

101-624 - Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990

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SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990”.

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TITLE XI—GENERAL COMMODITY PROVISIONS

SEC. 1124. [7 U.S.C. 1445e note] COMPARABILITY OF STORAGE PAYMENTS.

In making storage payments to producers under section 110 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1445e) and to commercial warehousemen in accordance with the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.), the Commodity Credit Corporation and the Secretary of Agriculture shall, to the extent practicable, ensure that the rates of the storage payments made to producers are equivalent to average rates paid for commercial storage, taking into account the current demand for storage for commodities, efficiency, location, regulatory compliance costs, bonding requirements, and impact of user fees as determined by the Secretary, except that the rates paid to producers and commercial warehouse shall be established at rates that will result in no increase in current or projected combined outlays of the Commodity Credit Corporation for the storage payments made to producers and commercial warehouse as a result of the adjustment of storage rates under this section.

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TITLE XIV—CONSERVATION

SEC. 1401. [16 U.S.C 3801] SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Conservation Program Improvements Act”.

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Subtitle C—Agricultural Resources Conservation Program

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SEC. 1437. [16 U.S.C. 3831 note] STUDY OF LAND USE FOR EXPIRING CONTRACTS AND EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Agriculture shall conduct a study of cropland subject to expiring conservation reserve contracts entered into prior to the date of enactment of this Act under subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.). Such study shall include the consideration of—

- (1) the environmental benefits of such lands that remain out of crop production as compared to the economic benefits that would result from returning such lands to production under adequate stewardship and management;
- (2) the renewal of the contracts in a manner that allows for certain sustainable economic uses of cropland in return for lower rental payments;
- (3) the purchase of permanent easements permitting specified economic uses of cropland subject to the contracts;
- (4) the purchase of the cropland subject to the contracts;
- (5) the preservation of crop acreage bases associated with cropland subject to the contracts if the owner or operator continues to devote the cropland to conserving uses;
- (6) the purchase of crop acreage bases associated with cropland subject to the contracts; and
- (7) the expiration of the contracts.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than December 31, 1993, the Secretary of Agriculture 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 a report concerning the results of the study conducted under subsection (a) and recommendations concerning the treatment of lands subject to expiring contracts under subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985, proposed legislation addressing the treatment of such lands, and the projected cost of such treatment.

(c) **EXTENSIONS.**—During the 1996 through 2000 calendar years, the Secretary of Agriculture may—

- (1) extend up to 10 years contracts entered into under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) prior to the date of enactment of this Act; or
- (2) purchase long-term or permanent easements as provided for in chapter 3;

at the option of the owner or operator on land that the Secretary has determined under the study conducted under subsection (a) should remain in conserving uses.

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Subtitle D—Other Conservation Measures

SEC. 1451. [7 U.S.C 5822] INTEGRATED FARM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OPTION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall, by regulation, establish a voluntary program, to be known as the “Integrated Farm Management Program Option” (hereafter referred to in this section as the “program”), designed to assist producers of agricultural commodities in adopting integrated, multiyear, site-specific farm management plans by reducing farm program barriers to resource stewardship practices and systems.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section—

(A) The term “resource-conserving crop” means legumes, legume-grass mixtures, legume-small grain mixtures, legume-grass-small grain mixtures, and alternative crops.

(B) The term “resource-conserving crop rotation” means a crop rotation that includes at least one resource-conserving crop and that reduces erosion, maintains or improves soil fertility and tilth, interrupts pest cycles, or conserves water.

(C) The term “farming operations and practices” includes the integration of crops and crop-plant variety selection, rotation practices, tillage systems, soil conserving and soil building practices, nutrient management strategies, biological control and integrated pest management strategies, livestock production and management systems, animal waste management systems, water and energy conservation measures, and health and safety considerations.

(D) The term “integrated farm management plan” means a comprehensive, multiyear, site-specific plan that meets the requirements of subsection (f).

(2) CROPS.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) The term “grass” means perennial grasses commonly used for haying or grazing.

(B) The term “legume” means forage legumes (such as alfalfa or clover) or any legume grown for use as a forage or green manure, but not including any bean crop from which the seeds are harvested.

(C) The term “small grain” shall not include malting barley or wheat, except for wheat interplanted with other small grain crops for nonhuman consumption.

(D) The term “alternative crops” means experimental and industrial crops grown in arid and semiarid regions that conserve soil and water.

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the program established by this section, a producer must—

(1) prepare and submit to the Secretary for approval an integrated farm management plan (hereafter referred to in this section as the “plan”);

(2) actively apply the terms and conditions of the plan, as approved by the Secretary;

(3) devote to a resource-conserving crop, on the average through the life of the contract, not less than 20 percent of the crop acreage bases enrolled under such program;

(4) comply with the terms and conditions of any annual acreage limitation program in effect for the crop acreage bases contracted under the terms of this subsection; and

(5) keep such records as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(d) ACREAGE.—In accepting contracts for the program, the Secretary, to the extent practicable, shall enroll not more than 3,000,000, nor more than 5,000,000, acres of cropland in each of the calendar years 1991 through 1995.

(e) CONTRACTS.—The Secretary shall enter into contracts with producers to enroll acreage in the program. Such contracts shall be for a period of not less than 3 years, but may, at the producer’s option, be for a longer period of time (up to 5 years) and may be renewed upon mutual agreement between the Secretary and the producer.

(f) REQUIREMENTS OF THE PLANS.—Each plan approved by the Secretary shall—

(1) specify the acreage and the crop acreage bases to be enrolled in the program;

(2) describe the resource-conserving crop rotation to be implemented and maintained on such acreage during the contract period to fulfill the purposes of the program;

(3) contain a schedule for the implementation, improvement and maintenance of the resource-conserving crop rotation described in the plan;

(4) describe the farming operations and practices to be implemented on such acreage and how such operations and practices could reasonably be expected to result in—

(A) the maintenance or enhancement of the overall productivity and profitability of the farm;

(B) the prevention of the degradation of farmland soils, the long-term improvement of the fertility and physical properties of such soils; and

(C) the protection of water supplies from contamination by managing or minimizing agricultural pollutants if their management or minimization results in positive economic and environmental benefits;

(5) assist the producer to comply with all Federal, State, and local requirements designed to protect soil, wetland, wildlife habitat, and the quality of groundwater and surface water; and

(6) contain such other terms as the Secretary may, by regulation, require.

(g) ADMINISTRATION; CERTIFICATION; TERMINATION.—

(1) ADMINISTRATION; TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; FLEXIBILITY; IMPLEMENTATION; DISPLACEMENT.—

(A) ADMINISTRATION.—The program shall be administered by the Secretary.

(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—In administering the program, the Secretary, in consultation with the local conservation districts, and any State or local authorities deemed appropriate by the Secretary, shall provide technical assistance to producers in developing and implementing plans, evaluating the effectiveness of plans, and assessing the costs and benefits of farming operations and practices. The plans may draw on handbooks and technical guides and may also include other practices appropriate to the particular circumstances of the producer and the purposes of the program.

(C) FLEXIBILITY.—In administering the program, the Secretary shall provide sufficient flexibility for a producer to adjust or modify the producer's plan consistent with this section, except that such adjustments or modifications must be approved by the Secretary.

(D) MINIMIZATION OF ADVERSE EFFECT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary shall implement this section in such a manner as to minimize any adverse economic effect on the agribusinesses and other agriculturally related economic interests within any county, State, or region that may result from a decrease of harvested acres due to the operation of this section. In carrying out this section, the Secretary may restrict the total amount of crop acreage that may be removed from production, taking into consideration the total amount of crop acreage that has, or will be, removed from production under other price support, production adjustment, or conservation program activities.

(ii) MAXIMIZE CONSERVATION GOALS.—The Secretary shall, to the greatest extent practicable, permit producers on a farm that desire to participate in the program authorized under this section to enroll acreage adequate to maximize conservation goals on such farm and ensure economic effectiveness of the program in each individual application.

(E) DISPLACEMENT.—The Secretary shall not approve any plan that will result in the involuntary displacement of farm tenants or lessees by landowners through the removal of substantial portions of the farm from production of a commodity. In the case of any tenant or lessee who has rented or leased the farm (with or without a written option for annual renewal or periodic renewals) for a period of two or more of the immediately preceding years, the Secretary shall consider the refusal by a landlord, without reasonable cause other than simply for the purpose of enrollment in the program, to renew such rental or lease as an involuntary displacement in the absence of a written consent to such nonrenewal by the tenant or lessee.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall certify compliance by producers with the terms and conditions of the plans.

(3) TERMINATION.—The Secretary may terminate a contract entered into with a producer under this program if—

(A) the producer agrees to such termination, or

(B) the producer violates the terms and conditions of such contract.

(h) PROGRAM RULES.—

(1) BASE AND YIELD PROTECTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall not, except as provided in paragraph (6), reduce crop acreage bases, or farm program payment yields, as a result of the planting of a resource-conserving crop as part of a resource-conserving crop rotation.

(2) RESOURCE-CONSERVING CROPS ON REDUCED ACREAGE.—Notwithstanding the provisions of title I of the Agricultural Act of 1949, acreage devoted to resource-conserving crops as part of a resource-conserving crop rotation under this program may also be designated as conservation use acreage for the purpose of fulfilling any provisions under any acreage limitation or land diversion program and up to 50 percent of the acreage so designated shall be without restrictions on haying and grazing, except as provided in paragraph (5)(B), except that such acreage that is devoted to perennial cover on which cost-share assistance for the establishment of the perennial cover has been provided, shall not be credited towards the producer's resource-conserving crop requirement under a contract under this section.

(3) BARLEY, OATS, AND WHEAT.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, barley, oats, or wheat planted as part of a resource-conserving crop on reduced acreage may not be harvested in kernel form.

(4) PAYMENT ACRES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary shall not reduce farm program payments of participants in this program as a result of the planting a resource-conserving crop as part of a resource-conserving crop rotation on payment acres.

(5) HAYING AND GRAZING RESTRICTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall not make any program payments to a producer who is otherwise eligible to receive with respect to acreage enrolled in the program if such producer hays or grazes such acreage (excluding acreage designated as conservation use acreage) during the 5-month period in each State during which haying and grazing of conserving use acres is not allowed under the provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949, or, if the crop planted on such acreage includes a small grain, before the producer harvests the small grain crop in kernel form.

(B) LIMITATION ON PERMITTED HAYING AND GRAZING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if the Secretary determines that implementation of this section will result in a significant adverse economic impact on hay or livestock prices in a particular geographic area, the Secretary may limit the quantity of hay that can be harvested or grazed from that area. Such limit may include restric-

tions on the number of times that hay may be harvested or grazed from the acres per year, the timing of such harvesting and grazing, or the number of years that such land may remain in the same hay stand, or a prohibition on the harvesting or grazing of hay from acres on which a small grain was not originally interplanted with the hay crop and harvested for grain.

(6) BASE ACRE ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary, only for the purpose of establishing a producer’s crop acreage base under the Agricultural Act of 1949, may make such adjustments as the Secretary determines to be fair and equitable to reflect resource-conserving crop rotation practices that were maintained by producers prior to participation in the program and to reflect such other factors as the Secretary determines should be considered, except that the total of such adjustments in any year shall not exceed the total farm program savings in the same year that would result from the implementation of plans.

(7) PAYMENT ACREAGE LIMITATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—No producers enrolled in a resource-conserving crop rotation shall not be eligible to receive payments under farm programs for wheat, feed grains, cotton, or rice under the Agricultural Act of 1949 on acreage equal to the average number of traditionally underplanted acres for the three years prior to enrolling in this program.

(B) DEFINITION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), for the purposes of this paragraph the term “traditionally underplanted acreage” means the difference in a particular year between the acreage that is part of a producer’s crop acreage base that is not planted to the program crop and the part of the crop acreage base subject to an acreage limitation program or required to be set aside, but only to the extent that such number exceeds the number of acres resulting from the reduction in payment acres under an amendment made by section 1101 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-508; 104 Stat. 1388-1). In no case shall such acreage be less than zero.

(ii) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a producer participating in a particular year in a program authorized under section 101B(c)(1)(D), 103B(c)(1)(D), 105B(c)(1)(E), or 107B(c)(1)(E) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, the term “traditionally underplanted acreage” means 8 percent of the producer’s permitted acreage for such year.

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[SEC. 1456. [7 U.S.C. 3130] COMPOSTING RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PROGRAM.¹⁴⁵⁶⁻¹

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¹⁴⁵⁶⁻¹ Sec. 858 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, P.L. 104-127, 110 Stat. 1173, April 4, 1996, repealed this section.

Subtitle E—Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act; Farmland Protection

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CHAPTER 2—FARMLAND PROTECTION

SEC. 1465. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] SHORT TITLE, PURPOSE, AND DEFINITION.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This chapter may be cited as the “Farms for the Future Act of 1990”.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this chapter to promote a national farmland protection effort to preserve our vital farmland resources for future generations.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this chapter:

(1) ALLOWABLE INTEREST RATE.—The term “allowable interest rate” refers to the interest rate that the State trust fund pays on each eligible loan (including the interest paid by the State trust fund, State, or State agency on bonds or other obligations described in paragraph (2)).

(2) ELIGIBLE LOAN.—The term “eligible loan” means each loan made by lending institutions to each State trust fund, or to the State acting in conjunction with the State trust fund, to further the purposes of this chapter, and the proceeds from any issuance of obligations, or other bonded indebtedness, of any eligible State, the State trust fund, or any agency of an eligible State, except that no eligible loan shall bear an interest rate in excess of 10 percent per year.

(3) ELIGIBLE STATE.—The term “eligible State” means—

(A) the State of Vermont; and

(B) at the option of the Secretary and subject to appropriations, any State that—

(i) operates or administers a land preservation fund that invests funds in the protection or preservation of farmland for agricultural purposes; and

(ii) works in coordination with the governing bodies of counties, towns, townships, villages, or other units of general government below the State level, or with private nonprofit or public organizations, to assist in the preservation of farmland for agricultural purposes.

(4) LENDING INSTITUTION.—The term “lending institution” means any Federal or State chartered bank, savings and loan association, cooperative lending agency, other legally organized lending agency, State government or agency, political subdivision of a State, or any nonprofit conservation organization.

(5) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means the farmland preservation program established under this chapter to be known as the “Agricultural Resource Conservation Demonstration Program”.

(6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(7) STATE.—The term “State” means any State of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

(8) STATE TRUST FUND.—The term “State trust fund” means any trust fund or an account established by an eligible State, or other public instrumentality of the eligible State, where such eligible State is approved to participate by the Secretary in the program under application procedures set forth in section 1466(j) or 1468.

SEC. 1466. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) PURPOSE.—The Secretary shall establish and implement a program, to be known as the “Agricultural Resource Conservation Demonstration Program”, to provide Federal guarantees and interest assistance for eligible loans described in section 1465(c)(2) made to, or issued for the benefit of, State trust funds.

(2) ASSISTANCE.—Under the program the Secretary shall guarantee for a period of 10 years the timely payment of the principal amount and interest due on each eligible loan described in section 1465(c)(2) made to, or issued for the benefit of, State trust funds and shall for each such 10-year period subsidize the interest on such eligible loans at the allowable interest rate for the first 5 years after the loan is made, or issued, and at no less than 3 percentage points for the second 5 years under procedures described in subsection (b).

(b) MANDATORY ASSISTANCE TO EACH STATE TRUST FUND.—

The Secretary shall—

(1) fully guarantee with the full faith and credit of the United States each eligible loan described in section 1465(c)(2) made to, or issued for the benefit of, each State trust fund under procedures established by the Secretary;

(2) annually pay to each State trust fund an amount calculated by applying the allowable interest rate to the amount of each loan described in section 1465(c)(2) made to, or issued for the benefit of, each State trust fund during each of the first 5 years after the date on which each such loan was made or issued; and

(3) annually pay to each State trust fund, for each year during the second 5-year period after each such eligible loan is made to, or issued for the benefit of, the State trust fund, an amount calculated by applying the interest rate difference, between the rate of interest charged to borrowers of direct loans as described in section 316(a)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1946(a)(2)) and the allowable interest rate, to the amount of each such loan made to, or issued for the benefit of, the State trust fund, as determined under procedures established by the Secretary.

(c) FUNDING.—

(1) ISSUANCE OF STOCK.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall make and issue stock, in the same manner as notes are issued under section 309(c) or 309A(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1929(c) or

1929a(d)), to the Secretary of the Treasury for the purpose of obtaining funds from the Secretary of the Treasury that are necessary for discharging the obligations of the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter. The stock shall not pay dividends and shall not be redeemable.

(2) PURCHASE OF STOCK.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall provide the funding necessary to implement this chapter. The Secretary of the Treasury shall purchase any stock of the Secretary of Agriculture issued to implement this chapter. The Secretary of the Treasury shall use as a public debt transaction the proceeds from the sale of any securities issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code. The purposes for which the securities may be issued under such chapter are extended to include the raising of funds to purchase stock issued by the Secretary of Agriculture to implement this chapter with respect to each eligible State. The Secretary of Agriculture shall make and issue such stock as is necessary to fund this chapter to the Secretary of the Treasury who shall promptly purchase the stock (within 60 days) being offered by the Secretary of Agriculture.

(3) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.—If the Secretary of Agriculture fails to issue stock as required under this chapter, or if funding is otherwise not provided as set forth in this chapter, for the eligible State described in section 1465(c)(3)(A), notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Agriculture shall use the funds, services and facilities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out the requirements of this chapter. The procedure described in paragraph (2) shall be used to reimburse the Corporation for funds expended to carry out this paragraph.

(d) REQUIRED PURCHASES OF STOCK.—The Secretary shall promptly notify the Secretary of the Treasury, in writing, each time an application of an eligible State is approved by the Secretary under this chapter. The Secretary of the Treasury shall promptly purchase stock (within 60 days) offered by the Secretary under subsection (c) and the Secretary of Agriculture shall deposit the proceeds from each such sale of stock in accounts created to administer the program.

(e) ENTITLEMENTS.—The Secretary is entitled to receive funds, and shall receive funds, from the Secretary of the Treasury in an amount equal to the total par-value of the stock issued to the Secretary of the Treasury. Each State trust fund is entitled to receive, and the Secretary of Agriculture shall promptly pay to each such trust fund, amounts calculated under procedures described in subsection (b).

(f) REGULATIONS.—Except regarding the eligible State described in section 1465(c)(3)(A), the Secretary shall promulgate proposed and final regulations, under the prior public comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code, setting forth—

- (1) the application procedures for eligible States;
- (2) the factors to be used in approving applicants;
- (3) procedures for the prompt payment of the obligations of the Secretary under subsection (b);

(4) recordkeeping requirements for approved State trust funds;

(5) requirements to prevent program abuse and procedures to recover improperly obtained funds;

(6) rules permitting State trust funds to act as revolving funds or to otherwise accumulate additional capital, based on investments, to be subsequently used to promote the purposes of this chapter; and

(7) any other rules necessary and appropriate to carry out the program.

(g) DURATION OF PROGRAM.—The program established under this chapter shall expire on September 30, 1996, except that any financial obligations of the Secretary shall continue to be met as required by this chapter.

(h) ELIGIBLE USES FOR GUARANTEED LOAN FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds from eligible loans (including proceeds from the sale of bonds or other obligations described in section 1465(c)(2)) guaranteed under this chapter, and any earnings of the State trust funds, may be used—

(A) to purchase development rights, conservation easements or other types of easements, or to purchase agricultural land in fee simple or some lesser estate in land;

(B) to pay all reasonable and customary costs including appraisal, survey and engineering fees, and legal expenses;

(C) to pay the costs of enforcing easements or land use restrictions;

(D) to cover the costs of complying with any regulations issued by the Secretary under this program and the costs of implementing the farmland plan of operation, except that the guaranteed loan proceeds shall not be used to pay overhead expenses of the State trust fund (rent, utilities, salaries, wages, insurance premiums, and the like); and

(E) to generate earnings (including through investments not exceeding 10 years in duration for each eligible loan), to be used for future farmland preservation efforts, through investments in direct obligations of the United States or obligations guaranteed by the United States or an agency thereof or by depositing funds in any member bank of the Federal Reserve System or any federally insured State nonmember bank.

(2) COLLATERAL FOR LOANS.—To the extent consistent with relevant banking laws and practices, the investments or deposits described in paragraph (1)(E) may serve as collateral for loans made to, or on behalf of, the State trust fund.

(i) STATE USE OF GUARANTEED LOAN FUNDS.—The Secretary may issue regulations or procedures requiring each State trust fund to report to the Secretary regarding the uses of the eligible loans (described in section 1465(c)(2)) guaranteed by the Secretary and the Secretary may monitor the uses of the funds to ensure that the loans are used for purposes related to this chapter. Neither the Secretary or the lending institution shall have the power to require approval of each specific use of the loans guaranteed by the Sec-

retary, the specific terms of each use of the loan funds, or the specific provisions of each purchase or investment made with loans guaranteed by the Secretary. The Secretary may require that each State trust fund provide a State farmland preservation plan of operation to the Secretary setting forth the plans for administering the program in the State and may require each State trust fund to periodically report to the Secretary on the purchases of interests in farmland and on other specific uses of the funds.

(j) SPECIAL RULES FOR THE PILOT PROJECT STATE.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the following special rules shall apply to the eligible State described in section 1465(c)(3)(A):

(1) PROVISION OF LOAN GUARANTEE AND INTEREST ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT.—Within 30 days of the date any State trust fund in the eligible State receives a commitment for each eligible loan from a lending institution, the Secretary shall provide the lending institution with the loan guarantee and the interest assistance agreement so that the lending institution may disburse the full amount of the loan proceeds to the State trust fund on the date of loan closing to carry out this program. After the loan closing, the lending institution shall have no obligation to monitor or approve the use of loan proceeds by the State trust fund.

(2) APPROVAL OF APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall annually approve the completed application from the eligible State within 30 days after receipt if the application sets forth the general goals and policies of the State trust fund. The Secretary shall provide the Federal assistance required under this chapter beginning on the date the application or plan is approved.

(3) AMOUNT OF GUARANTEES.—The Secretary shall calculate the total amount of guarantees to be provided for fiscal year 1992 in an amount equal to double the sum of—

(A) the amount that was made available in fiscal year 1991 to the State trust fund (the Vermont Conservation and Housing Board regardless of whether the fund had been approved by the Secretary in fiscal year 1991), by the State described in section 1465(c)(3)(A), political subdivisions thereof, charitable organizations, private persons, or any other entity, in addition to the proceeds from the sale of obligations of the State related to the purposes of the State trust fund and the fair market value of donations of interests in land to the State trust fund; and

(B) the matching contribution calculated under section 1468(c) for fiscal year 1992 for the State.

(k) MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.—

(1) OPERATION.—Each State trust fund may operate through nonprofit corporations, municipalities, or other political subdivisions of States in carrying out the purposes of the program established in this chapter.

(2) EARNINGS.—Earnings on funds of each State trust fund may be used for any purposes related to carrying out the operations of the trust fund in a manner not inconsistent with the

requirements of this chapter or the farmland preservation plan.

SEC. 1467. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] FEDERAL ACCOUNTS AND COMPLIANCE.

(a) **ACCOUNTS.**—To carry out the purposes of this chapter, the Secretary may establish in the Treasury of the United States an account, to be known as the “Agricultural Resource Conservation Revolving Fund” (hereafter referred to in this chapter as the “Fund”), for the use by the Secretary to meet the obligations of the Secretary under this chapter.

(b) **COMPLIANCE.**—If the Secretary determines that any State trust fund is failing to comply, to a significant degree, with any requirements of this chapter, the Secretary shall report the failure to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, shall fully investigate the matter, may decline to provide additional Federal guarantees or interest subsidies to the State trust fund, and shall take other steps as may be appropriate to prevent the use of Federal assistance in a manner not consistent with this chapter.

SEC. 1468. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] APPLICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION.

(a) **APPLICATIONS.**—In applying for assistance under this chapter an eligible State described in section 1465(c)(3)(B) shall—

(1) prepare and submit, to the Secretary, an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary shall require;

(2) agree that the State trust fund will use any funds provided, or guaranteed, by the Secretary under this chapter in a manner that is consistent with the chapter and the regulations promulgated by the Secretary; and

(3) agree to comply with any other requirements set forth in agreements with the Secretary or as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation.

(b) **ANNUAL APPLICATIONS.**—Eligible States described in section 1465(c)(3)(B) may apply for Federal assistance under this chapter on an annual basis. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove each application for assistance, and notify the applicant of the action not later than 30 days after receipt of a complete application.

(c) **MATCH AND MAXIMUM AMOUNT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The total amount of any guarantees provided by the Secretary under this program for each eligible State shall equal an amount that is equal to double the amount that is, or shall be, made available to the trust fund (including matching funds described in paragraphs (2) through (4)) in each such eligible State by the State, political subdivisions thereof, charitable organizations, private persons, or any other entity, for acquiring interests in land to protect and preserve important farmlands for future agricultural use but in no event shall the total Federal share exceed \$10,000,000 in any fiscal year for any given State.

(2) **EARNINGS.**—Earnings of the State trust fund and funds expended by the State or the State trust fund prior to loan closing for purposes consistent with this chapter, and in the same fiscal year, may be considered as matching funds.

(3) OBLIGATIONS.—Proceeds from the sale of tax-exempt general obligation bonds, or other obligations, of the State or State trust fund shall be an allowable source of matching funds under this chapter for the same fiscal year.

(4) LAND.—The fair market value of any donation of an interest in land to the State trust fund, or a charitable organization working with the State trust fund, may be considered as matching funds, for the same fiscal year, if—

(i) ¹⁴⁶⁸⁻¹ the fair market value is based on an appraisal determined to be adequate by the State trust fund; and

(ii) ¹⁴⁶⁸⁻² the donation is consistent with the State farmland preservation plan,

except that the value of land donated to charitable organizations by the State trust fund shall not be included as part of the match.

(d) CLARIFICATION OF FEDERAL LAW.—Sellers of land, or of interests in land, to any State trust fund are not, and shall not be considered by the Secretary as, recipients or beneficiaries of Federal assistance.

SEC. 1469. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] REPORT.

Not later than September 30, 1992, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Agriculture 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, a report concerning the operation of the program established under this chapter.

SEC. 1470. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] IMPLEMENTATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This chapter shall become effective on October 1, 1990. Not later than December 30, 1990, the Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the State of Vermont to provide Federal assistance under this chapter to the State.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than December 31, 1991, the Secretary of Agriculture shall publish in the Federal Register interim final regulations to implement this chapter. The regulations shall not require each State's program to give a priority to the acquisition of land, or interests in land, that is subject to significant urban pressure.

SEC. 1470A. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS.

On February 15 of 1992, and on December 1 of each of the years 1992 through 1996, the Comptroller General of the United States shall report to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, on whether the Secretary of Agriculture is complying with the requirements of this chapter. The report shall include information concerning loans guaranteed under this chapter and the steps the Secretary of Agriculture has taken to comply with this chapter.

¹⁴⁶⁸⁻¹ So in law. Probably should be (A).

¹⁴⁶⁸⁻² So in law. Probably should be (B).

SEC. 1470B. [7 U.S.C. 4201 note] SPECIAL RULES FOR ISSUANCE OF STOCK FOR 1992.

The Secretary shall issue the stock required to be issued to the Secretary of Treasury under this chapter with respect to the eligible State described in section 1465(c)(3)(A), for fiscal year 1992, on or before December 20, 1991.

