

Contact Us

House Committee on Agriculture
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-2171

Fax: 202-225-0917

Email: AgRepublicanPress@mail.house.gov

You can write your member of Congress by visiting the U.S. House of Representatives [Write Your Representative](#) page.

CONTACT

[Contact Us](#)[Email Sign-Up](#)[Privacy & Site Information](#)

HOUSE RULES

COMMITTEE MEMBER



Frank Lucas
(R-OK)

Committee Chairman



Collin Peterson
(D-MN)

Ranking-Member

- Bob Goodlatte (VA),
Vice Chairman
- Timothy V. Johnson (IL)
- Steve King (IA)
- Randy Neugebauer (TX)
- K. Michael Conaway (TX)
- Jeff Fortenberry (NE)
- Jean Schmidt (OH)
- Glenn Thompson (PA)
- Thomas J. Rooney (FL)
- Marlin Stutzman (IN)
- Bob Gibbs (OH)
- Austin Scott (GA)
- Scott R. Tipton (CO)
- Steve Southerland, II (FL)
- Rick Crawford (AR)
- Martha Roby (AL)
- Tim Huelskamp (KS)
- Scott DesJarlais (TN)
- Renee L. Ellmers (NC)
- Christopher P. Gibson (NY)
- Randy Hultgren (IL)
- Vicky Hartzler (MO)
- Robert T. Schilling (IL)
- Reid J. Ribble (WI)
- Kristi Noem (SD)
- Tim Holden (PA)
- Mike McIntyre (NC)
- Leonard Boswell (IA)
- Joe Baca (CA)
- Dennis Cardoza (CA)
- David Scott (GA)
- Henry Cuellar (TX)
- Jim Costa (CA)
- Timothy J. Walz (MN)
- Kurt Schrader (OR)
- Larry Kissell (NC)
- Bill Owens (NY)
- Chellie Pingree (ME)
- Joe Courtney (CT)
- Peter Welch (VT)
- Marcia L. Fudge (OH)
- Gregorio Sablan (NMI)
- Terri A. Sewell (AL)
- James McGovern (MA)

[Home](#) » [About](#)

Biography



Congressman Frank Lucas is a fifth generation Oklahoman whose family has lived and farmed in Oklahoma for over 100 years. Born on January 6, 1960 in Cheyenne, Oklahoma, Lucas

graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1982 with a degree in Agricultural Economics. He was first elected to the United States House of Representatives in a special election in 1994, and is currently serving his tenth term as a Member of Congress.

Frank proudly represents Oklahoma's Third Congressional District includes all or portions of 32 counties in northern and western Oklahoma, stretching from the Oklahoma panhandle to parts of Tulsa, and from Yukon to Altus in the southwest. It takes up almost half the state's land mass and is one of the largest agricultural regions in the nation. Lucas has been a crusader for the American farmer since being elected to Congress in 1994 as well as working to protect Oklahoma values.

Congressman Lucas serves as the Chairman of the [House Committee on Agriculture](#). In addition, he serves on the [House Committee on Financial Services](#) and the [House Committee on Science, Space and Technology](#). For more information on Frank's committees, please [click here](#).

Frank also serves as a member of the [Republican Whip Team](#). The Republican Whip Team is led by Congressman Kevin McCarthy (CA-22). The representatives who are members of the team serve as leaders in their party and work with the Republican leadership team to ensure every American's voice is heard in Congress.

Prior to his service in the U.S. Congress, Lucas served for five and a half years in the Oklahoma State House of Representatives, where he tirelessly defended the rights of private property owners and focused on promoting agriculture issues.

Frank and his wife Lynda have three children and one grandchild. The Lucas family belongs to the First Baptist Church in Cheyenne.

[Home](#) » [Contact Me](#)

Washington, DC Office



U.S. Capitol Building and Reflecting Pool

Below you can find information for my Washington, DC office. You are welcome to phone or send a message to me through the U.S. Postal Service. Please note that postal mail is the slowest method for contacting me. All postal mail sent to my offices must be scanned for security purposes, which means it will take an additional two weeks for me to receive it. If you prefer, you may contact me by e-mail.

Address

2311 Rayburn HOB

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-5565

Fax: (202) 225-8698

Agriculture Committee Ranking Member Collin C. Peterson, MN-7



Collin Peterson was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the Seventh Congressional District of Minnesota in 1990. His primarily rural and agricultural district reaches from the Canadian border in the north, almost to the Iowa state line in the south; along Minnesota's border with North and South Dakota. Peterson is Ranking Member of the House Committee on Agriculture, which has jurisdiction over a wide range of agriculture and rural development issues, including the Farm Bill, renewable energy, disaster assistance, nutrition, crop insurance, conservation, rural development, international trade, futures market regulation, animal and plant health, agricultural research, bioterrorism, forestry, and others.

Congressman Peterson grew up on a farm near Glyndon, Minnesota and was educated in the local public schools. He graduated from Minnesota State University-Moorhead in 1966 with a double major in Business Administration

and Accounting, and also served in the North Dakota National Guard from 1963 to 1969. Before being elected to the House of Representatives, he was a Certified Public Accountant and small business owner in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, and also served for ten years in the Minnesota State Senate.

In the 1960's, Peterson also found time to play guitar and sing with a band known as "Collin and the Establishment." He is a musician, and in recent years he has performed with Willie Nelson at Farm Aid concerts, jazz legend Lonnie Brooks, with several other Members of Congress at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, and with rock guitarist Jeff "Skunk" Baxter at several Washington, D.C. venues. He is a member of the American Legion's Ninth District Band.

Peterson has organized and played in Congressional rock bands, including The Amendments and the Second Amendments. He and his colleagues have performed at charity events in Washington DC. The Second Amendments also performed for U.S. troops in Germany, Kuwait, Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan and performed at WE Fest in Minnesota and Farm Aid in Illinois. Peterson is a private pilot who often flies his own single-engine plane to get around his large district and visit with his constituency. He also is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys hunting and fishing whenever time permits.

During his public service career, Peterson has been a strong advocate for farmers and small business owners, and a leader on both federal tax policy and conservation issues. He has been a leader on the last three Farm Bills passed by Congress. He is a founding member of the

conservative Democrats' "Blue Dog" Coalition, which continues to be a voice for fiscal responsibility and pragmatic government policies. Peterson is the most senior member of the House Committee on Agriculture and currently serves as its Ranking Member. He previously served as Chairman in the 110th and 111th Congresses and as Ranking Member in the 109th Congress.

Peterson has taken a leading role in Congress promoting biofuels as a homegrown way for America to meet its growing energy needs, and he has introduced legislation to expand biofuel production and use. Peterson's leadership led to the successful passage of the 2008 Farm Bill, which preserved the safety net for farmers while making historic new investments in food, farm and conservation programs that are priorities for all Americans.

CONTACT ME

EMAIL ME

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBE /
UNSUBSCRIBE

DETROIT LAKES DISTRICT OFFICE

MARSHALL DISTRICT OFFICE

MONTEVIDEO DISTRICT OFFICE

RED LAKE FALLS DISTRICT OFFICE

REDWOOD FALLS DISTRICT OFFICE

WILLMAR DISTRICT OFFICE

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE

SCHEDULE A MEETING

MY OFFICES

Washington, DC Office
2211 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2165
Fax: (202) 225-1593

Detroit Lakes District Office
714 Lake Avenue Suite 107
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
Phone: 218-847-5056
Fax: 218-847-5109

Marshall District Office
1420 East College Drive SW/WC
Marshall, MN 56258
Phone: 507-537-2299
Fax: 507-537-2298

Montevideo District Office
100 N. First Street
Montevideo, MN 56265
Phone: 320-235-1061 (Willmar Office)

Red Lake Falls District Office
2603 Wheat Drive
Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
Phone: 218-253-4356
Fax: 218-253-4373

Redwood Falls District Office
230 East 3rd Street
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
Phone: 507-637-2270

Willmar District Office
324 3rd Street, SW, Suite 4
Willmar, MN 56201
Phone: 320-235-1061
Fax: 320-235-2651




SIGN UP

Sign up to receive email updates

your@email.com

[Home](#) » [Contact Me](#)

Washington, DC Office

SHARE   



U.S. Capitol Building and Reflecting Pool

Below you can find information for my Washington, DC office. You are welcome to phone or send a message to me through the U.S. Postal Service. Please note that postal mail is the slowest method for contacting me. All postal mail sent to my offices must be scanned for security purposes, which means it will take an additional two weeks for me to receive it. If you prefer, you may contact me by e-mail.

Staff

- Robin Goracke, Legislative Director
- Chris Iacaruso, Senior Legislative Assistant
- Richard Lee, Legislative Correspondent
- Cherie Slayton, Chief of Staff
- Rebekah Solem, Legislative Assistant
- Natalie Winters, Staff Assistant

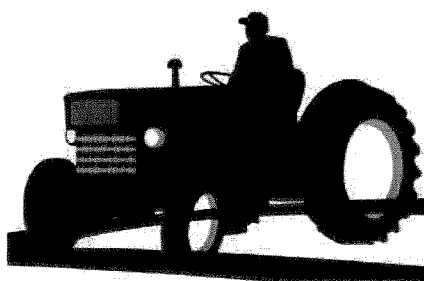


Hours of Operation

M-F 9AM-6PM Eastern

Address

2211 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2165
Fax: (202) 225-1593



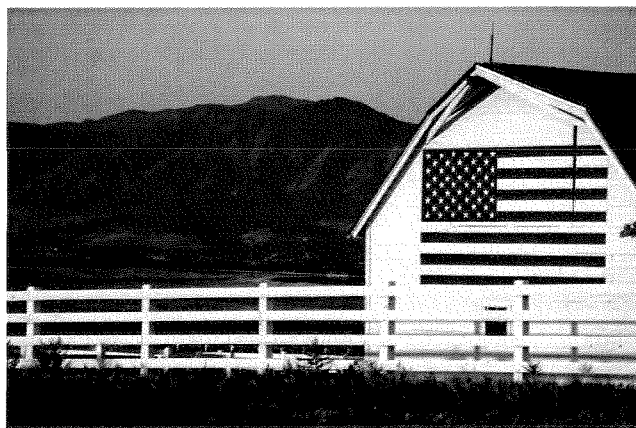
AMERICA'S FARM BILL 2012

What is the Farm Bill?

The Farm Bill goes far beyond America's farms. Every five years, the Farm Bill sets policies that govern a broad array of programs, from crop support to conservation and from food assistance to forestry.

The Farm Bill makes up only about 2% of federal funding, but every American benefits from its provisions. The largest portion of funds are spent on nutrition programs, which make up nearly 80% of Farm Bill spending. The rest of the bill supports America's farmers, ranchers, and consumers through initiatives including commodity programs, agricultural research, trade, and rural development.

The 2008 Farm Bill was divided into 15 titles, and the 12 most relevant are explained below.



Title I—Commodities

Title I provides a safety net for farmers that grow commodity crops, including wheat, corn, soybeans, cotton, rice, peanuts, sugar and dairy. These programs help farmers manage the risks inherent to farming, including volatile weather, natural disasters, and fluctuating prices.

Title II—Conservation

Farmers and ranchers are the stewards of our most valuable natural resources. The Conservation title encourages sustainable practices through voluntary incentive programs that preserve water, land, and soil health.

Title III—Agricultural Trade and Food Aid

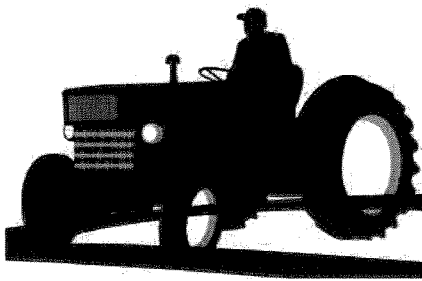
Agricultural exports create opportunities both on and off the farm, supporting about 1 million jobs throughout the economy. Additionally, the U.S. plays a leading role in helping countries facing humanitarian and agricultural crises. Title III covers agricultural export programs as well as international food assistance.

Title IV—Nutrition

The Nutrition title provides nutrition assistance for needy families who, as a result, are not left behind in a difficult economy. An example of this is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP—formerly known as food stamps), and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) .

Title V—Farm Credit

Title V provides direct and guaranteed loans to farmers. This is particularly important for beginning farmers and ranchers, who often have difficulty obtaining the credit necessary to begin a career in production agriculture.



AMERICA'S FARM BILL 2012

Title VI—Rural Development

Rural development programs help communities keep pace with technological, business, and infrastructure improvements. This title funds loan and grant programs to promote vibrant rural communities.

