, §922(b), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1888.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective and to be implemented no later than Feb. 1, 1992, see section 1101(d)(1) of Pub. L. 102-237, set out as an Effective Date of 1991 Amendment note under section 1421 of this title.

CHAPTER 103—AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION REFORM

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§ 7601. Definitions

In this Act:

(1) 1862 Institution

The term "1862 Institution" means a college or university eligible to receive funds under the Act of July 2, 1862 (12 Stat. 503, chapter 130; 7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.).

(2) 1890 Institution

The term "1890 Institution" means a college or university eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 419, chapter 841; 7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), including Tuskegee University.

(3) 1994 Institution

The term "1994 Institution" means 1 of the 1994 Institutions (as defined in section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note)) (as amended by section 251(a)).

(4) Advisory Board

The term "Advisory Board" means the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board established under section 3123 of this title.

(5) Department

The term "Department" means the Department of Agriculture.

(6) Secretary

The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.
(Pub. L. 105-185, § 2, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 525.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 105-185, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 523, as amended, known as the Agri-

cultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

Act of July 2, 1862, referred to in par. (1), is act July 2, 1862, ch. 130, 12 Stat. 503, as amended, popularly known as the First Morrill Act, which is classified generally to subchapter I (§301 et seq.) of chapter 13 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 301 of this title and Tables.

Act of August 30, 1890, referred to in par. (2), is act Aug. 30, 1890, ch. 841, 26 Stat. 417, as amended, popularly known as the Agricultural College Act of 1890 and also as the Second Morrill Act, which is classified generally to subchapter II (§321 et seq.) of chapter 13 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 321 of this title and Tables.

Section 251(a), referred to in par. (3), is section 251(a) of Pub. L. 105-185.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 105-185, §1(a), June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 523, provided that: "This Act [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the 'Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998'."

SUBCHAPTER I—PRIORITIES, SCOPE, REVIEW, AND COORDINATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION

§ 7611. Standards for Federal funding of agricultural research, extension, and education

(a) In general

The Secretary shall ensure that agricultural research, extension, or education activities described in subsection (b) of this section address a concern that—

- (1) is a priority, as determined under section 7612(a) of this title; and
- (2) has national, multistate, or regional significance.

(b) Application

Subsection (a) of this section applies to—

- (1) research activities conducted by the Agricultural Research Service; and
- (2) research, extension, or education activities administered, on a competitive basis, by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title I, §101, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 526.)

§ 7612. Priority setting process

(a) Establishment

Consistent with section 3101 of this title, the Secretary shall establish priorities for agricultural research, extension, and education activities conducted or funded by the Department.

(b) Responsibilities of Secretary

In establishing priorities for agricultural research, extension, and education activities conducted or funded by the Department, the Secretary shall solicit and consider input and recommendations from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, extension, or education.

(c) Responsibilities of 1862, 1890, and 1994 Institutions

(1) Process

Effective October 1, 1999, to obtain agricultural research, extension, or education for-

mula funds from the Secretary, each 1862 Institution, 1890 Institution, and 1994 Institution shall establish and implement a process for obtaining input from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, extension, or education concerning the use of the funds.

(2) Regulations

The Secretary shall promulgate regulations that prescribe—

- (A) the requirements for an institution referred to in paragraph (1) to comply with paragraph (1); and
- (B) the consequences for an institution of not complying with paragraph (1), which may include the withholding or redistribution of funds to which the institution may be entitled until the institution complies with paragraph (1).

(d) Management principles

To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that federally supported and conducted agricultural research, extension, and education activities are accomplished in a manner that—

- (1) integrates agricultural research, extension, and education functions to better link research to technology transfer and information dissemination activities;
- (2) encourages regional and multistate programs to address relevant issues of common concern and to better leverage scarce resources; and
- (3) achieves agricultural research, extension, and education objectives through multi-institutional and multifunctional approaches and by conducting research at facilities and institutions best equipped to achieve those objectives.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title I, §102, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 526.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 7611, 7613, 7621 of this title.

§ 7613. Relevance and merit of agricultural research, extension, and education funded by the Department

(a) Review of Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

(1) Peer review of research grants

The Secretary shall establish procedures that provide for scientific peer review of each agricultural research grant administered, on a competitive basis, by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service of the Department.

(2) Merit review of extension and education grants

(A) Establishment of procedures

The Secretary shall establish procedures that provide for merit review of each agricultural extension or education grant administered, on a competitive basis, by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

(B) Consultation with Advisory Board

The Secretary shall consult with the Advisory Board in establishing the merit review procedures.

(b) Advisory Board review

On an annual basis, the Advisory Board shall review—

- (1) the relevance to the priorities established under section 7612(a) of this title of the funding of all agricultural research, extension, or education activities conducted or funded by the Department; and
- (2) the adequacy of the funding.

(c) Requests for proposals**(1) Review results**

As soon as practicable after the review is conducted under subsection (b) of this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall consider the results of the review when formulating each request for proposals, and evaluating proposals, involving an agricultural research, extension, or education activity funded, on a competitive basis, by the Department.

(2) Input

In formulating a request for proposals described in paragraph (1) for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall solicit and consider input from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, extension, or education regarding the prior year's request for proposals.

(d) Scientific peer review of agricultural research**(1) Peer review procedures**

The Secretary shall establish procedures that ensure scientific peer review of all research activities conducted by the Department.

(2) Review panel required

As part of the procedures established under paragraph (1), a review panel shall verify, at least once every 5 years, that each research activity of the Department and research conducted under each research program of the Department has scientific merit and relevance.

(3) Mission area

If the research activity or program to be reviewed is included in the research, educational, and economics mission area of the Department, the review panel shall consider—

- (A) the scientific merit and relevance of the activity or research in light of the priorities established pursuant to section 7612 of this title; and
- (B) the national or multistate significance of the activity or research.

(4) Composition of review panel**(A) In general**

A review panel shall be composed of individuals with scientific expertise, a majority of whom are not employees of the agency whose research is being reviewed.

(B) Scientists from colleges and universities

To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall use scientists from colleges and universities to serve on the review panels.

(5) Submission of results

The results of the panel reviews shall be submitted to the Advisory Board.

(e) Merit review**(1) 1862 and 1890 Institutions**

Effective October 1, 1999, to be eligible to obtain agricultural research or extension funds from the Secretary for an activity, each 1862 Institution and 1890 Institution shall—

- (A) establish a process for merit review of the activity; and
- (B) review the activity in accordance with the process.

(2) 1994 Institutions

Effective October 1, 1999, to be eligible to obtain agricultural extension funds from the Secretary for an activity, each 1994 Institution shall—

- (A) establish a process for merit review of the activity; and
- (B) review the activity in accordance with the process.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title I, §103, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 527.)

CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of section 103 of Pub. L. 105-185. Subsec. (f) of section 103 of Pub. L. 105-185 amended sections 361g, 3221, and 3222 of this title and repealed sections 346 and 3314 of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 343, 361c, 7621 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER II—NEW AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES

§ 7621. Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems**(a) Treasury account**

There is established in the Treasury of the United States an account to be known as the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (referred to in this section as the “Account”) to provide funds for activities authorized under this section.

(b) Funding**(1) In general**

On October 1, 1998, and each October 1 thereafter through October 1, 2002, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer \$120,000,000 to the Account.

(2) Entitlement

The Secretary of Agriculture—

- (A) shall be entitled to receive the funds transferred to the Account under paragraph (1);
- (B) shall accept the funds; and
- (C) shall use the funds to carry out this section.

(c) Purposes**(1) Critical emerging issues**

The Secretary shall use the funds in the Account—

- (A) subject to paragraph (2), for research, extension, and education grants (referred to in this section as “grants”) to address critical emerging agricultural issues related to—

- (i) future food production;
- (ii) environmental quality and natural resource management; or
- (iii) farm income; and

(B) for activities carried out under the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5901 et seq.).

(2) Priority mission areas

In making grants under this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Board, shall address priority mission areas related to—

- (A) agricultural genome;
- (B) food safety, food technology, and human nutrition;
- (C) new and alternative uses and production of agricultural commodities and products;
- (D) agricultural biotechnology;
- (E) natural resource management, including precision agriculture; and
- (F) farm efficiency and profitability, including the viability and competitiveness of small- and medium-sized dairy, livestock, crop, and other commodity operations.