Subtitle F—Administration of Environmental Programs

SEC. 1471. [7 U.S.C. 5401] ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish an Agricultural Council on Environmental Quality in the Department of Agriculture (hereafter in this subtitle referred to as the “Council”). The Council shall be under the direct authority of the Secretary, and shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this subtitle, and for coordination and direction of all environmental policies and programs of the Department.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—Membership of the Council shall consist of the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, the Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, the Assistant Secretary for Science and Education, other under and assistant secretaries as may be designated by the Secretary, and the Director of the Office of Agricultural Environmental Quality, established in section 1472, who shall serve as the Executive Director of the Council. The Secretary shall designate a member of the Council, other than the Executive Director, as chair of the Council.

SEC. 1472. [7 U.S.C. 5402] OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish an Office of Agricultural Environmental Quality in the Department of Agriculture (hereafter in this subtitle referred to as the “Office”).

(b) **DIRECTOR.**—The Office shall be administered by a director who shall be appointed by the Secretary. The Director shall be an individual who has demonstrated technical expertise and experience in agricultural and environmental matters.

(c) **STAFF.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENTS.**—The Director may appoint such employees as may be necessary to assist the Director in carrying out this section. Such employees shall include individuals who have professional expertise in matters related to environmental quality, including (but not limited to) agricultural production, water quality, wetland, wildlife conservation, soil conservation, and agricultural chemical usage.

(2) **LIAISONS.**—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of the Interior shall detail to the Office upon request of the Secretary, on a reimbursable basis, at least one employee, respectively, with expertise in matters related to agriculture and environmental quality. Such detailed employees shall serve as a liaison for their respective agencies with the Department of Agriculture to assist the Di-

rector in carrying out the provisions of this section. The term of the detail shall not exceed 3 years.

(3) **ADDITIONAL STAFF.**—Upon request of the Secretary, the head of any Federal agency is authorized to detail, on a reimbursable basis, employees of such agency to the Office to assist the Director.

(d) **DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall assist the Council in developing a departmental and agency-specific environmental quality policy statement and implementation plan and an annual agricultural environmental quality report, as specified in section 1473. The Director shall coordinate and monitor the activities of the Department regarding initiatives and programs related to environmental quality and the interpretation of departmental policies affecting environmental quality. The Director shall serve as a member of the Council and as its Executive Director.

(2) **ADDITIONAL DUTIES.**—The Director shall also be responsible for—

(A) recommending to the Council environmental protection goals and specific programs, initiatives, and policies that will balance the needs of production agriculture with environmental concerns;

(B) providing advice to the Council on the development, implementation, and review of activities of agencies of the Department to ensure consistency with the Department's environmental protection goals;

(C) coordinating environmental policy within the Department through the program managers, and between the Department and other Federal agencies, regional authorities, State and local governments, land-grant and other colleges and universities, and nonprofit and commercial organizations, regarding programs and actions relating to environmental quality;

(D) serving as a coordinator for the Department's data, information, programs, and initiatives dealing with environmental quality;

(E) developing the plans and reports required as specified by this subtitle; and

(F) providing such staff as may be necessary to support the activities of the Council.

SEC. 1473. [7 U.S.C. 5403] ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY POLICY STATEMENT.

(a) **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY POLICY STATEMENT, IMPLEMENTATION PLAN, AND ANNUAL REPORT.**—

(1) **POLICY STATEMENT.**—The Council shall develop an Environmental Quality Policy Statement that identifies goals and objectives for addressing the effects of agriculture on environmental quality. The policy statement shall be based upon an assessment, in accordance with paragraph (2), of the current status and level of effort, in terms of staff and funding, of programs at the Department of Agriculture to evaluate, prevent, and mitigate environmental problems that may result from ag-

gricultural production. The policy statement shall be revised at least every 5 years.

(2) ASSESSMENT.—The assessment under paragraph (1) shall include:

(A) Detailed descriptions of the roles of the involved Departmental agencies.

(B) A description of current efforts to coordinate the individual activities of each of the involved departmental agencies.

(C) Recommendations for precluding any undesirable duplication of efforts within the Department and among the Department and other Federal and State programs.

(D) Specific recommendations for new initiatives in monitoring, research, extension, and technical assistance efforts to address present and potential environmental quality problems.

The assessment may incorporate existing documents and planning processes within the Department.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The Director, subject to the approval of the Council, shall prepare a plan to implement the Environmental Quality Policy Statement. The plan shall include an assessment of the activities of each departmental agency to mitigate or reduce any negative effects on environmental quality of agricultural policies, programs, and practices under their respective jurisdictions and shall describe in detail new departmental and agency-specific initiatives intended to achieve the goals and objectives of the policy statement. The plan shall be revised at least every 5 years.

(c) ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REPORT.—Not later than January 31, 1992, and annually thereafter, the Council, through the Director, shall prepare and submit an annual report to the Congress, other appropriate Federal and State agencies, and the public on the progress being made toward the goals and objectives established in the Environmental Quality Policy Statement. The report shall also include—

(1) a review of the environmental activities and initiatives of the Department during the preceding year;

(2) specific action taken to coordinate the environmental programs of the Department with programs of other Federal agencies and related State programs; and

(3) such recommendations as the Secretary considers appropriate regarding current or additional environmental protection programs, initiatives, or policies that will balance the needs of production agriculture while addressing environmental concerns.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are hereby authorized to be appropriated annually not to exceed \$2,000,000 to carry out this subtitle.

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TITLE XV—AGRICULTURAL TRADE

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SEC. 1542. [7 U.S.C. 5622 note] PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO EMERGING MARKETS.

(a) **FUNDING.**—The Commodity Credit Corporation shall make available for fiscal years 1996 through 2012 not less than \$1,000,000,000 of direct credits or export credit guarantees for exports to emerging markets under section 201 or 202 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5621 and 5622), in addition to the amounts acquired or authorized under section 211 of the Act (7 U.S.C. 5641) for the program.

(b) **FACILITIES AND SERVICES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A portion of such export credit guarantees shall be made available for—

(A) the establishment or improvement of facilities, or

(B) the provision of services or United States products goods,

in emerging markets by United States persons to improve handling, marketing, processing, storage, or distribution of imported agricultural commodities and products thereof if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that such guarantees will primarily promote the export of United States agricultural commodities (as defined in section 102(7) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978).

(2) **PRIORITY.**—The Commodity Credit Corporation shall give priority under this subsection to—

(A) projects that encourage the privatization of the agricultural sector or that benefit private farms or cooperatives in emerging markets; and

(B) projects for which nongovernmental persons agree to assume a relatively larger share of the costs.

(3) **CONSTRUCTION WAIVER.**—The Secretary may waive any applicable requirements relating to the use of United States goods in the construction of a proposed facility, if the Secretary determines that—

(A) goods from the United States are not available; or

(B) the use of goods from the United States is not practicable.

(4) **TERM OF GUARANTEE.**—A facility payment guarantee under this subsection shall be for a term that is not more than the lesser of—

(A) the term of the depreciation schedule of the facility assisted; or

(B) 20 years.

(c) **CONSULTATIONS.**—Before the authority under this section is exercised, the Secretary of Agriculture shall consult with exporters of United States agricultural commodities (as defined in section 102(7) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978), nongovernmental experts, and other Federal Government agencies in order to ensure that facilities in an emerging market for which financing is guaranteed under paragraph (1)(B) do not primarily benefit countries which are in close geographic proximity to that emerging democracy.

(d) **E (KIKI) DE LA GARZA AGRICULTURAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.**—The Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall establish a program, to be known as the “E (Kika) de la Garza Agricultural Fellowship Program”, to

develop agricultural markets in emerging markets and to promote cooperation and exchange of information between agricultural institutions and agribusinesses in the United States and emerging markets, as follows:

(1) DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—

(i) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—For each of the fiscal years 1991 through 2012, the Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Secretary”), in order to develop, maintain, or expand markets for United States agricultural exports, is directed to make available to emerging markets the expertise of the United States to make assessments of the food and rural business systems needs of such democracies, make recommendations on measures necessary to enhance the effectiveness of the systems, including potential reductions in trade barriers, and identify and carry out specific opportunities and projects to enhance the effectiveness of those systems.

(ii) EXTENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall implement this paragraph with respect to at least 3 emerging markets in each fiscal year.

(B) EXPERTS FROM THE UNITED STATES.—The Secretary may implement the requirements of subparagraph (A)—

(i) by providing assistance to teams consisting primarily of agricultural consultants, farmers, other persons from the private sector and government officials expert in assessing the food and rural business systems of other countries to enable such teams to conduct the assessments, make the recommendations, and identify the opportunities and projects specified in subparagraph (A) in emerging markets;

(ii) by providing necessary subsistence expenses in the United States and necessary transportation expenses by individuals designated by emerging markets to enable such individuals to consult with food and rural business system experts in the United States to enhance such systems of such emerging markets; and

(iii) by providing for necessary subsistence expenses in emerging markets and necessary transportation expenses of United States agricultural producers and other individuals knowledgeable in agricultural and agribusiness matters to assist in transferring their knowledge and expertise to entities in emerging markets.

(C) COST-SHARING.—The Secretary shall encourage the nongovernmental experts described in subparagraph (B) to share the costs of, and otherwise assist in, the participation of such experts in the program under this paragraph.

(D) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary is authorized to provide, or pay the necessary costs for, technical assistance (including the establishment of extension services) to enable individuals or other entities to implement the recommendations or to carry out the opportunities and

projects identified under subparagraph (A)(i). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the assistance shall include assistance for administrative and overhead expenses of the International Cooperation and Development Program Area of the Foreign Agriculture Service, to the extent that the expenses were incurred pursuant to reimbursable agreements entered into prior to September 30, 1993, the expenses do not exceed \$2,000,000 per year, and the expenses are not incurred for information technology systems.

(E) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—A team that receives assistance under subparagraph (B) shall prepare such reports as the Secretary may designate.

(F) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—To provide the Secretary with information that may be useful to the Secretary in carrying out the provisions of this paragraph, the Secretary shall establish an advisory committee composed of representatives of the various sectors of the food and rural business systems of the United States.

(G) USE OF CCC.—The Secretary shall implement this paragraph through the funds and facilities of the Commodity Credit Corporation. The authority provided under this paragraph shall be in addition to and not in place of any other authority of the Secretary or the Commodity Credit Corporation.

(H) LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide assistance under this paragraph of not more than \$10,000,000 in any fiscal year.

(2) AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION PROGRAM.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program, administered to complement the emerging markets export promotion program developed under this section, to initiate and develop collaboration between the United States Department of Agriculture, United States agribusinesses, and appropriate agricultural institutions in emerging markets in order to promote the exchange of information and resources that will make a long-term contribution to the establishment of free market food production and distribution systems in emerging markets and the enhancement of agricultural trade with the United States.

(B) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall draw on the Department of Agriculture's experience to design, implement, and evaluate, on a cost-sharing basis with cooperating agricultural institutions, a program to—

(i) compile, through contacts with the governments of emerging markets and private sector officials in emerging markets, a list of their agricultural institutions, including the location, capabilities, and needs of the institutions;

(ii) make such information available through an appropriate agency of the Department of Agriculture to agribusinesses and agricultural institutions in the

United States and other agencies of the United States Government; and

(iii) carry out a program—

(I) to review available agricultural information resources, to determine which would be useful for the purposes of this program;

(II) to arrange for the exchange of persons associated with such agricultural institutions and agribusinesses with experience or interest in the areas of need identified in clause (i);

(III) to help establish contacts between agricultural entrepreneurs and businesses in the United States and emerging markets,¹⁵⁴²⁻²⁹ which may include individuals and entities participating in the program established under paragraph (1), to facilitate cooperation and joint enterprises; and

(IV) to provide for the exchange of administrators and faculty members from agricultural and other institutions to strengthen and revise educational programs in agricultural economics, agribusiness, and agrarian law, to support change towards a free market economy in emerging markets.

(C) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall consult and coordinate with the Secretary of State and the Agency for International Development in the formulation and implementation of this program in conjunction with overall assistance to emerging markets.

(D) AUTHORIZATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the program established under this paragraph.

(e) FOREIGN DEBT BURDENS.—

(1) EFFECT OF CREDITS.—In carrying out the program described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Agriculture shall ensure that the credits for which repayment is guaranteed under subsection (a) do not negatively affect the political and economic situation in emerging markets by excessively adding to the foreign debt burdens of such countries.

(2) CONSULTATION AND REPORT.—Subject to section 217 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6917), not later than 6 months after the effective date of this title, and not later than the end of each 6-month period occurring thereafter, the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with other appropriate Federal departments, shall prepare and transmit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report to assist the Congress in assessing the extent to which credits for which repayment is guaranteed under subsection (a) meet the requirements of subparagraph (A). The report shall include—

(A) the amount and allocation, by country, of credit guarantees issued under subsection (a);

(B) the aggregate foreign debt burdens of countries receiving commodities or facilities under such credit guarantees, expressed in terms of debt on account of agricultural commodities or products thereof, or facilities for which guarantees may be made under subsection (a)(1)(B), and all other debt;

(C) the activities of creditor governments and private creditors to reschedule or reduce payments due on existing debt owed to such creditors by a country in cases where such country has been unable to fully meet its debt obligations; and

(D) an analysis of—

(i) the economic effects of the foreign debt burden of each recipient country, and in particular the economic effects on each recipient country of the credits for which repayment is guaranteed under subsection (a); and

(ii) the relationship between any negative economic effects on any recipient country caused by its overall foreign debt burden and debt incurred under subsection (a) and such country's political stability.

(f) **EMERGING MARKET.**—In this section and section 1543, the term “emerging market” means any country that the Secretary determines—

(1) is taking steps toward a market-oriented economy through the food, agriculture, or rural business sectors of the economy of the country; and

(2) has the potential to provide a viable and significant market for United States agricultural commodities or products of United States agricultural commodities.

SEC. 1543. [7 U.S.C. 3293] AGRICULTURAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES, EMERGING DEMOCRACIES, AND EMERGING MARKETS.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a fellowship program, to be known as the “Cochran Fellowship Program”, to provide fellowships to individuals from eligible countries (as determined under subsection (b)) who specialize in agriculture for study in the United States.

(b) **ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES.**—Countries described in any of the following paragraphs shall be eligible to participate in the program established under this section:

(1) **MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRY.**—A country that has developed economically to the point where it no longer qualifies for bilateral foreign aid assistance from the United States because its per capita income level exceeds the eligibility requirements of such assistance programs (hereafter referred to in this section as a “middle-income” country).

(2) **ONGOING RELATIONSHIP.**—A middle-income country that has never qualified for bilateral foreign aid assistance from the United States, but with respect to which an ongoing relationship with the United States, including technical assistance and training, would provide mutual benefits to such country and the United States.

(3) TYPE OF GOVERNMENT.—A country that has recently begun the transformation of its system of government from a non-representative type of government to a representative democracy and that is encouraging democratic institution building, and the cultural values, institutions, and organizations of democratic pluralism.

(4) INDEPENDENT STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.—A country that is an independent state of the former Soviet Union (as defined in section 102(8) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602(8)), to the extent that the Secretary of Agriculture determines that such country should be eligible to participate in the program established under this section.

(5) EMERGING MARKET.—Any emerging market, as defined in section 1542(f).

(c) PURPOSE OF THE FELLOWSHIPS.—Fellowships under this section shall be provided to permit the recipients to gain knowledge and skills that will—

(1) assist eligible countries to develop agricultural systems necessary to meet the food and fiber needs of their domestic populations; and

(2) strengthen and enhance trade linkages between eligible countries and agricultural interests in the United States.

(d) INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY RECEIVE FELLOWSHIPS.—The Secretary shall utilize the expertise of United States agricultural counselors, trade officers, and commodity trade promotion groups working in participating countries to help identify program candidates for fellowships under this section from both the public and private sectors of those countries. The Secretary may provide fellowships under the program authorized by this section to private agricultural producers from eligible countries.

(e) PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall consult with other United States Government agencies, United States universities, and the private agribusiness sector, as appropriate, to design and administer training programs to accomplish the objectives of the Program established under this section.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated without fiscal year limitation such sums as may be necessary to carry out the program established under this section, except that the amount of such funds in any fiscal year shall not exceed—

(1) for eligible countries that meet the requirements of subsection (b)(1), \$3,000,000;

(2) for eligible countries that meet the requirements of subsection (b)(2), \$2,000,000; and

(3) for eligible countries that meet the requirements of subsection (b)(3), \$5,000,000.

(g) COMPLEMENTARY FUNDS.—If the Secretary of Agriculture determines that it is advisable in furtherance of the purposes of the program established under this section, the Secretary may accept money, funds, property, and services of every kind by gift, devise, bequest, grant, or otherwise, and may, in any manner, dispose of all such holdings and use the receipts generated from such disposition as general program funds under this section. All funds so des-

ignated for the program established under this section shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 1543A. [7 U.S.C. 5679] BIOTECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROGRAM.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Department the biotechnology and agricultural trade program.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the program shall be to remove, resolve, or mitigate significant regulatory nontariff barriers to the export of United States agricultural commodities (as defined in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602)) into foreign markets through public and private sector projects funded by grants that address—

(1) quick response intervention regarding nontariff barriers to United States exports involving—

- (A) United States agricultural commodities produced through biotechnology;
- (B) food safety;
- (C) disease; or
- (D) other sanitary or phytosanitary concerns; or

(2) developing protocols as part of bilateral negotiations with other countries on issues such as animal health, grain quality, and genetically modified commodities.

(c) **ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.**—Depending on need, as determined by the Secretary, activities authorized under this section may be carried out through—

- (1) this section;
- (2) the emerging markets program under section 1542; or
- (3) the Cochran Fellowship Program under section 1543.

(d) **FUNDING.**—There is authorized to be appropriated \$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

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TITLE XVI—RESEARCH

Subtitle A—Extensions and Changes to Existing Programs

[Note: Subtitle A is omitted]

Subtitle B—Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

SEC. 1619. [7 U.S.C. 5801] PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS.

(a) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this subtitle to encourage research designed to increase our knowledge concerning agricultural production systems that—

- (1) maintain and enhance the quality and productivity of the soil;
- (2) conserve soil, water, energy, natural resources, and fish and wildlife habitat;

(3) maintain and enhance the quality of surface and ground water;

(4) protect the health and safety of persons involved in the food and farm system;

(5) promote the well being of animals; and

(6) increase employment opportunities in agriculture.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subtitle:

(1) The term “sustainable agriculture” shall have the same meaning given to that term by section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103).

(2) The term “integrated crop management” means an agricultural management system that integrates all controllable agricultural production factors for long-term sustained productivity, profitability, and ecological soundness.

(3) The term “integrated resource management” means livestock management which utilizes an interdisciplinary systems approach which integrates all controllable agricultural production practices to provide long-term sustained productivity and profitable production of safe and wholesome food in an environmentally sound manner.

(4) The term “agribusiness” includes a producer or organization engaged in an agricultural enterprise with a profit motive.

(5) The term “extension” shall have the same meaning given to that term by section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103).

(6) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(7) The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands of the United States, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or federally recognized Indian tribes.

(8) The term “State agricultural experiment stations” shall have the same meaning given to that term by section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103).

(9) The term “nonprofit organization” means an organization, group, institute, or institution that—

(A) has a demonstrated capacity to conduct agricultural research or education programs;

(B) has experience in research, demonstration, education, or extension in sustainable agricultural practices and systems; and

(C) qualifies as a nonprofit organization under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 1620. REPEAL OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY RESEARCH.

(a) REPEAL.—Subtitle C (sections 1461 through 1471) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 4701–4710) is repealed.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents at the beginning of the Food Security Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-198; 99 Stat. 1354) is amended by striking the items relating to subtitle C of title XIV.

CHAPTER 1—BEST UTILIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS

SEC. 1621. [7 U.S.C. 5811] RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PROJECTS.

(a) PROJECTS REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall conduct research and extension projects to obtain data, develop conclusions, demonstrate technologies, and conduct educational programs that promote the purposes of this chapter, including research and extension projects that—

(1) facilitate and increase scientific investigation and education in order to—

(A) reduce, to the extent feasible and practicable, the use of chemical pesticides, fertilizers, and toxic natural materials in agricultural production;

(B) improve low-input farm management to enhance agricultural productivity, profitability, and competitiveness; and

(C) promote crop, livestock, and enterprise diversification; and

(2) facilitate the conduct of projects in order to—

(A) study, to the extent practicable, agricultural production systems that are located in areas that possess various soil, climate, and physical characteristics;

(B) study farms that have been, and will continue to be, managed using farm production practices that rely on low-input and conservation practices;

(C) take advantage of the experience and expertise of farmers and ranchers through their direct participation and leadership in projects;

(D) transfer practical, reliable and timely information to farmers and ranchers concerning low-input sustainable farming practices and systems; and

(E) promote a partnership between farmers, nonprofit organizations, agribusiness, and public and private research and extension institutions.

(b) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall carry out this section through agreements entered into with land-grant colleges or universities, other universities, State agricultural experiment stations, the State cooperative extension services, nonprofit organizations with demonstrable expertise, or Federal or State governmental entities.

(c) SELECTION OF PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall select research and extension projects to be conducted under this section on the basis of—

(A) the relevance of the project to the purposes of this chapter;

(B) the appropriateness of the design of the project;

- (C) the likelihood of obtaining the objectives of the project; and
- (D) the national or regional applicability of the findings and outcomes of the proposed project.
- (2) PRIORITY.—In conducting projects under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that—
- (A) closely coordinate research and extension activities;
- (B) indicate the manner in which the findings of the project will be made readily usable by farmers;
- (C) maximize the involvement and cooperation of farmers, including projects involving on-farm research and demonstration;
- (D) involve a multidisciplinary systems approach; and
- (E) involve cooperation between farms, non-profit organizations, colleges and universities, and government agencies.
- (d) DIVERSIFICATION OF RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall conduct projects and studies under this section in areas that are broadly representative of the diversity of United States agricultural production, including production on family farms, mixed-crop livestock farms and dairy operations.
- (e) ON-FARM RESEARCH.—The Secretary may conduct projects and activities that involve on-farm research and demonstration in carrying out this section.
- (f) IMPACT STUDIES.—The Secretary may approve study projects concerning the national and regional economic, global competitiveness, social and environmental implications of the adoption of low-input sustainable agricultural practices and systems.
- (g) PROJECT DURATION.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may approve projects to be conducted under this section that have a duration of more than one fiscal year.
- (2) SEQUENCE PLANTING.—In the case of a research project conducted under this section that involves the planting of a sequence of crops or crop rotations, the Secretary shall approve such projects for a term that is appropriate to the sequence or rotation being studied.
- (h) PUBLIC ACCESS.—The Secretary shall ensure that research projects conducted under this section are open for public observation at specified times.
- (i) INDEMNIFICATION.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary may indemnify the operator of a project conducted under this section for damage incurred or undue losses sustained as a result of a rigid requirement of research or demonstration under such project that is not experienced in normal farming operations.
- (2) SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT.—An indemnity payment under paragraph (1) shall be subject to any agreement between a project grantee and operator entered into prior to the initiation of such project.

SEC. 1622. [7 U.S.C. 5812] PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

(a) **DUTIES OF SECRETARY.**—The Secretary shall—

(1) administer the programs and projects conducted under sections 1621 and 1623 through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, and other appropriate agencies;

(2) establish a minimum of four Regional Administrative Councils in accordance with subsection (b); and

(3) in conjunction with such Regional Administrative Councils, identify regional host institutions required to carry out such programs or projects.

(b) **REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS.**—

(1) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The membership of the Regional Administrative Councils shall include representatives of—

(A) the Agricultural Research Service;

(B) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture;

(C) State cooperative extension services;

(D) State agricultural experiment stations;

(E) the Soil Conservation Service;

(F) State departments engaged in sustainable agriculture programs;

(G) nonprofit organizations with demonstrable expertise;

(H) farmers utilizing systems and practices of sustainable agriculture;

(I) agribusiness;

(J) the State or United States Geological Survey; and

(K) other persons knowledgeable about sustainable agriculture and its impact on the environment and rural communities.

(2) **RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The Regional Administrative Councils shall—

(A) promote the programs established under this subtitle at the regional level;

(B) establish goals and criteria for the selection of projects authorized under this subtitle within the applicable region;

(C) appoint a technical committee to evaluate the proposals for projects to be considered under this subtitle by such council;

(D) review and act on the recommendations of the technical committee, and coordinate its activities with the regional host institution; and

(E) prepare and make available an annual report concerning projects funded under sections 1621 and 1623, together with an evaluation of the project activity.

(3) **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.**—A member of the Regional Administrative Council or a technical committee may not participate in the discussion or recommendation of proposed projects if the member has or had a professional or business interest in, including the provision of consultancy services, the organization whose grant application is under review.

SEC. 1623. [7 U.S.C. 5813] FEDERAL-STATE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a Federal-State matching grant program to make grants to States to assist in the creation or enhancement of State sustainable agriculture research, extension, and education programs, in furtherance of this subtitle.

(b) **ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.**—States eligible to receive a grant under this section may conduct a variety of activities designed to carry out the purpose of this subtitle, including—

(1) activities that encourage the incorporation and integration of sustainable agriculture concerns in all State research, extension, and education projects;

(2) educational programs for farmers, educators, and the public;

(3) the development and funding of innovative research, extension, and education programs regarding sustainable agriculture;

(4) the conduct of research and demonstration projects;

(5) the provision of technical assistance to farmers and ranchers;

(6) activities that encourage farmer-to-farmer information exchanges;

(7) the incorporation of sustainable agriculture studies in undergraduate and graduate degree programs; and

(8) such other activities that are appropriate to the agricultural concerns of the State that are consistent with the purpose of this chapter.

(c) **SUBMISSION OF PLAN.**—

(1) **REQUIRED.**—States that elect to apply for a grant under this section shall prepare and submit, to the appropriate Regional Administrative Council established under section 1622, a State plan and schedule for approval by such council and the Secretary.

(2) **ELEMENTS OF PLAN.**—State plans prepared under paragraph (1) shall provide details of the proposed program to be implemented using funds provided under this section for fiscal years 1991 through 1995, or any 5-year period thereafter, and shall identify the sources of matching State funds for the same fiscal year.

(3) **PARTICIPATION OF FARMERS.**—To be eligible for approval, State plans submitted under this subsection shall demonstrate that there will be extensive and direct participation of farmers in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the program.

(d) **GRANT AWARD.**—

(1) **LIMITS.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall provide grants to eligible States in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the cost of the establishment or enhancement of a State sustainable agriculture program under a plan approved by the Secretary under subsection (c) for a period not to exceed 5 years.

(2) **STATE CONTRIBUTION.**—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a State shall agree to pay, from State ap-

propriated funds, other State revenue, or from private contributions received by the State, not less than 50 percent of the cost of the establishment or enhancement of the sustainable agriculture program under an approved plan under subsection (c).

SEC. 1624. [7 U.S.C. 5814] AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated \$40,000,000 for each fiscal year to carry out this chapter. Of amounts appropriated to carry out this chapter for a fiscal year, not less than \$15,000,000, or not less than two thirds of any such appropriation, whichever is greater, shall be used to carry out sections 1621 and 1622.

CHAPTER 2—INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

SEC. 1627. [7 U.S.C. 5821] INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a research and education program concerning integrated resource management and integrated crop management in order to enhance research related to farming operations, practices, and systems that optimize crop and livestock production potential and are environmentally sound. The purpose of the program shall be—

(1) to encourage producers to adopt integrated crop and livestock management practices and systems that minimize or abate adverse environmental impacts, reduce soil erosion and loss of water and nutrients, enhance the efficient use of on-farm and off-farm inputs, and maintain or increase profitability and long-term productivity;

(2) to develop knowledge and information on integrated crop and livestock management systems and practices to assist agricultural producers in the adoption of these systems and practices;

(3) to accumulate and analyze information on agricultural production practices researched or developed under programs established under this subtitle, subtitle G of title XIV, and section 1650 and other appropriate programs of the Department of Agriculture to further the development of integrated crop and livestock management systems;

(4) to facilitate the adoption of whole-farm integrated crop and livestock management systems through demonstration projects on individual farms, including small and limited resource farms, throughout the United States; and

(5) to evaluate and recommend appropriate integrated crop and livestock management policies and programs.