Title VII—Research

Agricultural research helps farmers and ranchers become more efficient, innovative, and productive. Title VII funds research and educational programs that help us produce more while using fewer resources.

Title VIII—Forestry

Forests provide valuable resources, clean drinking water, wildlife habitats, and recreational opportunities for our families. This title includes forestry management programs run by the U.S. Forest Service.

Title IX—Energy

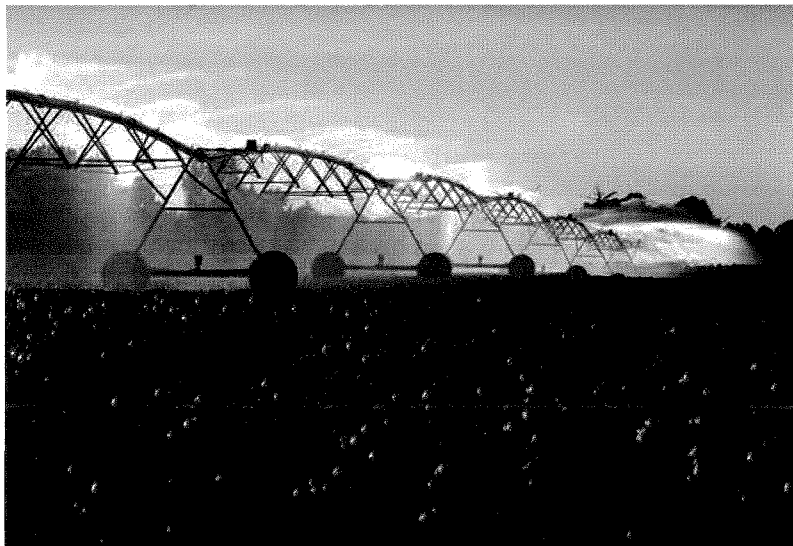
The Energy title supports the development of renewable fuels and helps create jobs and markets in rural America. Title IX contains programs, grants and procurement assistance.

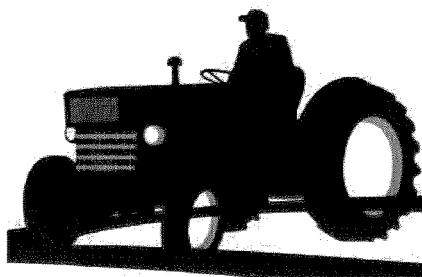
Title X—Horticulture

Title X supports the production of specialty crops including fruits and vegetables through initiatives including market promotion programs and research.

Title XII—Crop Insurance and Disaster Assistance

Crop insurance is one of the most important tools for producers use to hedge against risk. Title XII covers the policies for crop insurance coverage and risk management.





AMERICA'S FARM BILL 2012

Farm Policy Priorities

Did You Know?

Commodity support comprises less than .25% of the federal budget, but it ensures that we maintain the ability to feed our country.

Resources for All Producers

The diversity of American agriculture is one of our greatest strengths. We produce a wide variety of crops that provide food and fiber for the world. But because of that diversity, we can't expect a single program to function effectively for all producers. The Farm Bill must provide a choice of risk management tools that allow everyone a chance to prosper.

"One of the great strengths of rural America in the three previous farm bills I've been a part of is that even though we didn't necessarily agree by region, we didn't necessarily agree by policy group, we came together as producers, as processors, the whole country, to push for some common farm policy."

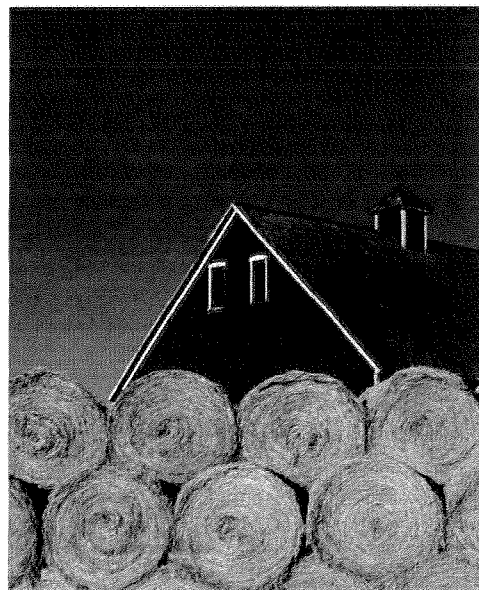
—Chairman Frank D. Lucas

Strong Crop Insurance

Farmers face volatile forces beyond their control every season. When disaster strikes or prices fall, producers can rely on crop insurance to ensure that their losses are not devastating. A strong and efficient crop insurance program helps them manage these risks in a fiscally responsible manner.

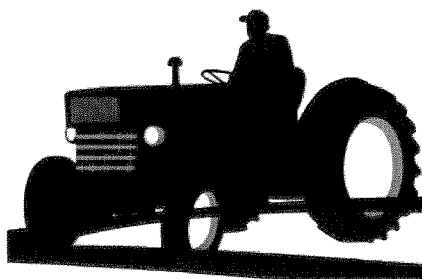
"Commodity support keeps farmers in business, which keeps food on our plates. When I talk to farmers and ranchers, I hear a constant refrain: 'We're not asking for a handout; we just need a floor in place for when the bottom drops out.' That's what crop insurance and Title I programs provide - a floor, a safety net for food production."

—Chairman Frank D. Lucas



Solid Conservation Title

The Farm Bill helps conserve and improve the quality of soil, water, air, wetlands, wildlife, and wildlife habitat. The Farm Bill will improve the efficiency of our conservation programs to continue using highly successful market-based incentives to preserve our resources for the next generation.



AMERICA'S FARM BILL 2012

Evaluating Farm Programs for Better Policy

Committee Audits

- Between June and September, the House Agriculture Committee conducted 11 audits of farm programs
- Each program was evaluated for efficiency and effectiveness
- Members learned how USDA is spending taxpayer dollars and looked for ways of improving service to America's farmers and ranchers
- All told, the Committee collected 19 questionnaires with detailed information on USDA programs and heard 22 separate testimonies from USDA officials
- These audits have given the Committee a wealth of information to draw upon when writing the next Farm Bill



Audit Highlights

"A combination of higher commodity and energy prices is significantly increasing the amount of capital required to finance agricultural production. Crop-related expenses grew 77 percent between 2002 and 2008, and are expected to rise by 9.5 percent in 2011."

—Bruce Nelson, Administrator, Farm Service Agency

"Voluntary, incentive-based conservation works. Reduced tillage is used on 95 percent of the cropland—sediment losses are reduced by an estimated 69 percent as compared to a scenario where full conventional tillage is used...Targeting can greatly enhance program effectiveness. Treating the most critical acres can have 3 to 5 times the effect on sediment and nutrient reduction as compared with treating acres with less serious problems."

—Dave White, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service

"Crop insurance is a vital part of the farm safety net and has become an integral part of business life for a large majority of American farmers and ranchers. They would find it difficult to continue providing the United States and the world with an abundant supply of food, fiber and fuel without the protection provided by this part of the farm safety net. Many lenders now require crop insurance coverage in order to make operating loans to crop and livestock producers, and many producers use crop insurance as collateral for the loans. "

—William J. Murphy, Administrator, Risk Management Agency

U.S. food and agricultural exports increased by \$35 for every dollar invested by government and industry on market development. Additionally, U.S. agricultural exports in 2009 were \$6.1 billion higher than they would have been without the increased investment in market development.

—Suzanne Heinen, Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service

Farm Bill

"The work of the Agriculture Committee, including reauthorizing the Farm Bill in 2012, affects every American; ensuring that our farmers and ranchers have the tools they need to produce an abundant and affordable food and fiber supply is as important to our country as national defense."

- Chairman Frank D. Lucas

Washington, D.C. Farm Bill Hearings

The six Subcommittees will hold the hearings throughout April and May to hear from national agricultural stakeholders advocating for policy priorities. It is the next step in the Farm Bill development.

Rural Development Programs - April 25, 2012

Conservation Programs - April 26, 2012

Dairy Programs - April 26, 2012

Specialty Crop and Nutrition Programs - May 8, 2012

Credit Programs - May 10, 2012

Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance - May 16 & 17, 2012

Energy and Forestry Programs - May 18, 2012

Press Releases:

Ag Committee Moves Forward with Farm Bill Process And Announces DC Hearings

Farm Bill Field Hearings

Chairman Frank Lucas announced a series of field hearings on the 2012 Farm Bill to take place throughout March and April. The hearings will give Committee Members the opportunity to hear firsthand how U.S. farm policy is working for farmers and ranchers in advance of writing legislation.

New York - March 9, 2012

Illinois - March 23, 2012

Arkansas - March 30, 2012

Kansas - April 20, 2012

Farm Bill Feedback

The feedback form is **closed**. The deadline to give feedback on the next Farm Bill was May 20, 2012. Thank you for your comments.

Farm Bill Facts

What is the Farm Bill?

Farm Bill Priorities

Summary: Farm Bill Audits

Farm Bill Audits

Chairman Lucas began the Farm Bill process when the Committee held 11 audit hearings on agriculture programs to look for ways to improve programs for farmers, increase efficiency, and reduce spending.

Summary: Farm Bill Audits

Press Releases:

Chairman Lucas Kicks off the Audit Process

Lucas: Audit Hearings Prep Lawmakers for Future Farm Policy Decisions

Farm Bill Audit Hearing pages:

Crop Insurance

Specialty Crops

Conservation

Foreign Agriculture and Food Aid

Farm Loans

Energy and Forestry

Title IV Nutrition Programs

Title I and the SURE Program

Research Programs

Dairy Programs

Rural Development

2008 Farm Bill

2008 Farm Bill Archives: Information on H.R. 2419: The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008

Committee Schedule

POSTPONED:

Thursday, May 17, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.

1300 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, D.C.

Full Committee on Agriculture – Business Meeting

RE: To consider:

- H.R. 4235, the “Swap Data Repository & Clearinghouse Indemnification Correction Act of 2012”
- H.R. 1838, the “Swaps Bailout Prevention Act”
- H.R. 3283, the “Swap Jurisdiction Certainty Act”

D.C. Farm Bill Hearings

Wednesday, May 16 & Thursday, May 17, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.

1300 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, D.C.

Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management– Public Hearing

RE: Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance

Friday, May 18, 2012 – 9:30 a.m.

1300 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, D.C.

Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry – Public Hearing

RE: Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Energy and Forestry Programs

Hearings | 112th Congress
Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management

Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance

[AUDIO/VIDEO](#) | [TESTIMONY](#) | [PRESS RELEASE](#)

Date and Time

May 16, 2012 | 10:00 AM

Location

1300 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Description

Wednesday, May 16, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.

1300 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management– Public Hearing

RE: Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance

Witness Testimonies

Panel 1

- [Dr. Joe Outlaw](#), Professor and Extension Economist, Department of Agricultural Economics, Co-Director, Agricultural and Food Policy Center, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
- [Dr. Gary Schnitkey](#), Professor, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
- [Dr. Keith Collins](#), Economic Advisor to National Crop Insurance Services, Former USDA Chief Economist, Centreville, Virginia

Panel 2

- [Mr. Chip Bowling](#), Board Member, National Corn Growers Association, Newburg, Maryland
- [Mrs. Linda C. Raun](#), Chairwoman, USA Rice Producer's Group, Partner, LR Farms, El Campo, Texas
- [Mr. Bob Stallman](#), President, American Farm Bureau Federation, Columbus, Texas
- [Mr. Dee Vaughan](#), President, Southwest Council of Agribusiness, Dumas, Texas
- [Mr. Chuck Coley](#), Chairman, National Cotton Council, Vienna, Georgia
- [Mr. Scott Brown](#), President, National Barley Growers Association, Soda Springs, Idaho

Related Content

- Press Release: Ag Subcommittee Highlights the Importance of a Fair and Effective Safety Net
-

Find Similar:

Farm Bill, Crop Insurance, Commodities

Hearings | 112th Congress
Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management

Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance

[AUDIO/VIDEO](#) | [TESTIMONY](#) | [PRESS RELEASE](#)

Date and Time

May 17, 2012 | 10:00 AM

Location

1300 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Description

Thursday, May 17, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.

1300 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management– Public Hearing
RE: Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance

The is the second part of the hearing on Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance.