(d) Eligible grantees

The Secretary may make a grant under this section to—

- (1) a Federal research agency;
- (2) a national laboratory;
- (3) a college or university or a research foundation maintained by a college or university;
- (4) a private research organization with an established and demonstrated capacity to perform research or technology transfer; or
- (5) a State agricultural experiment station.

(e) Special considerations

(1) Smaller institutions

The Secretary may award grants under this section in a manner that ensures that the faculty of small and mid-sized institutions that have not previously been successful in obtaining competitive grants under subsection (b) of section 450i of this title receive a portion of the grants under this section.

(2) Priorities

In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall provide a higher priority to—

- (A) a project that is multistate, multi-institutional, or multidisciplinary; or
- (B) a project that integrates agricultural research, extension, and education.

(f) Administration

(1) In general

In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall—

- (A) seek and accept proposals for grants;
- (B) determine the relevance and merit of proposals through a system of peer review in accordance with section 7613 of this title;
- (C) award grants on the basis of merit, quality, and relevance to advancing the purposes and priority mission areas established under subsection (c) of this section; and
- (D) solicit and consider input from persons who conduct or use agricultural research,

extension, or education in accordance with section 7612(b) of this title.

(2) Competitive basis

A grant under this section shall be awarded on a competitive basis.

(3) Term

A grant under this section shall have a term that does not exceed 5 years.

(4) Matching funds

As a condition of making a grant under this section, the Secretary shall require the funding of the grant be matched with equal matching funds from a non-Federal source if the grant is—

- (A) for applied research that is commodity-specific; and
- (B) not of national scope.

(5) Delegation

The Secretary shall administer this section through the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service of the Department. The Secretary may establish 1 or more institutes to carry out all or part of the activities authorized under this section.

(6) Availability of funds

Funds for grants under this section shall be available to the Secretary for obligation for a 2-year period.

(7) Administrative costs

The Secretary may use not more than 4 percent of the funds made available for grants under this section for administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out this section.

(8) Buildings and facilities

Funds made available for grants under this section shall not be used for the construction of a new building or facility or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building or facility (including site grading and improvement and architect fees).

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, § 401, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 564; Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, § 101(a) [title VII, § 753(c)(2)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681-33.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Act of 1990, referred to in subsec. (c)(1)(B), is subtitle G (§§ 1657-1664) of title XVI of Pub. L. 101-624, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3756, which is classified generally to subchapter VI (§ 5901 et seq.) of chapter 88 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 5901(a) of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (d)(5). Pub. L. 105-277 added par. (5).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-277 effective June 23, 1998, see section 101(a) [title VII, § 753(f)] of Pub. L. 105-277, set out as a note under section 343 of this title.

§ 7622. Partnerships for high-value agricultural product quality research

(a) “Eligible partnership” defined

In this section, the term “eligible partnership” means a partnership consisting of a land-

grant college or university and other entities specified in subsection (c)(1) of this section that satisfies the eligibility criteria specified in subsection (c) of this section.

(b) Establishment of partnerships by grant

The Secretary of Agriculture may make competitive grants to an eligible partnership to coordinate and manage research and extension activities to enhance the quality of high-value agricultural products.

(c) Criteria for an eligible partnership

(1) Primary institutions in partnership

The primary institution involved in an eligible partnership shall be a land-grant college or university, acting in partnership with other colleges or universities, nonprofit research and development entities, and Federal laboratories.

(2) Prioritization of research activities

An eligible partnership shall prioritize research and extension activities in order to—

- (A) enhance the competitiveness of United States agricultural products;
- (B) increase exports of such products; and
- (C) substitute such products for imported products.

(3) Coordination

An eligible partnership shall coordinate among the entities comprising the partnership the activities supported by the eligible partnership, including the provision of mechanisms for sharing resources between institutions and laboratories and the coordination of public and private sector partners to maximize cost-effectiveness.

(d) Types of research and extension activities

Research or extension supported by an eligible partnership may address the full spectrum of production, processing, packaging, transportation, and marketing issues related to a high-value agricultural product. Such issues include—

- (1) environmentally responsible—
 - (A) pest management alternatives and biotechnology;
 - (B) sustainable farming methods; and
 - (C) soil conservation and enhanced resource management;
- (2) genetic research to develop improved agricultural-based products;
- (3) refinement of field production practices and technology to improve quality, yield, and production efficiencies;
- (4) processing and package technology to improve product quality, stability, or flavor intensity;
- (5) marketing research regarding consumer perceptions and preferences;
- (6) economic research, including industry characteristics, growth, and competitive analysis; and
- (7) research to facilitate diversified, value-added enterprises in rural areas.

(e) Elements of grant making process

(1) Period of grant

The Secretary may award a grant under this section for a period not to exceed 5 years.

(2) Preferences

In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall provide a preference to proposals that—

- (A) demonstrate linkages with—
 - (i) agencies of the Department;
 - (ii) other related Federal research laboratories and agencies;
 - (iii) colleges and universities; and
 - (iv) private industry; and
- (B) guarantee matching funds in excess of the amounts required by paragraph (3).

(3) Matching funds

An eligible partnership shall contribute an amount of non-Federal funds for the operation of the partnership that is at least equal to the amount of grant funds received by the partnership under this section.

(f) Limitation on use of grant funds

Funds provided under this section may not be used for the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of a building or facility.

(g) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, § 402, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 566.)

§ 7623. Precision agriculture

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Agricultural inputs

The term “agricultural inputs” includes all farm management, agronomic, and field-applied agricultural production inputs, such as machinery, labor, time, fuel, irrigation water, commercial nutrients, feed stuffs, veterinary drugs and vaccines, livestock waste, crop protection chemicals, agronomic data and information, application and management services, seed, and other inputs used in agricultural production.

(2) Eligible entity

The term “eligible entity” means—

- (A) a State agricultural experiment station;
- (B) a college or university;
- (C) a research institution or organization;
- (D) a Federal or State government entity or agency;
- (E) a national laboratory;
- (F) a private organization or corporation;
- (G) an agricultural producer or other land manager; or
- (H) a precision agriculture partnership referred to in subsection (g) of this section.

(3) Precision agriculture

The term “precision agriculture” means an integrated information- and production-based farming system that is designed to increase long-term, site-specific, and whole farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profitability while minimizing unintended impacts on wildlife and the environment by—

(A) combining agricultural sciences, agricultural inputs and practices, agronomic production databases, and precision agriculture technologies to efficiently manage agronomic and livestock production systems;

(B) gathering on-farm information pertaining to the variation and interaction of site-specific spatial and temporal factors affecting crop and livestock production;

(C) integrating such information with appropriate data derived from field scouting, remote sensing, and other precision agriculture technologies in a timely manner in order to facilitate on-farm decisionmaking; or

(D) using such information to prescribe and deliver site-specific application of agricultural inputs and management practices in agricultural production systems.

(4) Precision agriculture technologies

The term “precision agriculture technologies” includes—

(A) instrumentation and techniques ranging from sophisticated sensors and software systems to manual sampling and data collection tools that measure, record, and manage spatial and temporal data;

(B) technologies for searching out and assembling information necessary for sound agricultural production decisionmaking;

(C) open systems technologies for data networking and processing that produce valued systems for farm management decisionmaking; or

(D) machines that deliver information-based management practices.

(5) Systems research

The term “systems research” means an integrated, coordinated, and iterative investigative process that involves—

(A) the multiple interacting components and aspects of precision agriculture systems, including synthesis of new knowledge regarding the physical-chemical-biological processes and complex interactions of the systems with cropping, livestock production practices, and natural resource systems;

(B) precision agriculture technologies development and implementation;

(C) data and information collection and interpretation;

(D) production-scale planning;

(E) production-scale implementation; and

(F) farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profitability.

(b) Grants authorized

(1) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture may make competitive grants, for periods not to exceed 5 years, to eligible entities to conduct research, education, or information dissemination projects for the development and advancement of precision agriculture.

(2) Private sector financing

A grant under this section shall be used to support only a project that the Secretary determines is unlikely to be financed by the private sector.

(3) Consultation with Advisory Board

The Secretary shall make grants under this section in consultation with the Advisory Board.

