



COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

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SUMMARY

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR 2022 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Washington, D.C. – The fiscal year 2022 appropriations bill for the Agriculture Subcommittee includes discretionary funding of \$25.125 billion. This represents a \$1.075 billion increase above fiscal year 2021.

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI.), Chair of the Agriculture Subcommittee said:

“This bipartisan legislation is the product of Democrats and Republicans working together to support rural development, and a stronger and more resilient agriculture economy that works for our farmers, ranchers and families in rural communities. Developed with input from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, this bipartisan legislation will drive economic opportunities to farmers and invest in the long-term health of our working lands. It will also invest in broadband and ensure that people facing challenging times have tools to move toward nutrition, health and housing security. I am also very proud that our work together will make investments that support the Dairy Business Innovation Program, Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative, and research priorities for our dairy, specialty crop, and organic farmers. This appropriations legislation makes sure rural communities are supported, and not left behind, as we work together to build a better America.”

Key Points & Highlights – The programs and activities funded in the agriculture bill impact the lives of every American, every day. The funding in the bill includes historic increases for the Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration. From increases in funding for food safety, nutrition programs, agriculture research, rural development, and others, this bill will improve the lives of the nation’s farmers, ranchers, and those living in rural areas. The Food and Drug Administration is provided the needed resources to ensure the safety of our food and medical supplies.

Agriculture Research

As the nation’s farmers and ranchers continue to respond to the impacts of climate change as well as other negative factors to crop production, agriculture research plays an important role in

combating these issues. The Agricultural Research Service is funded at \$1.633 billion, an increase of \$142 million over fiscal year 2021. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture receives total funding of \$1.637 billion, an increase of \$67 million over fiscal year 2021.

Rural Development

Historic increases are provided for the activities within Rural Development. This funding will assist rural Americans with increases for clean water and waste systems, ensure low-income Americans continue to receive housing assistance, and additional funding to help bridge the digital divide in rural areas.

- Rural Housing – The bill includes over \$2 billion for the Rural Housing Service, an increase of \$182 million over fiscal year 2021. Within these increases is \$40 million for Rental Assistance. This increase is necessary to fund all expiring fiscal year 2022 contracts.
- Rural Business – Rural Business programs are funded at \$131 million, an increase of \$34 million over fiscal year 2021. The largest increase is for Business and Industry loans to assist businesses in rural areas with loans to ensure they continue to thrive.
- Rural Utilities – The Rural Utilities Service is funded at \$1.237 billion, an increase of \$482 million. The ReConnect broadband program receives total funding of \$450 million. This is on top of the historic funding provided in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Domestic Nutrition

One of the fundamental responsibilities of the agriculture bill is to ensure those that qualify receive the nutritional support they need. This bill fully funds all nutrition programs.

- Child Nutrition Programs - Child Nutrition Programs are funded at \$26.8 billion, a 7 percent increase or \$1.8 billion over fiscal year 2021. Included in this funding is \$45 million for the Summer Electronic Benefit program and \$30 million for school equipment grants. This funding will ensure schools can continue to serve healthy meals.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – SNAP is funded at \$140.4 billion, a 23 percent increase or \$26 billion over fiscal year 2021. This increase will ensure participants receive increased benefits to support the Thrifty Food Plan as well as emergency allotments to continue to address the pandemic.
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) – The WIC program is funded at \$6 billion. This level will fully fund anticipated participation. The bill also includes authority for USDA to continue the Cash Value Voucher. This will ensure over 4 million low income women and children do not see their benefits reduced at the end of April.

Foreign Food Aid

The PL 480 Title II grants program is funded at \$1.74 billion. An additional \$100 million is included in the supplemental for Ukraine. The McGovern-Dole International Food for Education Program is funded at \$237 million, an increase of \$7 million over fiscal year 2021.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

The responsibilities of the FDA are vast and the bill includes historic investments to ensure the country's food and medical supplies remain the safest in the world. The bill provides a net increase of \$102 million for FDA for a total of \$3.317 billion. Included in this amount is \$29 million for medical product safety; \$29.5 million for food safety activities; \$41.3 million for cross cutting initiatives; and \$2.4 million for infrastructure investments.

The bill also includes an increase of \$8 million to continue FDA's work on combatting the opioid crisis.

Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)

The bill includes \$382 million for the CFTC, \$78 million more than fiscal year 2021 level. This funding will help the CFTC fulfill their responsibility to oversee futures, options, and swaps markets.

Agriculture Quarantine Inspection Services (AQI)

The bill includes \$250 million for APHIS AQI. This funding is a joint effort between Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to prevent the introduction of invasive species and diseases to the country. Because AQI is still experiencing reductions in fees collected due to the pandemic, this additional funding is necessary to ensure all international air and cargo vessels continue to be inspected.

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