Witness Testimonies

Panel 3

- [Mr. Erik Younggren](#), President, National Association of Wheat Growers, Hallock, Minnesota
- [Mr. Armond Morris](#), Chairman, Southern Peanut Farmers Federation, Irwinville, Georgia
- [Mr. Roger Johnson](#), President, National Farmers Union, Washington, D.C.
- [Mr. J.B. Stewart](#), Vice Chairman, National Sorghum Producers, Keyes, Oklahoma
- [Mr. Steve Wellman](#), President, American Soybean Association, Syracuse, Nebraska
- [Mr. Jim Thompson](#), Chairman, USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, Farmington, Washington

Panel 4

- [Ms. Ruth Gerdes](#), President, The Auburn Agency Crop Insurance, Inc., Auburn, Nebraska; on behalf of the Crop Insurance Professionals Association
- [Mr. Brian M. McSherry](#), President, McSherry Agency, Inc., Flanagan, Illinois; on behalf of the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America
- [Mr. Tim Weber](#), President, Crop Insurance Division. Great American Insurance Company, Cincinnati, Ohio

Related Content

- Press Release: [Ag Subcommittee Highlights the Importance of a Fair and Effective Safety Net](#)

Business Meetings | 112th Congress

Full Committee

To consider the 2012 Farm Bill - H.R. 6083, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act

AUDIO/VIDEO

Date and Time

July 13, 2012 | 10:00 AM

Location

1300 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Description

Wednesday, July 11, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.

1300 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, D.C.

Committee on Agriculture–Business Meeting

RE: To consider the 2012 Farm Bill- H.R. 6083, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act

H.R. 6083, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management (FARRM) Act

Section by Section

Title I Amendments

Adopted

#71 Boswell Amendment

Failed

#85 Goodlatte Amendment (Roll Call #1)

#23 Goodlatte Amendment (Roll Call #2)

Title II Amendment

Failed

#2 Costa Amendment (Roll Call #3)

Title III Amendment

Adopted

#77 Rooney Amendment

Title IV Amendments

Adopted

#1 Schmidt Amendment

#101 Roby Amendment

#26 Pingree Amendment

#3 Pingree Amendment

#30 Goodlatte Amendment

#33 Conaway Amendment

#62 Johnson Amendment

#75 Neugebauer Amendment

#89 King Amendment (Roll Call #6)

Failed

#21 McGovern Amendment (Roll Call #4)

#88 Schrader Amendment (Roll Call #5)

#40 Huelskamp Amendment (Roll Call #7)

#5 Roby Amendment (Roll Call #8)

Title V Amendments

Adopted

#49 Fudge Amendment

#50 Fudge Amendment

Title VI Amendments

Adopted

[#106 Welch Amendment](#)

[#18 A. Scott Amendment](#)

[#41 Huelskamp Amendment](#)

[#47 Walz Amendment](#)

[#61 Johnson Amendment](#)

[#8 Tipton Amendment](#)

[#48 Schmidt Amendment](#)

[#97 Fortenberry Amendment](#)

Failed

[#29 Sewell Amendment \(Roll Call #9\)](#)

[#12 Gibson Amendment \(Roll Call #10\)](#)

Title VII Amendments

Failed

[#53 Baca Amendment \(Roll Call #11\)](#)

[#63 Schrader Amendment \(Roll Call #12\)](#)

Title VIII Amendments

Adopted

[#17 Thompson Amendment](#)

[#80 Noem Amendment](#)

Title IX Amendment

Adopted

[#20 Noem Amendment](#)

Title X Amendments

Adopted

[#27 Sewell Amendment](#)

[#35 Schmidt Amendment](#)

[#56 Ribble Amendment](#)

[#87 Stutzman Amendment](#)

[#93 Fortenberry Amendment](#)

Failed

[#108 Costa Amendment \(Roll Call #13\)](#)

Title XI Amendments

Adopted

[#16 McIntyre Amendment](#)

[#31 Kissell Amendment](#)

[#60 Cardoza Amendment](#)

[#83 Welch Amendment](#)

Failed

[#6 McIntyre Amendment \(Roll Call #14\)](#)

Title XII Amendments

Adopted

[#32 McGovern Amendment \(Roll Call #19\)](#)

[#34 Conaway Amendment](#)

[#44 King Amendment](#)

[#104 Boswell Amendment \(Amends #44 King Amendment\)](#)

[#45 King Amendment](#)

[#52 Pingree Amendment](#)

[#70 Boswell Amendment](#)

[#72 Neugebauer Amendment](#)

#74 Neugebauer Amendment (Roll Call #16)

#82 Noem Amendment

#84 Welch Amendment (Roll Call #17)

Procedural Motion (Roll Call #15)

Failed

#11 Hartzler Amendment (Roll Call #18)

FINAL PASSAGE - 35-11

Roll Call #20

Find Similar:
Farm Bill

Press Release | 112th Congress



Subcommittee Completes DC Farm Bill Hearing Series with Focus on Energy & Forestry Programs

May 18, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:

Tamara Hinton, 202.225.0184
tamara.hinton@mail.house.gov

WASHINGTON – Today, Rep. Glenn 'GT' Thompson, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee's Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry, wrapped up the third and final hearing series on agricultural programs in advance of writing the next Farm Bill. This series was held on the Subcommittee level and gathered agricultural leaders in Washington to share their policy priorities. Today's hearing focused on energy and forestry programs.

The Agriculture Committee included an energy title for the first time in the 2002 Farm Bill to foster the development of more feedstocks for renewable energy development in rural America. The 2008 Farm Bill created several new programs while expanding existing farm bill programs. The programs in Title IX were designed to promote a transition from corn-based ethanol to other advanced biofuels such as cellulosic ethanol. The two most prominent programs in the energy title are the Biomass Crop Assistance Program and the Rural Energy for America program. There is no budget baseline for the core energy programs beyond the conclusion of the existing Farm Bill.

The forestry title has been a part of farm bills since 1990. The Agriculture Committee shares jurisdiction over forestry matters with the Committee on Natural Resources, which is responsible for forests on public lands. The Agriculture Committee is responsible for forestry in general, as well as Weeks Act National Forests. All forestry programs are permanently authorized. Most of the forestry programs have spending levels set at "such sums as necessary," and are subject to annual appropriations.

"Today's panels provided the subcommittee with critical details on how the current Farm Bill is performing, what areas require improvement, and what recommendations will serve to create a stronger and more efficient law. We aim to craft legislation that will assist the nation in meeting the rising energy demand, and forestry provisions that promote healthier and better managed federal, state, and private forests. The agricultural sector will have to do its part as the nation works to decrease the debt, and I want to thank today's witnesses for assisting the Subcommittee with indentifying areas of program duplication and inefficiency as we draft a Farm Bill that meets the needs of producers and farming communities in each region of the country," said Chairman Glenn 'GT' Thompson (R-PA).

"The 2008 Farm Bill encouraged a move toward advanced biofuels by promoting research, development and demonstration of biomass-based renewable energy. The bill also impacts forestland management, seeking to sustain healthy, diverse and productive forests. Looking ahead

to the next farm bill we need to work together and look for ways to ensure that we can accomplish our energy and forestry goals under the current challenging fiscal environment," said Ranking Member Tim Holden (D-PA).

Written testimony provided by the witnesses is linked below.

Witness List:

Panel I

The Honorable Jim Greenwood, President and CEO, Biotechnology Industry Organization, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Ryan Stroschein, Director, Agriculture Energy Coalition, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Steve Reinford, Owner/Operator, Reinford Farms Inc., Mifflintown, Pennsylvania

Mr. Jerry Taylor, President and Chief Executive Officer, MFA Oil Company, Co-Founder, MFA Oil Biomass LLC, Columbia, Missouri

Mr. Gary Haer, Chairman, National Biodiesel Board, Washington, D.C.

Panel II

Mr. John W. Burke, III, Virginia tree farmer, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, American Forest Foundation, Woodford, Virginia

Mr. C. Randy Dye, State Forester of West Virginia, President, National Association of State Foresters, Charleston, West Virginia

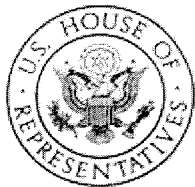
Mr. Charles A. Holmes, Chairman, Forest Resource Policy Group, National Association of Conservation Districts, Demopolis, Alabama

Mr. Richard Schwab, Procurement Manager, M.A. Rigoni, Inc., on behalf of American Loggers Council and Southeastern Wood Producers Association, Perry, Florida

Mr. Michael T. Goergen, Jr., Executive Vice President and CEO, Society of American Foresters, Bethesda, Maryland

###

Press Release | 112th Congress



Lucas & Peterson Release House Farm Bill

July 5, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:

Tamara Hinton, 202.225.0184
tamara.hinton@mail.house.gov

WASHINGTON – Chairman Frank Lucas of Oklahoma and Ranking Member Collin Peterson of Minnesota released a discussion draft of the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act (FARRM) today. FARRM is a bipartisan bill that saves taxpayers billions, reduces the nation's deficit, and repeals outdated policies while reforming, streamlining, and consolidating others. It is the product of a two-year process that examined every single policy under the jurisdiction of the House Committee on Agriculture. The legislation cuts spending, reduces the size of government, and makes common-sense reforms to agricultural policy.

"I'm pleased to release this bipartisan legislation with my friend and colleague Collin Peterson. Our efforts over the past two years have resulted in reform-minded, fiscally responsible policy that is equitable for farmers and ranchers in all regions and will lead to improved program delivery. This bill is an investment in production agriculture and rural America. Those of us in the agriculture community are quick to point out that our producers provide us with the safest, most abundant, most affordable food and fiber supply in the history of the world. We say it because it's true. This legislation is a commitment to maintaining that tradition," said Chairman Frank D. Lucas.

"Congress needs to complete work on the 2012 Farm Bill before the current bill expires, otherwise we jeopardize one of the economic bright spots of our nation's fragile economy. The legislation released today brings us yet another step closer to achieving this goal and I am pleased to have worked with the Chairman in this effort. We have a commodity title in place that will work for all parts of the country as well as continued support for the sugar program and my Dairy Security Act. I have long believed every government program must contribute toward deficit reduction and while I would have found other ways to accomplish the bill's nutrition savings, the bottom line is that, working together, we need to keep this farm bill moving forward. There will be challenges ahead, but we will pass the bill out of Committee next week and, if the House leadership gets this right and brings the bill to the floor, we will ultimately finish the bill in September," said Ranking Member Collin Peterson.

The text of the bill can be found at this [link](#). Some of the [highlights](#) include:

- FARRM saves more than \$35 billion in mandatory funding.
- FARRM repeals or consolidates more than 100 programs.
- FARRM eliminates direct payments, streamlines and reforms commodity policy that saves taxpayers more than \$14 billion.

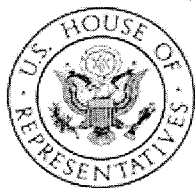
- **FARRM improves program integrity and accountability in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that saves taxpayers more than \$16 billion.**
- **FARRM consolidates 23 conservation programs into 13, which improves program delivery to producers and saves taxpayers more than \$6 billion.**
- **FARRM provides regulatory relief, including H.R. 872, to mitigate burdens farmers, ranchers, and rural communities face.**

The House Agriculture Committee will consider the legislation during a business meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 11. A summary of the legislation can be found at this [link](#).

###

Find Similar:
[Farm Bill](#)

Press Release | 112th Congress



Lucas Highlights New Farm Bill Study

July 9, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:

Tamara Hinton, 202.225.0184

tamara.hinton@mail.house.gov

WASHINGTON – Chairman Frank Lucas of Oklahoma issued the following statement regarding the release of a new study conducted by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center (AFPC) concerning the economic impacts of the House and Senate Farm Bill proposals on representative U.S. crop farms.

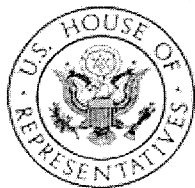
"The House farm bill saves taxpayers \$35 billion, with more than \$14 billion in these savings achieved by reforming U.S. farm policy. What the AFPC study says is that the House managed to save taxpayers money and reduce the deficit while still providing a safety net that farmers can truly depend on in hard times. The biggest take-away from the study is the absolute importance of real price protection in a farm bill. When presented with the various choices, the study reveals that, wherever they farm and whatever they grow, farmers are better off under the risk management option that marries a strong crop insurance policy with a farm bill that focuses on providing real price protection against multiple year price declines. I hope producers and my colleagues in Congress will give a close look at the study's findings."

Click [here](#) to read the full study.

###

Find Similar:
[Farm Bill](#)

Press Release | 112th Congress



House Ag Committee Advances Farm Bill

July 12, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:

Tamara Hinton, 202.225.0184

tamara.hinton@mail.house.gov

WASHINGTON – Chairman Frank Lucas of Oklahoma and Ranking Member Collin Peterson of Minnesota issued the following statements after the House Agriculture Committee approved H.R. 6083, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2012 by a vote of 35-11.