(c) Purposes of projects

A research, education, or information dissemination project supported by a grant under this section shall address 1 or more of the following purposes:

(1) The study and promotion of components of precision agriculture technologies using a systems research approach designed to increase long-term site-specific and whole-farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profitability.

(2) The improvement in the understanding of agronomic systems, including, soil, water, land cover (including grazing land), pest management systems, and meteorological variability.

(3) The provision of training and educational programs for State cooperative extension services agents, and other professionals involved in the production and transfer of integrated precision agriculture technology.

(4) The development, demonstration, and dissemination of information regarding precision agriculture technologies and systems and the potential costs and benefits of precision agriculture as it relates to—

(A) increased long-term farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profitability;

(B) the maintenance of the environment;

(C) improvements in international trade; and

(D) an integrated program of education for agricultural producers and consumers, including family owned and operated farms.

(5) The promotion of systems research and education projects focusing on the integration of the multiple aspects of precision agriculture, including development, production-scale implementation, and farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profitability.

(6) The study of whether precision agriculture technologies are applicable and accessible to small and medium-size farms and the study of methods of improving the applicability of precision agriculture technologies to those farms.

(d) Grant priorities

In making grants to eligible entities under this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Board, shall give priority to research, education, or information dissemination projects designed to accomplish the following:

(1) Evaluate the use of precision agriculture technologies using a systems research approach to increase long-term site-specific and whole-farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profitability.

(2) Integrate research, education, and information dissemination components in a practical and readily available manner so that the findings of the project will be made readily usable by agricultural producers.

(3) Demonstrate the efficient use of agricultural inputs, rather than the uniform reduction in the use of agricultural inputs.

(4) Maximize the involvement and cooperation of precision agriculture producers, certified crop advisers, State cooperative extension services agents, agricultural input machinery, product and service providers, nonprofit organizations, agribusinesses, veterinarians, land-grant colleges and universities, and Federal agencies in precision agriculture systems research projects involving on-farm research, education, and dissemination of precision agriculture information.

(5) Maximize collaboration with multiple agencies and other partners, including through leveraging of funds and resources.

(e) Matching funds

The amount of a grant under this section to an eligible entity (other than a Federal agency) may not exceed the amount that the eligible entity makes available out of non-Federal funds for precision agriculture research and for the establishment and maintenance of facilities necessary for conducting precision agriculture research.

(f) Reservation of funds for education and information dissemination projects

Of the funds made available for grants under this section, the Secretary shall reserve a portion of the funds for grants for projects regarding precision agriculture related to education or information dissemination.

(g) Precision agriculture partnerships

In carrying out this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Board, shall encourage the establishment of appropriate multi-state and national partnerships or consortia between—

(1) land-grant colleges and universities, State agricultural experiment stations, State cooperative extension services, other colleges and universities with demonstrable expertise regarding precision agriculture, agencies of the Department, national laboratories, agribusinesses, agricultural equipment and input manufacturers and retailers, certified crop advisers, commodity organizations, veterinarians, other Federal or State government entities and agencies, or nonagricultural industries and nonprofit organizations with demonstrable expertise regarding precision agriculture; and

(2) agricultural producers or other land managers.

(h) Limitation regarding facilities

A grant made under this section may not be used for the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of a building or facility.

(i) Authorization of appropriations

(1) In general

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002, of which, for each fiscal year—

(A) not less than 30 percent shall be available to make grants for research to be conducted by multidisciplinary teams; and

(B) not less than 40 percent shall be available to make grants for research to be con-

ducted by eligible entities conducting systems research directly applicable to producers and agricultural production systems.

(2) Availability of funds

Funds made available under paragraph (1) shall be available for obligation for a 2-year period beginning on October 1 of the fiscal year for which the funds are made available.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, § 403, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 567.)

§ 7624. Biobased products

(a) “Biobased product” defined

In this section, the term “biobased product” means a product suitable for food or nonfood use that is derived in whole or in part from renewable agricultural and forestry materials.

(b) Coordination of biobased product activities

The Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(1) coordinate the research, technical expertise, economic information, and market information resources and activities of the Department to develop, commercialize, and promote the use of biobased products;

(2) solicit input from private sector persons who produce, or are interested in producing, biobased products;

(3) provide a centralized contact point for advice and technical assistance for promising and innovative biobased products; and

(4) submit an annual report to Congress describing the coordinated research, marketing, and commercialization activities of the Department relating to biobased products.

(c) Cooperative agreements for biobased products

(1) Agreements authorized

The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with private entities described in subsection (d) of this section, under which the facilities and technical expertise of the Agricultural Research Service may be made available to operate pilot plants and other large-scale preparation facilities for the purpose of bringing technologies necessary for the development and commercialization of new biobased products to the point of practical application.

(2) Description of cooperative activities

Cooperative activities may include—

(A) research on potential environmental impacts of a biobased product;

(B) methods to reduce the cost of manufacturing a biobased product; and

(C) other appropriate research.

(d) Eligible partners

The following entities shall be eligible to enter into a cooperative agreement under subsection (c) of this section:

(1) A party that has entered into a cooperative research and development agreement with the Secretary under section 12 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a).

(2) A recipient of funding from the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commer-

cialization Corporation established under section 5902 of this title.

(3) A recipient of funding from the Biotechnology Research and Development Corporation.

(4) A recipient of funding from the Secretary under a Small Business Innovation Research Program established under section 638 of title 15.

(e) Pilot project

The Secretary, acting through the Agricultural Research Service, may establish and carry out a pilot project under which grants are provided, on a competitive basis, to scientists of the Agricultural Research Service to—

(1) encourage innovative and collaborative science; and

(2) during each of fiscal years 1999 through 2001, develop biobased products with promising commercial potential.

(f) Source of funds

(1) In general

Except as provided in paragraph (2), to carry out this section, the Secretary may use—

(A) funds appropriated to carry out this section; and

(B) funds otherwise available for cooperative research and development agreements under the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

(2) Exception

The Secretary may not use funds referred to in paragraph (1)(B) to carry out subsection (e) of this section.

(g) Sale of developed products

For the purpose of determining the market potential for new biobased products produced at a pilot plant or other large-scale preparation facility under a cooperative agreement under this section, the Secretary shall authorize the private partner or partners to the agreement to sell the products.

(h) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, § 404, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 570.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, referred to in subsec. (f)(1)(B), is Pub. L. 96-480, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2311, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 63 (§3701 et seq.) of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 3701 of Title 15 and Tables.

BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Pub. L. 106-224, title III, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 428, provided that:

“SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

“This title may be cited as the ‘Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000’.

“SEC. 302. FINDINGS.

“Congress finds that—

“(1) conversion of biomass into biobased industrial products offers outstanding potential for benefit to the national interest through—

“(A) improved strategic security and balance of payments;

“(B) healthier rural economies;

“(C) improved environmental quality;

“(D) near-zero net greenhouse gas emissions;

“(E) technology export; and

“(F) sustainable resource supply;

“(2) the key technical challenges to be overcome in order for biobased industrial products to be cost-competitive are finding new technology and reducing the cost of technology for converting biomass into desired biobased industrial products;

“(3) biobased fuels, such as ethanol, have the clear potential to be sustainable, low cost, and high performance fuels that are compatible with both current and future transportation systems and provide near-zero net greenhouse gas emissions;

“(4) biobased chemicals have the clear potential for environmentally benign product life cycles;

“(5) biobased power can—

“(A) provide environmental benefits;

“(B) promote rural economic development; and

“(C) diversify energy resource options;

“(6) many biomass feedstocks suitable for industrial processing show the clear potential for sustainable production, in some cases resulting in improved soil fertility and carbon sequestration;

“(7)(A) grain processing mills are biorefineries that produce a diversity of useful food, chemical, feed, and fuel products; and

“(B) technologies that result in further diversification of the range of value-added biobased industrial products can meet a key need for the grain processing industry;

“(8)(A) cellulosic feedstocks are attractive because of their low cost and widespread availability; and

“(B) research resulting in cost-effective technology to overcome the recalcitrance of cellulosic biomass would allow biorefineries to produce fuels and bulk chemicals on a very large scale, with a commensurately large realization of the benefit described in paragraph (1);

“(9) research into the fundamentals to understand important mechanisms of biomass conversion can be expected to accelerate the application and advancement of biomass processing technology by—

“(A) increasing the confidence and speed with which new technologies can be scaled up; and

“(B) giving rise to processing innovations based on new knowledge;

“(10) the added utility of biobased industrial products developed through improvements in processing technology would encourage the design of feedstocks that would meet future needs more effectively;

“(11) the creation of value-added biobased industrial products would create new jobs in construction, manufacturing, and distribution, as well as new higher-valued exports of products and technology;

“(12)(A) because of the relatively short-term time horizon characteristic of private sector investments, and because many benefits of biomass processing are in the national interest, it is appropriate for the Federal Government to provide precommercial investment in fundamental research and research-driven innovation in the biomass processing area; and

“(B) such an investment would provide a valuable complement to ongoing and past governmental support in the biomass processing area; and

“(13) several prominent studies, including studies by the President’s Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology and the National Research Council—

“(A) support the potential for large research-driven advances in technologies for production of biobased industrial products as well as associated benefits; and

“(B) document the need for a focused, integrated, and innovation-driven research effort to provide the appropriate progress in a timely manner.

