

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED TO THE AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR FY 2018

Full Committee Markup
House Appropriations Committee
Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Managers' Amendment to the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2018

In the bill:

On page 2, Line 14, strike "\$41,423,000" and insert "\$21,703,000" (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

On page 3, Line 3, strike "\$22,501,000" and insert "\$2,781,000" (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

On page 25, Line 14, strike "\$1,393,423,000" and insert "\$1,583,423,000" (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

On page 26, Line 3, strike "\$15,467,000" and insert "\$17,687,000" (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

Page 29, Line 3, strike "\$5,000,000 is provided." and insert "\$10,000,000 is provided: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended for watershed rehabilitation projects in states with high-hazard dams and other watershed structures and that have recently incurred flooding events which caused fatalities." (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

Page 31, Line 10, strike "\$225,835,000" and insert "\$220,835,000" (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

On page 56, Line 7, strike "\$185,126,000" and insert "\$201,626,000" (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

Page 73, Line 3, strike "\$9,000,000" and insert "\$1,000,000".

Page 73, Line 9, strike "in excess of \$31,000,000 of the funding made available by subsection (g)(1)(A) of that section for all fiscal years; *Provided*, That of the funds made available in excess of \$31,000,000 by Section 9003 of such Act, \$65,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled".

Page 75, Line 18, strike "the carryover amounts authorized in the first proviso of this section for section 32 and the".

Page 85, Line 2, insert "raw or" after "procure".

Page 98, Line 5, strike "(j)"; Page 98, Line 6, strike "(j)" after "653"; Page 98, Line 11, following "(42 U.S.C. 1972, 1474, 1490a, 1490r)" insert ", notwithstanding section 453(l)(1) of the Social Security Act".

Page 104, Line 21, strike “In finalizing” and insert “No funds shall be used to finalize”; Page 105, Line 1, before “the” insert “unless”; Page 105, strike lines 3-7 and insert “(1) ensure that the poultry slaughter inspection system for the PRC is equivalent to that of the U.S.;”.

At the end of the bill (before spending reduction account), insert the following:

“Sec. XXX. There is hereby appropriated \$1,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, for the cost of loans and grants consistent with section 243 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6953), for necessary expenses of the Secretary to support projects under the healthy food financing initiative that provide access to healthy food in underserved areas, to create and preserve quality jobs, and to revitalize low-income communities.”

In the report:

Page 8, under the “Rural Broadband” header, add at the end:

“The Committee directs the Department to prepare a report in collaboration with the Federal Communications Commission and Department of Commerce detailing areas of responsibility towards addressing rural broadband issues. The report shall include, but not be limited to, how the programs work complementarily to one another; how they address broadband issues in unserved and underserved areas, including tribal lands; identify barriers to infrastructure investment in rural areas and tribal lands; data speeds which fixed, wireless and mobile broadband users in rural areas and tribal lands experience; and cost estimates to increase speeds to 25mbps in unserved communities and communities currently being served by speeds less than 25 mbps. The report shall be submitted to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act. This information will help to provide lawmakers with a more complete understanding of connectivity issues in rural America as the Committee considers future funding for broadband to bridge the digital divide.”

Page 10, strike the header “Micro-Segmentation of Networks” and insert “Digital Workspace”.

Page 14, after the header “Evidence-Based Policy Making,” insert the following:

“*Food Waste.*—Food waste is a major problem in the United States. In 2014, ERS released a study on food waste at the consumer and retail levels which found that 430 billion pounds of food were not eaten in the U.S. in 2010. However, there is a lack of data relating to on-farm food loss and what that means in terms of lost income and marketing opportunities for farmers. Such information could help to create new markets for cosmetically imperfect food, value-added products, or other business opportunities for farmers. The Committee directs ERS to conduct a study that describes the quantity and types of produce wasted on farms, barriers to recovering that produce, and new market opportunities to increase recovery and farmers’ income.”

Page 17, under the header “Greenhouse Technology Research,” insert at the end of the paragraph:

“The Committee also encourages ARS to work with DOE in researching novel solutions for lowering energy costs for greenhouse operations while optimizing plant growth and morphology.”

Page 18, following the header “National Agricultural Library,” insert the following:

*“Nutrient Runoff Reduction Programs.—*The Committee encourages ARS to study the long-term effectiveness of voluntary nutrient runoff reduction programs and policy options that could reduce soil, chemical and nutrient runoff.”

Page 19, under the header “Wheat Falling Numbers Test Research,” strike “generic” and insert “genetic”

Page 28, before the header “Cervid Health,” insert the following:

*“Cattle Health.—*The Committee is aware of and concerned about the recent spread of Cattle Fever Ticks outside the quarantine area. The Committee requests that APHIS submit a report on its plans and efforts to control the spread of these ticks within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act.”

Page 36, before the header “Humane Methods of Slaughter,” insert the following:

*“Brazilian Beef.—*Due to the very high level of health, sanitation and animal health problems in Brazilian beef exports found by FSIS inspectors, USDA suspended all imports of fresh beef from Brazil. The Committee applauds this action. However, given news reports about the severity of the corruption among Brazilian health and industry officials, the Committee directs USDA to conduct a full review of Brazil’s food safety equivalency determination for all products that are eligible to be exported to the United States, including raw beef. That review shall be completed within 180 days of enactment of this Act and a report shall be provided to the Committee and posted on the Department's website.”