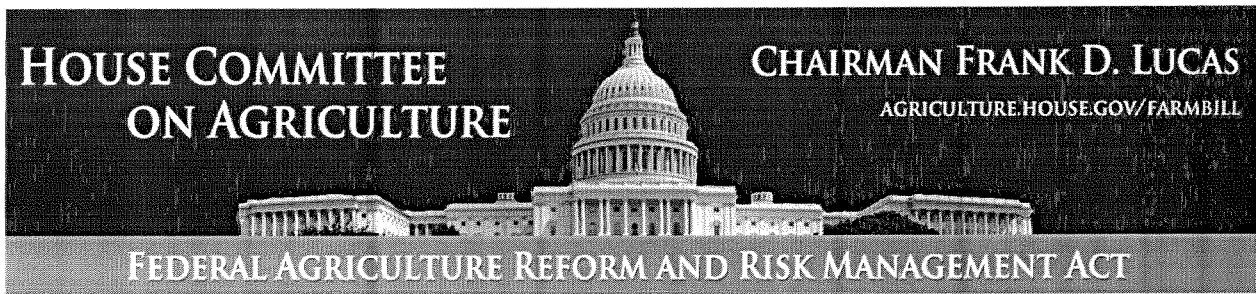
"Today marked an important step forward in the development of the next farm bill. I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues and the bipartisan nature in which this legislation was written and approved. This is a balanced, reform-minded, fiscally responsible bill that underscores our commitment to production agriculture and rural America, achieves real savings, and improves program efficiency, said Chairman Frank Lucas.

"I'm pleased today's markup is behind us and we can continue to move the process forward. The current farm bill expires on September 30 and there only 13 legislative days before the August recess. Simply put, the House leadership needs to bring the farm bill to the floor for a vote. We should not jeopardize the health of our rural economies which, by and large, have remained strong the last few years. Our nation's farmers and ranchers need the certainty of a new five year farm bill and they need it before the current farm bill ends," said Ranking Member Collin Peterson

For more information on FARRM, click [here](#).

###

Find Similar:
[Farm Bill](#)



The Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management (FARRM) Act is a bipartisan bill that saves taxpayers money, reduces the nation's deficit, and repeals outdated policies while reforming, streamlining, and consolidating others. It is the product of a two-year process that included auditing for effectiveness and efficiency every single policy under the jurisdiction of the House Committee on Agriculture. The result is legislation that cuts spending, reduces the size of government, and makes common-sense reforms.

Some of the highlights include:

- FARRM saves more than \$35 billion in mandatory funding.
- FARRM repeals or consolidates more than 100 programs.
- FARRM cuts billions in discretionary spending authority.
- FARRM starts the process of making much-needed reforms to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), saving taxpayers more than \$16 billion.
- FARRM repeals Direct Payments, Countercyclical Payments, ACRE, and SURE, replacing these four programs with a policy that will save taxpayers more than \$14 billion.
- FARRM consolidates 23 conservation programs into 13, improving program delivery to producers and saving taxpayers more than \$6 billion.
- FARRM provides regulatory relief, including H.R. 872, to mitigate burdens placed on our nation's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities.

Title I: Commodities

Repeals Four Current Commodity Programs

Direct Payments, Counter-Cyclical Payments (CCPs), the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program, and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) are repealed, saving \$14 billion.

Streamlines and Reforms Commodity Policy

U.S. agriculture is diverse and dynamic with unique perils and risk management needs that differ by crop and region. A Washington-style command-and-control, one-size-fits-all commodity policy does not respect the diversity of American agriculture.

FARRM appreciates the nature of the private sector and offers producers a choice in risk management tools. It allows a one-time election for producers to choose between two options on a crop-by-crop and farm-by-farm basis. Under either option, the risk management tool provided is only there for producers when they suffer a significant loss.

Price Loss Coverage (PLC) is a risk management tool that addresses deep, multiple-year price declines:

- PLC will complement federal crop insurance, which is not designed to cover multiple-year price declines.
- PLC uses modern yields and an index of below cost of production prices to establish a market-oriented, price-based risk management tool for producers.
- PLC limits budget exposure by only addressing deep, multiple-year price losses, and prevents the need for costly and unbudgeted bailouts when markets collapse.

Revenue Loss Coverage (RLC) is a risk management tool that addresses revenue losses, similar to S. 3240's Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) proposal with key improvements:

- RLC requires a producer to experience at least a 15 percent loss, helping ensure that all risk is not removed from farming and that no growers are guaranteed profits.
- RLC offers coverage based on county-wide losses to ensure that a government program is not set up to duplicate, for free, what farmers should pay for under crop insurance.
- RLC uses yield plugs and an index of below cost-of-production prices as a benchmark in establishing this revenue-based risk management tool for producers.

FARRM provides full planting flexibility to ensure that producers plant for market and agronomic conditions. FARRM's PLC and RLC apply to planted acres up to total base acres on a farm in order to contain costs.

Cotton producers are ineligible for PLC or RLC, but may purchase an area-wide, group-risk crop insurance policy, known generally as STAX.

Marketing Loans

Producers remain eligible for marketing loans under the same repayment terms except in the case of cotton. For cotton, loan rates may be reduced from current levels, consistent with the STAX proposal.

Sugar

Sugar policy is reauthorized to operate at no cost to the taxpayer.

Dairy

FARRM replaces outdated, ineffective subsidy programs with a new, voluntary risk management safety net for dairy producers. Dairy producers will have the option to sign up for the basic margin program, helping them to better manage risk when milk prices and feed costs converge. Producers that sign up for the margin program would then be subject to supply management controls, wherein proceeds of milk sales normally received by the producer would be reduced for the production which exceeds an applicable percentage of their designated base. Funds collected by this program will be used by USDA to purchase surplus dairy products for donations to food banks and other programs.

The two main components of the program will be margin protection and a market stabilization program meant to manage milk supply. The basic margin protection provides a base level of margin protection for 80 percent of production history when the margin falls below \$4.00 for a consecutive two-month period. The producer will also be able to purchase additional supplemental coverage up to an \$8.00 margin. The first 4 million pounds of milk marketed will have a lower premium rate, which will be particularly beneficial to small producers. The supply management program will activate when the margin is below \$6.00 for two consecutive months and reduces producers' payments by 2 to 8 percent depending on market conditions. The program contains a number of market-based triggers to terminate the program when domestic or international markets demand U.S. products.

Summary:

- Saves \$37 million over 10 years, nearly a 10 percent saving from the current baseline;
- Creates one new program: the voluntary risk management, which is tied to a supply management program;
- Reauthorizes 3 programs: (1) Dairy Forward Pricing Program; (2) Dairy Indemnity Program; and (3) Dairy Promotion and Research Program; and
- Eliminates 4 programs: (1) Dairy Product Price Support Program; (2) Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC); (3) Dairy Export Incentive Program; and (4) Federal Milk Marketing Order Review Commission.

Livestock

Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance is reauthorized for livestock producers. Livestock Indemnity Payments (LIP), Livestock Forage Disaster Programs (LFP), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) are all generally reauthorized.

Title II: Conservation

FARRM streamlines and consolidates 23 programs into 13. This not only saves the American taxpayer over \$6 billion, but also improves conservation delivery by simplifying the numerous programs available to producers.

Over the past several farm bills, Congress has taken a piecemeal approach to creating our conservation policies. Since 1985, Congress has addressed natural resource concerns by creating more than 20 farm bill conservation programs; some of which are regional initiatives and many of them have overlapping functions or goals. The 2012 Farm Bill reverses this trend by looking at conservation programs in a more comprehensive way.

The Conservation Title still provides farmers, ranchers, foresters, and landowners with voluntary, incentive-based financial and technical assistance for conservation practices. Through these programs, producers protect and restore water quality and quantity, air quality, wildlife habitat, and meet regulatory requirements while providing a safe, secure, and affordable food supply.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Improves and Focuses the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Maximum enrollment of CRP is gradually reduced to 25 million acres allowing enrollment to focus on the most environmentally sensitive lands and saving American taxpayers close to \$4 billion.

Landowners will be able to better manage their enrolled acres with added flexibility for haying and grazing. Additionally, two million acres are reserved for working grassland contracts.

To ensure that environmental benefits are maintained, expiring acres will receive priority consideration for working grassland contracts and Conservation Stewardship Program contracts, and producers will be given the ability to enter into contracts of working land programs before their CRP contracts expire.

Beginning farmers or ranchers will be afforded greater access to productive land with the continuation of the Transition Incentives Program (TIP).

Working Lands

Supports the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

The House bill prioritizes the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) by maintaining current funding. With the regulatory pressures farmers and ranchers face, it is important to continue this incredibly beneficial cost share program with no cuts. EQIP provides cost share incentives to producers to meet or avoid the need for national, state, or local regulation. EQIP will provide additional incentives for wildlife by absorbing the functions of the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). The program maintains the Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) subprogram to promote new and innovative conservation practices.

Additionally, the program will maintain priorities for beginning farmers or ranchers and socially disadvantaged producers while including for the first time a priority for veteran farmers. Producers under these priorities would also be eligible to cover up to 50 percent of upfront project costs.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

CSP encourages producers to adopt new conservation measures, while maintaining current practices to protect natural resources. Program changes allow more flexibility for local identification of natural resource concerns. Enrollment is limited to 9 million acres per year.

Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program

Owners and operators of private land are able to realize a benefit by creating wildlife habitats and opening their land to hunting and fishing activities. This program is reauthorized for the life of the bill.

Easements

Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

ACEP consolidates existing easement programs into one program for streamlined and flexible administration. Under ACEP, land can be enrolled into an Agriculture Lands Easement to protect working grassland or farmland, or can be enrolled into a Wetlands Easement to protect and enhance water quality and wildlife habitat.

Regional

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

RCPP consolidates four programs into one targeted initiative that leverages USDA funding and resources by partnering with private organizations or working directly with producers to address natural resource concerns. Targeted conservation initiatives are developed on the local level and selected by USDA through a competitive, merit based application process. Additionally, USDA may designate Critical Conservation Areas to target conservation programs in regions under significant regulatory pressure.

Other

Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program

The Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program provides technical and financial assistance for planning, design, and implementation of projects for the purposes of rehabilitate aging watershed dam projects (including upgrading or removing dams) in communities to address flood prevention as well as flood-related health and safety concerns.

Grassroots Source Water Protection Program

This program encourages each state to use technical assistance for the purpose of allowing State rural water associations to address regulatory requirements and promote conservation practices with the intent of protecting and improving the quality the nation's drinking water.

Title III: Trade

The U.S. agricultural industry is highly dependent on exports, with nearly a third of all cash receipts generated from international markets. The bill ensures that our producers are able to capitalize on these opportunities by making strategic investments in programs designed to address foreign barriers to U.S. exports. Increased margins for U.S. farm output translates to greater capital flows back to rural America, supporting farms and their rural communities. The bill also reauthorizes food aid programs with specific changes to administrative provisions to ensure greater transparency and accountability.

Trade Programs

Market Access Program (MAP)

The Market Access Program is reauthorized to provide assistance on a cost-share basis, targeting small businesses, farmer cooperatives, and non-profit trade organizations. Private contributions are estimated at 60 percent of total annual spending on trade promotion and market development.

Foreign Market Development Program (FMD)

The reauthorized FMD program partially reimburses participants for approved overseas trade promotion activities which address long-term foreign market import constraints, and identifying new markets or uses for U.S. commodities. Preference is given to nonprofit U.S. agricultural and trade groups that represent an entire industry.

Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops (TASC)

Specialty crop exports face a variety of non-tariff trade barriers which can close access to key markets without notice. The TASC program is reauthorized, and additional authority is provided to ensure that USDA can respond to technical barriers to trade with resources made available through the program.

Export Credits (GSM-102)

The GSM-102 program is reauthorized and preserves USDA's authority to adjust the length of tenor and the fees required to cover the costs of the program. Export guarantees made available under GSM-102 assist in financing exports of U.S. agricultural commodities in markets where credit might not otherwise be available.

Additional Provisions

Authority is extended for the Emerging Markets Program (EMP) which promotes U.S. exports established in emerging markets and is limited to generic rather than branded products. Also, the Global Crop Diversity Trust, which supports the storage of germplasm in seed banks around the world, is extended.

Food Aid Programs

The U.S. contributes nearly half of all in-kind food aid in the world and is the single largest donor of food aid. The bill reauthorizes food aid and development programs and strengthens monitoring and reporting requirements to ensure transparency and accountability. The bill also

provides resources to build resilience in recipient communities to mitigate and prevent food crises and reduce the future need for emergency aid. The bill reflects the current budget environment and in support of efforts to reduce the federal deficit \$144 million in mandatory spending is not reauthorized.