“SEC. 303. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title:

“(1) **ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**—The term ‘Advisory Committee’ means the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee established by section 306.

“(2) **BIOBASED INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT.**—The term ‘biobased industrial product’ means fuels, chemicals, building materials, or electric power or heat produced from biomass.

“(3) **BIOMASS.**—The term ‘biomass’ means any organic matter that is available on a renewable or recurring basis, including agricultural crops and trees, wood and wood wastes and residues, plants (including aquatic plants), grasses, residues, fibers, and animal wastes, municipal wastes, and other waste materials.

“(4) **BOARD.**—The term ‘Board’ means the Biomass Research and Development Board established by section 305.

“(5) **INITIATIVE.**—The term ‘Initiative’ means the Biomass Research and Development Initiative established under section 307.

“(6) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given the term in section 102(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)).

“(7) **NATIONAL LABORATORY.**—The term ‘national laboratory’ has the meaning given the term ‘laboratory’ in section 12(d) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a(d)).

“(8) **POINT OF CONTACT.**—The term ‘point of contact’ means a point of contact designated under section 304(d).

“(9) **PROCESSING.**—The term ‘processing’ means the derivation of biobased industrial products from biomass, including—

- “(A) feedstock production;
- “(B) harvest and handling;
- “(C) pretreatment or thermochemical processing;
- “(D) fermentation;
- “(E) catalytic processing;
- “(F) product recovery; and
- “(G) coproduct production.

“(10) **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**—The term ‘research and development’ means research, development, and demonstration.

“**SEC. 304. COOPERATION AND COORDINATION IN BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy shall cooperate with respect to, and coordinate, policies and procedures that promote research and development leading to the production of biobased industrial products.

“(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the cooperation and coordination shall be—

- “(1) to understand the key mechanisms underlying the recalcitrance of biomass for conversion into biobased industrial products;
- “(2) to develop new and cost-effective technologies that would result in large-scale commercial production of low cost and sustainable biobased industrial products;
- “(3) to ensure that biobased industrial products are developed in a manner that enhances their economic, energy security, and environmental benefits; and
- “(4) to promote the development and use of agricultural and energy crops for conversion into biobased industrial products.

“(c) **AREAS.**—In carrying out this title, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with heads of appropriate departments and agencies, shall promote research and development—

- “(1) to advance the availability and widespread use of energy efficient, economically competitive, and environmentally sound biobased industrial products in a manner that is consistent with the goals of the United States relating to sustainable and secure supplies of food, chemicals, and fuel;
- “(2) to ensure full consideration of Federal land and land management programs as potential feedstock resources for biobased industrial products; and

“(3) to assess the environmental, economic, and social impact of production of biobased industrial products from biomass on a large scale.

“(d) **POINTS OF CONTACT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—To coordinate research and development programs and activities relating to biobased industrial products that are carried out by their respective Departments—

“(A) the Secretary of Agriculture shall designate, as the point of contact for the Department of Agriculture, an officer of the Department of Agriculture appointed by the President to a position in the Department before the date of the designation, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

“(B) the Secretary of Energy shall designate, as the point of contact for the Department of Energy, an officer of the Department of Energy appointed by the President to a position in the Department before the date of the designation, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

“(2) **DUTIES.**—The points of contact shall jointly—

- “(A) assist in arranging interlaboratory and site-specific supplemental agreements for research and development projects relating to biobased industrial products;
- “(B) serve as cochairpersons of the Board;
- “(C) administer the Initiative; and
- “(D) respond in writing to each recommendation of the Advisory Committee made under section 306(c).

“**SEC. 305. BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

“(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the Biomass Research and Development Board, which shall supersede the Interagency Council on Biobased Products and Bioenergy established by Executive Order No. 13134 [set out below], to coordinate programs within and among departments and agencies of the Federal Government for the purpose of promoting the use of biobased industrial products by—

- “(1) maximizing the benefits deriving from Federal grants and assistance; and
- “(2) bringing coherence to Federal strategic planning.

“(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Board shall consist of—

- “(1) the point of contact of the Department of Energy designated under section 304(d)(1)(B), who shall serve as cochairperson of the Board;
- “(2) the point of contact of the Department of Agriculture designated under section 304(d)(1)(A), who shall serve as cochairperson of the Board;
- “(3) a senior officer of each of the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation, and the Office of Science and Technology Policy, each of whom shall—

- “(A) be appointed by the head of the respective agency; and
- “(B) have a rank that is equivalent to the rank of the points of contact; and
- “(4) at the option of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, other members appointed by the Secretaries (after consultation with the members described in paragraphs (1) through (3)).

“(c) **DUTIES.**—The Board shall—

- “(1) coordinate research and development activities relating to biobased industrial products—
 - “(A) between the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Energy; and
 - “(B) with other departments and agencies of the Federal Government; and
- “(2) provide recommendations to the points of contact concerning administration of this title.

“(d) **FUNDING.**—Each agency represented on the Board is encouraged to provide funds for any purpose under this title.

“(e) **MEETINGS.**—The Board shall meet at least quarterly to enable the Board to carry out the duties of the Board under subsection (c).

“**SEC. 306. BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

“(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory

Committee, which shall supersede the Advisory Committee on Biobased Products and Bioenergy established by Executive Order No. 13134 [set out below]—

“(1) to advise the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the points of contact concerning—

“(A) the technical focus and direction of requests for proposals issued under the Initiative; and

“(B) procedures for reviewing and evaluating the proposals;

“(2) to facilitate consultations and partnerships among Federal and State agencies, agricultural producers, industry, consumers, the research community, and other interested groups to carry out program activities relating to the Initiative; and

“(3) to evaluate and perform strategic planning on program activities relating to the Initiative.

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall consist of—

“(A) an individual affiliated with the biobased industrial products industry;

“(B) an individual affiliated with an institution of higher education who has expertise in biobased industrial products;

“(C) two prominent engineers or scientists from government or academia who have expertise in biobased industrial products;

“(D) an individual affiliated with a commodity trade association;

“(E) an individual affiliated with an environmental or conservation organization;

“(F) an individual associated with State government who has expertise in biobased industrial products;

“(G) an individual with expertise in energy analysis;

“(H) an individual with expertise in the economics of biobased industrial products;

“(I) an individual with expertise in agricultural economics; and

“(J) at the option of the points of contact, other members.

“(2) APPOINTMENT.—The members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the points of contact.

“(c) DUTIES.—The Advisory Committee shall—

“(1) advise the points of contact with respect to the Initiative; and

“(2) evaluate whether, and make recommendations in writing to the Board to ensure that—

“(A) funds authorized for the Initiative are distributed and used in a manner that is consistent with the goals of the Initiative;

“(B) the points of contact are funding proposals under this title that are selected on the basis of merit, as determined by an independent panel of scientific and technical peers; and

“(C) activities under this title are carried out in accordance with this title.

“(d) COORDINATION.—To avoid duplication of effort, the Advisory Committee shall coordinate its activities with those of other Federal advisory committees working in related areas.

“(e) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly to enable the Advisory Committee to carry out the duties of the Advisory Committee under subsection (c).

“(f) TERMS.—Members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, except that—

“(1) one-third of the members initially appointed shall be appointed for a term of 1 year; and

“(2) one-third of the members initially appointed shall be appointed for a term of 2 years.