Page 37, before the header “Public Health Veterinarians,” insert the following:

*“Poultry from the People’s Republic of China.—*Prior to finalizing any rule allowing poultry raised and slaughtered in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) into the United States, the Secretary shall provide a report to the Committee, and post the report on the FSIS website, as to all measures that that USDA will take to ensure that: 1) the PRC will provide continuous inspection with government inspection personnel in all poultry plants exporting to the U.S., including carcass-by-carcass inspection in slaughter facilities; 2) the PRC will publicly report all animal disease outbreaks affecting poultry in a timely fashion; and 3) the PRC will publicly disclose all recalls of poultry products in a timely fashion.”

Page 43, under the “Watershed Rehabilitation” header, add at the end:

*“High-Hazard Dams.—*Within the funds provided for the Watershed Rehabilitation Program, the Committee provides \$5,000,000 for the repair and rehabilitation of high-hazard

dams which pose a threat to human life and safety, in particular those in rural states which have had recent floods that resulted in fatalities.”

Page 57, after the header “Recruitment Activities,” insert the following:

*“SNAP Employment and Training Report.—*Not later than 12 months after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations and Agriculture of both Houses of Congress reviewing state SNAP Employment and Training programs and services that are specifically designed to address barriers to work for ex-offenders, including the number served or estimated to be served, the types of services provided, and outcome measures such as completion rates and increased earnings, if available.”

Page 63, after the third full paragraph, insert the following:

“Nothing in this section relating to compounding shall be construed to compromise patient safety.”

Page 65, after the header “Federal Employee Conduct,” insert the following:

*“Feminine Hygiene Cosmetics.—*The Committee is concerned about the use of unsafe colorants by manufacturers of feminine hygiene cosmetic products. The Committee strongly encourages the FDA to issue appropriate guidance on the use of colorants in such products, and expects a prompt final response to the citizen petition submitted by Women’s Voices for the Earth on August 18, 2015.”

Page 69, under the header “Medical Gas Rulemaking,” strike the last sentence and insert the following:

“FDA is directed to convene with stakeholders in a public meeting on the regulation of medical gases, provide a written report to Congress including a description of the sections of the Code of Federal Regulations that will be updated no later than December 31, 2017 and issue the final regulations required by Public Law 115-31 no later than July 15, 2018.”

Page 70, before the header “Nutrition Facts Panel,” insert the following:

*“Nutrient Value of Fish during Pregnancy.—*The Committee understands the FDA and EPA issued final advice regarding fish consumption in January 2017 as a follow up to draft advice issued in June 2014. The Committee directs the FDA to incorporate the specific nutrient value of fish consumption in pregnancy on the FDA website “Eating Fish: What Pregnant Women and Parents Should Know.” The information on the nutrient value of fish should focus on the specific benefits of seafood consumption for pregnancy and fetal development. The Committee requests a report within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the FDA’s plan to add information on the nutrient value of fish and to develop a plan to assess the efficacy of this change on women’s dietary choices related to seafood consumption, particularly during pregnancy. This update should be published on the current FDA fish advice website and in other materials developed by the FDA.”

Page 71, strike the paragraph titled “Olive Oil” and insert the following:

*“Olive Oil.—*In H. Rept. 114-531, the Committee directed FDA to sample imported olive oil products for potential adulteration or misbranding and report to Congress. The Committee commends FDA in its response for committing to developing better methods to detect adulteration of olive oil and to increasing monitoring of the marketplace for adulterated olive oil products. However, in FDA’s report to Congress, the agency’s findings were based on a survey of olive oil products conducted in 2014. The Committee directs FDA to update its 2014 survey and report on its findings within 180 days of enactment of this Act.”

Page 74, after the header “Spent Grains,” insert the following:

*“Staffing at Land Ports of Entry.—*The Committee is concerned that USDA, FDA, and Customs and Border Protection are relying on historical data in determining their staffing models at Land Ports of Entry. Recent reports on agricultural imports show steep increases in the future, especially along the Southwest border and South Texas in particular. It is the sense of the Committee that these agencies should be utilizing forward-looking data for their staffing models to ensure we have the appropriate workforce available in the future to inspect and certify this growth in agricultural imports as efficiently, safely, and expeditiously as possible.”

Page 77, under the “Farm Economy” header, insert at the end of the paragraph:

“In addition, FCA is encouraged to review and report back to the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on establishing new procedures for public-private partnerships to support rural community facilities.”

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AMENDMENT TO AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

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OFFERED BY MR. WOMACK OF ARKANSAS

At the end of title VII (before section 759), add the following new section:

1 SEC. 7 . The provisions of sections 202 and 320
2 of H.R. 238, One Hundred Fifteenth Congress (the "Com-
3 modity End-User Relief Act"), as passed by the House
4 of Representatives on January 12, 2017, are hereby en-
5 acted into law.



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AMENDMENT TO AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS**BILL****OFFERED BY MR. NEWHOUSE OF WASHINGTON**

In the first paragraph under the heading "Rural Housing Service-Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account", insert before the period at the end the following: "*Provided*, That section 514(f)(3)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1484(f)(3)(A)) is amended by striking 'United States' and inserting 'United States,' and by inserting before the semicolon the following: ', or a person legally admitted to the United States and authorized to work in agriculture'".

Conforming amendment to Committee report: Add at the appropriate place the following: "*Section 514 Housing.*—The Committee recognizes changes in the agricultural labor market and the effect of these changes on farm housing utilization. However, any changes to eligibility for farm housing must not displace any farm worker who is a United States citizen or a person legally admitted to the United States. Eligibility changes would only apply to situations where housing units are currently unoccupied or underutilized."