Food for Peace

The Food for Peace Act is reauthorized to continue providing critical humanitarian and development assistance in developing countries. The bill ensures the timely delivery of food aid through funding for the pre-positioning of commodities. To eliminate price disruptions for local farmers and markets in developing economies through monetization, further clarification on market value and price is given to USDA and USAID.

In recognition of the need to balance the dual roles of food aid, the minimum level of development funding is reauthorized at \$400 million. Cash assistance to support development programs is reduced in recognition of budget constraints. Funding is included for the development and testing of new, fortified food aid products and to ensure the highest standards of food aid quality.

Specific funding for oversight, monitoring and evaluation of Food for Peace programs is continued at \$10 million per fiscal year to ensure proper management of food aid and development programs, including \$8 million for the Famine Early Warning System network. A detailed report describing all efforts taken by the Administrator of USAID for monitoring and evaluation is required for a precise accounting of these funds.

The bill also reauthorizes the Food for Progress program, the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust, and the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program.

Title IV: Nutrition

FARRM makes common-sense reforms, closes program loopholes, and cracks down on waste, fraud, and abuse saving the American taxpayer over \$16 billion. The legislation strengthens program integrity and accountability while better targeting the federal nutrition programs to serve those in need of assistance.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Makes Common Sense Reforms to Program Eligibility

Restricts categorical eligibility, or automatic eligibility, to only those households receiving cash assistance from Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or other state general assistance programs. Ensures all households meet the requirements of SNAP law, including the asset and gross income limits, before they can receive benefits. Receiving a TANF-funded brochure or referral to an “800” number hotline would no longer automatically make a household eligible for SNAP.

Closes Program Loopholes

Closes a loophole in SNAP related to how Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) payments interact with the SNAP benefit calculation. Some states are sending \$1 or \$5 LIHEAP payments to low-income households so they may automatically take advantage of a SNAP deduction and receive a higher amount in SNAP benefits. This legislation stops states from sending nominal LIHEAP payments in order to trigger a deduction for the sole purpose of increasing their SNAP benefits. This provision will not affect any households receiving traditional LIHEAP assistance or any household that can demonstrate a utility cost.

Eliminates State Performance Bonuses

Ends the bonuses USDA awards to states for administering SNAP, and saves taxpayers nearly half a billion dollars without affecting SNAP recipient benefits.

Cracks Down on Waste, Fraud and Abuse

Ends SNAP Benefits for Lottery Winners

SNAP recipients with substantial lottery or gambling winnings will lose benefits immediately after receiving winnings. Winners will be prevented from receiving any benefits if they do not meet the financial requirements of SNAP.

Prevents Traditional College Students from Receiving SNAP

Restricts SNAP eligibility for traditional college students by limiting eligibility to those participating in technical and vocational education programs, trade studies, remedial course work, or basic adult literacy.

Cracks Down on Trafficking

Provides USDA with additional resources to prevent trafficking of SNAP benefits.

Strengthens Program Integrity and Accountability

Improves the Quality of Participating Retail Stores

Requires participating retailers to stock more staple foods like fruits and vegetables and bans stores from participating if they have significant sales of prohibited items like liquor and tobacco. Includes provisions to further monitor and prevent fraud at retail stores, and allows more service options for homebound elderly or disabled SNAP recipients.

Increases Oversight of the Restaurant Meals Program

Requires states and territories to submit a plan to USDA if they are choosing to implement a Restaurant Meals Program to serve homeless, elderly and disabled populations. The plan must demonstrate a need for such a program along with effective control measures.

Improves Accountability of the SNAP Employment and Training Program

Requires states to report on their respective Employment and Training program to provide more accountability of how SNAP participants are gaining skills, training, and work, or experience that leads to employment.

Additional Nutrition Programs

Increases Assistance for Food Banks

Food banks have been successful in effectively utilizing government dollars and securing private sector donations in order to feed hungry Americans. However, local food banks have been struggling to provide enough food to needy families in the current economic climate. Increasing funding for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) will help food banks supplement the diets of low-income individuals.

Supports the Commodity Supplemental Food Program

Continues support for CSFP, and transitions the program to serve only senior citizen populations while allowing the small percentage of women and children currently enrolled in CSFP to continue to receive services until they have exceeded the age of eligibility. This better targets the program to seniors who utilize CSFP the most. Women and children will all continue to be served by the WIC program, which is more suited to their dietary needs.

Gives Seniors and Low-Income Families Access to Farmers Markets

Expands the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program to not only benefit senior citizen populations, but also provides low-income families access to fruits and vegetables through coupons that can be exchanged for eligible foods at farmers' markets and community-supported agriculture programs.

Promotes Fruits and Vegetables to School Children

Continues current funding for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, but maximizes those dollars by allowing elementary schools, with a high proportion of low-income students, to purchase fresh, frozen, canned, and dried produce to make available to students throughout the day. Maintains current funding for the DOD Fresh Program that distributes fresh fruits and vegetables to schools and service institutions; and creates a pilot program to allow up to five states to use their allocation to source local produce.

Continues Food Distribution on Indian Reservations

Reauthorizes funding for the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), which provides food assistance to Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs).

Increases Support for Community Food Projects

Increases support for grants to eligible nonprofit organizations seeking and developing innovative ways to improve community access to healthy foods.

Title V: Credit

FARRM reauthorizes credit programs to meet the growing needs throughout rural America. These programs are contained in the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, including all Farm Service Agency (FSA) loans through 2017 with the following changes.

Promotes Family Farms within Farm Ownership Loans

The House Agriculture Committee recognizes the need to provide flexibility for farm operating loans in response to modern legal entities created for estate succession planning. This flexibility allows the Secretary to permit farmers to obtain farm ownership loans through these modern legal entities.

Increases Loan Guarantee Percentage for Conservation Loan and Loan Guarantee Program

In response to establishing enhanced conservation practices, the House provided additional access to borrowers by increasing the Loan Guarantee Amount from 75 percent to 90 percent.

Improves Maximum Loan Value for Down Payment Loan Program

While maintaining the FSA cap at \$300,000 like all other FSA direct ownership loans, the House increased the maximum loan value from \$500,000 to \$667,000 giving farmers and ranchers the opportunity to afford to purchase land in areas with high real estate values.

Eliminates Mineral Rights Appraisal Requirement

This provision does not eliminate all mineral rights appraisals but instead puts in place the same standards as many certified appraisers. By eliminating this burdensome requirement, FSA will spend less administrative time and money.

Grants New Authority to Waive Personal Liability for Youth Loans

Strictly on a case by case basis this new provision will enable youth who obtained an FSA loan and became delinquent, to not be ineligible for student loans and grants that might prevent them from obtaining higher education.

Enhances Beginning Farmer and Rancher Provisions

In addition to those provisions outlined above, to support beginning farmers and ranchers, reauthorizations along with enhancements to current programs include:

- Reauthorizes the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Individual Development Accounts Pilot Program which authorizes matching-funds for savings accounts to meet farming-related expenses
- Reserves Loan Fund Set-Asides, which is a portion of the guaranteed farm ownership loan and direct operating loan funds, for beginning farmers and ranchers.
- Provides priority for joint financing participation loans and down payment loans within direct farm ownership loans. By providing priority to applicants USDA can maximize the number of borrowers served for a given level of appropriations.
- Removes median farm size limitation by replacing “median” with “average”. This clarification in terms, allows more otherwise qualified applicants to receive beginning farmer ownership loans, while excluding those who already own a substantial piece of land.
- Provides the Secretary with discretion in defining the experience necessary to qualify a beginning farmer or rancher for a farm ownership loan. This modification ensures that otherwise qualified farmers are not excluded from the program.

Maintains State Agricultural Mediation Programs

Extension of this program further enables agriculture and USDA-related disputes to be resolved.

Provides Flexibility for Loans to Purchasers of Highly Fractionated Land

To reinforce the elimination of barriers for an effective loan program, flexibility has been given to FSA to develop a program to meet the needs of Indian Tribes. This program, as currently authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, prescribes a complex process for sales of highly fractionated Indian land.

Title VI: Rural Development

FARRM reauthorizes the core loan and grant programs while eliminating duplicative or wasteful authorities. Fourteen programs are eliminated and funding levels are reduced by more than \$1.5 billion over five years, a 50 percent reduction in authorizations. This authorized level of funding ensures that available appropriations can be focused on the programs that have the greatest impact on rural communities. In addition, \$100 million in mandatory money is not reauthorized.

Additional provisions are included to ensure USDA tracks the success of these investments and the information can be used to improve future program rules. The bill also requires USDA to develop simplified application forms wherever practical for rural development programs to reduce administrative burdens and make the programs more accessible to small, rural communities.

Rural development programs are intended to assist communities through loans and grants to build critical infrastructure and provide access to credit. Through these programs small, rural communities can access funds to build or update water systems, build broadband infrastructure, and finance other critical community facilities. Small businesses are able to access credit through loans, grants, and loan guarantees to finance new enterprises or expand their current business.

Supports Water and Wastewater Programs

Programs, which assist rural communities in addressing critical water and wastewater, needs are reauthorized, including assistance through loans and grants for municipal systems and household wells. Resources for technical assistance are provided to help communities focus on core needs and plan the appropriate remedies. Programs include the Water, Waste Disposal and Wastewater Facility Grants, the Circuit Rider Program, Imminent Community Water Assistance Grants, and grants to finance individual wells.

Supports Business Loans and Grants

Several key programs are reauthorized which provide either grants, loans, or a combination of both to small businesses. Two distinct relending programs are reauthorized to assist small businesses start or expand their operations. The Intermediary Relending Program provides access to credit for loans up to \$250,000 in medium or small towns. The Rural Micro-entrepreneur Assistance Program provides small loans of \$50,000 or less to re-lending organizations to assist small businesses with fewer than 10 employees.

Rural Cooperative Development Grants are extended to assist in the development of new cooperatives and improve the operations of existing cooperatives. Value-Added Producer grants are reauthorized with \$50 million in mandatory funding. These grants benefit producers and cooperatives that process agricultural commodities to capture increased margins directly. Priority is given to beginning farmers and ranchers under this program.

Funding set aside for locally and regionally produced agricultural food products is capped at 7 percent of the program, ensuring that other viable business ventures can compete for scarce funding under the Business and Industry Loan Program.

Broadband Infrastructure

The Broadband Loan Program is reauthorized to provide access to broadband service in rural America. Specific provisions are added to increase transparency in the program to ensure investments focus on areas without broadband service. Additional emphasis is placed on projects which will serve both businesses and homes to maximize the economic impact of each project.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program is also reauthorized to provide funding for schools and hospitals. These projects allow small communities to access education and health services which would otherwise not be available.

Community Facilities

The bill reauthorizes several essential community facilities loans and grants which provide direct assistance to small, rural communities. These funds are made available to develop essential public facilities such as hospitals, fire stations, public safety services, and specific infrastructure projects.

Regional Authorities

The Northern Great Plains and the Delta Regional Authorities are both reauthorized. These regional commissions are intended to coordinate investments across several states including business, infrastructure, and education ventures.

Rural Transportation

The bill requires USDA to update a previous study on rural transportation issues to provide policy makers with current data on the state of transportation systems which move commodities and processed goods throughout rural America.

Title VII: Research, Extension and Related Programs

FARRM continues and enhances critical research ideas while leveraging public and private dollars. The legislation acknowledges the economic hardship facing our nation. Key elements of the legislation include:

- Repeals authority for non-competitive grants under numerous grant programs

- Extends the authorization of appropriations for 47 research, extension, and education programs
- Repeals 77 research and extension programs and reports
- Eliminates five additional research and extension programs that have or will expire
- Reduces or eliminates authorized funding levels by \$500 million.
- Reduces direct spending under this title by \$83 million over five years.
- Replaces 12 “such sums as necessary” authorization limits and includes levels consistent with actual appropriations.

Past support for agricultural research and education has resulted in Americans enjoying the most abundant, safest, and most affordable food supply in the world. Agricultural research typically provides a return of 30 to 60 percent on federal investment.

Although agricultural research and extension have been highly successful, many food and agricultural challenges continue to face our nation’s producers, processors, and consumers. As the United States becomes more dependent on the global economy, it is imperative to address issues of productivity to meet increasing world demands and competitiveness to assure a higher percentage of market share. Domestically other critical social, economic and natural resource issues must also be solved.

Intramural research programs

This title extends authority for intramural research programs carried out by the Agricultural Research Service; Economic Research Service, National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Forest Service.