(b) DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION OF INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall encourage agricultural producers to adopt and develop individual, site-specific integrated crop management practices. On a priority basis, the Secretary shall develop and disseminate information on integrated crop management systems for agricultural producers in specific localities or crop producing regions where the Secretary determines—

(1) water quality is impaired as a result of local or regional agricultural production practices; or

(2) the adoption of such practices may aid in the recovery of endangered or threatened species.

(c) DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION OF INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall, on a priority basis, develop programs to encourage livestock producers to develop and adopt individual, site-specific integrated resource management practices. These programs shall be designed to benefit producers and consumers through—

(1) optimum use of available resources and improved production and financial efficiency for producers;

(2) identifying and prioritizing the research and educational needs of the livestock industry relating to production and financial efficiency, competitiveness, environmental stability, and food safety; and

(3) utilizing an interdisciplinary approach.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year \$20,000,000 to carry out this section through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

CHAPTER 3—SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER PROGRAM

SEC. 1628. [7 U.S.C. 5831] TECHNICAL GUIDES AND HANDBOOKS.

(a) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and make available handbooks and technical guides, and any other educational materials that are appropriate for describing sustainable agriculture production systems and practices, as researched and developed under this subtitle, subtitle G of title XIV, section 1650, and other appropriate research programs of the Department.

(b) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall develop the handbooks, technical guides, and educational materials in consultation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and any other appropriate entities designated by the Secretary. The Secretary shall coordinate activities conducted under this section with those conducted under section 1261 of the Food Security Act of 1985, as added by section 1446.

(c) TOPICS OF HANDBOOKS AND GUIDES.—The handbooks and guides, and other educational materials, shall include detailed information on the selection of crops and crop-plant varieties, rotation practices, soil building practices, tillage systems, nutrient management, integrated pest management practices, habitat protection, pest, weed, and disease management, livestock management, soil, water, and energy conservation, and any other practices in accordance with or in furtherance of the purpose of this subtitle.

(d) ORGANIZATION AND CONTENTS.—The handbooks and guides, and other educational materials, shall provide practical instructions and be organized in such a manner as to enable agricultural producers desiring to implement the practices and systems developed under this subtitle, subtitle G of title XIV, section 1650, and other appropriate research programs of the Department to address site-specific, environmental and resource management problems and to sustain farm profitability, including—

(1) enhancing and maintaining the fertility, productivity, and conservation of farmland and ranch soils, ranges, pastures, and wildlife;

- (2) maximizing the efficient and effective use of agricultural inputs;
- (3) protecting or enhancing the quality of water resources;
- or
- (4) optimizing the use of on-farm and nonrenewable resources.

(e) **AVAILABILITY.**—The Secretary shall ensure that handbooks and technical guides, and other educational materials are made available to the agricultural community and the public through colleges and universities, the State Cooperative Extension Service, the Soil Conservation Service, other State and Federal agencies, and any other appropriate entities.

(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

SEC. 1629. [7 U.S.C. 5832] NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish a National Training Program in Sustainable Agriculture to provide education and training for Cooperative Extension Service agents and other professionals involved in the education and transfer of technical information concerning sustainable agriculture in order to develop their understanding, competence, and ability to teach and communicate the concepts of sustainable agriculture to Cooperative Extension Service agents and to farmers and urban residents who need information on sustainable agriculture.

(b) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The National Training Program shall be organized and administered by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, in coordination with other appropriate Federal agencies. The Secretary shall designate an individual from the Cooperative Extension Service in each State to coordinate the National Training Program within that State. The coordinators shall be responsible, in cooperation with appropriate Federal and State agencies, for developing and implementing a statewide training program for appropriate field office personnel.

(c) **REQUIRED TRAINING.**—

(1) **AGRICULTURAL AGENTS.**—The Secretary shall ensure that all agricultural agents of the Cooperative Extension Service have completed the National Training Program not later than the end of the five-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act. Such training may occur at a college or university located within each State as designated by the coordinator designated under this section.

(2) **PROOF OF TRAINING.**—Beginning three years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall ensure that all new Cooperative Extension Service agents employed by such Service are able to demonstrate, not later than 18 months after the employment of such agents, that such agents have completed the training program established in subsection (a).

(d) **REGIONAL TRAINING CENTERS.**—

(1) **DESIGNATION.**—The Secretary shall designate not less than two regional training centers to coordinate and administer educational activities in sustainable agriculture as provided for in this section.

(2) TRAINING PROGRAM.—Such centers shall offer intensive instructional programs involving classroom and field training work for extension specialists and other individuals who are required to transmit technical information.

(3) PROHIBITION ON CONSTRUCTION.—Such centers shall be located at existing facilities, and no funds appropriated to carry out this chapter shall be used for facility construction.

(4) ADMINISTRATION.—Such centers should be administered by entities that have a demonstrated capability relating to sustainable agriculture. The Secretary should consider utilizing existing entities with expertise in sustainable agriculture to assist in the design and implementation of the training program under paragraph (2).

(5) COORDINATION OF RESOURCES.—Such centers shall make use of information generated by the Department of Agriculture and the State agricultural experiment stations, and the practical experience of farmers, especially those cooperating in on-farm demonstrations and research projects, in carrying out the functions of such centers.

(e) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a competitive grants program to award grants to organizations, including land-grant colleges and universities, to carry out sustainable agricultural training for county agents and other individuals that need basic information concerning sustainable agriculture practices.

(2) SHORT COURSES.—The purpose of the grants made available under paragraph (1) shall be to establish, in various regions in the United States, training programs that consist of workshops and short courses designed to familiarize participants with the concepts and importance of sustainable agriculture.

(f) REGIONAL SPECIALISTS.—To assist county agents and farmers implement production practices developed under this subtitle, subtitle G of title XIV, and other appropriate research programs of the Department, regional sustainable agriculture specialists may be designated within each State who shall report to the State coordinator of that State. The specialists shall be responsible for developing and coordinating local dissemination of sustainable agriculture information in a manner that is useful to farmers in the region.

(g) INFORMATION AVAILABILITY.—The Cooperative Extension Service within each State shall transfer information developed under this subtitle, subtitle G of title XIV, and other appropriate research programs of the Department through a program that shall—

(1) assist in developing farmer-to-farmer information exchange networks to enable farmers making transitions to more sustainable farming systems to share ideas and draw on the experiences of other farmers;

(2) help coordinate and publicize a regular series of sustainable agriculture farm tours and field days within each State;

(3) plan for extension programming, including extensive farmer input and feedback, in the design of new and ongoing research endeavors related to sustainable agriculture;

(4) provide technical assistance to individual farmers in the design and implementation of farm management plans and strategies for making a transition to more sustainable agricultural systems;

(5) consult and work closely with the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in carrying out the information, technical assistance, and related programs;

(6) develop, coordinate, and direct special education and outreach programs in areas highly susceptible to groundwater contamination, linking sustainable agriculture information with water quality improvement information;

(7) develop information sources relating to crop diversification, alternative crops, on-farm food or commodity processing, and on-farm energy generation;

(8) establish a well-water testing program designed to provide those persons dependent upon underground drinking water supplies with an understanding of the need for regular water testing, information on sources of testing, and an understanding of how to interpret test results and provide for the protection of underground water supplies;

(9) provide specific information on water quality practices developed through the research programs in subtitle G of title XIV;

(10) provide specific information on nutrient management practices developed through the research programs in subtitle G of title XIV; and

(11) provide information concerning whole-farm management systems integrating research results under this subtitle, subtitle G of title XIV, and other appropriate research programs of the Department.

(h) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term “appropriate field office personnel” includes employees of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, and other appropriate Department of Agriculture personnel, as determined by the Secretary, whose activities involve the provision of agricultural production and conservation information to agricultural producers.

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for each fiscal year to carry out the National Training Program.

Subtitle C—National Genetic Resources Program

SEC. 1632. [7 U.S.C. 5841] ESTABLISHMENT, PURPOSE, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall provide for a National Genetic Resources Program.

(b) PURPOSE.—The program is established for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing a program providing for the collection, preservation, and dissemination of genetic material of importance to American food and agriculture production.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The program shall be administered by the Secretary through the Agricultural Research Service.

(d) FUNCTIONS.—The Secretary, acting through the program, shall—

(1) provide for the collection, classification, preservation, and dissemination of genetic material of importance to the food and agriculture sectors of the United States;

(2) conduct research on the genetic materials collected and on methods for storage and preservation of those materials;

(3) coordinate the activities of the program with similar activities occurring domestically;

(4) unless otherwise prohibited by law, have the right to make available on request, without charge and without regard to the country from which the request originates, the genetic material that the program assembles;

(5) expand the types of genetic resources included in the program to develop a comprehensive genetic resources program which includes plants (including silvicultural species), animal, aquatic, insect, microbiological, and other types of genetic resources of importance to food and agriculture, as resources permit; and

(6) engage in such other activities as the Secretary determines appropriate and as the resources of the program permit.

SEC. 1633. [7 U.S.C. 5842] APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR.

(a) DIRECTOR.—There shall be at the head of the program an official to be known as the Director of the National Genetic Resources Program who shall be appointed by the Secretary. The Director shall perform such duties as are assigned to the Director by this subtitle and such other duties as the Secretary may prescribe.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this subtitle, the Secretary, acting through the Director—

(1) shall be responsible for the overall direction of the program and for the establishment and implementation of general policies respecting the management and operation of activities within the program;

(2) may secure for the program consultation services and advice of persons from the United States and abroad;

(3) may accept voluntary and uncompensated services; and

(4) may perform such other administrative functions as the Secretary determines are needed to effectively carry out this subtitle.

(c) DUTIES.—The Director shall—

(1) advise participants on the program activities;

(2) coordinate, review and facilitate the systematic identification and evaluation of, relevant information generated under the program;

(3) promote the effective transfer of the information described in paragraph (2) to the agriculture and food production community and to entities that require such information; and

(4) monitor the effectiveness of the activities described in paragraph (3).

(d) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—The Director shall prepare and transmit to the Secretary and to the Congress a biennial report containing—

(1) a description of the activities carried out by and through the program and the policies of the program, and such recommendations respecting such activities and policies as the Director considers to be appropriate;

(2) a description of the necessity for, and progress achieved toward providing, additional programs and activities designed to include the range of genetic resources described in section 1632(d)(5) in the activities of the program; and

(3) an assessment of events and activities occurring internationally as they relate to the activities and policies of the program.

(e) INITIAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall transmit to the Secretary and to the Congress a report—

(1) describing the projected needs over a 10-year period in each of the areas of genetic resources described in section 1632(d)(5), including the identification of existing components of a comprehensive program, policies and activities needed to coordinate those components, and additional elements not in existence which are required for the development of a comprehensive genetic resources program as described in such section;

(2) assessing the international efforts and activities related to the program, and their effect upon and coordination with the program; and

(3) evaluating the potential effect of various national laws, including national quarantine requirements, as well as treaties, agreements, and the activities of international organizations on the development of a comprehensive international system for the collection and maintenance of genetic resources of importance to agriculture.

SEC. 1634. [7 U.S.C. 5843] ADVISORY COUNCIL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary shall establish an advisory council for the program for the purpose of advising, assisting, consulting with, and making recommendations to, the Secretary and Director concerning matters related to the activities, policies and operations of the program. The advisory council shall consist of ex officio members and not more than nine members appointed by the Secretary.

(b) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—The ex officio members of the advisory council shall consist of the following persons (or their designees):

(1) The Director.

(2) The Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Science and Education.

(3) The Director of the National Agricultural Library.

(4) The Director of the National Institutes of Health.

(5) The Director of the National Science Foundation.

- (6) The Secretary of Energy.
- (7) The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.
- (8) Such additional officers and employees of the United States as the Secretary determines are necessary for the advisory council to effectively carry out its functions.
- (c) APPOINTMENT OF OTHER MEMBERS.—The members of the advisory council who are not ex officio members shall be appointed by the Secretary as follows:
- (1) Two-thirds of the members shall be appointed from among the leading representatives of the scientific disciplines relevant to the activities of the program, including agricultural sciences, environmental sciences, natural resource sciences, health sciences, and nutritional sciences.
- (2) One-third of the members shall be appointed from the general public and shall include leaders in fields of public policy, trade, international development, law, or management.
- (d) COMPENSATION.—Members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation, if not otherwise officers or employees of the United States, except that they shall, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the advisory council, be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under sections 5701 through 5707 of title 5, United States Code.
- (e) TERM OF OFFICE OF APPOINTEES; VACANCIES.—
- (1) TERM.—The term of office of a member appointed under subsection (c) is four years, except that any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the predecessor of such member was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term.
- (2) INITIAL APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary shall make appointments to the advisory council so as to ensure that the terms of the members appointed under subsection (c) do not all expire in the same year. A member may serve after the expiration of the member's term until a successor takes office.
- (3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member who is appointed for a term of four years may not be reappointed to the advisory council before two years after the date of expiration of such term of office.
- (4) VACANCIES.—If a vacancy occurs in the advisory council among the members appointed under subsection (c), the Secretary shall make an appointment to fill such vacancy within 90 days after the date such vacancy occurs.
- (f) CHAIR.—The Secretary shall select as the chair of the advisory council one of the members appointed under subsection (c). The term of office of the chair shall be two years.
- (g) MEETINGS.—The advisory council shall meet at the call of the chair or on the request of the Director, but at least two times each fiscal year. The location of the meetings of the advisory council shall be subject to the approval of the Director.

(h) **STAFF.**—The Director shall make available to the advisory council such staff, information, and other assistance as it may require to carry out its functions.

(i) **ORIENTATION AND TRAINING.**—The Director shall provide such orientation and training for new members of the advisory council as may be appropriate for their effective participation in the functions of the advisory council.

(j) **COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**—The advisory council may prepare, for inclusion in a report submitted under section 1633—

(1) comments respecting the activities of the advisory council during the period covered by the report;

(2) comments on the progress of the program in meeting its objectives; and

(3) recommendations respecting the future directions, program, and policy emphasis of the program.

(k) **REPORTS.**—The advisory council may prepare such reports as the advisory council determines to be appropriate.

(l) **APPLICATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**—Section 14(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) relating to the termination of an advisory committee shall not apply to the advisory council established under this section.

SEC. 1635. [7 U.S.C. 5844] DEFINITIONS AND AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this subtitle:

(1) The term “program” means the National Genetic Resources Program.

(2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(3) The term “Director” means the Director of the National Genetic Resources Program.

(b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such funds as may be necessary to carry out this subtitle for each of the fiscal years 1991 through 2012.

Subtitle D—National Agricultural Weather Information System

SEC. 1637. [7 U.S.C. 5851] SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSES.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This subtitle may be cited as the “National Agricultural Weather Information System Act of 1990”.

(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this subtitle are—

(1) to provide a nationally coordinated agricultural weather information system, based on the participation of universities, State programs, Federal agencies, and the private weather consulting sector, and aimed at meeting the weather and climate information needs of agricultural producers;

(2) to facilitate the collection, organization, and dissemination of advisory weather and climate information relevant to agricultural producers, through the participation of the private sector and otherwise;

(3) to provide for research and education on agricultural weather and climate information, aimed at improving the qual-

ity and quantity of weather and climate information available to agricultural producers, including research on short-term forecasts of thunderstorms and on extended weather forecasting techniques and models;

(4) to encourage, where feasible, greater private sector participation in providing agricultural weather and climate information, to encourage private sector participation in educating and training farmers and others in the proper utilization of agricultural weather and climate information, and to strengthen their ability to provide site-specific weather forecasting for farmers and the agricultural sector in general; and

(5) to ensure that the weather and climate data bases needed by the agricultural sector are of the highest scientific accuracy and thoroughly documented, and that such data bases are easily accessible for remote computer access.

SEC. 1638. [7 U.S.C. 5852] AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OFFICE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE SYSTEM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish in the Department of Agriculture an Agricultural Weather Office to plan and administer the National Agricultural Weather Information System. The system shall be comprised of the office established under this section and the activities of the State agricultural weather information systems described in section 1640.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The Secretary shall appoint a Director to manage the activities of the Agricultural Weather Office and to advise the Secretary on scientific and programmatic coordination for climate, weather, and remote sensing.

(b) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary, acting through the Office, may undertake the following activities to carry out this subtitle:

(1) Enter into cooperative projects with the National Weather Service to—

(A) support operational weather forecasting and observation useful in agriculture;

(B) sponsor joint workshops to train agriculturalists about the optimum utilization of agricultural weather and climate data;

(C) jointly develop improved computer models and computing capacity; and

(D) enhance the quality and availability of weather and climate information needed by agriculturalists.

(2) Obtain standardized weather observation data collected in near real time through State agricultural weather information systems.

(3) Make, through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, competitive grants under subsection (c) for research in atmospheric sciences and climatology.

(4) Make grants to eligible States under section 1640 to plan and administer State agricultural weather information systems.

(5) Coordinate the activities of the Office with the weather and climate research activities of the National Institute of

Food and Agriculture, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Science Foundation Atmospheric Services Program, and the National Climate Program.

(6) Encourage private sector participation in the National Agricultural Weather Information System through mutually beneficial cooperation with the private sector, particularly in generating weather and climatic data useful for site-specific agricultural weather forecasting.

(c) COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM.—

(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—With funds allocated to carry out this subsection, the Secretary of Agriculture may make grants to State agricultural experiment stations, all colleges and universities, other research institutions and organizations, Federal agencies, private organizations and corporations, and individuals to carry out research in all aspects of atmospheric sciences and climatology that can be shown to be important in both a basic and developmental way to understanding, forecasting, and delivering agricultural weather information.

(2) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—Grants made under this subsection shall be made on a competitive basis.

(d) PRIORITY.—In selecting among applications for grants under subsection (c), the Secretary shall give priority to proposals which emphasize—

(1) techniques and processes that relate to weather-induced agricultural losses, and to improving the advisory information on weather extremes such as drought, floods, freezes, and storms well in advance of their actual occurrence;

(2) the improvement of site-specific weather data collection and forecasting; or

(3) the impact of weather on economic and environmental costs in agricultural production.

[Section 1639 repealed by section 7304(a) of P.L. 107-171, 116 Stat. 455.]

SEC. 1640. [7 U.S.C. 5854] STATE AGRICULTURAL WEATHER INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

(a) ADVISORY PROGRAM GRANTS.—

(1) GRANTS REQUIRED.—With funds allocated to carry out this section, the Secretary of Agriculture shall make grants to not fewer than 10 eligible States to plan and administer, in cooperation with persons described in paragraph (2), advisory programs for State agricultural weather information systems.

(2) PERSONS DESCRIBED.—The persons referred to in paragraph (1) are the Director of the Agricultural Weather Office, the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and other persons as appropriate (such as the directors of the appropriate State agricultural experiment stations and State extension programs).

(b) CONSULTATION.—For purposes of selecting among applications submitted by States for grants under this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Director.

(c) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, the chief executive officer of a State shall submit to the Secretary an application that contains—

(1) assurances that the State will expend such grant to plan and administer a State agricultural weather system that will—

(A) collect observational weather data throughout the State and provide such data to the National Weather Service and the Agricultural Weather Office;

(B) develop methods for packaging information received from the national system for use by agricultural producers (with State Cooperative Extension Services and the private sector to serve as the primary conduit of agricultural weather forecasts and climatic information to producers); and

(C) develop programs to educate agricultural producers on how to best use weather and climate information to improve management decisions; and

(2) such other assurances and information as the Secretary may require by rule.

SEC. 1641. [7 U.S.C. 5855] FUNDING.

(a) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—

(1) COOPERATIVE WORK.—Not less than 15 percent and not more than 25 percent of the funds appropriated for a fiscal year to carry out this subtitle shall be used for cooperative work with the National Weather Service entered into under section 1638(b)(1).

(2) COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM.—Not less than 15 percent and not more than 25 percent of such funds shall be used by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture for a competitive grants program under section 1638(c).

(3) WEATHER INFORMATION SYSTEMS.—Not less than 25 percent and not more than 35 percent of such funds shall be divided equally between the participating States selected for that fiscal year under section 1640.

(4) OTHER PURPOSES.—The remaining funds shall be allocated for use by the Agricultural Weather Office and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture in carrying out generally the provisions of this subtitle.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided under the authority of this subtitle shall not be used for the construction of facilities. Each State or agency receiving funds shall not use more than 30 percent of such funds for equipment purchases. Any use of the funds in facilitating the distribution of agricultural and climate information to producers shall be done with consideration for the role that the private meteorological sector can play in such information delivery.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out this subtitle for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012. [Subtitles E and F repealed April 4, 1996, by sections 861 and 862 of P.L. 104-127, 110 Stat. 1174.] [Subtitle G (sections 1657-1665) repealed by section 6201(a) of P.L. 107-171, 116 Stat. 418.]

Subtitle H—Miscellaneous Research Provisions

SEC. 1668. [7 U.S.C. 5921] BIOTECHNOLOGY RISK ASSESSMENT RESEARCH.

(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section—

(1) to authorize and support environmental assessment research to help identify and analyze environmental effects of biotechnology; and

(2) to authorize research to help regulators develop long-term policies concerning the introduction of such technology.

(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a grant program within the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Agricultural Research Service to provide the necessary funding for environmental assessment research concerning the introduction of genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms into the environment.

(c) RESEARCH PRIORITIES.—The following types of research shall be given priority for funding:

(1) Research designed to identify and develop appropriate management practices to minimize physical and biological risks associated with genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms.

(2) Research designed to develop methods to monitor the dispersal of genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms.

(3) Research designed to further existing knowledge with respect to the characteristics, rates, and methods of gene transfer that may occur between genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms and related wild and agricultural organisms.

(4) Environmental assessment research designed to provide analysis which compares the relative impacts of animals, plants, and microorganisms modified through genetic engineering to other types of production systems.

(5) Other areas of research designed to further the purposes of this section.

(d) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—Grants under this section shall be—

(1) made on the basis of the quality of the proposed research project; and

(2) available to any public or private research or educational institution or organization.

(e) CONSULTATION.—In considering specific areas of research for funding under this section, the Secretary of Agriculture shall consult with the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

(f) PROGRAM COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall coordinate research funded under this section with the Office of Research and Development of the Environmental Protection Agency in order to avoid duplication of research activities.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as necessary to carry out this section.

(2) WITHHOLDINGS FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY OUTLAYS.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall withhold from outlays of the Department of Agriculture for research on biotechnology, as defined and determined by the Secretary, at least 2 percent of such amount for the purpose of making grants under this section for research on biotechnology risk assessment.

(3) APPLICATION OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under this subsection shall be applied, to the maximum extent practicable, to risk assessment research on all categories identified in subsection (c).

[Section 1669 repealed by section 10705(b) of P.L. 107-171, 116 Stat. 519.]

SEC. 1670. [7 U.S.C. 5923] RURAL ELECTRONIC COMMERCE EXTENSION PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DEVELOPMENT CENTER.—The term “development center” means—

(A) the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development;

(B) the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development or its designee;

(C) the Southern Rural Development Center; and

(D) the Western Rural Development Center or its designee.

(2) EXTENSION PROGRAM.—The term “extension program” means the rural electronic commerce extension program established under subsection (b).

(3) MICROENTERPRISE.—The term “microenterprise” means a commercial enterprise that has 5 or fewer employees, 1 or more of whom own the enterprise.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

(5) SMALL BUSINESS.—The term “small business” has the meaning given the term “small-business concern” by section 3(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(a)).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a rural electronic commerce extension program to expand and enhance electronic commerce practices and technology to be used by small businesses and microenterprises in rural areas.

(c) GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out the program established under subsection (b) by making—

(A) grants to each of the development centers; and

(B) competitive grants to land-grant colleges and universities (or consortia of land-grant colleges and universities) and to colleges and universities (including community colleges) with agricultural or rural development programs—

(i) to develop and facilitate innovative rural electronic commerce business strategies; and

(ii) to assist small businesses and microenterprises in identifying, adapting, implementing, and using electronic commerce business practices and technologies.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—The selection criteria established for grants awarded under paragraph (1)(B) shall include—

(A) the ability of an applicant to provide training and education on best practices, technology transfer, adoption, and use of electronic commerce in rural communities by small businesses and microenterprises;

(B) the extent and geographic diversity of the area served by the proposed project or activity under the extension program;

(C) in the case of a land-grant college or university, the extent of participation of the land-grant college or university in the extension program (including any economic benefits that would result from that participation);

(D) the percentage of funding and in-kind commitments from non-Federal sources that would be needed by and available for a proposed project or activity under the extension program; and

(E) the extent of participation of low-income and minority businesses or microenterprises in a proposed project or activity under the extension program.

(3) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of the receipt of funds under this section, a development center or grant applicant shall agree to obtain from non-Federal sources (including State, local, nonprofit, or private sector sources) contributions of an amount equal to 50 percent of the grant amount.

(B) FORM.—The non-Federal share required under subparagraph (A) may be provided in the form of in-kind contributions.

(C) EXCEPTION.—The non-Federal share required under subparagraph (A) may be reduced to 25 percent if the grant recipient serves low-income or minority-owned businesses or microenterprises, as determined by the Secretary.

(d)¹ REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, 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 policies, practices, and procedures used to assist rural communities in efforts to adopt and use electronic commerce techniques; and

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007, of which not less than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the amount made available for each fiscal year shall be used to carry out activities under subsection (c)(1)(A).

¹ Subsection enacted without a paragraph (2).

SEC. 1671. [7 U.S.C. 5924] AGRICULTURAL GENOME INITIATIVE.

(a) GOALS.—The goals of this section are—

(1) to expand the knowledge of public and private sector entities and persons concerning genomes for species of importance to the food and agriculture sectors in order to maximize the return on the investment in genomics of agriculturally important species;

(2) to focus on the species that will yield scientifically important results that will enhance the usefulness of many agriculturally important species;

(3) to build on genomic research, such as the Human Genome Initiative and the Arabidopsis Genome Project, to understand gene structure and function that is expected to have considerable payoffs in agriculturally important species;

(4) to develop improved bioinformatics to enhance both sequence or structure determination and analysis of the biological function of genes and gene products;

(5) to encourage Federal Government participants to maximize the utility of public and private partnerships for agricultural genome research;

(6) to allow resources developed under this section, including data, software, germplasm, and other biological materials, to be openly accessible to all persons, subject to any confidentiality requirements imposed by law; and

(7) to encourage international partnerships with each partner country responsible for financing its own strategy for agricultural genome research.

(b) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a research initiative (to be known as the “Agricultural Genome Initiative”) for the purpose of—

(1) studying and mapping agriculturally significant genes to achieve sustainable and secure agricultural production;

(2) ensuring that current gaps in existing agricultural genetics knowledge are filled;

(3) identifying and developing a functional understanding of genes responsible for economically important traits in agriculturally important species, including emerging plant and animal pathogens and diseases causing economic hardship;

(4) ensuring future genetic improvement of agriculturally important species;

(5) supporting preservation of diverse germplasm;

(6) ensuring preservation of biodiversity to maintain access to genes that may be of importance in the future;

(7) reducing the economic impact of plant pathogens on commercially important crop plants; and

(8) otherwise carrying out this section.