“SEC. 307. BIOMASS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, acting through their respective points of contact and in consultation with the

Board, shall establish and carry out a Biomass Research and Development Initiative under which competitively awarded grants, contracts, and financial assistance are provided to, or entered into with, eligible entities to carry out research on biobased industrial products.

“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of grants, contracts, and assistance under this section shall be—

“(1) to stimulate collaborative activities by a diverse range of experts in all aspects of biomass processing for the purpose of conducting fundamental and innovation-targeted research and technology development;

“(2) to enhance creative and imaginative approaches toward biomass processing that will serve to develop the next generation of advanced technologies making possible low cost and sustainable biobased industrial products;

“(3) to strengthen the intellectual resources of the United States through the training and education of future scientists, engineers, managers, and business leaders in the field of biomass processing; and

“(4) to promote integrated research partnerships among colleges, universities, national laboratories, Federal and State research agencies, and the private sector as the best means of overcoming technical challenges that span multiple research and engineering disciplines and of gaining better leverage from limited Federal research funds.

“(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant, contract, or assistance under this section, an applicant shall be—

“(A) an institution of higher education;

“(B) a national laboratory;

“(C) a Federal research agency;

“(D) a State research agency;

“(E) a private sector entity;

“(F) a nonprofit organization; or

“(G) a consortium of two or more entities described in subparagraphs (A) through (F).

“(2) ADMINISTRATION.—After consultation with the Board, the points of contact shall—

“(A) publish annually one or more joint requests for proposals for grants, contracts, and assistance under this section;

“(B) establish a priority in grants, contracts, and assistance under this section for research that—

“(i) demonstrates potential for significant advances in biomass processing;

“(ii) demonstrates potential to substantially further scale-sensitive national objectives such as—

“(I) sustainable resource supply;

“(II) reduced greenhouse gas emissions;

“(III) healthier rural economies; and

“(IV) improved strategic security and trade balances; and

“(iii) would improve knowledge of important biomass processing systems that demonstrate potential for commercial applications;

“(C) require that grants, contracts, and assistance under this section be awarded competitively, on the basis of merit, after the establishment of procedures that provide for scientific peer review by an independent panel of scientific and technical peers; and

“(D) give preference to applications that—

“(i) involve a consortia of experts from multiple institutions; and

“(ii) encourage the integration of disciplines and application of the best technical resources.

“(d) USES OF GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND ASSISTANCE.—A grant, contract, or assistance under this section may be used to conduct—

“(1) research on process technology for overcoming the recalcitrance of biomass, including research on key mechanisms, advanced technologies, and demonstration test beds for—

“(A) feedstock pretreatment and hydrolysis of cellulose and hemicellulose, including new technologies for—

“(i) enhanced sugar yields;
 “(ii) lower overall chemical use;
 “(iii) less costly materials; and
 “(iv) cost reduction;
 “(B) development of novel organisms and other approaches to substantially lower the cost of cellulase enzymes and enzymatic hydrolysis, including dedicated cellulase production and consolidated bioprocessing strategies; and
 “(C) approaches other than enzymatic hydrolysis for overcoming the recalcitrance of cellulosic biomass;
 “(2) research on technologies for diversifying the range of products that can be efficiently and cost-competitively produced from biomass, including research on—
 “(A) metabolic engineering of biological systems (including the safe use of genetically modified crops) to produce novel products, especially commodity products, or to increase product selectivity and tolerance, with a research priority for the development of biobased industrial products that can compete in performance and cost with fossil-based products;
 “(B) catalytic processing to convert intermediates of biomass processing into products of interest;
 “(C) separation technologies for cost-effective product recovery and purification;
 “(D) approaches other than metabolic engineering and catalytic conversion of intermediates of biomass processing;
 “(E) advanced biomass gasification technologies, including coproduction of power and heat as an integrated component of biomass processing, with the possibility of generating excess electricity for sale; and
 “(F) related research in advanced turbine and stationary fuel cell technology for production of electricity from biomass; and
 “(3) research aimed at ensuring the environmental performance and economic viability of biobased industrial products and their raw material input of biomass when considered as an integrated system, including research on—
 “(A) the analysis of, and strategies to enhance, the environmental performance and sustainability of biobased industrial products, including research on—
 “(i) accurate measurement and analysis of greenhouse gas emissions, carbon sequestration, and carbon cycling in relation to the life cycle of biobased industrial products and feedstocks with respect to other alternatives;
 “(ii) evaluation of current and future biomass resource availability;
 “(iii) development and analysis of land management practices and alternative biomass cropping systems that ensure the environmental performance and sustainability of biomass production and harvesting;
 “(iv) the land, air, water, and biodiversity impacts of large-scale biomass production, processing, and use of biobased industrial products relative to other alternatives; and
 “(v) biomass gasification and combustion to produce electricity;
 “(B) the analysis of, and strategies to enhance, the economic viability of biobased industrial products, including research on—
 “(i) the cost of the required process technology;
 “(ii) the impact of coproducts, including food, animal feed, and fiber, on biobased industrial product price and large-scale economic viability; and
 “(iii) interactions between an emergent biomass refining industry and the petrochemical refining infrastructure; and
 “(C) the field and laboratory research related to feedstock production with the interrelated goals of enhancing the sustainability, increasing productiv-

ity, and decreasing the cost of biomass processing, including research on—

“(i) altering biomass to make biomass easier and less expensive to process;
 “(ii) existing and new agricultural and energy crops that provide a sustainable resource for conversion to biobased industrial products while simultaneously serving as a source for coproducts such as food, animal feed, and fiber;
 “(iii) improved technologies for harvest, collection, transport, storage, and handling of crop and residue feedstocks; and
 “(iv) development of economically viable cropping systems that improve the conservation and restoration of marginal land; or
 “(4) any research and development in technologies or processes determined by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy, acting through their respective points of contact and in consultation with the Board, to be consistent with the purposes described in subsection (b) and the priority described in subsection (c)(2)(B).
 “(e) TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION TRANSFER TO AGRICULTURAL USERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service and the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service shall ensure that applicable research results and technologies from the Initiative are adapted, made available, and disseminated through their respective services, as appropriate.

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act [June 20, 2000], the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service and the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service shall submit to the committees of Congress with jurisdiction over the Initiative a report on the activities conducted by the services under this subsection.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to funds appropriated for biomass research and development under the general authority of the Secretary of Energy to conduct research and development programs (which may also be used to carry out this title), there are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Agriculture to carry out this title \$49,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2000 through 2005.

“SEC. 308. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent administrative support and funds are not provided by other agencies under subsection (b), the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture may provide such administrative support and funds of the Department of Energy and the Department of Agriculture to the Board and the Advisory Committee as are necessary to enable the Board and the Advisory Committee to carry out their duties under this title.

“(b) OTHER AGENCIES.—The heads of the agencies referred to in section 305(b)(3), and the other members appointed under section 305(b)(4), may, and are encouraged to, provide administrative support and funds of their respective agencies to the Board and the Advisory Committee.

“(c) LIMITATION.—Not more than 4 percent of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year under section 307(f) may be used to pay the administrative costs of carrying out this title.

“SEC. 309. REPORTS.

“(a) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [June 20, 2000], the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture shall jointly submit to Congress a report that—

“(1) identifies the points of contact, the members of the Board, and the members of the Advisory Committee;

“(2) describes the status of current biobased industrial product research and development efforts in both the Federal Government and private sector;

“(3) includes a section prepared by the Board that establishes a set of criteria to assess the potential of

biobased industrial products, which shall include for both biomass production and transformation into biobased industrial products—

“(A) an energy accounting;

“(B) an environmental impact assessment; and

“(C) an economic assessment; and

“(4) describes the research and development goals of the Initiative, including how funds will be allocated in order to accomplish those goals.

“(b) ANNUAL REPORTS.—For each fiscal year for which funds are made available to carry out this title, the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture shall jointly submit to Congress a detailed report on—

“(1) the status and progress of the Initiative, including a report from the Advisory Committee on whether funds appropriated for the Initiative have been distributed and used in a manner that—

“(A) is consistent with the purposes described in section 307(b);

“(B) uses the set of criteria established under subsection (a)(3); and

“(C) takes into account any recommendations that have been made by the Advisory Committee;

“(2) the general status of cooperation and research and development efforts carried out at each agency with respect to biobased industrial products, including a report from the Advisory Committee on whether the points of contact are funding proposals that are selected under section 307(c)(2)(C); and

“(3) the plans of the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture for addressing concerns raised in the report, including concerns raised by the Advisory Committee.