Extramural research programs

Authority for extramural research grants and formula funds programs administered by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture are extended.

Land Grant Universities

University research for agricultural activities is reauthorized for 1862, 1890 and 1994 Land grant colleges and universities.

Capacity Grants for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA)

Competitive grants to NLGCA institutions are reauthorized in order to maintain and expand research and outreach in regards to agriculture, renewable resources and production practices.

National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board

The NAREEE advisory board is reauthorized while enhancing the involvement of other agricultural industry interests in the consultation of agricultural priorities.

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

AFRI continues critical agriculture research by providing competitive grants through integrated research and extension activities.

Increased transparency for Budget Submission

Enhances accountability and transparency of USDA administered research, extension and education funding by mandating that the annual Presidential Budget Submission include sufficient information for the Congress to thoroughly evaluate and approve future spending plans. With regard to extramural competitive grant programs, USDA will be barred from obligating appropriated funds unless a comprehensive spending plan is submitted with the President's budget and approved by Congress.

Addresses the shortage of veterinarians

Included in this legislation is the Veterinarian Services Investment Act. Similar pieces of legislation have been introduced in the House and Senate including: S.855, H.R. 1297, H.R. 1442, H.R. 1469, H.R. 1551, S. 721, and S. 724. This act requires an entity to develop programs to relieve shortages, support private practices, and support those practices that successfully complete a specified service requirement. This bill, which has previously passed the House of Representatives, is the only new authorization in this title.

Specified initiatives

This bill would reauthorize commodity specific research programs such as Specialty Crop Research Initiative, Organic Research and Extension Initiative, Sustainable Agriculture Research and Extension, and the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program.

Title VIII: Forestry

FARRM promotes the health of America's national, state, and private forests while eliminating five expired programs. The forestry title also places caps on the authorization levels of several existing programs.

Continuing Forest Conservation Programs

The Forest Legacy Program and the Community Open Space Program, which help preserve forested lands facing conversion to other uses, are continued with reduced authorization levels. The Healthy Forest Reserve Program, which helps landowners promote habitat for wildlife, is reauthorized.

Combating Invasive Species and Natural Disasters

The forestry title contains authority for the Forest Service to accelerate its treatment of national forests affected by pine bark beetle infestation and natural disasters. This authority streamlines the approval process for the Forest Service in selecting afflicted areas that need treatment within our national forests.

Protecting Forest Jobs

The forestry title reauthorizes the Office of International Forestry, which is designed to help facilitate the development of foreign markets for domestically produced wood products. The strategic plan for the Forest Inventory is updated to reflect the needs of rural communities across America. The Rural Revitalization Technologies program is reauthorized in order to provide grants and technical assistance to forested rural communities.

Improving Forest Health

The Forest Stewardship Contracting program is extended for an additional four years, allowing the Forest Service to engage in needed restoration work on our national forests. The Agriculture Conservation Experienced program is amended to allow the Forest Service to hire retired employees to assist the agency in forest stewardship projects.

Title IX: Energy

FARRM helps diversify our nation's energy supply and creates new economic opportunities in rural America by promoting the development of advanced biofuels and renewable energy.

The title eliminates mandatory funding and reauthorizes programs at reduced discretionary funding levels that will save taxpayers more than \$500 million. FARRM streamlines current programs, enhances program integrity, and repeals five programs that have outlived their usefulness.

Rural Energy for America (REAP)

REAP provides financial assistance to farmers and ranchers or small rural businesses for renewable energy systems such as anaerobic digesters, solar or wind projects, and energy efficiency measures; as well as grants for energy audits.

The title creates a tiered, streamlined, and efficient application process for farmers and rural businesses applying for smaller or less costly projects to install renewable or energy efficient systems. In an effort to target funding, the authority for feasibility studies is eliminated and a new definition for renewable energy systems is created to clarify congressional intent by eliminating funding for ethanol blender pumps.

Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)

BCAP was created to assist landowners in the establishment of dedicated energy crops. The title prioritizes funding for the establishment of dedicated energy crops by eliminating controversial Collection, Harvest, Storage, and Transportation (CHST) payments.

Biorefinery Assistance Program (BAP)

BAP provides loan guarantees for the construction or retrofitting of biorefineries that will enable the commercial-scale production of advanced biofuels. The provision eliminates grant authority for demonstration facilities.

Biobased Markets Program

Amends the definition of "biobased product" to include a definition of "forest product" for USDA's BioPreferred Program. This definition allows certain domestic forest products with mature markets to be eligible under federal procurement guidelines for renewable products. Materials eligible under this amended definition would include items such as pulp, paper, and wood pellets.

Biodiesel Fuel Education Program

The Biodiesel Fuel Education Program provides competitive grants to non-profit entities to provide information and outreach on the benefits of biodiesel fuel use.

Additionally, the title reauthorizes the Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels, the Biomass Research and Development Program, the Feedstock Flexibility Program, and the Community Wood Energy Program;

Repeals or ends authorizations of the Repowering Assistance Program, the Biofuels Infrastructure Study, and the Renewable Fertilizer Study, the Rural Energy Self-sufficiency Initiative, and the Forest Biomass for Energy Programs.

Title X: Horticulture

The Horticulture Title continues and expands popular and successful programs that recognize the diversity of U.S. specialty crops and organic agriculture, including fruits, vegetables, nuts, horticulture, and nursery crops.

Supports Farmers Markets and Local Economies

The Farmers Market Promotion Program increases funding for competitive grants to improve and expand direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities including the development of local food system infrastructure.

Continues the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

FARRM increases funding for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, which has been successful in enhancing the competitiveness of specialty crops through grants awarded to states to support research, product quality enhancement, food safety, and other projects important to the specialty crop industry.

Combats Pest and Disease By Focusing on Early Detections

FARRM consolidates and increases funding for two very effective programs, the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program and the National Clean Plant Network. Detecting and responding to a plant pest or disease in the early stages of an introduction is a significant cost savings for taxpayers, and can help minimize the potentially devastating impact on agriculture.

Supports Organic Agriculture

This legislation reauthorizes two important programs supporting the organic industry, the Organic Production and Market Data Initiatives Program and the National Organic Program, as well as enhances investigation and enforcement tools. The National Organic Program receives an increase in funding to better support its regulatory functions in ensuring consumers are presented with consistent, uniform standards.

Regulatory Relief & Certainty

The bill includes several provisions that provide relief from some of the most onerous regulatory pressures plaguing our nation's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. All of these measures provide no additional cost to taxpayers, but provide significant benefits in job creation and regulatory certainty.

Includes H.R. 872, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act

The Horticulture title includes H.R. 872, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act, which eliminates a costly and duplicative permitting requirement for pesticide applications.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a comprehensive regulatory program in place under the authority of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), but an erroneous judicial decision has resulted in the EPA requiring additional permits under the Clean Water Act (CWA) even though this duplicative mandate imposes significant public health risks and provides no quantifiable environmental benefit. H.R. 872, which was drafted with the technical assistance of the EPA, passed the House of Representatives with a bipartisan vote of 292 – 130 on March 31, 2011.

Biological Opinions

The bill would impose a temporary stay on the EPA from initiating a modification or cancellation of a pesticide registration based on the Biological Opinions of the National Marine Fisheries Service or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (hereinafter referred to as “the Services”) until an unbiased, external scientific, peer review of these Biological Opinions can be conducted and the scientific questions challenging the validity of these consultations can be resolved.

This is the result of extensive bipartisan oversight carried out between the House Agriculture Committee, Natural Resources Committee and Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies in response to litigation challenging EPA registrations of pesticides wherein the agency had not formally consulted with the Services'. Courts have ordered these consultations to proceed under an expedited schedule that precludes scientific credibility and transparency. The results of these consultations to date are Biological Opinions of the Services' for which the EPA has testified are scientifically suspect. Despite the lack of agreement on the underlying scientific methods and data employed by the Services', current lawsuits are aimed at compelling the EPA to implement these Biological Opinions. This would circumvent the desire that EPA's process and final decision on pesticide registrations be scientifically valid and technologically feasible.

Biotechnology Regulatory Streamlining

The bill includes a provision reiterating that the sole and exclusive authority of the Secretary to regulate products of biotechnology under the Plant Protection Act is to be limited to the evaluation of plant pest risk while authorizing the conduct of a targeted and transparent environmental review to facilitate public understanding and scientific discourse.

Under the Plant Protection Act, the Secretary is authorized to regulate the introduction and cultivation of products of biotechnology if the product poses a plant pest risk. When a petition

for non-regulated status is received a comprehensive plant pest risk assessment is conducted. Once it is determined that the product poses no plant pest risk, the authority to regulate the product under the Plant Protection Act ceases and a final decision is made to deregulate the product. Recent petitions for deregulation have taken several years, though the actual review takes only weeks and USDA regulation provides for a maximum limit of 180 days.

The current framework of the Plant Protection Act which is intended to ensure the safety of biotechnology crop reviews has been impeded by numerous procedural lawsuits. Many of these lawsuits have been proven to include frivolous claims and have been based on extraneous statutes that conflict with USDA's statutory mandate to regulate based on plant pest risk. These challenges have strained the limited resources of the Department, imposed millions of dollars in unnecessary costs on taxpayers and hundreds of millions of dollars in lost opportunity costs on our national economy, and endangered the United States' leadership role in this new and beneficial field of science.

Agricultural biotechnology is an evolutionary technology with revolutionary potential to feed an ever-increasing world population, while enhancing environmental stewardship. This provision will ensure that the transparent, comprehensive and scientifically-based review of these products occurs in a timeframe that facilitates continued innovation and adaptation of new tools to meet the challenges of food security.

Pesticide Registration Improvement Act Reauthorization

The bill includes the third reauthorization of the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act. This legislative proposal represents a multi-year effort by pesticide manufacturers, non-governmental organizations and the Environmental Protection Agency to negotiate the content of legislation, which would provide additional resources for the Environmental Protection Agency's registration activities and provide a more predictable service for pesticide registrants.

Title XI: Crop Insurance

Crop Insurance is the cornerstone of risk management for most farmers. FARRM recognizes the \$12 billion in cuts that crop insurance has already contributed toward deficit reduction over the past five years and the increased importance of crop insurance given a 23 percent reduction in the commodity title. FARRM does no harm to crop insurance, as farmers requested, and instead makes improvements to better serve all producers of all crops in all regions.

Supplemental Coverage Option

FARRM authorizes producers to purchase the Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO), an area-wide group-risk policy, designed to address a portion of losses not covered by individual crop insurance policies.

Enhanced Risk Management for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

For the initial five years of production, beginning farmers and ranchers will benefit from a 10 percentage point crop insurance premium reduction and will see improved production histories where natural disasters have depressed current Actual Production History (APH) yields.

Expands Risk Management for Specialty Crops and Underserved Commodities

FARRM provides authority for the development of improved risk management tools for underserved crops and regions.

Improved Actual Production History in the Event of Multiple Year Disasters

FARRM addresses problems with declining Actual Production History (APH) yields due to multiple year disasters by providing a transitional yield that reflects a producer's production capability on that land.

Increased Flexibility

FARRM authorizes continuation of insuring by Enterprise Units as provided under the 2008 Farm Bill, with improvements.

Program Integrity

FARRM requires that the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) share information and encourages correction of errors in order to ensure accuracy of reported information.

Title XII- Miscellaneous

Animal health and livestock industry promotion

Subtitle A of Title XII includes the reauthorization of several programs that help promote the livestock industry, as well as improve animal health.

National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC)

The bill reauthorizes the NSIIC through 2017. The Center was created to assist our sheep and goat producers by strengthening and enhancing the production and marketing of sheep, goats, and their products.

Trichinae Certification Program

The bill reauthorizes the Trichinae Certification Program through 2017. The program is a pre-harvest pork safety program that uses management practices to minimize the risk of exposure of swine to the parasite *Trichinella spiralis*.

National Aquatic Animal Health Plan

The bill reauthorizes the National Animal Health Plan through 2017. The authority allows the Secretary to enter into cooperative agreements for the purposes of detecting, controlling, or eradicating diseases in aquaculture species.

Sec. 1. Short Title; Table of Contents

Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary of Agriculture

TITLE I—COMMODITIES

SUBTITLE A—REPEALS AND REFORMS

Sec. 1101. Repeal of Direct Payments

Section 1101 repeals direct payments effective with the 2013 crop year.

Sec. 1102. Repeal of Counter-Cyclical Payments

Section 1102 repeals the counter-cyclical payments effective with the 2013 crop year.