(c) GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may make grants or enter into cooperative agreements with individuals and organizations in accordance with section 1472 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3318).

(2) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—A grant or cooperative agreement under this subsection shall be made or entered into on a competitive basis.

(d) ADMINISTRATION.—Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) shall apply with respect to the making of a grant or cooperative agreement under this section.

(e) MATCHING OF FUNDS.—

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

(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the matching funds requirement of paragraph (1) with respect to a research project 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 recipient is unable to satisfy the matching funds requirement.

(f) CONSULTATION WITH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Secretary may use funds made available under this section to consult with the National Academy of Sciences regarding the administration of the Agricultural Genome Initiative.

SEC. 1672. [7 U.S.C. 5925] HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVES.

(a) COMPETITIVE SPECIALIZED RESEARCH AND EXTENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) may make competitive grants to support research and extension activities specified in subsections (e) through (i). The Secretary shall make the grants in consultation with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) shall apply with respect to the making of grants under this section.

(2) USE OF TASK FORCES.—To facilitate the making of research and extension grants under this section in the research and extension areas specified in subsections (e) through (i), the Secretary may appoint a task force for each such area to make recommendations to the Secretary. The Secretary may not incur costs in excess of \$1,000 for any fiscal year in connection with each task force established under this paragraph.

(c) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require the recipient of a grant under this section to provide funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources in an amount at least equal to the amount provided by the Federal Government.

(2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may waive the matching funds requirement specified in paragraph (1) with respect to a research project 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.

(d) PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGED.—Following the completion of a peer review process for grant proposals received under this section, the Secretary shall provide a priority to those grant proposals, found in the peer review process to be scientifically meritorious, that involve the cooperation of multiple entities.

(e) HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION AREAS.—

(1) ETHANOL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of carrying out or enhancing research on ethanol derived from agricultural crops as an alternative fuel source.

(2) AFLATOXIN RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of identifying, improving, and eventually commercializing, aflatoxin controls in corn and other affected agricultural products and crops.

(3) PRICKLY PEAR RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of investigating enhanced genetic selection and processing techniques of prickly pears.

(4) DEER TICK ECOLOGY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of studying the population ecology of deer ticks and other insects and pests that transmit Lyme disease.

(5) PEANUT MARKET ENHANCEMENT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of evaluating the economics of applying innovative technologies for peanut processing in a commercial environment.

(6) DAIRY FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of providing research, development, or education materials, information, and outreach programs regarding risk management strategies for dairy producers and for dairy cooperatives and other processors and marketers of milk.

(7) COTTON RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of improving pest management, fiber quality enhancement, economic assessment, textile production, and optimized production systems for short staple cotton.

(8) METHYL BROMIDE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of—

(A) developing and evaluating chemical and nonchemical alternatives, and use and emission reduction strategies, for pre-planting and post-harvest uses of methyl bromide; and

(B) transferring the results of the research for use by agricultural producers.

(9) POTATO RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of developing and evaluating new strains of potatoes that are resistant to blight and other diseases, as well as insects. Emphasis may be placed on developing potato varieties that lend themselves to innovative marketing approaches.

(10) WOOD USE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of developing new uses for wood from underused tree species as well as investigating methods of modifying wood and wood fibers to produce better building materials.

(11) WETLANDS USE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of better use of wetlands in diverse ways to provide various economic, agricultural, and environmental benefits.

(12) FOOD SAFETY, INCLUDING PATHOGEN DETECTION AND LIMITATION, RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of increasing food safety, including the identification of advanced detection and processing methods to limit the presence of pathogens (including hepatitis A and E. coli 0157:H7) in domestic and imported foods.

(13) FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of providing research, development, or education materials, information, and outreach programs regarding financial risk management strategies for agricultural producers and for cooperatives and other processors and marketers of any agricultural commodity.

(14) ORNAMENTAL TROPICAL FISH RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of meeting the needs of commercial producers of ornamental tropical fish and aquatic plants for improvements in the areas of fish reproduction, health, nutrition, predator control, water use, water quality control, and farming technology.

(15) GYPSY MOTH RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of developing biological control, management, and eradication methods against nonnative insects, including *Lymantria dispar* (commonly known as the “gypsy moth”), that contribute to significant agricultural, economic, or environmental harm.

(16) TOMATO SPOTTED WILT VIRUS RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of control, management, and eradication of tomato spotted wilt virus.

(17) GENETICALLY MODIFIED AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS (GMAP) RESEARCH.—Research grants may be made under this section for the purposes of providing unbiased, science-based evaluation of the risks and benefits to the public and the environment of specific genetically modified plant and animal products. Grants may be used to form interdisciplinary teams to review and conduct research on scientific, social, economic, and ethical issues during the review process, to answer questions raised by the release of new genetically modified agriculture products, to conduct fundamental studies on the health and environmental safety of genetically modified agriculture products (including quantitative risk assessment, the effect of specific genetically modified agriculture products on human health, and gene flow studies), to communicate the risk of genetically modified agriculture products through extension and education programs, and to engage the public and industry in relevant issues.

(18) LAND USE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purposes of evaluating the environmental benefits of land use management tools such as those provided in the Farmland Protection Program.

(19) WATER AND AIR QUALITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of better understanding agricultural impacts to air and water quality and means to address them.

(20) REVENUE AND INSURANCE TOOLS RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purposes of better understanding the impact of revenue and insurance tools on farm income.

(21) AGROTOURISM RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of better understanding the economic, environmental, and food systems impacts of agrotourism.

(22) NITROGEN-FIXATION BY PLANTS.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of enhancing the nitrogen-fixing ability and efficiency of legumes, developing new varieties of legumes that fix nitrogen more efficiently, and developing new varieties of other commercially important crops that potentially are able to fix nitrogen.

(23) ENVIRONMENT AND PRIVATE LANDS RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of researching the use of computer models to aid in assessment of best management practices on a watershed basis, working with government, industry, and private landowners to help craft industry-led solutions to identified environmental issues, researching and monitoring water, air, or soil environmental quality to aid in the development of new approaches to local environmental concerns, and working with local, State, and federal officials to help craft effective environmental solutions that respect private property rights and agricultural production realities.

(24) LIVESTOCK DISEASE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section

for the purpose of identifying possible livestock disease threats, educating the public regarding livestock disease threats, training persons to deal with such threats, and conducting related research.

(25) PLANT GENE EXPRESSION.—Research grants may be made under this section for the purpose of plant gene expression research to accelerate the application of basic plant genomic science to the development and testing of new varieties of enhanced food crops, crops that can be used as renewable energy sources, and other alternative uses of agricultural crops.

(26) ANIMAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES RESEARCH.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of developing prevention and control methodologies for animal infectious diseases (including evaluation under field conditions in countries in which an animal disease occurs) such as laboratory tests for quicker detection of infected animals and presence of disease, prevention strategies (including vaccination programs), and rapid diagnostic techniques for animal disease agents considered to be risks for agricultural bioterrorism attack.

(27) PROGRAM TO COMBAT CHILDHOOD OBESITY.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to institutions of higher education with demonstrated capacity in basic and clinical obesity research, nutrition research, and community health education research to develop and evaluate community-wide strategies that catalyze partnerships between families and health care, education, recreation, mass media, and other community resources to reduce the incidence of childhood obesity.

(28) INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to coordinate and improve research, education, and outreach on, and implementation on farms of, integrated pest management.

(29) SUGARCANE GENETICS.—Research grants may be made under this section for the purpose of maintaining acceptable yields under reduced production inputs, implementing marker-assisted breeding strategies and other basic plant genomic technologies to screen for improved plant resistance to diseases, weeds, and insects toward minimizing pesticide use, enhancing food, fiber and energy production, and developing varieties for maximum performance under prevailing conditions, including management for improved soil and water conservation.

(30) AIR EMISSIONS FROM LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of conducting field verification tests and developing mitigation options for air emissions from animal feeding operations.

(31) SWINE GENOME PROJECT.—Research grants may be made under this section to conduct swine genome research, including the mapping of the swine genome.

(32) CATTLE FEVER TICK PROGRAM.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to study cattle

fever ticks to facilitate understanding of the role of wildlife in the persistence and spread of cattle fever ticks, to develop advanced methods for eradication of cattle fever ticks, and to improve management of diseases relating to cattle fever ticks that are associated with wildlife, livestock, and human health.

(33) SYNTHETIC GYPSUM.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to study the uses of synthetic gypsum from electric power plants to remediate soil and nutrient losses.

(34) CRANBERRY RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to study new technologies to assist cranberry growers in complying with Federal and State environmental regulations, increase production, develop new growing techniques, establish more efficient growing methodologies, and educate cranberry producers about sustainable growth practices.

(35) SORGHUM RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to study the use of sorghum as a bioenergy feedstock, promote diversification in, and the environmental benefits of sorghum production, and promote water conservation through the use of sorghum.

(36) MARINE SHRIMP FARMING PROGRAM.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to establish a research program to advance and maintain a domestic shrimp farming industry in the United States.

(37) TURFGRASS RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to study the production of turfgrass (including the use of water, fertilizer, pesticides, fossil fuels, and machinery for turf establishment and maintenance) and environmental protection and enhancement relating to turfgrass production.

(38) AGRICULTURAL WORKER SAFETY RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section—

(A) to study and demonstrate methods to minimize exposure of farm and ranch owners and operators, pesticide handlers, and agricultural workers to pesticides, including research addressing the unique concerns of farm workers resulting from long-term exposure to pesticides; and

(B) to develop rapid tests for on-farm use to better inform and educate farmers, ranchers, and farm and ranch workers regarding safe field re-entry intervals.

(39) HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER REGION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to carry out interdisciplinary research relating to diminishing water levels and increased demand for water in the High Plains aquifer region.

(40) DEER INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to support collaborative research focusing on the development of viable strategies for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infectious, parasitic, and toxic diseases of farmed deer and the mapping of the deer genome.

(41) PASTURE-BASED BEEF SYSTEMS RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to study the development of forage sequences and combinations

for cow-calf, heifer development, stocker, and finishing systems, to deliver optimal nutritive value for efficient production of cattle for pasture finishing, to optimize forage systems to improve marketability of pasture-finished beef, and to assess the effect of forage quality on reproductive fitness.

(42) AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for field and laboratory studies that examine the ecosystem from gross to minute scales and for projects that explore the relationship of agricultural practices to climate change.

(43) BRUCELLOSIS CONTROL AND ERADICATION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to conduct research relating to the development of vaccines and vaccine delivery systems to effectively control and eliminate brucellosis in wildlife, and to assist with the controlling of the spread of brucellosis from wildlife to domestic animals.

(44) BIGHORN AND DOMESTIC SHEEP DISEASE MECHANISMS.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to conduct research relating to the health status of (including the presence of infectious diseases in) bighorn and domestic sheep under range conditions.

(45) AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAN-PACIFIC REGION.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to support food and agricultural science at a consortium of land-grant institutions in the American-Pacific region.

(46) TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.—Research grants may be made under this section, in equal dollar amounts to the Caribbean and Pacific Basins, to support tropical and subtropical agricultural research, including pest and disease research, at the land-grant institutions in the Caribbean and Pacific regions.

(47) VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to study—

(A) the effects of viral hemorrhagic septicemia (referred to in this paragraph as “VHS”) on freshwater fish throughout the natural and expanding range of VHS; and

(B) methods for transmission and human-mediated transport of VHS among waterbodies.

(48) FARM AND RANCH SAFETY.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to carry out projects to decrease the incidence of injury and death on farms and ranches, including—

(A) on-site farm or ranch safety reviews;

(B) outreach and dissemination of farm safety research and interventions to agricultural employers, employees, youth, farm and ranch families, seasonal workers, or other individuals; and

(C) agricultural safety education and training.

(49) WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN STEM FIELDS.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section to increase participation by women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas in the fields of science, technology, engi-

neering, and mathematics, with priority given to eligible institutions that carry out continuing programs funded by the Secretary.

(50) ALFALFA AND FORAGE RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of studying improvements in alfalfa and forage yields, biomass and persistence, pest pressures, the bioenergy potential of alfalfa and other forages, and systems to reduce losses during harvest and storage.

(51) FOOD SYSTEMS VETERINARY MEDICINE.—Research grants may be made under this section to address health issues that affect food-producing animals, food safety, and the environment, and to improve information resources, curriculum, and clinical education of students with respect to food animal veterinary medicine and food safety.

(52) BIOCHAR RESEARCH.—Grants may be made under this section for research, extension, and integrated activities relating to the study of biochar production and use, including considerations of agronomic and economic impacts, synergies of co-production with bioenergy, and the value of soil enhancements and soil carbon sequestration.

(f) IMPORTED FIRE ANT CONTROL, MANAGEMENT, AND ERADICATION.—

(1) TASK FORCE.—The Secretary shall establish a task force pursuant to subsection (b)(2) regarding the control, management, and eradication of imported fire ants. The Secretary shall solicit and evaluate grant proposals under this subsection in consultation with the task force.

(2) INITIAL GRANTS.—

(A) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.—The Secretary shall publish a request for proposals for grants for research or demonstration projects related to the control, management, and possible eradication of imported fire ants.

(B) SELECTION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of publication of the request for proposals, the Secretary shall evaluate the grant proposals submitted in response to the request and may select meritorious research or demonstration projects related to the control, management, and possible eradication of imported fire ants to receive an initial grant under this subsection.

(3) SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—

(A) EVALUATION OF INITIAL GRANTS.—If the Secretary awards grants under paragraph (2)(B), the Secretary shall evaluate all of the research or demonstration projects conducted under the grants for their use as the basis of a national plan for the control, management, and possible eradication of imported fire ants by the Federal Government, State and local governments, and owners and operators of land.

(B) SELECTION.—On the basis of the evaluation under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may select the projects that the Secretary considers most promising for additional research or demonstration related to preparation of a national plan for the control, management, and possible

eradication of imported fire ants. The Secretary shall notify the task force of the projects selected under this subparagraph.

(4) SELECTION AND SUBMISSION OF NATIONAL PLAN.—

(A) EVALUATION OF SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—If the Secretary awards grants under paragraph (3)(B), the Secretary shall evaluate all of the research or demonstration projects conducted under the grants for use as the basis of a national plan for the control, management, and possible eradication of imported fire ants by the Federal Government, State and local governments, and owners and operators of land.

(B) SELECTION.—On the basis of the evaluation under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall select 1 project funded under paragraph (3)(B), or a combination of those projects, for award of a grant for final preparation of the national plan.

(C) SUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress the final national plan prepared under subparagraph (B) for the control, management, and possible eradication of imported fire ants.

(g) FORMOSAN TERMITE RESEARCH AND ERADICATION.—

(1) RESEARCH PROGRAM.—The Secretary may make competitive research grants under this subsection to regional and multijurisdictional entities, local government planning organizations, and local governments for the purpose of conducting research for the control, management, and possible eradication of Formosan termites in the United States.

(2) ERADICATION PROGRAM.—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with regional and multijurisdictional entities, local government planning organizations, and local governments for the purposes of—

(A) conducting projects for the control, management, and possible eradication of Formosan termites in the United States; and

(B) collecting data on the effectiveness of the projects.

(3) FUNDING PRIORITY.—In allocating funds made available to carry out paragraph (2), the Secretary shall provide a higher priority for regions or locations with the highest historical rates of infestation of Formosan termites.

(4) MANAGEMENT COORDINATION.—The program management of research grants, cooperative agreements, and projects under this subsection shall be conducted under existing authority in coordination with the national formosan¹ termite management and research demonstration program conducted by the Agricultural Research Service.

(h) POLLINATOR PROTECTION.—

(1) RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—

(A) GRANTS.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section—

(i) to survey and collect data on bee colony production and health;

¹ So in law. Should probably be capitalized.

(ii) to investigate pollinator biology, immunology, ecology, genomics, and bioinformatics;

(iii) to conduct research on various factors that may be contributing to or associated with colony collapse disorder, and other serious threats to the health of honey bees and other pollinators, including—

(I) parasites and pathogens of pollinators; and

(II) the sublethal effects of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides on honey bees and native and managed pollinators;

(iv) to develop mitigative and preventative measures to improve native and managed pollinator health; and

(v) to promote the health of honey bees and native pollinators through habitat conservation and best management practices.

(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(2) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CAPACITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, increase the capacity and infrastructure of the Department—

(i) to address colony collapse disorder and other long-term threats to pollinator health, including the hiring of additional personnel; and

(ii) to conduct research on colony collapse disorder and other pollinator issues at the facilities of the Department.

(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph \$7,250,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(3) HONEY BEE PEST AND PATHOGEN SURVEILLANCE.—There is authorized to be appropriated to conduct a nationwide honey bee pest and pathogen surveillance program \$2,750,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(4) ANNUAL REPORT ON RESPONSE TO HONEY BEE COLONY COLLAPSE DISORDER.—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 an annual report describing the progress made by the Department of Agriculture in—

(A) investigating the cause or causes of honey bee colony collapse; and

(B) finding appropriate strategies to reduce colony loss.

(i) REGIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall prioritize regional centers of excellence established for specific agricultural commodities for the receipt of funding under this section.

(2) COMPOSITION.—A regional center of excellence shall be composed of 1 or more colleges and universities (including land-grant institutions, schools of forestry, schools of veteri-

nary medicine, or NLGCA Institutions (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103))) that provide financial support to the regional center of excellence.

(3) CRITERIA FOR REGIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—The criteria for consideration to be a regional center of excellence shall include efforts—

(A) to ensure coordination and cost-effectiveness by reducing unnecessarily duplicative efforts regarding research, teaching, and extension;

(B) to leverage available resources by using public/private partnerships among agricultural industry groups, institutions of higher education, and the Federal Government;

(C) to implement teaching initiatives to increase awareness and effectively disseminate solutions to target audiences through extension activities;

(D) to increase the economic returns to rural communities by identifying, attracting, and directing funds to high-priority agricultural issues; and

(E) to improve teaching capacity and infrastructure at colleges and universities (including land-grant institutions, schools of forestry, and schools of veterinary medicine).

(j) 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 2012.

SEC. 1672A. [7 U.S.C. 5925a] NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVE.

(a) COMPETITIVE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) may make competitive grants to support research and extension activities specified in subsection (e). The Secretary shall make the grants in consultation with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) shall apply with respect to the making of grants under this section.

(2) USE OF TASK FORCES.—To facilitate the making of research and extension grants under this section in the research and extension areas specified in subsection (e), the Secretary may appoint a task force for each such area to make recommendations to the Secretary. The Secretary may not incur costs in excess of \$1,000 for any fiscal year in connection with each task force established under this paragraph.

(c) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require the recipient of a grant under this section to provide funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources in an amount at least equal to the amount provided by the Federal Government.

(2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may waive the matching funds requirement specified in paragraph (1) with respect to a research project 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.

(d) PRIORITY.—Following the completion of a peer review process for grant proposals received under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to those grant proposals that involve—

(1) the cooperation of multiple entities; and

(2) States or regions with a high concentration of livestock, dairy, or poultry operations.

(e) NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION AREAS.—

(1) ANIMAL WASTE AND ODOR MANAGEMENT.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of—

(A) identifying, evaluating, and demonstrating innovative technologies for animal waste management and related air quality management and odor control;

(B) investigating the unique microbiology of specific animal wastes, such as swine waste and dairy and beef cattle waste, to develop improved methods to effectively manage air and water quality; and

(C) conducting information workshops to disseminate the results of the research.

(2) WATER QUALITY AND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of investigating the impact on aquatic food webs, especially commercially important aquatic species and their habitats, of microorganisms of the genus *Pfiesteria* and other microorganisms that are a threat to human or animal health.

(3) RURAL AND URBAN INTERFACE.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, and demonstrating innovative technologies to be used for animal waste management (including odor control) in rural areas adjacent to urban or suburban areas in connection with waste management activities undertaken in urban or suburban areas.

(4) ANIMAL FEED.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of maximizing nutrition management for livestock, while limiting risks, such as mineral bypass, associated with livestock feeding practices.

(5) ALTERNATIVE USES AND RENEWABLE ENERGY.—Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of finding innovative methods and technologies to allow agricultural operators to make use of animal waste, such as use as fertilizer, methane digestion, composting, and other useful byproducts.

(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 2012.

SEC. 1672B. [7 U.S.C. 5925b] ORGANIC AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVE.

(a) COMPETITIVE SPECIALIZED RESEARCH AND EXTENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—In consultation with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) may make competitive grants to support research and extension activities regarding organically grown and processed agricultural commodities for the purposes of—

- (1) facilitating the development of organic agriculture production, breeding, and processing methods;
- (2) evaluating the potential economic benefits to producers and processors who use organic methods;
- (3) exploring international trade opportunities for organically grown and processed agricultural commodities;
- (4) determining desirable traits for organic commodities;
- (5) identifying marketing and policy constraints on the expansion of organic agriculture;
- (6) conducting advanced on-farm research and development that emphasizes observation of, experimentation with, and innovation for working organic farms, including research relating to production and marketing and to socioeconomic conditions;
- (7) examining optimal conservation and environmental outcomes relating to organically produced agricultural products; and
- (8) developing new and improved seed varieties that are particularly suited for organic agriculture.

(b) GRANT TYPES AND PROCESS, PROHIBITION ON CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) shall apply with respect to the making of grants under this section.

(c) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require the recipient of a grant under this section to provide funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources in an amount at least equal to the amount provided by the Federal Government.

(2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may waive the matching funds requirement specified in paragraph (1) with respect to a research project if the Secretary determines that—

- (A) the results of the project, while of particular benefit to a specified 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.

(d) PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGED.—Following the completion of a peer review process for grant proposals received under this section, the Secretary may provide a priority to those grant proposals,

found in the peer review process to be scientifically meritorious, that involve the cooperation of multiple entities.

(e) FUNDING.—On October 1, 2003, and each October 1 thereafter through October 1, 2007, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer \$3,000,000 to the Secretary of Agriculture for this section.

(f) FUNDING.—

(1) MANDATORY FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEARS 2009 THROUGH 2012.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry out this section—

(A) \$18,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

(B) \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012.

(2) DISCRETIONARY FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEARS 2009 THROUGH 2012.—In addition to amounts made available under paragraph (1), there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

(3) FISCAL YEAR 2013.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

SEC. 1672C. [7 U.S.C. 5925e] AGRICULTURAL BIOENERGY FEEDSTOCK AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—There is established within the Department of Agriculture an agricultural bioenergy feedstock and energy efficiency research and extension initiative (referred to in this section as the “Initiative”) for the purpose of enhancing the production of biomass energy crops and the energy efficiency of agricultural operations.

(b) COMPETITIVE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall make competitive grants to support research and extension activities specified in subsections (c) and (d).

(c) AGRICULTURAL BIOENERGY FEEDSTOCK RESEARCH AND EXTENSION AREAS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Agricultural bioenergy feedstock research and extension activities funded under the Initiative shall focus on improving agricultural biomass production, biomass conversion in biorefineries, and biomass use by—

(A) supporting on-farm research on crop species, nutrient requirements, management practices, environmental impacts, and economics;

(B) supporting the development and operation of on-farm, integrated biomass feedstock production systems;

(C) leveraging the broad scientific capabilities of the Department of Agriculture and other entities in—

(i) plant genetics and breeding;

(ii) crop production;

(iii) soil and water science;

(iv) use of agricultural waste; and

(v) carbohydrate, lipid, protein, and lignin chemistry, enzyme development, and biochemistry; and

- (D) supporting the dissemination of any of the research conducted under this subsection that will assist in achieving the goals of this section.
- (2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting grant recipients for projects under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider—
- (A) the capabilities and experiences of the applicant, including—
- (i) research in actual field conditions; and
 - (ii) engineering and research knowledge relating to biofuels or the production of inputs for biofuel production;
- (B) the range of species types and cropping practices proposed for study (including species types and practices studied using side-by-side comparisons of those types and practices);
- (C) the need for regional diversity among feedstocks;
- (D) the importance of developing multiyear data relevant to the production of biomass feedstock crops;
- (E) the extent to which the project involves direct participation of agricultural producers;
- (F) the extent to which the project proposal includes a plan or commitment to use the biomass produced as part of the project in commercial channels; and
- (G) such other factors as the Secretary may determine.
- (d) ENERGY-EFFICIENCY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION AREAS.—On-farm energy-efficiency research and extension activities funded under the Initiative shall focus on developing and demonstrating technologies and production practices relating to—
- (1) improving on-farm renewable energy production;
 - (2) encouraging efficient on-farm energy use;
 - (3) promoting on-farm energy conservation;
 - (4) making a farm or ranch energy-neutral; and
 - (5) enhancing on-farm usage of advanced technologies to promote energy efficiency.
- (e) BEST PRACTICES DATABASE.—The Secretary shall develop a best-practices database that includes information, to be available to the public, on—
- (1) the production potential of a variety of biomass crops; and
 - (2) best practices for production, collection, harvesting, storage, and transportation of biomass crops to be used as a source of bioenergy.
- (f) ADMINISTRATION.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)) shall apply with respect to making grants under this section.
- (2) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall—
- (A) make the grants in consultation with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; and
 - (B) coordinate projects and activities carried out under the Initiative with projects and activities under section

9008 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that—

(i) unnecessary duplication of effort is eliminated or minimized; and

(ii) the respective strengths of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Energy are appropriately used.

(3) GRANT PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority to grant applications that integrate research and extension activities established under subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

(4) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—As a condition of receiving a grant under this section, the Secretary shall require the recipient of the grant to provide funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources in an amount that is at least equal to the amount provided by the Federal Government.

(5) PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGED.—Following the completion of a peer review process for grant proposals received under this section, the Secretary may provide a priority to those grant proposals found as a result of the peer review process—

(A) to be scientifically meritorious; and

(B) that involve cooperation—

(i) among multiple entities; and

(ii) with agricultural producers.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 1672D. [7 U.S.C. 5925f] FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make competitive research and extension grants for the purpose of—

(1) improving the farm management knowledge and skills of agricultural producers; and

(2) establishing and maintaining a national, publicly available farm financial management database to support improved farm management.

(b) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In allocating funds made available to carry out this section, the Secretary may give priority to grants that—

(1) demonstrate an ability to work directly with agricultural producers;

(2) collaborate with farm management and producer associations;

(3) address the farm management needs of a variety of crops and regions of the United States; and

(4) use and support the national farm financial management database.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)) shall apply with respect to the making of grants under this section.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section. [Section 1673 repealed May 22, 2008, P.L. 110-246, 122

Stat. 2003.] [Section 1674 repealed April 4, 1996, P.L. 104-127, 110 Stat. 1174.]

[Section 1675 repealed June 23, 1998, by section 302(c) of P.L. 105-185, 112 Stat. 563.]

SEC. 1676. [7 U.S.C. 5929] RED MEAT SAFETY RESEARCH CENTER.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall award a grant, on a competitive basis, to a research facility described in subsection (b) to establish a red meat safety research center.

(b) ELIGIBLE RESEARCH FACILITY DESCRIBED.—A research facility eligible for a grant under subsection (a) is a research facility that—

(1) is part of a land-grant college or university, or other federally supported agricultural research facility, located in close proximity to a livestock slaughter and processing facility; and

(2) is staffed by professionals with a wide diversity of scientific expertise covering all aspects of meat science.

(c) RESEARCH CONDUCTED.—The red meat safety research center established under subsection (a) shall carry out research related to general food safety, including—an

(1) the development of intervention strategies that reduce microbiological contamination of carcass surfaces;

(2) research regarding microbiological mapping of carcass surfaces; and

(3) the development of model hazard analysis and critical control point plans.

(d) ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall administer funds appropriated to carry out this section.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary for fiscal year 1997 to carry out this section.