“SEC. 310. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.

“The authority provided under this title shall terminate on December 31, 2005.”

EX. ORD. NO. 13134. DEVELOPING AND PROMOTING BIOBASED PRODUCTS AND BIOENERGY

Ex. Ord. No. 13134, Aug. 12, 1999, 64 F.R. 44639, as amended by Ex. Ord. No. 13225, §3(a), Sept. 28, 2001, 66 F.R. 50291, provided:

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), and in order to stimulate the creation and early adoption of technologies needed to make biobased products and bioenergy cost-competitive in large national and international markets, it is hereby ordered as follows:

SECTION 1. *Policy.* Current biobased product and bioenergy technology has the potential to make renewable farm and forestry resources major sources of affordable electricity, fuel, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and other materials. Technical advances in these areas can create an expanding array of exciting new business and employment opportunities for farmers, foresters, ranchers, and other businesses in rural America. These technologies can create new markets for farm and forest waste products, new economic opportunities for under-used land, and new value-added business opportunities. They also have the potential to reduce our Nation's dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, water quality, and flood control, decrease erosion, and help minimize net production of greenhouse gases. It is the policy of this Administration, therefore, to develop a comprehensive national strategy, including research, development, and private sector incentives, to stimulate the creation and early adoption of technologies needed to make biobased products and bioenergy cost-competitive in large national and international markets.

SEC. 2. *Establishment of the Interagency Council on Biobased Products and Bioenergy.* (a) There is established the Interagency Council on Biobased Products and Bioenergy (the “Council”). The Council shall be composed of the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, and the Interior, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Director of the Of-

fice of Management and Budget, the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Federal Environmental Executive, and the heads of other relevant agencies as may be determined by the Co-Chairs of the Council. Members may serve on the Council through designees. Designees shall be senior officials who report directly to the agency head (Assistant Secretary or equivalent).

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Energy shall serve as Co-Chairs of the Council.

(c) The Council shall prepare annually a strategic plan for the President outlining overall national goals in the development and use of biobased products and bioenergy in an environmentally sound manner and how these goals can best be achieved through Federal programs and integrated planning. The goals shall include promoting national economic growth with specific attention to rural economic interests, energy security, and environmental sustainability and protection. These strategic plans shall be compatible with the national goal of producing safe and affordable supplies of food, feed, and fiber in a way that is sustainable and protects the environment, and shall include measurable objectives. Specifically, these strategic plans shall cover the following areas:

(1) biobased products, including commercial and industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals, products with large carbon sequestering capacity, and other materials; and

(2) biomass used in the production of energy (electricity; liquid, solid, and gaseous fuels; and heat).

(d) To ensure that the United States takes full advantage of the potential economic and environmental benefits of bioenergy, these strategic plans shall be based on analyses of: (1) the economic impacts of expanded biomass production and use; and (2) the impacts on national environmental objectives, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Specifically, these plans shall include:

(1) a description of priorities for research, development, demonstration, and other investments in biobased products and bioenergy;

(2) a coordinated Federal program of research, building on the research budgets of each participating agency; and

(3) proposals for using existing agency authorities to encourage the adoption and use of biobased products and bioenergy and recommended legislation for modifying these authorities or creating new authorities if needed.

(e) The first annual strategic plan shall be submitted to the President within 8 months from the date of this order.

(f) The Council shall coordinate its activities with actions called for in all relevant Executive orders and shall not be in conflict with proposals advocated by other Executive orders.

[SECS. 3 and 4. Revoked by Ex. Ord. No. 13225, §3(a), Sept. 28, 2001, 66 F.R. 50291.]

SEC. 5. *Duties of the Departments of Agriculture and Energy.* The Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture and Energy, to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations, shall each establish a working group on biobased products and biobased activities in their respective Departments. Consistent with the Federal biobased products and bioenergy strategic plans described in sections 2(c) and (d) of this order, the working groups shall:

(1) provide strategic planning and policy advice on the Department's research, development, and commercialization of biobased products and bioenergy; and

(2) identify research activities and demonstration projects to address new opportunities in the areas of biomass production, biobased product and bioenergy production, and related fundamental research.

The chair of each Department's working group shall be a senior official who reports directly to the agency head. If the Secretary of Agriculture or Energy serves

on the Interagency Council on Biobased Products and Bioenergy through a designee, the designee should be the chair of the Department's working group.

SEC. 6. *Establishment of a National Biobased Products and Bioenergy Coordination Office.* Within 120 days of this order, the Secretaries of Agriculture and Energy shall establish a joint National Biobased Products and Bioenergy Coordination Office ("Office") to ensure effective day-to-day coordination of actions designed to implement the strategic plans and guidance provided by the Council and respond to recommendations made by the Committee. All agencies represented on the Council, or that have capabilities and missions related to the work of the Council, shall be invited to participate in the operation of the Office. The Office shall:

(a) serve as an executive secretariat and support the work of the Council, as determined by the Council, including the coordination of multi-agency, integrated research, development, and demonstration ("RD&D") activities;

(b) use advanced communication and computational tools to facilitate research coordination and collaborative research by participating Federal and nonfederal research facilities and to perform activities in support of RD&D on biobased product and bioenergy development, including strategic planning, program analysis and evaluation, communications networking, information and data dissemination and technology transfer, and collaborative team building for RD&D projects; and

(c) facilitate use of new information technologies for rapid dissemination of information on biobased products and bioenergy to and among farm operators; agribusiness, chemical, forest products, energy, and other business sectors; the university community; and public interest groups that could benefit from timely and reliable information.

SEC. 7. *Definitions.* For the purposes of this order: (a) The term "biomass" means any organic matter that is available on a renewable or recurring basis (excluding old-growth timber), including dedicated energy crops and trees, agricultural food and feed crop residues, aquatic plants, wood and wood residues, animal wastes, and other waste materials.

(b) The term "biobased product," as defined in Executive Order 13101 [42 U.S.C. 6961 note], means a commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that utilizes biological products or renewable domestic agricultural (plant, animal, and marine) or forestry materials.

(c) The term "bioenergy" means biomass used in the production of energy (electricity; liquid, solid, and gaseous fuels; and heat).

(d) The term "old growth timber" means timber of a forest from the late successional stage of forest development. The forest contains live and dead trees of various sizes, species, composition, and age class structure. The age and structure of old growth varies significantly by forest type and from one biogeoclimatic zone to another.

SEC. 8. *Judicial Review.* This order does not create any enforceable rights against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.

§ 7625. Thomas Jefferson Initiative for Crop Diversification

(a) Initiative required

The Secretary of Agriculture shall provide for a research initiative (to be known as the "Thomas Jefferson Initiative for Crop Diversification") for the purpose of conducting research and development, in cooperation with other public and private entities, on the production and marketing of new and nontraditional crops needed to strengthen and diversify the agricultural production base of the United States.

(b) Research and education efforts

The initiative shall include research and education efforts regarding new and nontraditional crops designed—

(1) to identify and overcome agronomic barriers to profitable production;

(2) to identify and overcome other production and marketing barriers; and

(3) to develop processing and utilization technologies for new and nontraditional crops.

(c) Purposes

The purposes of the initiative are—

(1) to develop a focused program of research and development at the regional and national levels to overcome barriers to the development of—

(A) new crop opportunities for agricultural producers; and

(B) related value-added enterprises in rural communities; and

(2) to ensure a broad-based effort encompassing research, education, market development, and support of entrepreneurial activity leading to increased agricultural diversification.

(d) Establishment of initiative

The Secretary shall coordinate the initiative through a nonprofit center or institute that will coordinate research and education programs in cooperation with other public and private entities. The Secretary shall administer research and education grants made under this section.

(e) Regional emphasis

(1) Required

The Secretary shall support development of multistate regional efforts in crop diversification.

(2) Site-specific crop development efforts

Of funding made available to carry out the initiative, not less than 50 percent shall be used for regional efforts centered at colleges and universities in order to facilitate site-specific crop development efforts.