Sec. 1103. Repeal of Average Crop Revenue Election Program

Section 1103 repeals the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program effective with the 2013 crop year.

Sec. 1104. Definitions

Section 1104 contains majority and all common definitions for the Title.

Sec. 1105. Base Acres

Section 1105 continues the Secretary's authority to provide for adjustments to base acres for covered commodities and cotton when a CRP contract is terminated, acres are released from the CRP or when the Secretary designates additional oilseeds in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1106. Payment Yields

Section 1106 continues the Secretary's authority to establish payment yields for each farm for any designated oilseed that does not have a payment yield. If no payment yield is otherwise established for a covered commodity, the Secretary shall establish an appropriate payment yield using the program payment yields of similarly situated farms. In time for the 2013 crop year, the owner of the farm can update the payment yields of each covered commodity once.

Sec. 1107. Farm Risk Management Election

Section 1107 states that producers with more than 10 planted acres of covered commodities may elect Price Loss Coverage or Revenue Loss Coverage.

Producers are eligible for a price loss coverage payment for covered commodities for the 2013-2017 crop years when the effective price for a covered commodity is less than the reference price for the covered commodities. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price for a covered commodity for the first 5 months of the marketing year (the midseason price) and the national average marketing loan rate established in subtitle B. The reference prices are set in §1104(16). If a payment is required, the payment will be the difference between the reference price and the effective price multiplied by the payment yield (defined in §1104(12)) and the payment acres (defined in §1104(11)). The Secretary shall make price loss coverage payments on October 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter, after the applicable marketing year for the covered commodity.

As alternative to price loss coverage, a farmer can make a one-time, irrevocable election on a crop by crop, farm by farm basis to receive revenue loss coverage. Farmers will receive revenue loss coverage payments for the 2013-2017 crop years when the actual county revenue for a covered commodity in a crop year is less than the county revenue loss trigger for the covered commodity.

The actual farm revenue is the product of multiplying the actual county yield for each planted acre of the covered commodity and the higher the first 5 months of the marketing year (the midseason price) or the national average marketing loan rate established in subtitle B. The county revenue loss coverage trigger for a covered commodity is 85 percent of the benchmark county revenue.

The benchmark county revenue is the average historical county yield of a covered commodity in a county for the most recent 5 years, excluding the highest and the lowest, subject to the average national marketing year price. In calculating the benchmark county revenue the Secretary shall use the higher of the historical county yield or 70 percent of the historical county transitional yield. For price the Secretary shall use the higher of the national marketing year average price or the reference price (set in §1104(16)).

If payments are required the payment amount is the difference between the revenue loss county trigger and the actual crop revenue multiplied by the payment acres. Coverage is limited to not more than 10 percent of the benchmark county revenue multiplied by the payment acres. Payments are to be made on October 1 or as soon as practicable thereafter, after the applicable marketing year for the covered commodity.

Sec. 1108. Producer Agreements

Section 1108 states that before a producer of a covered commodity can receive a payment under section 1107 he or she must comply with sod buster provisions in subtitle B of title XII of the '85 act, and the swampbuster provisions of subtitle C of the title XII of the '85 act, keep the land in agriculture or conserving use, and effectively control noxious weeds.

If a producer sells or otherwise transfers his farm to someone else, the new owner or operator must assume all of the compliance obligations or the right to either the price loss coverage payment or the revenue loss coverage payment is terminated.

The producer is still required to submit to the Secretary acreage reports. Accidental errors in the reports will not result in loss of payment.

The Secretary shall provide adequate safeguards to protect the interest of tenants and sharecroppers and for sharing the payments among the producers on a farm on a fair and equitable basis.

Sec. 1109. Period of Effectiveness

Section 1109 sets 2013-2017 as the period of effectiveness for this subtitle.

SUBTITLE B—MARKETING LOANS

Sec. 1201. Availability of Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance Loans for Loan Commodities

Section 1201 authorizes nonrecourse loans for loan commodities for 2013-2017 crop years in the same manner as current law. It also includes a requirement that producers comply with certain conservation requirements.

Sec. 1202. Loan Rates for Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance Loans

Section 1202 continues current law establishing loan rates for commodities, except for an adjustment to upland cotton, as follows for the 2013-2017 crop years:

- Wheat, \$2.94 (same as current law)
- Corn, \$1.95 (same as current law)
- Grain Sorghum, \$1.95 (same as current law)
- Barley, \$1.95 (same as current law, though now using the all barley price)
- Oats, \$1.39 (same as current law)
- Upland Cotton, for the 2013 and each subsequent crop year, the simple average of the adjusted prevailing world price for the 2 immediately preceding marketing years, but in no case less than \$0.47 per pound or more than \$0.52 per pound.
- Extra long staple cotton, \$0.7977 (same as current law)
- Long grain rice, \$6.50 (same as current law)
- Medium/short grain rice, \$6.50 (same as current law)
- Soybeans, \$5.00 (same as current law)
- Other oilseeds, \$10.09 (same as current law)
- Dry Peas, \$5.40 (same as same as current law)
- Lentils, \$11.28 (same as current law)
- Small Chickpeas, \$7.43 (same as current law)
- Large Chickpeas, \$11.28 per hundredweight (same as current law)
- Peanuts, \$355 per ton (same as current law)
- Graded wool, \$1.15 (same as current law)
- Non-graded wool, \$0.40 (same as current law)
- Honey, \$0.69 (same as current law)
- Mohair, \$4.20 (same as current law)

Sec. 1203. Term of Loans

Section 1203 continues the provisions of the current law on the terms of loans: 9 months; no extensions.

Sec. 1204. Repayment of Loans

Section 1204 requires the repayment of marketing assistance loans in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1205. Loan Deficiency Payments

Section 1205 authorizes loan deficiency payments for 2013-2017 crop years under same conditions as 2002 Farm Bill.

Sec. 1206. Payments In Lieu of Loan Deficiency Payments for Grazed Acreage

Section 1206 Continues the authorization for payments in lieu of LDPs for producers who have grazed acreage for the 2013-2017 crop years under in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1207. Special Marketing Loan Provisions for Upland Cotton

Section 1207 continues the authorization for the President to issue special import quota for the 2013-2017 crop year in the same manner as current law using only official USDA data.

Sec. 1208. Special Competitive Provisions for Extra Long Staple Cotton

Section 1208 continues the authorization through July 31, 2013 of the special competitive provisions for extra long staple cotton in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1209. Availability of Recourse Loans for High Moisture Feed Grains and Seed Cotton

Section 1209 continues the authorization for recourse loans for these crops for the 2013-2017 crop years in same manner as current law.

Sec. 1210. Adjustment of Loans

Section 1210 authorizes the Secretary to adjust loan rates.

SUBTITLE C—SUGAR

Sec. 1301. Sugar Program

Section 1301 reauthorizes the sugar program requiring the Secretary to administer the program in the same manner as current law.

SUBTITLE D—DAIRY

PART I—DAIRY PRODUCER MARGIN PROTECTION AND DAIRY MARKET STABILIZATION PROGRAMS

Sec. 1401. Definitions

Section 1401 defines the terms used in the Dairy Producer Margin Protection and Dairy Market Stabilization Programs, including that a “participating dairy producer” is a dairy producer that registers for the dairy producer margin protection program, and, as a result of the registration, also participates in the dairy market stabilization program.

Sec. 1402. Calculation of Average Feed Cost and Actual Dairy Producer Margins

Section 1402 establishes that the average feed cost be calculated each month using the price of corn, the price of soybean meal in central Illinois, and the price of alfalfa hay, as reported by the Secretary.

For use in the margin protection program, directs the Secretary to calculate the actual dairy producer margin for each consecutive 2 month period by subtracting the average feed cost from the all-milk price for that period.

For use in the stabilization program, directs the Secretary to calculate the actual dairy producer margin for each preceding month by subtracting the average feed cost from the all-milk price for that period.

SUBPART A—DAIRY PRODUCER MARGIN PROTECTION PROGRAM

Sec. 1411. Establishment of Dairy Producer Margin Protection Program

Section 1411 directs the Secretary to establish a dairy producer margin protection program by providing basic margin protection payments when margins are less than a \$4 threshold level, and providing supplemental margin protection up to an \$8 margin if purchased by the producer.

Sec. 1412. Participation of Dairy Producers in Margin Protection Program

Section 1412 establishes that all dairy producers in the United States are eligible to participate in and sign-up for the margin protection program to receive basic margin protection, and, if the producer so chooses, to purchase supplemental margin protection.

Sec. 1413. Production History of Participating Dairy Producers

Section 1413 establishes the production history of producers.

Sec. 1414. Basic Margin Protection

Section 1414 establishes a basic margin protection program under which participating dairy producers receive a basic margin protection payment when the average actual dairy producer margin falls below \$4.00 for a consecutive two-month period.

Sec. 1415. Supplemental Margin Protection

Section 1415 establishes that a dairy producer may purchase supplemental margin protection on a yearly basis to protect a higher level of income than under the basic margin program.

Sec. 1416. Effect of Failure to Pay Administrative Fees and Premiums

Section 1416 mandates that a dairy producer, who elects to participate in the basic or supplemental margin protection programs and fails to pay the required administrative fees or premiums, may not receive basic or supplemental margin protection payments and remains legally obligated to pay such fees or premiums.

SUBPART B—DAIRY MARKET STABILIZATION PROGRAM

Sec. 1431. Establishment of Dairy Market Stabilization Program

Section 1431 establishes a dairy market stabilization program which is triggered when the actual dairy producer margin has been \$6 or less per hundredweight of milk for the immediately preceding 2 months or \$4 or less for the immediately preceding month. If the stabilization program is triggered, the Secretary will order reduced payments for the participating producer that exceeds the applicable percentage of the producer's stabilization base.

Sec. 1432. Threshold for Implementation and Reduction in Dairy Producer Payments

Section 1432 requires the Secretary to announce that the stabilization program is in effect and payment reductions are required.

Sec. 1433. Producer Milk Marketing Information

Section 1433 requires the Secretary to establish a process to collect the necessary information while the stabilization program is in effect.

Sec. 1434. Calculation and Collection of Reduced Dairy Producer Payments

Section 1434 requires handlers to reduce payments to participating dairy producers during any month in which payment reductions are in effect.

Sec. 1435. Remitting Monies to the Secretary and Use of Monies

Section 1435 requires handlers to remit to the Secretary an amount equal to reduced producer payments.

Sec. 1436. Suspension of Reduced Payment Requirement

Section 1436 lists the thresholds at which the Secretary will suspend the stabilization program.

Sec. 1437. Enforcement

Section 1437 makes it unlawful for any person subject to the stabilization program to not provide or to delay the reporting of accurate information and remittance of funds to the Secretary.

Sec. 1438. Audit Requirements

Section 1438 is the audit requirements for the stabilization program.

SUBPART C—COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Sec. 1451. Use of Commodity Credit Corporation

Section 1451 requires the Secretary to use the funds and facilities of the CCC to carry out the program.

SUBPART D—INITIATION AND DURATION

Sec. 1461. Rulemaking

Section 1461 exempts the programs from the Administrative Procedures Act and the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Sec. 1462. Duration

Section 1462 terminates the margin protection program and the stabilization program on December 31, 2017.

PART II—REPEAL OR REAUTHORIZATION OF OTHER DAIRY-RELATED PROVISIONS

Sec. 1481. Repeal of Dairy Product Price Support and Milk Income Loss Contract Programs

Section 1481 repeals the dairy price support and milk income loss programs.

Sec. 1482. Repeal of Dairy Export Incentive Program

Section 1482 repeals the dairy export incentive program.

Sec. 1483. Extension of Dairy Forward Pricing Program

Section 1483 reauthorizes the dairy forward pricing program through 2020.

Sec. 1484. Extension of Dairy Indemnity Program

Section 1484 reauthorizes the dairy indemnity program through 2017.

Sec. 1485. Extension of Dairy Promotion and Research Program

Section 1485 reauthorizes the dairy promotion and research program through 2017.

Sec. 1486. Repeal of Federal Milk Marketing Order Review Commission

Section 1486 repeals the federal milk marketing order review commission.

PART III—EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 1491. Effective Date

Section 1491 states this subtitle is effective October 1, 2012.

SUBTITLE E—SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Sec. 1501. Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance

In general, section 1501 authorizes the continuation of certain Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance programs, previously codified in subtitle B of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as a standalone provision within the bill.

Section 1501(a) is the definitions section. The section strikes definitions that are no longer relevant to the title.