SEC. 1677. [7 U.S.C. 5930] RESERVATION EXTENSION AGENTS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, shall establish appropriate extension education programs on Indian reservations and tribal jurisdictions. In establishing these extension programs, the Secretary shall consult with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Intertribal Agriculture Council, and the Southwest Indian Agriculture Association, and shall make such interagency cooperative agreements or memoranda of understanding as may be necessary. The programs to be developed and delivered on reservations and within tribal jurisdictions shall be determined with the advice and counsel of reservation or tribal program advisory committees.

(b) ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT.—Extension agents shall be employees of, and administratively responsible to, the Cooperative Extension Service of the State within which the reservation or tribal jurisdiction is located, and employment and personnel management responsibilities shall be vested with the State Cooperative Extension Service. In cases where a reservation or tribal jurisdiction is located in two or more States, the Secretary of Agriculture shall make the determination of administrative responsibility, including possible divisions along State boundaries.

(c) **ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**—At the request of a State Extension Director, and with the assistance of the tribal authorities, the Secretary of Agriculture may form an advisory committee to give overall policy and program advice to that State Extension Director with regard to programs conducted on reservations or within tribal jurisdictions. Program advisory committees may be formed to assist extension staff in development and conduct of program activities.

(d) **STAFFING.**—Insofar as possible, agent and specialist staff shall include individuals representative of the tribal grouping being served. Programs shall emphasize training and employment of local people in positions such as program aides, master gardeners, and volunteers. Staffing at a particular location shall be dependent on the needs and priorities of that location, as identified by the advisory committees and the State Extension Director, and the Director may make use of existing personnel and facilities as appropriate.

(e) **PLACING OF AGENTS.**—The number of offices and their placement shall be jointly determined by the State Extension Directors and tribal authorities of the respective States by taking into consideration the agricultural acreage within the boundaries of an Indian reservation or tribal jurisdiction, the soil classifications of such acreage, and the population of such reservation or tribal jurisdiction.

(f) **REDUCED REGULATORY BURDEN.**—On a determination by the Secretary of Agriculture that a program carried out under this section has been satisfactorily administered for not less than 2 years, the Secretary shall implement a reduced reapplication process for the continued operation of the program in order to reduce regulatory burdens on participating university and tribal entities.

(g) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

[Sections 1678 and 1679 repealed April 4, 1996, P.L. 104-127, 110 Stat. 1174.]

SEC. 1680. [7 U.S.C. 5933] ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR FARMERS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) **SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION GRANTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with other appropriate Federal agencies, shall make demonstration grants to support cooperative programs between State Cooperative Extension Service agencies and private non-profit disability organizations to provide on-the-farm agricultural education and assistance directed at accommodating disability in farm operations for individuals with disabilities who are engaged in farming and farm-related occupations and their families.

(2) **ELIGIBLE SERVICES.**—Grants awarded under paragraph (1) may be used to support programs serving individuals with disabilities, and their families, who are engaged in farming and farm-related occupations.

(3) **ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.**—Grants awarded under paragraph (1) may be used to initiate, expand, or sustain programs that—

(A) provide direct education and assistance to accommodate disability in farming to individuals with disabilities who engage in farming and farm-related occupations;

(B) provide on-the-farm technical advice concerning the design, fabrication, and use of agricultural and related equipment, machinery, and tools, and assist in the modification of farm worksites, operations, and living arrangements to accommodate individuals with disabilities who engage in farming, farm living and farm-related tasks;

(C) involve community and health care professionals, including Extension Service agents and others, in the early identification of farm and rural families that are in need of services related to the disability of an individual;

(D) provide specialized education programs to enhance the professional competencies of rural agricultural professionals, rehabilitation and health care providers, vocational counselors, and other providers of service to individuals with disabilities, and their families, who engage in farming or farm-related occupations; and

(E) mobilize rural volunteer resources, including peer counseling among farmers with disabilities and rural ingenuity networks promoting cost effective methods or accommodating disabilities in farming and farm-related activities.

(4) EXTENSION SERVICE AGENCIES.—Grants shall be awarded under this subsection directly to State Extension Service agencies to enable them to enter into contracts, on a multiyear basis, with private nonprofit community-based direct service organizations to initiate, expand, or sustain cooperative programs described under paragraphs (2) and (3).

(5) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this subsection may not be less than \$150,000.

(6) CONSIDERATION FOR GRANTS FOR NEW PROGRAMS.—For each fiscal year that amounts are made available for grants under this subsection, the Secretary may make grants in a manner that ensures that eligible entities who apply for grants, but have not previously received a grant under this subsection, are given full consideration.

(b) NATIONAL GRANT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, TRAINING AND DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall award a competitive grant to a national private nonprofit disability organization to enable such organization to provide technical assistance, training, information dissemination and other activities to support community-based direct service programs of on-site rural rehabilitation and assistive technology for individuals with disabilities, and their families, who are engaged in farming or farm-related occupations.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2012.

(2) NATIONAL GRANT.—Not more than 15 percent of the amounts made available under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year shall be used to carry out subsection (b).

[Section 1681 repealed May 22, 2008, P.L. 110-246, 122 Stat. 2003.]

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TITLE XIX—AGRICULTURAL PROMOTION

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Subtitle H—Processor-Funded Milk Promotion Program

SEC. 1999A. [7 U.S.C. 6401 note] SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Fluid Milk Promotion Act of 1990”.

SEC. 1999B. [7 U.S.C. 6401] FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF POLICY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) fluid milk products are basic foods and are a primary source of required nutrients such as calcium, and otherwise are a valuable part of the human diet;

(2) fluid milk products must be readily available and marketed efficiently to ensure that the people of the United States receive adequate nourishment;

(3) the dairy industry plays a significant role in the economy of the United States, in that milk is produced by thousands of milk producers and dairy products (including fluid milk products) are consumed every day by millions of people in the United States;

(4) the processing of milk into fluid milk products and the marketing of such products are important to the dairy industry because the fluid milk segment of the dairy market contributes substantially to ensuring that the prices paid to milk producers for raw milk are stable and adequate to maintain the overall strength of the dairy industry;

(5) the maintenance and expansion of markets for fluid milk products are vital to the Nation’s fluid milk processors and milk producers, as well as to the general economy of the United States;

(6) the congressional purpose underlying this subtitle is to maintain and expand markets for fluid milk products, not to maintain or expand any processor’s share of those markets and that the subtitle does not prohibit or restrict individual advertising or promotion of fluid milk products since the programs created and funded by this subtitle are not extended to replace individual advertising and promotion efforts;

(7) the cooperative development, financing, and implementation of a coordinated program of advertising and promotion of fluid milk products is necessary to maintain and expand markets for fluid milk products;

(8) it is appropriate to finance the cooperative program described in paragraph (6) with self-help assessments paid by the fluid milk processors; and

(9) fluid milk products move in interstate and foreign commerce, and fluid milk products that do not move in such channels of commerce directly burden or affect interstate commerce in fluid milk products.

(b) **POLICY.**—It is declared to be the policy of Congress that it is in the public interest to authorize the establishment, through the exercise of powers provided in this subtitle, of an orderly procedure for developing, financing, through adequate assessments on fluid milk products produced in the United States and carrying out an effective, continuous, and coordinated program of promotion, research, and consumer information designed to strengthen the position of the dairy industry in the marketplace and maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets and uses for fluid milk products, the purpose of which is not to compete with or replace individual advertising or promotion efforts designed to promote individual brand name or trade name fluid milk products, but rather to maintain and expand the markets for all fluid milk products, with the goal and purpose of this subtitle being a national governmental goal that authorizes and funds programs that result in government speech promoting government objectives.

SEC. 1999C. [7 U.S.C. 6402] DEFINITIONS.

As used in this subtitle:

(1) **ADVERTISING.**—The term “advertising” means any advertising or promotion program involving only fluid milk products and directed toward increasing the general demand for fluid milk products.

(2) **BOARD.**—The term “Board” means the National Processor Advertising and Promotion Board established under section 1999H(b).

(3) **FLUID MILK PRODUCT.**—The term “fluid milk product” has the meaning given the term in—

(A) section 1000.15 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, subject to such amendments as may be made by the Secretary; or

(B) any successor regulation.

(4) **FLUID MILK PROCESSOR.**—The term “fluid milk processor” means any person who processes and markets commercially more than 3,000,000 pounds of fluid milk products in consumer-type packages per month (excluding products delivered directly to the place of residence of a consumer).

(5) **DEPARTMENT.**—The term “Department” means the Department of Agriculture.

(6) **RESEARCH.**—The term “research” means market research to support advertising and promotion efforts, including educational activities, research directed to product characteristics, product development, including new products or improved technology in production, manufacturing or processing of milk and the products of milk.

(7) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(8) UNITED STATES.—The term “United States”, except as used in sections 1999K through 1999M, means the 48 contiguous States in the continental United States and the District of Columbia.

SEC. 1999D. [7 U.S.C. 6403] AUTHORITY TO ISSUE ORDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To effectuate the declared policy under section 1999B(b), the Secretary shall issue and from time to time may amend, orders applicable to all fluid milk processors, authorizing—

(1) the collection of assessments on fluid milk products subject to this subtitle; and

(2) the use of the assessments to provide research and advertising in a manner prescribed by this subtitle.

(b) SCOPE.—Any order issued under this subtitle shall be national in scope.

(c) ONE ORDER.—Not more than one order shall be in effect under this subtitle at any one time.

SEC. 1999E. [7 U.S.C. 6404] NOTICE AND COMMENT.

Not later than 60 days after the Secretary receives a request for the issuance of an order under this subtitle, and a specific proposal for an order from individual fluid milk processors that marketed during a representative period, as determined by the Secretary, not less than 30 percent of the volume of fluid milk products marketed by all processors, the Secretary shall publish the proposed order and give due notice and opportunity for public comment on the proposed order.

SEC. 1999F. [7 U.S.C. 6405] FINDINGS AND ISSUANCE OF ORDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—After notice and opportunity for public comment are given, as provided in section 1999E, the Secretary shall issue an order, taking into consideration the comments received and including in the order provisions necessary to ensure that the order is in conformity with the requirements and the declared policy of this subtitle.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Such order shall be issued and, if approved by fluid milk processors as provided in section 1999N, shall become effective not later than 180 days following publication of the proposed order.

SEC. 1999G. [7 U.S.C. 6406] REGULATIONS.

The Secretary may issue such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this subtitle and the powers vested in the Secretary by this subtitle.

SEC. 1999H. [7 U.S.C. 6407] REQUIRED TERMS IN ORDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Each order issued under this subtitle shall contain the terms and conditions prescribed in this section.

(b) NATIONAL PROCESSOR ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION BOARD.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The order shall establish a National Processor Advertising and Promotion Board to administer the order.

(2) SERVICE TO THE ENTIRE INDUSTRY.—In administering the order, the Board shall carry out programs and projects that will provide maximum benefit to the fluid milk industry and promote only fluid milk products. The Board shall, to the ex-

tent practicable, ensure that advertising coverage in each region is proportionate to the funds collected from each region.

(3) REGIONS.—The Secretary shall establish not less than 12 nor more than 15 regions in order to ensure appropriate geographic representation on the Board.

(4) BOARD MEMBERSHIP.—The Board shall consist of one member appointed by the Secretary, from among fluid milk processors, to represent each of the regions established under paragraph (3), with the membership representing, to the extent practicable, differing sizes of operations. The Secretary shall appoint five additional at-large members to the Board, of which at least three shall be fluid milk processors and at least one shall be from the general public.

(5) TERMS OF OFFICE.—The members of the Board shall serve for terms of 3 years, except that the members appointed to the initial Board shall serve, proportionately, for terms of 1, 2, and 3 years, as determined by the Secretary. No member shall serve for more than 2 consecutive terms, except that the members that are selected to serve for the initial term of 1 or 2 years shall be eligible to be reappointed for a 3-year term.

(6) COMPENSATION.—Each member of the Board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of duties of the Board.

(c) POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD.—The order shall define the powers and duties of the Board, which shall include the power and duty—

(1) to administer the order in accordance with the terms and conditions of the order;

(2) to make rules to effectuate the terms and conditions of the order;

(3) to receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary complaints of violations of the order;

(4) to develop and recommend such rules, regulations, and amendments to the order to the Secretary for approval as may be necessary for the development and execution of programs or projects to carry out the order;

(5) to employ such persons as the Board considers necessary and determine the compensation and define the duties of the persons;

(6) to prepare and submit for the approval of the Secretary, prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, a fiscal year budget of the anticipated expenses in the administration of the order, including the probable costs of all programs and projects;

(7) to develop programs and projects, subject to subsection (d);

(8) to enter into contracts or agreements, with the approval of the Secretary, to develop and carry out programs or projects of research and advertising;

(9) to carry out advertising or research, and pay the costs of the projects with funds collected pursuant to section 1999J;

(10) to keep minutes, books, and records that reflect all of the acts and transactions of the Board, and promptly report minutes of each Board meeting to the Secretary;

(11) to furnish the Secretary with such other information as the Secretary may require; and

(12) to invest funds collected by the Board pursuant to subsection (g).

(d) PLANS AND BUDGETS.—

(1) BUDGETS.—The order shall require the Board, prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, or as may be necessary after the beginning of the fiscal year, to develop budgets of the anticipated expenses and disbursements of the Board in the implementation of the order, including projected costs of research and advertising. The budget shall be submitted to the Secretary and be effective on the approval of the Secretary.

(2) INCURRING EXPENSES.—The Board may incur such expenses for research or advertising of fluid milk products, and other expenses for the administration, maintenance, and functioning of the Board, as may be authorized by the Secretary. The expenses shall include any implementation, administrative, and referendum costs incurred by the Department.

(3) PAYING EXPENSES.—The funds to cover the expenses referred to in paragraph (2) shall be paid from assessments collected under section 1999J.

(4) LIMITATION ON SPENDING.—Effective 1 year after the date of the establishment of the Board, the Board shall not spend in excess of 5 percent of the assessments collected for the administration of the Board.

(e) PROHIBITION ON BRANDED ADVERTISING.—A program or project conducted under this subtitle shall not make any reference to private brand names or use false or unwarranted claims on behalf of fluid milk products, or false or unwarranted statements with respect to the attributes or use of any competing products, except that this subsection shall not preclude the Board from offering its programs and projects for use by commercial parties, under such terms and conditions as the Board may prescribe as approved by the Secretary.

(f) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To ensure efficient use of funds collected under this subtitle, the order shall provide that the Board may enter into contracts or agreements for the implementation and carrying out of programs or projects for fluid milk products research and advertising and for the payment of the costs of the programs or projects with funds received by the Board under the order.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Any such contract or agreement shall provide that—

(A) the contracting party shall develop and submit to the Board a program or project, together with a budget or budgets that shall disclose estimated costs to be incurred for such program or project;

(B) the program or project shall become effective on the approval of the Secretary; and

(C) the contracting party shall keep accurate records of all of the transactions of the contracting party, account for funds received and expended, make periodic reports to the Board of activities conducted, and make such other reports as the Board or the Secretary may require.

(g) INVESTMENT OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The order shall provide that the Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may invest assessment funds collected by the Board under the order, pending disbursement of the funds, only in—

(A) obligations of the United States or any agency thereof;

(B) general obligations of any State or any political subdivision thereof;

(C) any interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit of a bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System; or

(D) obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States.

(2) INCOME.—Income from any such investment may be used for any purpose for which the invested funds may be used.

(h) BOOKS AND RECORDS OF BOARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The order shall require the Board to—

(A) maintain such books and records (which shall be available to the Secretary for inspection and audit) as the Secretary may prescribe;

(B) prepare and submit to the Secretary, from time to time, such reports as the Secretary may prescribe; and

(C) account for the receipt and disbursement of all funds entrusted to the Board.

(2) AUDITS.—The Board shall cause the books and records of the Board to be audited by an independent auditor at the end of each fiscal year. A report of each such audit shall be submitted to the Secretary.

(i) BOOKS AND RECORDS OF PROCESSORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The order shall require that each fluid milk processor subject to this subtitle maintain and make available for inspection such books and records as may be required by the order and file reports at the time, in the manner, and having the content prescribed by the order.

(2) USE OF INFORMATION.—Information obtained under paragraph (1) shall be made available to the Secretary as is appropriate for the effectuation, administration, or enforcement of this subtitle, or any order or regulation issued under this subtitle.

(3) CONFIDENTIALITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), commercial or financial information that is obtained under paragraph (1) or (2) and that is privileged or confidential shall be kept confidential by all officers and employees of the Department and agents of the Board, and only such information so obtained as the Secretary considers relevant may be disclosed to the public

by them and then only in a suit or administrative hearing brought at the request of the Secretary, or to which the Secretary or any officer of the United States is a party, and involving the order.

(B) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, information obtained under this subtitle may be made available to another agency of the Federal Government for a civil or criminal law enforcement activity if the activity is authorized by law and if the head of the agency has made a written request to the Secretary specifying the particular information desired and the law enforcement activity for which the information is sought.

(C) OTHER EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) may be construed to prohibit—

(i) the issuance of general statements, based on the reports, of the number of persons subject to an order or statistical data collected from the persons, which statements do not identify the information furnished by any person; or

(ii) the publication, by direction of the Secretary, of the name of any person violating any order, together with a statement of the particular provisions of the order violated by the person.

(4) PENALTY.—Any person violating this subsection, on conviction, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or to imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both, and if such person is an agent of the Board or an officer or employee of the Department, shall be removed from office.

(5) WITHHOLDING INFORMATION.—Nothing in this subsection shall authorize the Secretary to withhold information from a duly authorized committee or subcommittee of Congress.

(6) TIME REQUIREMENT.—The records required under paragraph (1) shall be maintained for 2 years beyond the fiscal year of the applicability of the records.

(j) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS TO INFLUENCE GOVERNMENTAL ACTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2), the order shall prohibit any funds collected by the Board under the order from being used in any manner for the purpose of influencing legislation or government action or policy.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the development or recommendation of amendments to the order.

(k) COORDINATION.—The order shall require the Board to take reasonable steps to coordinate the collection of assessments, and advertising and research activities of the Board with the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board established under section 113(b) of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4504(b)).

(l) EXEMPTIONS.—The order shall exempt fluid milk products exported from the United States from assessments under the order.

(m) REPORT.—The Secretary shall provide annually for an independent evaluation of the effectiveness of the fluid milk promotion program carried out under this subtitle during the previous fiscal year, in conjunction with the evaluation of the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board established under section 113(b) of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4504(b)).

(n) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The order also shall contain such terms and conditions, not inconsistent with this subtitle, as are necessary to effectuate this subtitle, including regulations relating to the assessment of late payment charges.

SEC. 1999I. [7 U.S.C. 6408] PERMISSIVE TERMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Each order issued under this subtitle may contain one or more of the terms and conditions described in this section.

(b) ADVERTISING.—The order may provide for the establishment, issuance, effectuation, and administration of appropriate programs or projects for the advertising of fluid milk products and the use of funds collected under this subtitle for such programs or projects.

(c) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—The order may provide for establishing and carrying out research projects and studies to support the advertising efforts for fluid milk products, and the use of funds collected under the order for such projects and studies.

(d) RESERVE FUNDS.—The order may provide authority to accumulate reserve funds from assessments collected pursuant to the order, to permit an effective and continuous coordinated program of research and advertising in years when the assessment income may be reduced, except that the total reserve fund may not exceed 25 percent of the amount budgeted for the operation in the current fiscal year of the order.

(e) OTHER TERMS.—The order may contain such other terms and conditions incidental to and not inconsistent with the terms and conditions specified in this subtitle as are necessary to effectuate the other provisions of the order.

SEC. 1999J. [7 U.S.C. 6409] ASSESSMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The order shall provide that each fluid milk processor shall pay an assessment on each unit of fluid milk product that such person processes and markets commercially in consumer-type packages in the United States.

(b) NO EFFECT ON PRODUCER PRICES.—Such assessments shall not—

(1) reduce the prices paid under the Federal milk marketing orders issued under section 8c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937;

(2) otherwise be deducted from the amounts that handlers must pay to producers for fluid milk products sold to a processor; or

(3) otherwise be deducted from the price of milk paid to a producer by a handler, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) REMITTING ASSESSMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Assessments required under subsection (a) shall be remitted by the fluid milk processor directly to the

Board in accordance with the order and regulations issued by the Secretary.

(2) **TIMES TO REMIT ASSESSMENT.**—Each processor who is responsible for the remittance of an assessment under paragraph (1) shall remit the assessment to the Board not later than the last day of the month following the month that the milk being assessed was marketed.

(3) **VERIFICATION.**—Remittances shall be verified by market administrators and State regulatory officials, and local and State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service offices, as provided by the Secretary.

(d) **LIMITATION ON ASSESSMENTS.**—Not more than one assessment may be assessed under this section for the purposes of this subtitle on a processor for any unit of fluid milk product.

(e) **PRODUCER-HANDLERS.**—Producer-handlers that are required to pay the assessment imposed under section 113(g) of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4504(g)), and that are fluid milk processors, shall also be responsible for the additional assessment imposed by this section.

(f) **PROCESSOR ASSESSMENT RATE.**—Except as provided in section 1999P(b), the rate of assessment prescribed by the order shall be 20 cents per hundredweight of fluid milk products marketed.

SEC. 1999K. [7 U.S.C. 6410] PETITION AND REVIEW.

(a) **PETITION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A person subject to an order issued under this subtitle may file with the Secretary a petition—

(A) stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not established in accordance with law; and

(B) requesting a modification of the order or an exemption from the order.

(2) **HEARINGS.**—The petitioner shall be given the opportunity for a hearing on the petition, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

(3) **RULING.**—After the hearing, the Secretary shall make a ruling on the petition, which shall be final if in accordance with law.

(b) **REVIEW.**—

(1) **COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION.**—The district courts of the United States in any district in which the person who is a petitioner under subsection (a) resides or carries on business are hereby vested with jurisdiction to review the ruling on such person's petition, if a complaint for that purpose is filed within 20 days after the date of the entry of a ruling by the Secretary under subsection (a).

(2) **PROCESS.**—Service of process in such proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

(3) **REMANDS.**—If the court determines that such ruling is not in accordance with law, the court shall remand the matter to the Secretary with directions either—

(A) to make such ruling as the court shall determine to be in accordance with law; or

(B) to take such further proceedings as, in the opinion of the court, the law requires.

SEC. 1999L. [7 U.S.C. 6411] ENFORCEMENT.

(a) JURISDICTION.—The several district courts of the United States are vested with jurisdiction specifically to enforce, and to prevent and restrain any person from violating, any order or regulation made or issued under this subtitle.

(b) REFERRAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—A civil action authorized to be brought under this section shall be referred to the Attorney General for appropriate action, except that the Secretary is not required to refer to the Attorney General a violation of this subtitle, or any order or regulation issued under this subtitle, if the Secretary believes that the administration and enforcement of this subtitle would be adequately served by providing a suitable written notice or warning to the person who committed such violation or by administrative action under subsection (c).

(c) CIVIL PENALTIES AND ORDERS.—

(1) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Any person who violates any provision of any order or regulation issued by the Secretary under this subtitle, or who fails or refuses to pay, collect, or remit any assessment or fee duly required of the person under the order or regulations, may be assessed—

(A) a civil penalty by the Secretary of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 for each such violation; or

(B) in the case of a willful failure or refusal to pay, collect, or remit any assessment or fee duly required of the person under this subtitle or a regulation issued under this subtitle, a civil penalty by the Secretary of not less than \$10,000 nor more than \$100,000 for each such violation.

Each violation shall be a separate offense.

(2) CEASE-AND-DESIST ORDERS.—In addition to, or in lieu of, a civil penalty, the Secretary may issue an order requiring the person to cease and desist from continuing such violation.

(3) NOTICE AND HEARING.—No penalty shall be assessed or cease-and-desist order issued by the Secretary unless the person against whom the penalty is assessed or the order issued is given notice and opportunity for a hearing before the Secretary with respect to such violation.

(4) FINALITY.—The order of the Secretary assessing a penalty or imposing a cease-and-desist order shall be final and conclusive unless the affected person files an appeal from the Secretary's order with the appropriate district court of the United States in accordance with subsection (d).

(d) REVIEW BY DISTRICT COURT.—

(1) COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION.—Any person against whom a violation is found and a civil penalty assessed or cease-and-desist order issued under subsection (c) may obtain review of the penalty or order by—

(A) filing, within the 30-day period beginning on the date the penalty is assessed or order issued, a notice of appeal in—

(i) the district court of the United States for the district in which the person resides or carries on business; or

(ii) the United States District Court for the District of Columbia; and

(B) simultaneously sending a copy of the notice by certified mail to the Secretary.

(2) RECORD.—The Secretary shall file promptly in such court a certified copy of the record on which the Secretary found that the person had committed a violation.

(3) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—A finding of the Secretary shall be set aside only if the finding is found to be unsupported by substantial evidence.

(e) FAILURE TO OBEY ORDERS.—Any person who fails to obey a cease-and-desist order after the order has become final and unappealable, or after the appropriate United States district court has entered a final judgment in favor of the Secretary, shall be subject to a civil penalty assessed by the Secretary, after opportunity for a hearing and for judicial review under the procedures specified in subsections (c) and (d), of not more than \$5,000 for each offense. Each day during which the failure continues shall be considered as a separate violation of such order.

(f) FAILURE TO PAY PENALTIES.—If any person fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty after it has become a final and unappealable order, or after the appropriate United States district court has entered final judgment in favor of the Secretary, the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Attorney General for recovery of the amount assessed in the district court in which the person resides or conducts business. In the action, the validity and appropriateness of the final order imposing the civil penalty shall not be subject to review.

(g) ADDITIONAL REMEDIES.—The remedies provided in this subtitle shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, other remedies that may be available.

SEC. 1999M. [7 U.S.C. 6412] INVESTIGATIONS AND POWER TO SUBPOENA.

(a) INVESTIGATIONS.—The Secretary may make such investigations as the Secretary considers necessary—

(1) for the effective administration of this subtitle; or

(2) to determine whether any person has engaged or is engaging in any act that constitutes a violation of this subtitle, or any order, rule, or regulation issued under this subtitle.

(b) SUBPOENAS, OATHS, AND AFFIRMATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of an investigation under subsection (a), the Secretary may administer oaths and affirmations, and issue a subpoena to require the production of any records that are relevant to the inquiry. The production of any such records may be required from any place in the United States.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS.—For the purpose of an administrative hearing held under section 1999K or 1999L, the presiding officer is authorized to administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any records that are rel-

evant to the inquiry. Such attendance of witnesses and the production of any such records may be required from any place in the United States.

(c) AID OF COURTS.—In the case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to, any person, the Secretary may invoke the aid of any court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which such investigation or proceeding is carried on, or where such person resides or carries on business, in order to enforce a subpoena issued by the Secretary under subsection (b). The court may issue an order requiring such person to comply with such a subpoena.

(d) CONTEMPT.—Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(e) PROCESS.—Process in any such case may be served in the judicial district in which such person resides or conducts business or wherever such person may be found.

(f) HEARING SITE.—The site of any hearings held under section 1999K or 1999L shall be within the judicial district where such person resides or has a principal place of business.

SEC. 1999N. [7 U.S.C. 6413] REQUIREMENT OF INITIAL REFERENDUM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within the 60-day period immediately preceding the effective date of an order issued under section 1999F(a), the Secretary shall conduct a referendum among fluid milk processors to ascertain whether the order shall go into effect.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—If, as a result of the referendum conducted under subsection (a), the Secretary determines that implementation of the order is favored—

(1) by at least 50 percent of fluid milk processors voting in the referendum; and

(2) by fluid milk processors voting in the referendum that marketed during the representative period, as determined by the Secretary, 60 percent or more of the volume of fluid milk products marketed by fluid milk processors voting in the referendum;

the order shall become effective as provided in section 1999F(b).