(f) Eligible grantee

The Secretary may award funds under this section to colleges or universities, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, or individuals.

(g) Administration

(1) Grants and contracts

Grants awarded through the initiative shall be selected on a competitive basis.

(2) Private businesses

The recipient of a grant may use a portion of the grant funds for standard contracts with private businesses, such as for test processing of a new or nontraditional crop.

(3) Terms

The term of a grant awarded through the initiative may not exceed 5 years.

(4) Matching funds

The Secretary shall require the recipient of a grant awarded through the initiative to contribute an amount of funds from non-Federal sources that is at least equal to the amount provided by the Federal Government.

(h) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, §405, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 572.)

§ 7626. Integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants program

(a) Purpose

It is the purpose of this section to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an integrated research, education, and extension competitive grant program to provide funding for integrated, multifunctional agricultural research, extension, and education activities.

(b) Competitive grants authorized

Subject to the availability of appropriations to carry out this section, the Secretary may award grants to colleges and universities (as defined in section 3103 of this title) on a competitive basis for integrated agricultural research, education, and extension projects in accordance with this section.

(c) Criteria for grants

Grants under this section shall be awarded to address priorities in United States agriculture, determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Advisory Board, that involve integrated research, extension, and education activities.

(d) Matching of funds

(1) General requirement

If a grant under this section provides a particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, the Secretary shall require the recipient of the grant to provide funds or in-kind support to match the amount of funds provided by the Secretary in the grant.

(2) Waiver

The Secretary may waive the matching funds requirement specified in paragraph (1) with respect to a grant if the Secretary determines that—

(A) the results of the project, while of particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural commodities generally; or

(B) the project involves a minor commodity, the project deals with scientifically important research, and the grant recipient is unable to satisfy the matching funds requirement.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, §406, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 573.)

§ 7627. Coordinated program of research, extension, and education to improve viability of small and medium size dairy, livestock, and poultry operations

(a) Program authorized

The Secretary of Agriculture may carry out a coordinated program of research, extension, and education to improve the competitiveness, viability, and sustainability of small and medium size dairy, livestock, and poultry operations (referred to in this section as “operations”).

(b) Components

To the extent the Secretary elects to carry out the program, the Secretary shall conduct—

(1) research, development, and on-farm extension and education concerning low-cost production facilities and practices, management systems, and genetics that are appropriate for the operations;

(2) in the case of dairy and livestock operations, research and extension on management-intensive grazing systems for dairy and livestock production to realize the potential for reduced capital and feed costs through greater use of management skills, labor availability optimization, and the natural benefits of grazing pastures;

(3) research and extension on integrated crop and livestock or poultry systems that increase efficiencies, reduce costs, and prevent environmental pollution to strengthen the competitive position of the operations;

(4) economic analyses and market feasibility studies to identify new and expanded opportunities for producers on the operations that provide tools and strategies to meet consumer demand in domestic and international markets, such as cooperative marketing and value-added strategies for milk, meat, and poultry production and processing; and

(5) technology assessment that compares the technological resources of large specialized producers with the technological needs of producers on the operations to identify and transfer existing technology across all sizes and scales and to identify the specific research and education needs of the producers.

(c) Administration

The Secretary may use the funds, facilities, and technical expertise of the Agricultural Research Service and the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service and other funds available to the Secretary (other than funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation) to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, §407, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 573.)

§ 7628. Support for research regarding diseases of wheat and barley caused by *Fusarium graminearum*

(a) Research grant authorized

The Secretary of Agriculture may make a grant to a consortium of land-grant colleges and universities to enhance the ability of the consortium to carry out a multi-State research project aimed at understanding and combating diseases of wheat and barley caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related fungi (referred to in this section as “wheat scab”).

(b) Research components

Funds provided under this section shall be available for the following collaborative, multi-State research activities:

(1) Identification and understanding of the epidemiology of wheat scab and the toxicological properties of vomitoxin, a toxic metabolite commonly occurring in wheat and barley infected with wheat scab.

(2) Development of crop management strategies to reduce the risk of wheat scab occurrence.

(3) Development of—

(A) efficient and accurate methods to monitor wheat and barley for the presence of wheat scab and resulting vomitoxin contamination;

(B) post-harvest management techniques for wheat and barley infected with wheat scab; and

(C) milling and food processing techniques to render contaminated grain safe.

(4) Strengthening and expansion of plant-breeding activities to enhance the resistance of wheat and barley to wheat scab, including the establishment of a regional advanced breeding material evaluation nursery and a germplasm introduction and evaluation system.

(5) Development and deployment of alternative fungicide application systems and formulations to control wheat scab and consideration of other chemical control strategies to assist farmers until new more resistant wheat and barley varieties are available.

(c) Communications networks

Funds provided under this section shall be available for efforts to concentrate, integrate, and disseminate research, extension, and outreach-orientated information regarding wheat scab.

(d) Management

To oversee the use of a grant made under this section, the Secretary may establish a committee composed of the directors of the agricultural experiment stations in the States in which land-grant colleges and universities that are members of the consortium are located.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,200,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title IV, § 408, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 574.)

SUBCHAPTER III—MISCELLANEOUS
PROVISIONS

PART A—MISCELLANEOUS

§ 7641. Patent Culture Collection fees

(1) Retention

All funds collected by the Agricultural Research Service of the Department of Agriculture in connection with the acceptance of microorganisms for deposit in, or the distribution of microorganisms from, the Patent Culture Collection maintained and operated by the Agricultural Research Service shall be credited to the appropriation supporting the maintenance and operation of the Patent Culture Collection.

(2) Use

The collected funds shall be available to the Agricultural Research Service, without further appropriation or fiscal-year limitation, to carry out its responsibilities under law (including

international treaties) with respect to the Patent Culture Collection.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, § 601(c), June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 585.)

§ 7642. Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database program

(a) Continuation of program

The Secretary of Agriculture shall continue operation of the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database program (referred to in this section as the “FARAD program”) through contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements with appropriate colleges or universities.

(b) Activities

In carrying out the FARAD program, the Secretary shall—

(1) provide livestock producers, extension specialists, scientists, and veterinarians with information to prevent drug, pesticide, and environmental contaminant residues in food animal products;

(2) maintain up-to-date information concerning—

(A) withdrawal times on FDA-approved food animal drugs and appropriate withdrawal intervals for drugs used in food animals in the United States, as established under section 360b(a) of title 21;

(B) official tolerances for drugs and pesticides in tissues, eggs, and milk;

(C) descriptions and sensitivities of rapid screening tests for detecting residues in tissues, eggs, and milk; and

(D) data on the distribution and fate of chemicals in food animals;

(3) publish periodically a compilation of food animal drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(4) make information on food animal drugs available to the public through handbooks and other literature, computer software, a telephone hotline, and the Internet;

(5) furnish producer quality-assurance programs with up-to-date data on approved drugs;

(6) maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date, residue avoidance database;

(7) provide professional advice for determining the withdrawal times necessary for food safety in the use of drugs in food animals; and

(8) engage in other activities designed to promote food safety.

(c) Contract, grants, and cooperative agreements

The Secretary shall offer to enter into a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with 1 or more appropriate colleges and universities to operate the FARAD program. The term of the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement shall be 3 years, with options to extend the term of the contract triennially.

(d) Indirect costs

Federal funds provided by the Secretary under a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement under this section shall be subject to reduction for indirect costs of the recipient of the funds in an amount not to exceed 19 percent of the total Federal funds provided under the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §604, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 586.)

PART B—GENERAL

§ 7651. Nutrient composition data

(a) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture shall update, on a periodic basis, nutrient composition data.

(b) Report

Not later than 180 days after June 23, 1998, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

- (1) the method the Secretary will use to update nutrient composition data, including the quality assurance criteria that will be used and the method for generating the data; and
- (2) the timing for updating the data.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §611, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 605.)

§ 7652. Role of Secretary regarding food and agricultural sciences research and extension

The Secretary of Agriculture shall be the principal official in the executive branch responsible for coordinating all Federal research and extension activities related to food and agricultural sciences.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §613, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 605.)

§ 7653. Office of Pest Management Policy

(a) Purpose

The purpose of this section is to establish an Office of Pest Management Policy to provide for the effective coordination of agricultural policies and activities within the Department of Agriculture related to pesticides and of the development and use of pest management tools, while taking into account the effects of regulatory actions of other government agencies.

(b) Establishment of Office; principal responsibilities

The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish in the Department an Office of Pest Management Policy, which shall be responsible for—

- (1) the development and coordination of Department policy on pest management and pesticides;
- (2) the coordination of activities and services of the Department, including research, extension, and education activities, regarding the development, availability, and use of economically and environmentally sound pest management tools and practices;
- (3) assisting other agencies of the Department in fulfilling their responsibilities related to pest management or pesticides under the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-170; 110 Stat. 1489), the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.), the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), and other applicable laws; and
- (4) performing such other functions as may be required by law or prescribed by the Secretary.

(c) Interagency coordination

In support of its responsibilities under subsection (b) of this section, the Office of Pest Management Policy shall provide leadership to ensure coordination of interagency activities with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, and other Federal and State agencies.

(d) Outreach

The Office of Pest Management Policy shall consult with agricultural producers that may be affected by pest management or pesticide-related activities or actions of the Department or other agencies as necessary in carrying out the Office's responsibilities under this section.

(e) Director

The Office of Pest Management Policy shall be under the direction of a Director appointed by the Secretary, who shall report directly to the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §614, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 605.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Food Quality Protection Act of 1996, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is Pub. L. 104-170, Aug. 3, 1996, 110 Stat. 1489. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1996 Amendment note set out under section 136 of this title and Tables.

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is act June 25, 1947, ch. 125, as amended generally by Pub. L. 92-516, Oct. 21, 1972, 86 Stat. 973, which is classified generally to subchapter II (§136 et seq.) of chapter 6 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 136 of this title and Tables.

The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is act June 25, 1938, ch. 675, 52 Stat. 1040, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 9 (§301 et seq.) of Title 21, Food and Drugs. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 301 of Title 21 and Tables.

§ 7654. Food Safety Research Information Office and national conference

(a) Food Safety Research Information Office

(1) Establishment

The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a Food Safety Research Information Office at the National Agricultural Library.

(2) Purpose

The Office shall provide to the research community and the general public information on publicly funded, and to the maximum extent practicable, privately funded food safety research initiatives for the purpose of—

- (A) preventing unintended duplication of food safety research; and
- (B) assisting the executive and legislative branches of the Federal Government and private research entities to assess food safety research needs and priorities.

(3) Cooperation

The Office shall carry out this subsection in cooperation with the National Institutes of

Health, the Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, public institutions, and, on a voluntary basis, private research entities.

(b) National conference; annual workshops

Not later than 120 days after June 23, 1998, the Secretary shall sponsor a conference to be known as the “National Conference on Food Safety Research”, for the purpose of beginning the task of prioritization of food safety research. The Secretary shall sponsor annual workshops in each of the subsequent 4 years after the conference so that priorities can be updated or adjusted to reflect changing food safety concerns.

(c) Food safety report

With regard to the study and report to be prepared by the National Academy of Sciences on the scientific and organizational needs for an effective food safety system, the study shall include recommendations to ensure that the food safety inspection system, within the resources traditionally available to existing food safety agencies, protects the public health.

(Pub. L. 105–185, title VI, §615, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 606.)

§ 7655. Safe food handling education

The Secretary of Agriculture shall continue to develop a national program of safe food handling education for adults and young people to reduce the risk of food-borne illness. The national program shall be suitable for adoption and implementation through State cooperative extension services and school-based education programs.

(Pub. L. 105–185, title VI, §616, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 606.)

§ 7656. Designation of Crisis Management Team within Department

(a) Designation of Crisis Management Team

The Secretary of Agriculture shall designate a Crisis Management Team within the Department of Agriculture, which shall be—

- (1) composed of senior departmental personnel with strong subject matter expertise selected from each relevant agency of the Department; and
- (2) headed by a team leader with management and communications skills.

(b) Duties of Crisis Management Team

The Crisis Management Team shall be responsible for the following:

- (1) Developing a Department-wide crisis management plan, taking into account similar plans developed by other government agencies and other large organizations, and developing written procedures for the implementation of the crisis management plan.
- (2) Conducting periodic reviews and revisions of the crisis management plan and procedures developed under paragraph (1).
- (3) Ensuring compliance with crisis management procedures by personnel of the Department and ensuring that appropriate Department personnel are familiar with the crisis management plan and procedures and are en-

couraged to bring information regarding crises or potential crises to the attention of members of the Crisis Management Team.

(4) Coordinating the Department’s information gathering and dissemination activities concerning issues managed by the Crisis Management Team.

(5) Ensuring that Department spokespersons convey accurate, timely, and scientifically sound information regarding crises or potential crises that can be easily understood by the general public.

(6) Cooperating with, and coordinating among, other Federal agencies, States, local governments, industry, and public interest groups, Department activities regarding a crisis.

(c) Role in prioritizing certain research

The Crisis Management Team shall cooperate with the Advisory Board in the prioritization of agricultural research conducted or funded by the Department regarding animal health, natural disasters, food safety, and other agricultural issues.

(d) Cooperative agreements

The Secretary shall seek to enter into cooperative agreements with other Federal departments and agencies that have related programs or activities to help ensure consistent, accurate, and coordinated dissemination of information throughout the executive branch in the event of a crisis, such as, in the case of a threat to human health from food-borne pathogens, developing a rapid and coordinated response among the Department, the Centers for Disease Control, and the Food and Drug Administration.

(Pub. L. 105–185, title VI, §618, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 607.)

PART C—STUDIES

§ 7671. Evaluation and assessment of agricultural research, extension, and education programs

(a) Evaluation

The Secretary of Agriculture shall conduct a performance evaluation to determine whether federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education programs result in public goods that have national or multistate significance.

(b) Contract

The Secretary shall enter into a contract with 1 or more entities with expertise in research assessment and performance evaluation to provide input and recommendations to the Secretary with respect to federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education programs.

(c) Guidelines for performance measurement

The contractor selected under subsection (b) of this section shall develop and propose to the Secretary practical guidelines for measuring performance of federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education programs. The guidelines shall be consistent with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–62) and amendments made by that Act.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §631, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 608.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, referred to in subsec. (c), is Pub. L. 103-62, Aug. 3, 1993, 107 Stat. 285, which enacted sections 1115 to 1119, 9703, and 9704 of Title 31, Money and Finance, section 306 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and sections 2801 to 2805 of Title 39, Postal Service, amended section 1105 of Title 31, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1101 and 1115 of Title 31. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1993 Amendment note set out under section 1101 of Title 31 and Tables.

§ 7672. Study of federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education

(a) Study

Not later than January 1, 1999, the Secretary of Agriculture shall request the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a study of the role and mission of federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education.

(b) Requirements

The study shall—

- (1) evaluate the strength of science conducted by the Agricultural Research Service and the relevance of the science to national priorities;
- (2) examine how the work of the Agricultural Research Service relates to the capacity of the agricultural research, extension, and education system of the United States;
- (3) examine the appropriateness of the formulas for the allocation of funds under the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) and the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361a et seq.) with respect to current conditions of the agricultural economy and other factors of the various regions and States of the United States and develop recommendations to revise the formulas to more accurately reflect the current conditions; and
- (4) examine the system of competitive grants for agricultural research, extension, and education.

(c) Reports

The Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate—

- (1) not later than 18 months after the commencement of the study, a report that describes the results of the study as it relates to paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of this section, including any appropriate recommendations; and
- (2) not later than 3 years after the commencement of the study, a report that describes the results of the study as it relates to paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (b) of this section, including the recommendations developed under paragraph (3) of subsection (b) of this section and other appropriate recommendations.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §632, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 608.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Smith-Lever Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is act May 8, 1914, ch. 79, 38 Stat. 372, as amended, which

is classified generally to subchapter IV (§341 et seq.) of chapter 13 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 341 of this title and Tables.

The Hatch Act of 1887, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is act Mar. 2, 1887, ch. 314, 24 Stat. 440, as amended, which is classified generally to sections 361a to 361i of this title. For complete classification of this act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 361a of this title and Tables.

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- 7731. Inspections, seizures, and warrants.
 - (a) Role of Attorney General.
 - (b) Warrantless inspections.
 - (c) Inspections with a warrant.
- 7732. Collection of information.