(c) COSTS OF REFERENDUM.—The Secretary shall be reimbursed from any assessments collected by the Board for any expenses incurred by the Department in connection with the conduct of any referendum under this subtitle.

(d) MANNER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Referenda conducted pursuant to this subtitle shall be conducted in a manner determined by the Secretary.

(2) ADVANCE REGISTRATION.—A fluid milk processor who chooses to vote in any referendum conducted under this subtitle shall register with the Secretary prior to the voting period, after receiving notice from the Secretary concerning the referendum under paragraph (4).

(3) VOTING.—A fluid milk processor who votes in any referendum conducted under this subtitle shall vote in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary. The ballots and other information or reports that reveal or tend to reveal the vote of any processor shall be held strictly confidential.

(4) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall notify all processors at least 30 days prior to a referendum conducted under this subtitle. The notice shall explain the procedure established under this subsection.

SEC. 19990. [7 U.S.C. 6414] SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF ORDERS.

(a) SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall, whenever the Secretary finds that the order or any provision of the order obstructs or does not tend to effectuate the declared policy of this subtitle, terminate or suspend the operation of the order or provision.

(b) OTHER REFERENDA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct at any time a referendum of persons who, during a representative period as determined by the Secretary, have been fluid milk processors on whether to suspend or terminate the order, and shall hold such a referendum on request of the Board or any group of such processors that among them marketed during a representative period, as determined by the Secretary, 10 percent or more of the volume of fluid milk products marketed by fluid milk processors voting in the preceding referendum.

(2) SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION.—If the Secretary determines that the suspension or termination is favored—

(A) by at least 50 percent of fluid milk processors voting in the referendum; and

(B) by fluid milk processors voting in the referendum that marketed during a representative period, as determined by the Secretary, 40 percent or more of the volume of fluid milk products marketed by fluid milk processors voting in the referendum;

the Secretary shall, within 6 months after making the determination, suspend or terminate, as appropriate, collection of assessments under the order, and suspend or terminate, as appropriate, activities under the order in an orderly manner as soon as practicable.

(3) COSTS; MANNER.—Subsections (c) and (d) of section 1999N shall apply to a referendum conducted under this subsection.

SEC. 1999P. [7 U.S.C. 6415] AMENDMENTS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO ORDER.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary may issue such amendments to an order as may be necessary to carry out this subtitle.

(b) AMENDMENT TO ASSESSMENT RATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct at any time a referendum of persons who, during a representative period as determined by the Secretary, have been fluid milk processors on adjusting the assessment rate under the order issued under this subtitle then in effect, and shall hold such a referendum on request of the Board or any group of such processors that among them marketed during a representative period, as determined by the Secretary, 10 percent or more of the volume of fluid milk products marketed by all processors.

(2) ADJUSTMENT TO ASSESSMENT RATE.—The Secretary shall adjust the assessment rate under the order whenever the Secretary determines that the adjustment is favored—

(A) by at least 50 percent of fluid milk processors voting in the referendum; and

(B) by fluid milk processors that marketed during a representative period, as determined by the Secretary, 60 percent or more of the volume of fluid milk products marketed by all processors;

In no event shall the rate of assessment prescribed by the order exceed 20 cents per hundredweight.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The adjusted assessment rate shall be effective on a date, as determined by the Secretary, after the results of the referendum are known, but not later than 30 days after the referendum.

(4) COSTS; MANNER.—Subsections (c) and (d) of section 1999N shall apply to a referendum conducted under this subsection.

SEC. 1999Q. [7 U.S.C. 6416] INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF PROGRAMS.

(a) REVIEW AND EVALUATION.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall review and evaluate the order to—

(1) determine the effectiveness of the promotion program conducted under this subtitle on fluid milk sales;

(2) determine if the assessments for the program have been passed back to milk producers by fluid milk processors; and

(3) make recommendations for future funding and assessment levels for the program.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Comptroller General shall submit a report to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate on the valuations made under this section no later than January 1, 1995.

SEC. 1999R. [7 U.S.C. 6417] AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year such funds as are necessary to carry out this subtitle.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The funds so appropriated shall not be available for payment of the expenses or expenditures of the Board in administering any provision of any order issued under this subtitle.

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TITLE XXI—ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

SEC. 2101. [7 U.S.C. 6501 note] SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Organic Foods Production Act of 1990”.

SEC. 2102. [7 U.S.C. 6501] PURPOSES.

It is the purpose of this title—

(1) to establish national standards governing the marketing of certain agricultural products as organically produced products;

(2) to assure consumers that organically produced products meet a consistent standard; and

(3) to facilitate interstate commerce in fresh and processed food that is organically produced.

SEC. 2103. [7 U.S.C. 6502] DEFINITIONS.

As used in this title:

(1) **AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT.**—The term “agricultural product” means any agricultural commodity or product, whether raw or processed, including any commodity or product derived from livestock that is marketed in the United States for human or livestock consumption.

(2) **BOTANICAL PESTICIDES.**—The term “botanical pesticides” means natural pesticides derived from plants.

(3) **CERTIFYING AGENT.**—The term “certifying agent” means the chief executive officer of a State or, in the case of a State that provides for the Statewide election of an official to be responsible solely for the administration of the agricultural operations of the State, such official, and any person (including private entities) who is accredited by the Secretary as a certifying agent for the purpose of certifying a farm or handling operation as a certified organic farm or handling operation in accordance with this title.

(4) **CERTIFIED ORGANIC FARM.**—The term “certified organic farm” means a farm, or portion of a farm, or site where agricultural products or livestock are produced, that is certified by the certifying agent under this title as utilizing a system of organic farming as described by this title.

(5) **CERTIFIED ORGANIC HANDLING OPERATION.**—The term “certified organic handling operation” means any operation, or portion of any handling operation, that is certified by the certifying agent under this title as utilizing a system of organic handling as described under this title.

(6) **CROP YEAR.**—The term “crop year” means the normal growing season for a crop as determined by the Secretary.

(7) **GOVERNING STATE OFFICIAL.**—The term “governing State official” means the chief executive official of a State or, in the case of a State that provides for the Statewide election of an official to be responsible solely for the administration of the agricultural operations of the State, such official, who administers an organic certification program under this title.

(8) **HANDLE.**—The term “handle” means to sell, process or package agricultural products.

(9) **HANDLER.**—The term “handler” means any person engaged in the business of handling agricultural products, except such term shall not include final retailers of agricultural products that do not process agricultural products.

(10) **HANDLING OPERATION.**—The term “handling operation” means any operation or portion of an operation (except final retailers of agricultural products that do not process agricultural products) that—

(A) receives or otherwise acquires agricultural products; and

(B) processes, packages, or stores such products.

(11) LIVESTOCK.—The term “livestock” means any cattle, sheep, goats, swine, poultry, equine animals used for food or in the production of food, fish used for food, wild or domesticated game, or other nonplant life.

(12) NATIONAL LIST.—The term “national list” means a list of approved and prohibited substances as provided for in section 2118.

(13) ORGANIC PLAN.—The term “organic plan” means a plan of management of an organic farming or handling operation that has been agreed to by the producer or handler and the certifying agent and that includes written plans concerning all aspects of agricultural production or handling described in this title including crop rotation and other practices as required under this title.

(14) ORGANICALLY PRODUCED.—The term “organically produced” means an agricultural product that is produced and handled in accordance with this title.

(15) PERSON.—The term “person” means an individual, group of individuals, corporation, association, organization, cooperative, or other entity.

(16) PESTICIDE.—The term “pesticide” means any substance which alone, in chemical combination, or in any formulation with one or more substances, is defined as a pesticide in the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.).

(17) PROCESSING.—The term “processing” means cooking, baking, heating, drying, mixing, grinding, churning, separating, extracting, cutting, fermenting, eviscerating, preserving, dehydrating, freezing, or otherwise manufacturing, and includes the packaging, canning, jarring, or otherwise enclosing food in a container.

(18) PRODUCER.—The term “producer” means a person who engages in the business of growing or producing food or feed.

(19) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(20) STATE ORGANIC CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—The term “State organic certification program” means a program that meets the requirements of section 2107, is approved by the Secretary, and that is designed to ensure that a product that is sold or labeled as “organically produced” under this title is produced and handled using organic methods.

(21) SYNTHETIC.—The term “synthetic” means a substance that is formulated or manufactured by a chemical process or by a process that chemically changes a substance extracted from naturally occurring plant, animal, or mineral sources, except that such term shall not apply to substances created by naturally occurring biological processes.

SEC. 2104. [7 U.S.C. 6503] NATIONAL ORGANIC PRODUCTION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish an organic certification program for producers and handlers of agricultural prod-

ucts that have been produced using organic methods as provided for in this title.

(b) STATE PROGRAM.—In establishing the program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall permit each State to implement a State organic certification program for producers and handlers of agricultural products that have been produced using organic methods as provided for in this title.

(c) CONSULTATION.—In developing the program under subsection (a), and the National List under section 2118, the Secretary shall consult with the National Organic Standards Board established under section 2119.

(d) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall implement the program established under subsection (a) through certifying agents. Such certifying agents may certify a farm or handling operation that meets the requirements of this title and the requirements of the organic certification program of the State (if applicable) as an organically certified farm or handling operation.

SEC. 2105. [7 U.S.C. 6504] NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR ORGANIC PRODUCTION.

To be sold or labeled as an organically produced agricultural product under this title, an agricultural product shall—

(1) have been produced and handled without the use of synthetic chemicals, except as otherwise provided in this title;

(2) except as otherwise provided in this title and excluding livestock, not be produced on land to which any prohibited substances, including synthetic chemicals, have been applied during the 3 years immediately preceding the harvest of the agricultural products; and

(3) be produced and handled in compliance with an organic plan agreed to by the producer and handler of such product and the certifying agent.

SEC. 2106. [7 U.S.C. 6505] COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DOMESTIC PRODUCTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On or after October 1, 1993—

(A) a person may sell or label an agricultural product as organically produced only if such product is produced and handled in accordance with this title; and

(B) no person may affix a label to, or provide other market information concerning, an agricultural product if such label or information implies, directly or indirectly, that such product is produced and handled using organic methods, except in accordance with this title.

(2) USDA STANDARDS AND SEAL.—A label affixed, or other market information provided, in accordance with paragraph (1) may indicate that the agricultural product meets Department of Agriculture standards for organic production and may incorporate the Department of Agriculture seal.

(b) IMPORTED PRODUCTS.—Imported agricultural products may be sold or labeled as organically produced if the Secretary determines that such products have been produced and handled under an organic certification program that provides safeguards and guidelines governing the production and handling of such products that are at least equivalent to the requirements of this title.

(c) EXEMPTIONS FOR PROCESSED FOOD.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to agricultural products that—

(1) contain at least 50 percent organically produced ingredients by weight, excluding water and salt, to the extent that the Secretary, in consultation with the National Organic Standards Board and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, has determined to permit the word “organic” to be used on the principal display panel of such products only for the purpose of describing the organically produced ingredients; or

(2) contain less than 50 percent organically produced ingredients by weight, excluding water and salt, to the extent that the Secretary, in consultation with the National Organic Standards Board and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, has determined to permit the word “organic” to appear on the ingredient listing panel to describe those ingredients that are organically produced in accordance with this title.

(d) SMALL FARMER EXEMPTION.—Subsection (a)(1) shall not apply to persons who sell no more than \$5,000 annually in value of agricultural products.

SEC. 2107. [7 U.S.C. 6506] GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A program established under this title shall—

(1) provide that an agricultural product to be sold or labeled as organically produced must—

(A) be produced only on certified organic farms and handled only through certified organic handling operations in accordance with this title; and

(B) be produced and handled in accordance with such program;

(2) require that producers and handlers desiring to participate under such program establish an organic plan under section 2114;

(3) provide for procedures that allow producers and handlers to appeal an adverse administrative determination under this title;

(4) require each certified organic farm or each certified organic handling operation to certify to the Secretary, the governing State official (if applicable), and the certifying agent on an annual basis, that such farm or handler has not produced or handled any agricultural product sold or labeled as organically produced except in accordance with this title;

(5) provide for annual on-site inspection by the certifying agent of each farm and handling operation that has been certified under this title;

(6) require periodic residue testing by certifying agents of agricultural products that have been produced on certified organic farms and handled through certified organic handling operations to determine whether such products contain any pesticide or other nonorganic residue or natural toxicants and to require certifying agents, to the extent that such agents are aware of a violation of applicable laws relating to food safety, to report such violation to the appropriate health agencies;

(7) provide for appropriate and adequate enforcement procedures, as determined by the Secretary to be necessary and consistent with this title;

(8) protect against conflict-of-interest as specified under section 2116(h);

(9) provide for public access to certification documents and laboratory analyses that pertain to certification;

(10) provide for the collection of reasonable fees from producers, certifying agents and handlers who participate in such program; and

(11) require such other terms and conditions as may be determined by the Secretary to be necessary.

(b) DISCRETIONARY REQUIREMENTS.—An organic certification program established under this title may—

(1) provide for the certification of an entire farm or handling operation or specific fields of a farm or parts of a handling operation if—

(A) in the case of a farm or field, the area to be certified has distinct, defined boundaries and buffer zones separating the land being operated through the use of organic methods from land that is not being operated through the use of such methods;

(B) the operators of such farm or handling operation maintain records of all organic operations separate from records relating to other operations and make such records available at all times for inspection by the Secretary, the certifying agent, and the governing State official; and

(C) appropriate physical facilities, machinery, and management practices are established to prevent the possibility of a mixing of organic and nonorganic products or a penetration of prohibited chemicals or other substances on the certified area; and

(2) provide for reasonable exemptions from specific requirements of this title (except the provisions of section 2112) with respect to agricultural products produced on certified organic farms if such farms are subject to a Federal or State emergency pest or disease treatment program.

(c) WILD SEAFOOD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the requirement of section 2107(a)(1)(A) requiring products be produced only on certified organic farms, the Secretary shall allow, through regulations promulgated after public notice and opportunity for comment, wild seafood to be certified or labeled as organic.

(2) CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(A) consult with—

(i) the Secretary of Commerce;

(ii) the National Organic Standards Board established under section 2119;

(iii) producers, processors, and sellers; and

(iv) other interested members of the public; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, accommodate the unique characteristics of the industries in the United States that harvest and process wild seafood.

(d) STATE PROGRAM.—A State organic certification program approved under this title may contain additional guidelines governing the production or handling of products sold or labeled as organically produced in such State as required in section 2108.

(e) AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—

(1) ACCOUNT.—Fees collected under subsection (a)(10) (including late payment penalties and interest earned from investment of the fees) shall be credited to the account that incurs the cost of the services provided under this title.

(2) USE.—The collected fees shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation or fiscal-year limitation, to pay the expenses of the Secretary incurred in providing accreditation services under this title.

SEC. 2108. [7 U.S.C. 6507] STATE ORGANIC CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The governing State official may prepare and submit a plan for the establishment of a State organic certification program to the Secretary for approval. A State organic certification program must meet the requirements of this title to be approved by the Secretary.

(b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—A State organic certification program established under subsection (a) may contain more restrictive requirements governing the organic certification of farms and handling operations and the production and handling of agricultural products that are to be sold or labeled as organically produced under this title than are contained in the program established by the Secretary.

(2) CONTENT.—Any additional requirements established under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) further the purposes of this title;

(B) not be inconsistent with this title;

(C) not be discriminatory towards agricultural commodities organically produced in other States in accordance with this title; and

(D) not become effective until approved by the Secretary.

(c) REVIEW AND OTHER DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) SUBSEQUENT REVIEW.—The Secretary shall review State organic certification programs not less than once during each 5-year period following the date of the approval of such programs.

(2) CHANGES IN PROGRAM.—The governing State official, prior to implementing any substantive change to programs approved under this subsection, shall submit such change to the Secretary for approval.

(3) TIME FOR DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall make a determination concerning any plan, proposed change to a program, or a review of a program not later than 6 months after receipt of such plan, such proposed change, or the initiation of such review.

SEC. 2109. [7 U.S.C. 6508] PROHIBITED CROP PRODUCTION PRACTICES AND MATERIALS.

(a) **SEED, SEEDLINGS AND PLANTING PRACTICES.**—For a farm to be certified under this title, producers on such farm shall not apply materials to, or engage in practices on, seeds or seedlings that are contrary to, or inconsistent with, the applicable organic certification program.

(b) **SOIL AMENDMENTS.**—For a farm to be certified under this title, producers on such farm shall not—

(1) use any fertilizers containing synthetic ingredients or any commercially blended fertilizers containing materials prohibited under this title or under the applicable State organic certification program; or

(2) use as a source of nitrogen: phosphorous, lime, potash, or any materials that are inconsistent with the applicable organic certification program.

(c) **CROP MANAGEMENT.**—For a farm to be certified under this title, producers on such farm shall not—

(1) use natural poisons such as arsenic or lead salts that have long-term effects and persist in the environment, as determined by the applicable governing State official or the Secretary;

(2) use plastic mulches, unless such mulches are removed at the end of each growing or harvest season; or

(3) use transplants that are treated with any synthetic or prohibited material.

SEC. 2110. [7 U.S.C. 6509] ANIMAL PRODUCTION PRACTICES AND MATERIALS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Any livestock that is to be slaughtered and sold or labeled as organically produced shall be raised in accordance with this title.

(b) **BREEDER STOCK.**—Breeder stock may be purchased from any source if such stock is not in the last third of gestation.

(c) **PRACTICES.**—For a farm to be certified under this title as an organic farm with respect to the livestock produced by such farm, producers on such farm—

(1) shall feed such livestock organically produced feed that meets the requirements of this title;

(2) shall not use the following feed—

(A) plastic pellets for roughage;

(B) manure refeeding; or

(C) feed formulas containing urea; and

(3) shall not use growth promoters and hormones on such livestock, whether implanted, ingested, or injected, including antibiotics and synthetic trace elements used to stimulate growth or production of such livestock.

(d) **HEALTH CARE.**—

(1) **PROHIBITED PRACTICES.**—For a farm to be certified under this title as an organic farm with respect to the livestock produced by such farm, producers on such farm shall not—

(A) use subtherapeutic doses of antibiotics;

(B) use synthetic internal parasiticides on a routine basis; or

- (C) administer medication, other than vaccinations, in the absence of illness.
- (2) STANDARDS.—The National Organic Standards Board shall recommend to the Secretary standards in addition to those in paragraph (1) for the care of livestock to ensure that such livestock is organically produced.
- (e) ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES.—
- (1) POULTRY.—With the exception of day old poultry, all poultry from which meat or eggs will be sold or labeled as organically produced shall be raised and handled in accordance with this title prior to and during the period in which such meat or eggs are sold.
- (2) DAIRY LIVESTOCK.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a dairy animal from which milk or milk products will be sold or labeled as organically produced shall be raised and handled in accordance with this title for not less than the 12-month period immediately prior to the sale of such milk and milk products.
- (B) TRANSITION GUIDELINE.—Crops and forage from land included in the organic system plan of a dairy farm that is in the third year of organic management may be consumed by the dairy animals of the farm during the 12-month period immediately prior to the sale of organic milk and milk products.
- (f) LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—For a farm to be certified under this title as an organic farm with respect to the livestock produced by such farm, producers on such farm shall keep adequate records and maintain a detailed, verifiable audit trail so that each animal (or in the case of poultry, each flock) can be traced back to such farm.
- (2) RECORDS.—In order to carry out paragraph (1), each producer shall keep accurate records on each animal (or in the case of poultry, each flock) including—
- (A) amounts and sources of all medications administered; and
- (B) all feeds and feed supplements bought and fed.
- (g) NOTICE AND PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Secretary shall hold public hearings and shall develop detailed regulations, with notice and public comment, to guide the implementation of the standards for livestock products provided under this section.
- SEC. 2111. [7 U.S.C. 6510] HANDLING.**
- (a) IN GENERAL.—For a handling operation to be certified under this title, each person on such handling operation shall not, with respect to any agricultural product covered by this title—
- (1) add any synthetic ingredient not appearing on the National List during the processing or any postharvest handling of the product;
- (2) add any ingredient known to contain levels of nitrates, heavy metals, or toxic residues in excess of those permitted by the applicable organic certification program;

(3) add any sulfites, except in the production of wine, nitrates, or nitrites;

(4) add any ingredients that are not organically produced in accordance with this title and the applicable organic certification program, unless such ingredients are included on the National List and represent not more than 5 percent of the weight of the total finished product (excluding salt and water);

(5) use any packaging materials, storage containers or bins that contain synthetic fungicides, preservatives, or fumigants;

(6) use any bag or container that had previously been in contact with any substance in such a manner as to compromise the organic quality of such product; or

(7) use, in such product water that does not meet all Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

(b) MEAT.—For a farm or handling operation to be organically certified under this title, producers on such farm or persons on such handling operation shall ensure that organically produced meat does not come in contact with nonorganically produced meat.

SEC. 2112. [7 U.S.C. 6511] ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, the applicable governing State official, and the certifying agent shall utilize a system of residue testing to test products sold or labeled as organically produced under this title to assist in the enforcement of this title.

(b) PREHARVEST TESTING.—The Secretary, the applicable governing State official, or the certifying agent may require preharvest tissue testing of any crop grown on soil suspected of harboring contaminants.

(c) COMPLIANCE REVIEW.—

(1) INSPECTION.—If the Secretary, the applicable governing State official, or the certifying agent determines that an agricultural product sold or labeled as organically produced under this title contains any detectable pesticide or other non-organic residue or prohibited natural substance the Secretary, the applicable governing State official, or the certifying agent shall conduct an investigation to determine if the organic certification program has been violated, and may require the producer or handler of such product to prove that any prohibited substance was not applied to such product.

(2) REMOVAL OF ORGANIC LABEL.—If, as determined by the Secretary, the applicable governing State official, or the certifying agent, the investigation conducted under paragraph (1) indicates that the residue is—

(A) the result of intentional application of a prohibited substance; or

(B) present at levels that are greater than unavoidable residual environmental contamination as prescribed by the Secretary or the applicable governing State official in consultation with the appropriate environmental regulatory agencies; such agricultural product shall not be sold or labeled as organically produced under this title.

(d) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS.—Producers who operate a certified organic farm or handling operation under this title shall

maintain records for 5 years concerning the production or handling of agricultural products sold or labeled as organically produced under this title, including—

- (1) a detailed history of substances applied to fields or agricultural products; and
- (2) the names and addresses of persons who applied such substances, the dates, the rate, and method of application of such substances.

SEC. 2113. [7 U.S.C. 6512] OTHER PRODUCTION AND HANDLING PRACTICES.

If a production or handling practice is not prohibited or otherwise restricted under this title, such practice shall be permitted unless it is determined that such practice would be inconsistent with the applicable organic certification program.

SEC. 2114. [7 U.S.C. 6513] ORGANIC PLAN.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—A producer or handler seeking certification under this title shall submit an organic plan to the certifying agent and the State organic certification program (if applicable), and such plan shall be reviewed by the certifying agent who shall determine if such plan meets the requirements of the programs.

(b) **CROP PRODUCTION FARM PLAN.**—

(1) **SOIL FERTILITY.**—An organic plan shall contain provisions designed to foster soil fertility, primarily through the management of the organic content of the soil through proper tillage, crop rotation, and manuring.

(2) **MANURING.**—

(A) **INCLUSION IN ORGANIC PLAN.**—An organic plan shall contain terms and conditions that regulate the application of manure to crops.

(B) **APPLICATION OF MANURE.**—Such organic plan may provide for the application of raw manure only to—

- (i) any green manure crop;
- (ii) any perennial crop;
- (iii) any crop not for human consumption; and
- (iv) any crop for human consumption, if such crop

is harvested after a reasonable period of time determined by the certifying agent to ensure the safety of such crop, after the most recent application of raw manure, but in no event shall such period be less than 60 days after such application.

(C) **CONTAMINATION BY MANURE.**—Such organic plan shall prohibit raw manure from being applied to any crop in a way that significantly contributes to water contamination by nitrates or bacteria.

(c) **LIVESTOCK PLAN.**—An organic livestock plan shall contain provisions designed to foster the organic production of livestock consistent with the purposes of this title.

(d) **MIXED CROP LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION.**—An organic plan may encompass both the crop production and livestock production requirements in subsections (b) and (c) if both activities are conducted by the same producer.

(e) **HANDLING PLAN.**—An organic handling plan shall contain provisions designed to ensure that agricultural products that are

sold or labeled as organically produced are produced and handled in a manner that is consistent with the purposes of this title.

(f) **MANAGEMENT OF WILD CROPS.**—An organic plan for the harvesting of wild crops shall—

(1) designate the area from which the wild crop will be gathered or harvested;

(2) include a 3 year history of the management of the area showing that no prohibited substances have been applied;

(3) include a plan for the harvesting or gathering of the wild crops assuring that such harvesting or gathering will not be destructive to the environment and will sustain the growth and production of the wild crop; and

(4) include provisions that no prohibited substances will be applied by the producer.

(g) **LIMITATION ON CONTENT OF PLAN.**—An organic plan shall not include any production or handling practices that are inconsistent with this title.

SEC. 2115. [7 U.S.C. 6514] ACCREDITATION PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish and implement a program to accredit a governing State official, and any private person, that meets the requirements of this section as a certifying agent for the purpose of certifying a farm or handling operation as a certified organic farm or handling operation.

(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—To be accredited as a certifying agent under this section, a governing State official or private person shall—

(1) prepare and submit, to the Secretary, an application for such accreditation;

(2) have sufficient expertise in organic farming and handling techniques as determined by the Secretary; and

(3) comply with the requirements of this section and section 2116.

(c) **DURATION OF DESIGNATION.**—An accreditation made under this section shall be for a period of not to exceed 5 years, as determined appropriate by the Secretary, and may be renewed.

SEC. 2116. [7 U.S.C. 6515] REQUIREMENTS OF CERTIFYING AGENTS.

(a) **ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT REQUIREMENTS.**—To be accredited as a certifying agent under section 2115, a governing State official or a person shall be able to fully implement the applicable organic certification program established under this title.

(b) **INSPECTORS.**—Any certifying agent shall employ a sufficient number of inspectors to implement the applicable organic certification program established under this title, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) **RECORDKEEPING.**—

(1) **MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS.**—Any certifying agent shall maintain all records concerning its activities under this title for a period of not less than 10 years.

(2) **ACCESS FOR SECRETARY.**—Any certifying agent shall allow representatives of the Secretary and the governing State official access to any and all records concerning the certifying agent's activities under this title.

(3) TRANSFERENCE OF RECORDS.—If any private person that was certified under this title is dissolved or loses its accreditation, all records or copies of records concerning such person's activities under this title shall be transferred to the Secretary and made available to the applicable governing State official.

(d) AGREEMENT.—Any certifying agent shall enter into an agreement with the Secretary under which such agent shall—

(1) agree to carry out the provisions of this title; and

(2) agree to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(e) PRIVATE CERTIFYING AGENT AGREEMENT.—Any certifying agent that is a private person shall, in addition to the agreement required in subsection (d)—

(1) agree to hold the Secretary harmless for any failure on the part of the certifying agent to carry out the provisions of this title; and

(2) furnish reasonable security, in an amount determined by the Secretary, for the purpose of protecting the rights of participants in the applicable organic certification program established under this title.

(f) COMPLIANCE WITH PROGRAM.—Any certifying agent shall fully comply with the terms and conditions of the applicable organic certification program implemented under this title.

(g) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Except as provided in section 2107(a)(9), any certifying agent shall maintain strict confidentiality with respect to its clients under the applicable organic certification program and may not disclose to third parties (with the exception of the Secretary or the applicable governing State official) any business related information concerning such client obtained while implementing this title.

(h) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—Any certifying agent shall not—

(1) carry out any inspections of any operation in which such certifying agent, or employee of such certifying agent has, or has had, a commercial interest, including the provision of consultancy services;

(2) accept payment, gifts, or favors of any kind from the business inspected other than prescribed fees; or

(3) provide advice concerning organic practices or techniques for a fee, other than fees established under such program.

(i) ADMINISTRATOR.—A certifying agent that is a private person shall nominate the individual who controls the day-to-day operation of the agent.

(j) LOSS OF ACCREDITATION.—

(1) NONCOMPLIANCE.—If the Secretary or the governing State official (if applicable) determines that a certifying agent is not properly adhering to the provisions of this title, the Secretary or such governing State official may suspend such certifying agent's accreditation.

(2) EFFECT ON CERTIFIED OPERATIONS.—If the accreditation of a certifying agent is suspended under paragraph (1), the Secretary or the governing State official (if applicable) shall promptly determine whether farming or handling operations

certified by such certifying agent may retain their organic certification.

SEC. 2117. [7 U.S.C. 6516] PEER REVIEW OF CERTIFYING AGENTS.

(a) PEER REVIEW.—In determining whether to approve an application for accreditation submitted under section 2115, the Secretary shall consider a report concerning such applicant that shall be prepared by a peer review panel established under subsection (b).

(b) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—To assist the Secretary in evaluating applications under section 2115, the Secretary may establish a panel of not less than three persons who have expertise in organic farming and handling methods, to evaluate the State governing official or private person that is seeking accreditation as a certifying agent under such section. Not less than two members of such panel shall be persons who are not employees of the Department of Agriculture or of the applicable State government.

SEC. 2118. [7 U.S.C. 6517] NATIONAL LIST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a National List of approved and prohibited substances that shall be included in the standards for organic production and handling established under this title in order for such products to be sold or labeled as organically produced under this title.

(b) CONTENT OF LIST.—The list established under subsection (a) shall contain an itemization, by specific use or application, of each synthetic substance permitted under subsection (c)(1) or each natural substance prohibited under subsection (c)(2).

(c) GUIDELINES FOR PROHIBITIONS OR EXEMPTIONS.—

(1) EXEMPTION FOR PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND HANDLING OPERATIONS.—The National List may provide for the use of substances in an organic farming or handling operation that are otherwise prohibited under this title only if—

(A) the Secretary determines, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, that the use of such substances—

(i) would not be harmful to human health or the environment;

(ii) is necessary to the production or handling of the agricultural product because of the unavailability of wholly natural substitute products; and

(iii) is consistent with organic farming and handling;

(B) the substance—

(i) is used in production and contains an active synthetic ingredient in the following categories: copper and sulfur compounds; toxins derived from bacteria; pheromones, soaps, horticultural oils, fish emulsions, treated seed, vitamins and minerals; livestock parasiticides and medicines and production aids including netting, tree wraps and seals, insect traps, sticky barriers, row covers, and equipment cleansers; or

(ii) is used in production and contains synthetic inert ingredients that are not classified by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency as inerts of toxicological concern; and

(C) the specific exemption is developed using the procedures described in subsection (d).

(2) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF SPECIFIC NATURAL SUBSTANCES.—The National List may prohibit the use of specific natural substances in an organic farming or handling operation that are otherwise allowed under this title only if—

(A) the Secretary determines, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, that the use of such substances—

(i) would be harmful to human health or the environment; and

(ii) is inconsistent with organic farming or handling, and the purposes of this title; and

(B) the specific prohibition is developed using the procedures specified in subsection (d).

(d) PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHING NATIONAL LIST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The National List established by the Secretary shall be based upon a proposed national list or proposed amendments to the National List developed by the National Organic Standards Board.

(2) NO ADDITIONS.—The Secretary may not include exemptions for the use of specific synthetic substances in the National List other than those exemptions contained in the Proposed National List or Proposed Amendments to the National List.

(3) PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES.—In no instance shall the National List include any substance, the presence of which in food has been prohibited by Federal regulatory action.

(4) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—Before establishing the National List or before making any amendments to the National List, the Secretary shall publish the Proposed National List or any Proposed Amendments to the National List in the Federal Register and seek public comment on such proposals. The Secretary shall include in such Notice any changes to such proposed list or amendments recommended by the Secretary.

(5) PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL LIST.—After evaluating all comments received concerning the Proposed National List or Proposed Amendments to the National List, the Secretary shall publish the final National List in the Federal Register, along with a discussion of comments received.

(6) EXPEDITED PETITIONS FOR COMMERCIALLY UNAVAILABLE ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS CONSTITUTING LESS THAN 5 PERCENT OF AN ORGANIC PROCESSED PRODUCT.—The Secretary may develop emergency procedures for designating agricultural products that are commercially unavailable in organic form for placement on the National List for a period of time not to exceed 12 months.

(e) SUNSET PROVISION.—No exemption or prohibition contained in the National List shall be valid unless the National Organic

Standards Board has reviewed such exemption or prohibition as provided in this section within 5 years of such exemption or prohibition being adopted or reviewed and the Secretary has renewed such exemption or prohibition.

SEC. 2119. [7 U.S.C. 6518] NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish a National Organic Standards Board (in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2 et seq.)) (hereafter referred to in this section as the “Board”) to assist in the development of standards for substances to be used in organic production and to advise the Secretary on any other aspects of the implementation of this title.

(b) **COMPOSITION OF BOARD.**—The Board shall be composed of 15 members, of which—

(1) four shall be individuals who own or operate an organic farming operation;

(2) two shall be individuals who own or operate an organic handling operation;

(3) one shall be an individual who owns or operates a retail establishment with significant trade in organic products;

(4) three shall be individuals with expertise in areas of environmental protection and resource conservation;

(5) three shall be individuals who represent public interest or consumer interest groups;

(6) one shall be an individual with expertise in the fields of toxicology, ecology, or biochemistry; and

(7) one shall be an individual who is a certifying agent as identified under section 2116.

(c) **APPOINTMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary shall appoint the members of the Board under paragraph (1) through (6) of subsection (b) (and under subsection (b)(7) at an appropriate date after the certification of individuals as certifying agents under section 2116) from nominations received from organic certifying organizations, States, and other interested persons and organizations.

(d) **TERM.**—A member of the Board shall serve for a term of 5 years, except that the Secretary shall appoint the original members of the Board for staggered terms. A member cannot serve consecutive terms unless such member served an original term that was less than 5 years.

(e) **MEETINGS.**—The Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Board not later than 60 days after the appointment of its members and shall convene subsequent meetings on a periodic basis.

(f) **COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.**—A member of the Board shall serve without compensation. While away from their homes or regular places of business on the business of the Board, members of the Board may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as is authorized under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, for persons employed intermittently in the Government service.

(g) **CHAIRPERSON.**—The Board shall select a Chairperson for the Board.

(h) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business.

(i) DECISIVE VOTES.—Two-thirds of the votes cast at a meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be decisive of any motion.

(j) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary shall authorize the Board to hire a staff director and shall detail staff of the Department of Agriculture or allow for the hiring of staff and may, subject to necessary appropriations, pay necessary expenses incurred by such Board in carrying out the provisions of this title, as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

(k) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall provide recommendations to the Secretary regarding the implementation of this title.

(2) NATIONAL LIST.—The Board shall develop the proposed National List or proposed amendments to the National List for submission to the Secretary in accordance with section 2118.

(3) TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANELS.—The Board shall convene technical advisory panels to provide scientific evaluation of the materials considered for inclusion in the National List. Such panels may include experts in agronomy, entomology, health sciences and other relevant disciplines.

(4) SPECIAL REVIEW OF BOTANICAL PESTICIDES.—The Board shall, prior to the establishment of the National List, review all botanical pesticides used in agricultural production and consider whether any such botanical pesticide should be included in the list of prohibited natural substances.

(5) PRODUCT RESIDUE TESTING.—The Board shall advise the Secretary concerning the testing of organically produced agricultural products for residues caused by unavoidable residual environmental contamination.

(6) EMERGENCY SPRAY PROGRAMS.—The Board shall advise the Secretary concerning rules for exemptions from specific requirements of this title (except the provisions of section 2112) with respect to agricultural products produced on certified organic farms if such farms are subject to a Federal or State emergency pest or disease treatment program.

(l) REQUIREMENTS.—In establishing the proposed National List or proposed amendments to the National List, the Board shall—

(1) review available information from the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institute of Environmental Health Studies, and such other sources as appropriate, concerning the potential for adverse human and environmental effects of substances considered for inclusion in the proposed National List;

(2) work with manufacturers of substances considered for inclusion in the proposed National List to obtain a complete list of ingredients and determine whether such substances contain inert materials that are synthetically produced; and

(3) submit to the Secretary, along with the proposed National List or any proposed amendments to such list, the results of the Board's evaluation and the evaluation of the tech-

nical advisory panel of all substances considered for inclusion in the National List.

(m) EVALUATION.—In evaluating substances considered for inclusion in the proposed National List or proposed amendment to the National List, the Board shall consider—

(1) the potential of such substances for detrimental chemical interactions with other materials used in organic farming systems;

(2) the toxicity and mode of action of the substance and of its breakdown products or any contaminants, and their persistence and areas of concentration in the environment;

(3) the probability of environmental contamination during manufacture, use, misuse or disposal of such substance;

(4) the effect of the substance on human health;

(5) the effects of the substance on biological and chemical interactions in the agroecosystem, including the physiological effects of the substance on soil organisms (including the salt index and solubility of the soil), crops and livestock;

(6) the alternatives to using the substance in terms of practices or other available materials; and

(7) its compatibility with a system of sustainable agriculture.

(n) PETITIONS.—The Board shall establish procedures under which persons may petition the Board for the purpose of evaluating substances for inclusion on the National List.

(o) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Any confidential business information obtained by the Board in carrying out this section shall not be released to the public.

SEC. 2120. [7 U.S.C. 6519] VIOLATIONS OF TITLE.

(a) MISUSE OF LABEL.—Any person who knowingly sells or labels a product as organic, except in accordance with this title, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000.

(b) FALSE STATEMENT.—Any person who makes a false statement under this title to the Secretary, a governing State official, or a certifying agent shall be subject to the provisions of section 1001 of title 18, United States Code.

(c) INELIGIBILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any person who—

(A) makes a false statement;

(B) attempts to have a label indicating that an agricultural product is organically produced affixed to such product that such person knows, or should have reason to know, to have been produced or handled in a manner that is not in accordance with this title; or

(C) otherwise violates the purposes of the applicable organic certification program as determined by the Secretary;

after notice and an opportunity to be heard, shall not be eligible, for a period of 5 years from the date of such occurrence, to receive certification under this title with respect to any farm or handling operation in which such person has an interest.

(2) WAIVER.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary may reduce or eliminate the period of ineligibility referred to in such paragraph if the Secretary determines that such modification or waiver is in the best interests of the applicable organic certification program established under this title.

(d) REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS.—A certifying agent shall immediately report any violations of this title to the Secretary or the governing State official (if applicable).

(e) VIOLATIONS BY CERTIFYING AGENT.—A certifying agent that is a private person that violates the provisions of this title or that falsely or negligently certifies any farming or handling operation that does not meet the terms and conditions of the applicable organic certification program as an organic operation, as determined by the Secretary or the governing State official (if applicable) shall, after notice and an opportunity to be heard—

(1) lose its accreditation as a certifying agent under this title; and

(2) be ineligible to be accredited as a certifying agent under this title for a period of not less than 3 years subsequent to the date of such determination.

(f) EFFECT OF OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this title shall alter the authority of the Secretary under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.), and the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031 et seq.) concerning meat, poultry and egg products, nor any of the authorities of the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), nor the authority of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.).

SEC. 2121. [7 U.S.C. 6520] ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL.

(a) EXPEDITED APPEALS PROCEDURE.—The Secretary shall establish an expedited administrative appeals procedure under which persons may appeal an action of the Secretary, the applicable governing State official, or a certifying agent under this title that—

(1) adversely affects such person; or

(2) is inconsistent with the organic certification program established under this title.

(b) APPEAL OF FINAL DECISION.—A final decision of the Secretary under subsection (a) may be appealed to the United States district court for the district in which such person is located.

SEC. 2122. [7 U.S.C. 6521] ADMINISTRATION.

(a) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary shall issue proposed regulations to carry out this title.

(b) ASSISTANCE TO STATE.—

(1) TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical, administrative, and National Institute of Food and Agriculture assistance to assist States in the implementation of an organic certification program under this title.

(2) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may provide financial assistance to any State that implements an organic certification program under this title.

SEC. 2123. [7 U.S.C. 6522] AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year such sums as may be necessary to carry out this title.

(b) NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order to carry out activities under the national organic program established under this title, there are authorized to be appropriated—

- (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;
- (2) \$6,500,000 for fiscal year 2009;
- (3) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
- (4) \$9,500,000 for fiscal year 2011;
- (5) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2012; and
- (6) in addition to those amounts, such additional sums as are necessary for fiscal year 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter.

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TITLE XII—CROP INSURANCE AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE

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Subtitle B—Disaster Assistance

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CHAPTER 3—EMERGENCY CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE³⁻¹

Subchapter A—Annual Crops

SEC. 2241. PAYMENTS TO PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS FOR TARGET PRICE COMMODITIES.

(a) DISASTER PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective only for producers on a farm who elected to participate in the production adjustment program established under the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.) for the 1990 crop of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, or rice, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that, because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, the total quantity of the 1990 crop of the commodity that such producers are able to harvest on the farm is less than the result of multiplying 60 percent (or, in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance for the 1990 crop of

³⁻¹Chapter 3 of subtitle B of title XXII of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990; Pub. l. 101-624, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3962 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note) was repealed by section 119(c) of the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994, approved October 13, 1994 (title I of Public Law 103-354; 108 Stat. 3208). the chapter as it appeared immediately before its repeal is reprinted here.

the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), 65 percent) of the farm program payment yield established by the Secretary for such crop by the sum of the acreage planted for harvest and the acreage prevented from being planted (because of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary) for such crop, the Secretary shall make a disaster payment available to such producers at a rate equal to 65 percent of the established price for the crop for any deficiency in production greater than 40 percent (or, in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance for the 1990 crop of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, 35 percent) for the crop.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) ACREAGE IN EXCESS OF PERMITTED ACREAGE.—Payments provided under paragraph (1) for a crop of a commodity may not be made available to producers on a farm with respect to any acreage in excess of the permitted acreage for the farm for the commodity.

(B) CROP INSURANCE.—Payments provided under paragraph (1) for a crop of a commodity may not be made available to producers on a farm unless such producers enter into an agreement to obtain multiperil crop insurance, to the extent required under section 2247.

(3) REDUCTION IN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.—The total quantity of a crop of a commodity on which deficiency payments otherwise would be payable to producers on a farm under the Agricultural Act of 1949 shall be reduced by the quantity on which a payment is made to the producers for the crop under paragraph (1).

(4) ELECTION OF PAYMENTS.—

(A) APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH.—This paragraph shall apply, effective only for the 1990 crops of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, and rice, to producers on a farm who—

(i) had failed wheat, feed grain, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, or rice acreage; or

(ii) were prevented from planting acreage to such commodity because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990.

(B) ELECTION.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall (within 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act) permit producers referred to in subparagraph (A) to elect whether to receive disaster payments in accordance with this section in lieu of payments received under the Agricultural Act of 1949.

(b) ADVANCE DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.—

(1) APPLICATION OF SUBSECTION.—This subsection shall apply only to producers on a farm who elected to participate in the production adjustment program established under the Agricultural Act of 1949 for the 1990 crop of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, or rice.

(2) FORGIVENESS OF REFUND REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), if because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or

1990 the total quantity of the 1990 crop of the commodity that the producers are able to harvest on the farm is less than the result of multiplying the farm program payment yield established by the Secretary for such crop by the sum of the acreage planted for harvest and the acreage prevented from being planted (because of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary) for such crop (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "qualifying amount"), the producers shall not be required to refund any advance deficiency payment made to the producers for such crop under section 107C of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1445b-2) with respect to that portion of the deficiency in production that does not exceed—

(i) in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance for the 1990 crop of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, 35 percent of the qualifying amount; and

(ii) in the case of other producers, 40 percent of the qualifying amount.

(B) CROP INSURANCE.—Producers on a farm shall not be eligible for the forgiveness provided for under subparagraph (A), unless such producers enter into an agreement to obtain multiperil crop insurance, to the extent required under section 2247.

(3) ELECTION FOR NONRECIPIENTS.—The Secretary shall allow producers on a farm who elected, prior to the date of enactment of this Act, not to receive advance deficiency payments made available for the 1990 crop under section 107C of the Agricultural Act of 1949, to elect (within 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act) whether to receive such advance deficiency payments.

(4) DATE OF REFUND FOR PAYMENTS.—Effective only for the 1990 crops of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, and rice, if the Secretary determines that any portion of the advance deficiency payment made to producers for the crop under section 107C of the Agricultural Act of 1949 must be refunded, such refund shall not be required prior to July 31, 1991, for that portion of the crop for which a disaster payment is made under subsection (a).

SEC. 2242. PAYMENTS TO PROGRAM NONPARTICIPANTS FOR TARGET PRICE COMMODITIES.

(a) DISASTER PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective only for producers on a farm who elected not to participate in the production adjustment program established under the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.) for the 1990 crop of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, or rice, if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, the total quantity of the 1990 crop of the commodity that such producers are able to harvest on the farm is less than the result of multiplying 40 percent (or in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance, 35 percent) of the county average yield established by the Secretary for such crop by the sum of acreage planted for har-

vest and the acreage for which prevented planted credit is approved by the Secretary for such crop under subsection (b), the Secretary shall make a disaster payment available to such producers.

(2) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment shall be made to the producers at a rate equal to 65 percent of the basic county loan rate (or a comparable price if there is no current basic county loan rate) for the crop, as determined by the Secretary, for any deficiency in production greater than 40 percent for the crop (or in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance, 35 percent).

(b) PREVENTED PLANTING CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide prevented planting credit under subsection (a) with respect to acreage that producers on a farm were prevented from planting to the 1990 crop of the commodity for harvest because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) MAXIMUM ACREAGE.—Acreage may not exceed the greater of—

(A) a quantity equal to the acreage on the farm planted (or prevented from being planted due to a natural disaster or other condition beyond the control of the producers) to the commodity for harvest in 1989 minus acreage actually planted for harvest in 1990; or

(B) a quantity equal to the average of the acreage on the farm planted (or prevented from being planted due to a natural disaster or other condition beyond the control of the producers) to the commodity for harvest in 1987, 1988, and 1989 minus acreage actually planted to the commodity for harvest in 1990.

(3) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall make appropriate adjustments in applying the limitations contained in paragraph (2) to take into account crop rotation practices of the producers.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) ACREAGE LIMITATION PROGRAM.—The amount of payments made available to producers on a farm for a crop of a commodity under subsection (a) shall be reduced by a factor equivalent to the acreage limitation program percentage established for such crop under the Agricultural Act of 1949.

(2) CROP INSURANCE.—Payments provided under subsection (a) for a crop of a commodity may not be made available to the producers on a farm unless such producers enter into an agreement to obtain multiperil crop insurance, to the extent required under section 2247.

SEC. 2243. PEANUTS, SUGAR, AND TOBACCO.

(a) DISASTER PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective only for the 1990 crops of peanuts, sugar beets, sugarcane, and tobacco, if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that, because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, the total quantity of the 1990 crop of the commodity that the producers on a farm are

able to harvest is less than the result of multiplying 60 percent (or, in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance for the 1990 crop of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), 65 percent) of the county average yield (or program yield, in the case of peanuts) established by the Secretary for such crop by the sum of the acreage planted for harvest and the acreage for which prevented planting credit is approved by the Secretary for such crop under subsection (b), the Secretary shall make a disaster payment available to such producers.

(2) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment shall be made to the producers at a rate equal to 65 percent of the applicable payment level under paragraph (3), as determined by the Secretary, for any deficiency in production greater than—

(A) in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance for the 1990 crop of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act—

(i) 35 percent for the crop; or

(ii) with respect to a crop of burley tobacco or flue-cured tobacco, 35 percent of the farm's effective marketing quota for 1990; and

(B) in the case of producers who did not obtain crop insurance for the 1990 crop of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act—

(i) 40 percent for the crop; or

(ii) with respect to a crop of burley tobacco or flue-cured tobacco, 40 percent of the farm's effective marketing quota for 1990.

(3) PAYMENT LEVEL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the payment level for a commodity shall be equal to—

(A) for peanuts, the price support level for quota peanuts or the price support level for additional peanuts, as applicable;

(B) for tobacco, the national average loan rate for the type of tobacco involved, or (if there is none) the market price, as determined under section 2244(a)(2); and

(C) for sugar beets and sugarcane, a level determined by the Secretary to be fair and reasonable in relation to the level of price support established for the 1990 crops of sugar beets and sugarcane, and that, insofar as is practicable, shall reflect no less return to the producer than under the 1990 price support levels.

(b) PREVENTED PLANTING CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide prevented planting credit under subsection (a) with respect to acreage that producers on a farm were prevented from planting to the 1990 crop of the commodity for harvest because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) MAXIMUM ACREAGE.—Such acreage may not exceed the greater of—

(A) a quantity equal to the acreage on the farm planted (or prevented from being planted due to a natural disaster or other condition beyond the control of the pro-

ducers) to the commodity for harvest in 1989 minus acreage actually planted for harvest in 1990; or

(B) a quantity equal to the average of the acreage on the farm planted (or prevented from being planted due to a natural disaster or other condition beyond the control of the producers) to the commodity for harvest in 1987, 1988, and 1989 minus acreage actually planted to the commodity for harvest in 1990.

(3) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall make appropriate adjustments in applying the limitations contained in paragraph (2) to take into account crop rotation practices of the producers and any change in quotas for the 1990 crops of tobacco.

(c) LIMITATION.—Payments provided under subsection (a) for a crop of a commodity may not be made available to the producers on a farm unless such producers enter into an agreement to obtain multiperil crop insurance, to the extent required under section 2247.

(d) SPECIAL RULES FOR PEANUTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) a deficiency in production of quota peanuts from a farm, as otherwise determined under this section, shall be reduced by the quantity of peanut poundage quota that was the basis of such anticipated production that has been transferred from the farm;

(2) payments made under this section shall be made taking into account whether the deficiency for which the deficiency in production is claimed was a deficiency in production of quota or additional peanuts and the payment rate shall be established accordingly; and

(3) the quantity of undermarketings of quota peanuts from a farm for the 1990 crop that may otherwise be claimed under section 358 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1358) for purposes of future quota increases shall be reduced by the quantity of the deficiency of production of such peanuts for which payment has been received under this section.

(e) SPECIAL RULES FOR TOBACCO.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) the quantity of undermarketings of quota tobacco from a farm for the 1990 crop that may otherwise be claimed under section 317 or 319 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1314c or 1314e) for purposes of future quota increases shall be reduced by the quantity of the deficiency of production of such tobacco for which payment has been received under this section; and

(2) disaster payments made to producers under this section may not be considered by the Secretary in determining the net losses of the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 106A(d) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1445-1(d)).

(f) SPECIAL RULE FOR SUGARCANE.—For purposes of determining the total quantity of the 1990 crop of sugarcane that the producers on a farm are able to harvest, the Secretary shall make the determination based on the quantity of recoverable sugar.

SEC. 2244. SOYBEANS AND NONPROGRAM CROPS.

(a) **DISASTER PAYMENTS.—**

(1) **IN GENERAL.—**

(A) **ELIGIBILITY.—**Effective only for the 1990 crops of soybeans and nonprogram crops, to the extent that assistance was not made available under the Disaster Assistance Act of 1989 for a producer's losses, if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that, because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, the total quantity of the 1990 crop of the commodity that the producers on a farm are able to harvest is less than—

(i) with respect to soybeans and sunflowers, the result of multiplying 60 percent (or in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance, if available, for the 1990 crop year of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), 65 percent) of the State, area, or county yield, adjusted for adverse weather conditions during the 1987, 1988, and 1989 crop years, as determined by the Secretary, for such crop by the sum of the acreage planted for harvest and the acreage for which prevented planting credit is approved by the Secretary for such crop under subsection (b);

(ii) with respect to nonprogram crops (other than as provided in clauses (i) and (iii)), the result of multiplying 60 percent (or in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance, if available, for the 1990 crop year of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), 65 percent) of the yield established by the Commodity Credit Corporation under subsection (d)(2) for such crop by the sum of the acreage planted for harvest and the acreage for which prevented planting credit is approved by the Secretary for such crop under subsection (b); and

(iii) with respect to crops covered in section 201(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1446(b)), 60 percent (or in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance, if available, for the 1990 crop year of the commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), 65 percent) of the historical annual yield of the producers for such crops, as determined by the Secretary,

the Secretary shall make a disaster payment available to such producers.

(B) **PAYMENT RATE.—**The payment shall be made to such producers at a rate equal to 65 percent of the applicable payment level under paragraph (2), as determined by the Secretary, for any deficiency in production greater than 40 percent for soybeans, sunflowers and for other nonprogram crops for the crop, except that in the case of producers who obtained crop insurance, if available, for the 1990 crop under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), 35.

(2) PAYMENT LEVEL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the payment level for a commodity shall equal the simple average price received by producers of the commodity, as determined by the Secretary subject to paragraph (3), during the marketing years for the immediately preceding 5 crops of the commodity, excluding the year in which the average price was the highest and the year in which the average price was the lowest in such period.

(3) CALCULATION OF PAYMENTS FOR DIFFERENT VARIETIES.—

(A) CROP-BY-CROP BASIS.—The Secretary shall make disaster payments under this subsection on a crop-by-crop basis, with consideration given to markets and uses of the crops, under regulations issued by the Secretary.

(B) DIFFERENT VARIETIES.—For purposes of determining the payment levels on a crop-by-crop basis, the Secretary shall consider as separate crops, and develop separate payment levels insofar as is practicable for, different varieties of the same commodity, and commodities for which there is a significant difference in the economic value in the market.

(C) DOUBLE CROPPING.—

(i) TREATED SEPARATELY.—In the case of a crop that is historically double cropped (including two crops of the same commodity) by the producers on a farm, the Secretary shall treat each cropping separately for purposes of determining whether the crop was affected by damaging weather or related conditions and the total quantity of the crop that the producers are able to harvest.

(ii) APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH.—This paragraph shall not apply in the case of a replacement crop.

(4) EXCLUSIONS FROM HARVESTED QUANTITIES.—For purposes of determining the total quantity of the 1990 nonprogram crop of the commodity that the producers on a farm are able to harvest under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall exclude—

(A) commodities that cannot be sold in normal commercial channels of trade; and

(B) dockage, including husks and shells, if such dockage is excluded in determining yields under subsection (d)(2).

(b) PREVENTED PLANTING CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide prevented planting credit under subsection (a) with respect to acreage that producers on a farm were prevented from planting to the 1990 crop of the commodity for harvest because of damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) MAXIMUM ACREAGE.—Such acreage may not exceed the greater of—

(A) a quantity equal to the acreage on the farm planted (or prevented from being planted due to a natural disaster or other condition beyond the control of the pro-

ducers) to the commodity for harvest in 1989 minus acreage actually planted for harvest in 1990; or

(B) a quantity equal to the average of the acreage on the farm planted (or prevented from being planted due to a natural disaster or other condition beyond the control of the producers) to the commodity for harvest in 1987, 1988, and 1989 minus acreage actually planted to the commodity for harvest in 1990.

(3) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall make appropriate adjustments in applying the limitations contained in paragraph (2) to take into account crop rotation practices of the producers.

(c) LIMITATION.—Payments provided under subsection (a) for a crop of a commodity may not be made available to the producers on a farm unless such producers enter into an agreement to obtain multiperil crop insurance, to the extent required under section 2247.

(d) SPECIAL RULES FOR NONPROGRAM CROPS.—

(1) DEFINITION OF NONPROGRAM CROP.—As used in this section, the term “nonprogram crop” means all crops for which crop insurance through the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation was available for crop year 1990, and other commercial crops (including ornamentals which shall include flowering shrubs, flowering trees, and field or container grown roses or turf and sweet potatoes for which such insurance was not available for crop year 1990), except that such term shall not include a crop covered under section 2241, 2242, or 2243, soybeans, or sunflowers.

(2) FARM YIELDS.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Commodity Credit Corporation shall establish disaster program farm yields for nonprogram crops to carry out this section.

(B) PROVEN YIELDS AVAILABLE.—If the producers on a farm can provide satisfactory evidence to the Commodity Credit Corporation of actual crop yields on the farm for at least 1 of the immediately preceding 3 crop years, the yield for the farm shall be based on such proven yield.

(C) PROVEN YIELDS NOT AVAILABLE.—If such data do not exist for any of the 3 preceding crop years, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall establish a yield for the farm by using a county average yield for the commodity, or by using other data available to it.

(D) COUNTY AVERAGE YIELDS.—In establishing county average yields for nonprogram crops, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall use the best available information concerning yields. Such information may include extension service records, credible nongovernmental studies, and yields in similar counties.

(3) RESPONSIBILITY OF PRODUCERS.—It shall be the responsibility of the producers of nonprogram crops to provide satisfactory evidence of 1990 crop losses resulting from damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990 in order for such producers to obtain disaster payments under this section.

SEC. 2245. CROP QUALITY REDUCTION DISASTER PAYMENTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—To ensure that all producers of 1990 crops covered under sections 2241 through 2244 are treated equitably, the Secretary of Agriculture may make additional disaster payments to producers of such crops who suffer losses resulting from the reduced quality of such crops caused by damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) **ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS.**—If the Secretary determines to make crop quality disaster payments available to producers under subsection (a), producers on a farm of a crop described in subsection (a) shall be eligible to receive reduced quality disaster payments only if such producers incur a deficiency in production of not less than 35 percent and not more than 75 percent for such crop (as determined under section 2241, 2242, 2243, or 2244, as appropriate).

(c) **MAXIMUM PAYMENT RATE.**—The Secretary shall establish the reduced quality disaster payment rate, except that such rate shall not exceed 10 percent, as determined by the Secretary, of—

(1) the established price for the crop, for commodities covered under section 2241;

(2) the basic county loan rate for the crop (or a comparable price if there is no current basic county loan rate), for commodities covered under section 2242;

(3) the payment level under section 2243(a)(3), for commodities covered by section 2243; and

(4) the payment level under section 2244(a)(2), for commodities covered under section 2244.

(d) **DETERMINATION OF PAYMENT.**—The amount of payment to a producer under this section shall be determined by multiplying the payment rate established under subsection (c) by the portion of the actual harvested crop on the producer's farm that is reduced in quality by such natural disaster in 1989 or 1990, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 2246. EFFECT OF FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE PAYMENTS.

In the case of producers on a farm who obtained crop insurance for the 1990 crop of a commodity under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), the Secretary of Agriculture shall reduce the amount of payments made available under this chapter for such crop to the extent that the amount determined by adding the net amount of crop insurance indemnity payment (gross indemnity less premium paid) received by such producers for the deficiency in the production of the crop and the disaster payment determined in accordance with this chapter for such crop exceeds the amount determined by multiplying—

(1) 100 percent of the yield used for the calculation of disaster payments made under this chapter for such crop; by

(2) the sum of the acreage of such crop planted to harvest and the acreage for which prevented planting credit is approved by the Secretary (or, in the case of disaster payments under section 2241, the eligible acreage established under sections 2241(a)(1) and 2241(a)(2)(A)); by

(3)(A) in the case of producers who participated in a production adjustment program for the 1990 crop of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, or rice, the established price for the 1990 crop of the commodity;

(B) in the case of producers who did not participate in a production adjustment program for the 1990 crop of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, or rice, the basic county loan rate (or a comparable price, as determined by the Secretary, if there is no current basic county loan rate) for the 1990 crop of the commodity;

(C) in the case of producers of sugar beets, sugarcane, peanuts, or tobacco, the payment level for the commodity established under section 2243(a)(3); and

(D) in the case of producers of soybeans or a nonprogram crop (as defined in section 2244(d)(1)), the simple average price received by producers of the commodity, as determined by the Secretary, during the marketing years for the immediately preceding 5 crops of the commodity, excluding the year in which the average price was the highest and the year in which the average price was the lowest in such period.

SEC. 2247. CROP INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE 1991 CROPS.

(a) **REQUIREMENT.**—Subject to the limitations under subsection (b), producers on a farm, to be eligible to receive a disaster payment under this chapter, an emergency loan under subtitle C of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.) for crop losses due to damaging weather or related condition in 1989 or 1990, or forgiveness of the repayment of advance deficiency payments under section 2241(b), must agree to obtain multiperil crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) for the 1991 crop of the commodity for which such payments, loans, or forgiveness are sought.

(b) **LIMITATIONS.**—Producers on a farm shall not be required to agree to obtain crop insurance under subsection (a) for a commodity—

(1) unless such producers' deficiency in production, with respect to the crop for which a disaster payment under this chapter otherwise may be made, exceeds 65 percent;

(2) where, or if, crop insurance coverage is not available to the producers for the commodity for which the payment, loan, or forgiveness is sought;

(3) if the producers' annual premium rate for such crop insurance is an amount greater than 125 percent of the average premium rate for insurance on that commodity for the 1990 crop in the county in which the producers are located;

(4) in any case in which the producers' annual premium for such crop insurance is an amount greater than 25 percent of the amount of the payment, loan, or forgiveness sought; or

(5) if the producers can establish by appeal to the county committee established under section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590(b)), or to the county committee established under section 332 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (17 U.S.C. 1982), as appropriate, that the purchase of crop insurance would impose an undue financial hardship on such producers and that a waiver of the requirement to obtain crop insurance should, in the discretion of the county committee, be granted.

(c) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—

(1) COUNTY COMMITTEES.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall ensure (acting through the county committees established under section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and located in the counties in which the assistance programs provided for under sections 2241 through 2245 are implemented and through the county committees established under section 332 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act in counties in which emergency loans, as described in subsection (a), are made available) that producers who apply for assistance, as described in subsection (a), obtain multiperil crop insurance as required under this section.

(2) OTHER SOURCES.—Each producer who is subject to the requirements of this section may comply with such requirements by providing evidence of multiperil crop insurance coverage from sources other than through the county committee office, as approved by the Secretary.

(3) COMMISSIONS.—The Secretary shall provide by regulation for a reduction in the commissions paid to private insurance agents, brokers, or companies on crop insurance contracts entered into under this section sufficient to reflect that such insurance contracts principally involve only a servicing function to be performed by the agent, broker, or company.

(d) REPAYMENT OF BENEFITS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if (prior to the end of the 1991 crop year for the commodity involved) the crop insurance coverage required of the producer under this section is canceled by the producer, the producer—

(1) shall make immediate repayment to the Secretary of any disaster payment or forgiven advance deficiency payment that the producer otherwise is required to repay; and

(2) shall become immediately liable for full repayment of all principal and interest outstanding on any emergency loan described in subsection (a) made subject to this section.

SEC. 2248. CROPS HARVESTED FOR FORAGE USES.

Not later than 45 days after funds are appropriated to carry out this chapter, the Secretary of Agriculture shall announce the terms and conditions by which producers on a farm may establish a 1990 yield with respect to crops that will be harvested for silage and other forage uses.

SEC. 2249. PAYMENT LIMITATIONS.

(a) LIMITATION.—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), the total amount of payments that a person shall be entitled to receive under one or more of the programs established under this subchapter may not exceed \$100,000.

(b) NO DOUBLE BENEFITS.—No person may receive disaster payments under this subchapter to the extent that such person receives a livestock emergency benefit for lost feed production in 1990 under section 606 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1471d).

(c) COMBINED LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No person may receive any payment under this subchapter or benefit under title VI of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1471 et seq.) for livestock emergency losses suffered in 1990 if such payment or benefit will

cause the combined total amount of such payments and benefits received by such person to exceed \$100,000.

(2) ELECTION.—If a producer is subject to paragraph (1), the person may elect (subject to the benefits limitations under section 609 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1471g) whether to receive the \$100,000 in such payments, or such livestock emergency benefits (not to exceed \$50,000), or a combination of payments and benefits specified by the person.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall issue regulations—

(1) defining the term “person” for the purposes of this section and section 2266, which shall conform, to the extent practicable, to the regulations defining the term “person” issued under section 1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308); and

(2) prescribing such rules as the Secretary determines necessary to ensure a fair and reasonable application of the limitations established under this section.

SEC. 2250. SUBSTITUTION OF CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM YIELDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the Secretary of Agriculture may permit each eligible producer (as defined in subsection (d)) of a 1990 crop of a commodity who has obtained multiperil crop insurance for such crop (or, as provided in subsection (c), who obtained multiperil crop insurance for the producer’s 1989 crop of such commodity) under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) to substitute, at the discretion of the producer, the crop insurance yield for such crop, as established under such Act, for the farm yield otherwise assigned to the producer under this chapter, for the purposes of determining such producer’s eligibility for a disaster payment on the 1990 crop under this chapter and the amount of such payment.

(b) ADJUSTMENT OF ADVANCED DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if an eligible producer of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, or rice elects to substitute yields for such producer’s 1990 crop under subsection (a), the producer’s eligibility for a waiver or repayment of an advance deficiency payment on such crop under this chapter shall be adjusted as provided in paragraph (2).

(2) AMOUNT.—The amount of production of such crop on which the producer otherwise would be eligible for waiver of repayment of advance deficiency payments under this chapter shall be reduced by an amount of production equal to the difference between—

(A) the amount of production eligible for disaster payments under this chapter using a substituted yield under this section; and

(B) the amount of production that would have been eligible for disaster payments using the farm program payment yield otherwise assigned to the producer under this chapter.

(c) MULTIPERIL CROP INSURANCE NOT AVAILABLE.—A producer may use the crop insurance yield for the producer’s 1989 crop of a

commodity for purposes of substituting yields under subsection (a) if the producer demonstrates to the Secretary that, through no fault of the producer, multiperil crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act was not made available to the producer for the producer's 1990 crop of the commodity.

(d) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE PRODUCER.—For purposes of this section, the term “eligible producer” means a producer of the 1990 crop of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, rice, or soybeans.

SEC. 2251. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter:

(1) DAMAGING WEATHER.—The term “damaging weather” includes but is not limited to drought, hail, excessive moisture, freeze, tornado, hurricane, earthquake, or excessive wind, or any combination thereof.

(2) RELATED CONDITION.—The term “related condition” includes but is not limited to insect infestations, plant diseases, or other deterioration of a crop of a commodity, including aflatoxin, that is accelerated or exacerbated naturally as a result of damaging weather occurring prior to or during harvest.

Subchapter B—Orchards

SEC. 2255. ELIGIBILITY.

(a) LOSS.—Subject to the limitation in subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide assistance, as specified in section 2256, to eligible orchardists that planted trees for commercial purposes but lost such trees as a result of freeze, earthquake, or related condition in 1990, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) LIMITATION.—An eligible orchardist shall qualify for assistance under subsection (a) only if such orchardist's tree mortality, as a result of the natural disaster, exceeds 35 percent (adjusted for normal mortality).

SEC. 2256. ASSISTANCE.

The assistance provided by the Secretary of Agriculture to eligible orchardists for losses described in section 2255 shall consist of either—

(1) reimbursement of 65 percent of the cost of replanting trees lost due to freeze, earthquake, or related condition in 1990 in excess of 35 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality); or

(2) at the discretion of the Secretary, sufficient seedlings to reestablish the stand.

SEC. 2257. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.

(a) LIMITATION.—The total amount of payments that a person shall be entitled to receive under this subchapter may not exceed \$25,000, or an equivalent value in tree seedlings.

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall issue regulations—

(1) defining the term “person” for the purposes of this subchapter, which shall conform, to the extent practicable, to the regulations defining the term “person” issued under section

1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308) and the Disaster Assistance Act of 1988 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note); and

(2) prescribing such rules as the Secretary determines necessary to ensure a fair and reasonable application of the limitation established under this section.

SEC. 2258. DEFINITION.

As used in this subchapter, the term “eligible orchardist” means a person who produces annual crops from trees for commercial purposes and owns 500 acres or less of such trees.

SEC. 2259. DUPLICATIVE PAYMENTS.

The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish guidelines to ensure that no person receives duplicative payments under this subchapter and the forestry incentives program, agricultural conservation program, or other Federal program.

Subchapter C—Forest Crops

SEC. 2261. ELIGIBILITY.

(a) **LOSS.**—Subject to the limitation in subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide assistance, as specified in section 2262, to eligible tree farmers that planted tree seedlings in 1989 or 1990 for commercial purposes but lost such seedlings as a result of drought, earthquake, or related condition in 1990, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) **LIMITATION.**—An eligible tree farmer shall qualify for assistance under subsection (a) only if such tree farmer’s tree seedling mortality, as a result of the natural disaster, exceeds 35 percent (adjusted for normal mortality).

SEC. 2262. ASSISTANCE.

The assistance provided by the Secretary of Agriculture to eligible tree farmers for losses described in section 2261 shall consist of either—

(1) reimbursement of 65 percent of the cost of replanting seedlings lost due to drought, earthquake, or related conditions in 1990 in excess of 35 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality); or

(2) at the discretion of the Secretary, sufficient tree seedlings to reestablish the stand.

SEC. 2263. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.

(a) **LIMITATION.**—The total amount of payments that a person shall be entitled to receive under this subchapter may not exceed \$25,000, or an equivalent value in tree seedlings.

(b) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary of Agriculture shall issue regulations—

(1) defining the term “person” for the purposes of this subchapter, which shall conform, to the extent practicable, to the regulations defining the term “person” issued under section 1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 and the Disaster Assistance Act of 1988; and

(2) prescribing such rules as the Secretary determines necessary to ensure a fair and reasonable application of the limitation established under this section.

SEC. 2264. DEFINITION.

As used in this chapter,¹ the term “eligible tree farmer” means a person who grows trees for harvest for commercial purposes and owns 1,000 acres or less of such trees.

SEC. 2265. DUPLICATIVE PAYMENTS.

The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish guidelines to ensure that no person receives duplicative payments under this subchapter and the forestry incentives program, agricultural conservation program, or other Federal program.

Subchapter D—Administrative Provisions

SEC. 2266. INELIGIBILITY.

(a) **GENERAL RULE.**—A person who has qualifying gross revenues in excess of \$2,000,000 annually, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, shall not be eligible to receive any disaster payment or other benefits under this chapter.

(b) **QUALIFYING GROSS REVENUES.**—For purposes of this section, the term “qualifying gross revenues” means—

(1) if a majority of the person’s annual income is received from farming, ranching, and forestry operations, the gross revenue from the person’s farming, ranching, and forestry operations; and

(2) if less than a majority of the person’s annual income is received from farming, ranching, and forestry operations, the person’s gross revenue from all sources.

SEC. 2267. TIMING AND MANNER OF ASSISTANCE.

(a) **TIMING OF ASSISTANCE.**—

(1) **ASSISTANCE MADE AVAILABLE AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of Agriculture shall make disaster assistance available under this chapter as soon as practicable after the date on which appropriations are made available to carry out this chapter.

(2) **COMPLETED APPLICATION.**—No payment or benefit provided under this chapter shall be payable or due until such time as a completed application for a crop of a commodity therefor has been approved.

(b) **MANNER.**—The Secretary may make payments available under this chapter in the form of cash, commodities, or commodity certificates, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 2268. COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.

(a) **USE.**—The Secretary of Agriculture shall use the funds, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation in carrying out this chapter.

(b) **EXISTING AUTHORITY.**—The authority provided by this chapter shall be in addition to, and not in place of, any authority granted to the Secretary or the Commodity Credit Corporation under any other provision of law.

SEC. 2269. EMERGENCY LOANS.

Section 321(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961(b)) shall not apply to persons who other-

¹ So in original. Probably should refer to this subchapter.

wise would be eligible for an emergency loan under subtitle C of such Act, if such eligibility is the result of damage to an annual crop planted for harvest in 1990.

SEC. 2270. REGULATIONS.

The Secretary of Agriculture or the Commodity Credit Corporation, as appropriate, shall issue regulations to implement this chapter as soon as practicable after the date on which appropriations are made available to carry out this chapter, without regard to the requirement for notice and public participation in rule making prescribed in section 553 of title 5, United States Code, or in any directive of the Secretary.

Subchapter E—Appropriations

SEC. 2271. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Any benefits or assistance (including the forgiveness of unearned advanced deficiency payments of² any emergency loans) made available under this chapter shall be provided only to the extent provided for in advance in appropriations Acts. To carry out this chapter there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary in each of the fiscal years 1991 and 1992.

SEC. 2272. PRORATION OF BENEFITS.

Any funds made available for carrying out this chapter in appropriations Acts shall be prorated to all producers eligible for assistance under this chapter.

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Subtitle C—Miscellaneous Provisions

SEC. 2281. [42 U.S.C. 5177a] EMERGENCY GRANTS TO ASSIST LOW-INCOME MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Agriculture may make grants to public agencies or private organizations with tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, that have experience in providing emergency services to low-income migrant and seasonal farmworkers where the Secretary determines that a local, State or national emergency or disaster has caused low-income migrant or seasonal farmworkers to lose income, to be unable to work, or to stay home or return home in anticipation of work shortages. Emergency services to be provided with assistance received under this section may include such types of assistance as the Secretary of Agriculture determines to be necessary and appropriate.

(b) **DEFINITION.**—For the purposes of this section, the term “low-income migrant or seasonal farmworker” means an individual—

- (1) who has, during any consecutive 12 month period within the preceding 24 month period, performed farm work for wages;

²So in original. Section 114(a)(16) of Public Law 102-237 (105 Stat. 1839) attempted to change “payments of” to “payments or”, but the amendment could not be executed.

(2) who has received not less than one-half of such individual's total income, or been employed at least one-half of total work time in farm work; and

(3) whose annual family income within the 12 month period referred to in paragraph (1) does not exceed the higher of the poverty level or 70 percent of the lower living standard income level.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

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TITLE XXIII—RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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SEC. 2381. [7 U.S.C. 3125b] NATIONAL RURAL INFORMATION CENTER CLEARINGHOUSE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish, within the National Agricultural Library, in coordination with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, a National Rural Information Center Clearinghouse (in this section referred to as the “Clearinghouse”) to perform the functions specified in subsection (b).

(b) FUNCTIONS.—The Clearinghouse shall provide and distribute information and data to any industry, organization, or Federal, State, or local government entity, on request, about programs and services provided by Federal, State, and local agencies and private nonprofit organizations and institutions under which individuals residing in, or organizations and State and local government entities operating in, a rural area may be eligible for any kind of assistance, including job training, education, health care, and economic development assistance, and emotional and financial counseling. To the extent possible, the National Agricultural Library shall use telecommunications technology to disseminate information to rural areas.

(c) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—On request of the Secretary, the head of a Federal agency shall provide to the Clearinghouse such information as the Secretary may request to enable the Clearinghouse to carry out subsection (b).

(d) STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary shall request State and local governments and private nonprofit organizations and institutions to provide to the Clearinghouse such information as such agencies and organizations may have about any program or service of such agencies, organizations, and institutions under which individuals residing in a rural area may be eligible for any kind of assistance, including job training, educational, health care, and economic development assistance, and emotional and financial counseling.

(e) LIMITATION ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$500,000 for each of the fiscal years 1991 through 2012.

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TITLE XXV—OTHER RELATED PROVISIONS

SEC. 2501. [7 U.S.C. 2279] OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

(a) OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE.—

(1) PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall carry out an outreach and technical assistance program to encourage and assist socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers—

(A) in owning and operating farms and ranches; and

(B) in participating equitably in the full range of agricultural programs offered by the Department.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The outreach and technical assistance program under paragraph (1) shall be used exclusively—

(A) to enhance coordination of the outreach, technical assistance, and education efforts authorized under agriculture programs; and

(B) to assist the Secretary in—

(i) reaching current and prospective socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers in a linguistically appropriate manner; and

(ii) improving the participation of those farmers and ranchers in Department programs, as reported under section 2501A.

(3) GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and other agreements with, an eligible entity that has demonstrated an ability to carry out the requirements described in paragraph (2) to provide outreach and technical assistance under this subsection.

(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAW.—The authority to carry out this section shall be in addition to any other authority provided in this or any other Act.

(C) OTHER PROJECTS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and other agreements with, an organization or institution that received funding under this section before January 1, 1996, to carry out a project that is similar to a project for which the organization or institution received such funding.

(D) REPORT.—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, and make publicly available, an annual report that includes a list of the following:

(i) The recipients of funds made available under the program.

(ii) The activities undertaken and services provided.

(iii) The number of current and prospective socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers served and outcomes of such service.

(iv) The problems and barriers identified by entities in trying to increase participation by current and prospective socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.

(4) FUNDING.—

(A) FISCAL YEARS 2009 THROUGH 2012.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry out this section—

(i) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

(ii) \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012.

(B) FISCAL YEAR 2013.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(C) INTERAGENCY FUNDING.—In addition to funds authorized to be appropriated under subparagraph (A) or (B), any agency of the Department may participate in any grant, contract, or agreement entered into under this subsection by contributing funds, if the agency determined that the objectives of the grant, contract, or agreement will further the authorized programs of the contributing agency.

(D) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 5 percent of the amounts made available under subparagraph (A) or (B) for a fiscal year may be used for expenses related to administering the program under this section.

(b) DESIGNATION OF FEDERAL PERSONNEL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall designate from existing Federal personnel resources in the county or region a qualified person who shall, in cooperation with the State cooperative extension services, implement the policies and programs established or modified in accordance with this section.

(2) ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—In counties or regions in which the number of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers exceeds 25 percent of the total number of farmers and ranchers in the county or region, the Secretary shall designate additional personnel to implement the policies and programs established or modified in accordance with this section.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 1992, and every two years thereafter, the Secretary shall report to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, regarding—

(A) the efforts of the Secretary to enhance participation by members of socially disadvantaged groups in agricultural programs;

(B) the specific participation goals established for each agricultural program;

(C) the results achieved for each agricultural program; and

(D) the progress of the Department towards meeting each of the purposes described in paragraph (2)(C).

(2) CONTENTS.—In addition to the information specified in paragraph (1), the report required by paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a comparison of the participation goals and the actual participation rates of members of socially disadvantaged groups in each agricultural program;

(B) an analysis and explanation of the reasons for the success or failure of the Secretary to achieve the goals, and the overall purposes of this section;

(C) a listing, on a State-by-State and county-by-county basis, of—

(i) the amount of funds loaned to members of socially disadvantaged groups; and

(ii) the amount of funds used to guarantee loans to members of socially disadvantaged groups compared to the total amount of such guarantees;

(D) a breakdown in allocation of crop base in each program crop compared to the target participation rates established pursuant to sections 355(a)(1) and 355(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2003(a)(1)), on a State-by-State and county-by-county basis; and

(E) a review and analysis of participation by members of socially disadvantaged groups, compared to participation by all others, in agricultural programs, on a State-by-State and county-by-county basis, including a survey representative of all farmers and ranchers, including socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, to identify reasons for participation and nonparticipation in agricultural programs.

(d) AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, APPEALS, AND CONTRACTING REVIEW.—

(1) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this subsection to direct the Secretary to analyze within the Department the design and implementation of affirmative action programs and policies, the appeals process for complaints of discrimination, and contracting and purchasing practices employed by the Department.

(2) SCOPE.—The study shall include—

(A) an assessment of the successes and failures of these affirmative action programs and policies;

(B) a review of the reasons for the successes and failures described in subparagraph (A);

(C) a review of procurement, contracting, and purchasing policies of the Department, the level of participation of socially disadvantaged businesses in such activities, and the impact of those policies on the participation of members of socially disadvantaged groups in such contracting with the Department;

(D) a review of the reasons for participation or lack of participation of businesses owned by members of socially disadvantaged groups in the activities described in subparagraph (C); and

(E) a review of the appeals process for all complaints or allegations regarding acts, practices, or patterns of discrimination filed with the Department by individuals or any other entities that shall include—

(i) the number of complaints or allegations regarding acts, practices, or patterns of discrimination;

(ii) the manner in which the complaints were investigated and resolved by the Department; and

(iii) the longest, shortest, and average periods of time taken to investigate and resolve the complaints or allegations regarding acts, practices, or patterns of discrimination.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than November 28, 1991, 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 a report containing the information described in paragraph (2).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUP.—As used in this section, the term “socially disadvantaged group” means a group whose members have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.

(2) SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER.—As used in this section, the term “socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher” means a farmer or rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group.

(3) AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS.—As used in this section, the term “agriculture programs” are those established or authorized by—

(A) the Agricultural Act of 1949;

(B) the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act;

(C) the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938;

(D) the Soil Conservation Act;

(E) the Domestic Allotment Assistance Act;

(F) the Food Security Act of 1985; and

(G) other such Acts as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(4) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Agriculture.

(5) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means any of the following:

(A) Any community-based organization, network, or coalition of community-based organizations that—

(i) has demonstrated experience in providing agricultural education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers;

(ii) has provided to the Secretary documentary evidence of work with, and on behalf of, socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers during the 3-year period preceding the submission of an application for assistance under subsection (a); and

(iii) does not engage in activities prohibited under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(B) An 1890 institution or 1994 institution (as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)), including West Virginia State College.

(C) An Indian tribal community college or an Alaska Native cooperative college.

(D) An Hispanic-serving institution (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)).

(E) Any other institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that has demonstrated experience in providing agriculture education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in a region.

(F) An Indian tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)) or a national tribal organization that has demonstrated experience in providing agriculture education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in a region.

(G) An organization or institution that received funding under subsection (a) before January 1, 1996, but only with respect to projects that the Secretary considers are similar to projects previously carried out by the organization or institution under such subsection.

(6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(f) ²⁵⁰¹⁻¹

(g) RESERVATIONS.—

(1) CONSOLIDATED SUBOFFICE.—The Secretary shall require the Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service, and such other offices and functions the Secretary may choose to include where there has been a need demonstrated, in each county that has a reservation within its borders, to establish a consolidated suboffice at the tribal headquarters of said reservation and to staff said suboffice as needed, using existing staff, but no less than one day a week or under such other arrangement agreed to by the tribe and the Department offices.

(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—For those reservations that are located in more than one county, the Secretary, the relevant county offices and the tribe shall enter into a cooperative agreement to provide the services required by paragraph (1) that avoids duplication of effort.

(h) ACCURATE DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the Census of Agriculture and studies carried out by the Economic Research Service accurately document the number, location, and economic contributions

²⁵⁰¹⁻¹ Sec. 2501(f) amended sec. 355 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2003).

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of socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers in agricultural production.