Section 1501(b) authorizes the Livestock Indemnity Payments (LIP) for fiscal years 2012 through 2017. The subsection authorizes the Secretary to use such sums as necessary of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to be used to make livestock indemnity payments to eligible producers for livestock losses in the excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather or attacks by federally reintroduced animals, such as wolves or avian predators. It maintains the 75% of the market value rate for indemnity.

Section 1501(c) authorizes the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (ELFP) for fiscal years 2012 through 2017. The subsection authorizes the Secretary to use such sums as necessary from the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide compensation to eligible livestock producers for livestock losses due to grazing losses caused by drought or fire. Coverage includes native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover, or land that has crops that are specifically planted for the purpose of grazing livestock. However, an eligible livestock producer may not receive assistance for land used for haying or grazing under the Conservation

Reserve Program. The language maintains the payment rate for losses caused by drought for 1 month at equal to the lesser of 60 percent of the lesser of the monthly feed cost for all covered livestock owned or leased by the eligible producer, or the monthly feed cost calculated by using the normal carrying capacity of the eligible grazing land of the eligible livestock producer. Fire losses continue to be limited to fires that have occurred on federally managed land. The section maintains the payment rate for losses due to fire at equal to 50 percent of the monthly feed costs for the total number of livestock covered by the Federal lease of the eligible livestock producer. The language eliminates the minimum risk management purchase requirement.

Section 1501(d) authorizes the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP) for fiscal years 2012 through 2017. The subsection authorizes the Secretary to use \$20,000,000 of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide emergency relief for producers to aid in the reduction of loss due to disease and adverse weather. The language clarifies that that loss due to disease includes losses from cattle tick fever. The subsection maintains the provision that the funds shall remain available until expended.

Section 1501(e) authorizes the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) for fiscal years 2012 through 2017. The Secretary is authorized to use such sums as are necessary of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide assistance to orchardists and nursery growers for losses of trees due to natural disaster. The language provides a reimbursement rate of 65% of the cost of replanting trees for losses in excess of 15% mortality. The language increases the payment cap under TAP to \$125,000 per crop year. It further maintains the 500 acre limit on total number of acres planted in trees or tree seedlings for which a person or legal entity shall be entitled to receive payments under this subsection.

Section 1501(f) includes the payment limitation for the entire section. The language increases the payment cap for total amount of disaster assistance payments, excluding TAP payments, to \$125,000 received, either directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity. The language eliminated the AGI limitation for payments under this section. It further maintains the application of direct attribution provisions to this section.

SUBTITLE F—ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 1601. Administration Generally

Section 1601 allows the Secretary to use the funds and facilities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out this title. It also provides for an expedited implementation of this title. The Secretary's authority to adjust expenditures under this title to ensure the United States remains in compliance with our international trade agreements is continued in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1602. Suspension of Permanent Price Support Authority

Section 1602 continues the suspension of permanent price authority in the Agriculture Marketing Adjustment Act of 1938 and the Agricultural Act of 1949.

Sec. 1603. Payment Limitations

Section 1603 limits the total amount of payments a person or a legal entity can receive under subtitle A to \$125,000.

Sec. 1604. Adjusted Gross Income Limitation

Section 1604 replaces the two income limitation test (farm and nonfarm income) with a single \$950,000 adjusted gross income limitation for commodity and conservation programs.

Sec. 1605. Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers

Section 1605 continues the geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers program authorization for reimbursement payments through 2017 in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1606. Personal Liability of Producers for Deficiencies

Section 1606 extends the personal liability of producers for deficiencies through 2017 in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1607. Prevention of Deceased Individuals Receiving Payments Under Farm Commodity Programs

Section 1607 continues the requirement that the Secretary prevent deceased individuals from receiving farm commodity program payments by reconciling the social security numbers of all individuals who received payments under this title with the Commissioner of Social Security in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1608. Technical Corrections

Section 1608 includes technical corrections.

Sec. 1609. Assignment of Payments

Section 1609 continues the authority of a producer who receives a payment under this title to assign the payment to someone else after proper notice to the secretary in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1610. Tracking of Benefits

Section 1610 reauthorizes the Secretary to track the benefits provided to individuals getting payments under titles I and II in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1611. Signature Authority

Section 1611 continues the signature authority of a producer in the same manner as current law.

Sec. 1612. Implementation

Section 1612 requires the Secretary to maintain records on base acres and the records for the separate base acres for long grain and medium grain rice through 2017. The Secretary shall make available to the Farm Service Agency to carry out this title \$100,000,000.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION

SUBTITLE A—CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

Sec. 2001. Extension and Enrollment Requirements of Conservation Reserve Program

Section 2001(a) extends the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) through fiscal year 2017.

Section 2001(b) amends the definition of eligible land by updating the date for cropping history under highly erodible lands; by removing marginal pasture land converted to wetland or established as wildlife habitat prior to 1999; by adding grasslands as eligible lands; by including filterstrips and riparian buffers devoted to trees, shrubs, and grasses as cropland that would otherwise be ineligible; and by amending the requirement for buffers and filterstrips associated with the remainder of a field enrolled in CRP.

Section 2001(c) amends the requirement for certain lands to be considered planted to an agricultural commodity for the purposes of determining eligibility to land that was devoted to a conserving use during the crop year; and eliminates the inclusion of land enrolled in the water bank program.

Section 2001(d) reduces the acreage cap for fiscal years 2013-2017:

- FY2012 – 32,000,000 acres
- FY2013 – 29,000,000 acres
- FY2014 – 26,000,000 acres
- FY2015 – 26,000,000 acres
- FY2016 – 25,500,000 acres
- FY2017 – 25,000,000 acres

It further adds a provision for enrollment of 2,000,000 acres of grasslands and authorizes the Secretary to give priority to expiring CRP contracts to be enrolled under the grasslands cap.

Section 2001(e) eliminates the five-year extension option for hardwood trees as well as the additional one-year extension for contracts which expired during the 2002 calendar year. Owners and operators of land with hardwoods, windbreaks, or wildlife corridors may specify the duration of the contract within the 10-15 year limitation.

Section 2001(f) eliminates the specified conservation priority area watersheds and leaves the ability to designate a priority area – including non-watershed areas— to the discretion of the

Secretary. It further eliminates the ability for a State agency to apply for withdrawal from a designation

Sec. 2002. Farmable Wetland Program

Section 2002 extends the Farmable Wetlands Program through fiscal year 2017, decreases the program cap from 1,000,000 to 750,000 acres and makes several changes that are clarifying in nature. The program has been further amended so it is no longer a pilot program.

Sec. 2003. Duties of Owners and Operators

Section 2003(a) amends the limitation on harvesting, grazing and commercial use of forage by moving it from the section establishing the duties of owners and operators to the section enumerating the duties of the secretary.

Section 2003(b) amends the conservation plan requirements by eliminating the option for the plan to provide for permanent retirement of existing base history.

Section 2003(c) eliminates the umbrella rental rate reduction for certain authorized uses of the land. Similar rental rate language appears in the section enumerating the duties of the Secretary.

Sec. 2004. Duties of the Secretary

Section 2004 requires the Secretary to allow for certain harvesting, grazing and commercial use of forage in exchange for a reduction in the rental rate at not less than 25 percent, except for in the case of drought or other emergency created by natural disaster, where the activity may occur without any reduction in the rental rate. The section provides for the incidental use of buffers adjacent to agricultural lands. The section adds a new subsection (c) that requires the Secretary to permit certain haying and grazing practices on grasslands specifically. It adds provisions for individuals with expiring contracts to initiate conservation and land improvement practices in the final year of the contract with a commensurate reduction in rental value. Re-enrollment of these lands is prohibited for at least five years.

Sec. 2005. Payments

Section 2005(a) is a technical conforming amendment in response to the elimination of section 1235A.

Section 2005(b) adds “other eligible land” to the annual rental payment language. Subsection (b) further adds the determination for payments to owners or operators of grasslands at 75 percent of the grazing value of the land under contract.

Section 2005(c) amends the payment schedule section to eliminate in-kind commodity payments through Commodity Credit Corporation stocks.

Section 2005(d) is a technical conforming amendment in response to the elimination of in kind commodity payments.

Sec. 2006. Contract Requirements

Section 2006(a) allows for a one-time early termination option for an owner or operator if the contract has been in effect for five years. The section further specifies what environmentally sensitive land is exempted from the early termination.

Section 2006(b) makes adjustments to the transition options language regarding the transfer of land from a retired farmer or rancher to a beginning farmer or rancher.

Section 2006(c) allows for an owner or operator to enroll in to the Conservation Stewardship Program in the last year of the owner or operator conservation reserve contract.

Sec. 2007. Conversion of Land Subject to Contract to Other Conserving Uses

Section 2007 repeals Section 1235A of the Food Security Act of 1985, Conservation of Land Subject to Contract to other Conserving Uses which is no longer applicable for contracts in place prior to November 28, 1990.

SUBTITLE B—CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Sec. 2101. Conservation Stewardship Program

Section 2101 revises the Conservation Stewardship Program.

Definitions: The section includes a definition of “agricultural operation”, strikes the definition of “conservation measurement tool” to conform with other amendments, redefines “priority resource concern”, and it revises the definition of “eligible land”.

Establishment and purposes: The section authorizes the program through 2017. It limits the excluded land by allowing for CRP land to be enrolled in the final year of the contract. The section increases emphasis on new conservation. It also eliminates the requirement that not more than 10 percent of the acres enrolled be non-industrial private forest land. The section allows enrollment of lands that are under agricultural land easements option of the ACE Program.

Stewardship contracting: The section requires participants, at the time of the contract offer, to be meeting the stewardship threshold of at least two priority resource concerns with at least one additional priority resource concern by the end of the contract. It establishes a priority consideration for land with expiring CRP contracts. The section also eliminates the conservation measurement tool. It adds the requirement for the producer, in order to renew a contract for an additional year, to meet the stewardship threshold of at least two additional priority resource

concerns or exceed the threshold of at least two existing priority resource concerns by then end of the contract period. It eliminates the on-farm research and demonstration, or pilot testing provisions.

Duties of the Secretary: The section replaces the conservation measurement tool with a science-based stewardship threshold. It includes an acreage enrollment limitation of 9,000,000 acres for each fiscal year and a national average rate of \$18 per acre, which shall include costs of assistance.

SUBTITLE C—ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

Sec. 2201. Purposes

Section 2201 adds “developing and improving wildlife” to the purposes section.

Sec. 2202. Definitions

Section 2202 is the definitions section.

Sec. 2203. Establishment and Administration

Section 2203 extends EQIP though fiscal year 2017.

Section 2203 amends the term of an EQIP contract to a period not to exceed 10 years, eliminating the minimum requirement. The increased payments to certain producers section is amended to include veteran farmers or ranchers. The section increases the amount allowed for an advanced payment to 50 percent and includes a new requirement that funds provided in advance but not expended during the required 90-day period be returned. It maintains the 60 percent allocation for livestock production and creates a new 5 percent allocation for practices benefiting wildlife habitat. The section adds a new subsection in order to include wildlife habitat restoration, improvement, and development activities under EQIP and includes an option for the Secretary to enter into agreements to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on certain riparian public lands.

Sec. 2204. Evaluation of Applications

Section 2204 amends the evaluation of application process section for the purpose of a conforming amendment.

Sec. 2205. Duties of Producers

Section 2205 is a technical amendment to the duties of producers section.

Sec. 2206. Limitation on Payments

Sec. 12101. National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

Section 12101 amends section 375 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act by reauthorizing the appropriations for the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center through fiscal year 2017, at the current level of \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year.

Sec. 12102. Trichinae Certification Program

Section 12102 amends section 10405 of the Animal Health Protection Act by reauthorizing the Trichinae Certification Program through fiscal year 2017, at the current level of \$1,500,000 to remain available until expended, as well as such additional sums as may be necessary.

Sec. 12103. National Aquatic Animal Health Plan

Section 12103 amends section 11013 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 by reauthorizing the National Aquatic Animal Health Plan.

SUBTITLE B—SOCIALY DISADVANTAGED PRODUCERS AND
LIMITED RESOURCE PRODUCERS

Sec. 12201. Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers

Section 12201(a) amends section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to include veteran farmers and ranchers. The section makes available \$10,000,000 in mandatory funding for each fiscal year 2013 through 2017. The section also adds a new authorization of appropriations of \$20,000,000 for each fiscal year 2013 through 2017.

Section 12201(b) includes a definition of the term “veteran farmer or rancher”.

Sec. 12202. Office of Advocacy and Outreach

Section 12202 amends paragraph (3) of section 226B(f) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to include an authorization of appropriations of \$2,000,000 for each fiscal years 2013 through 2017.

SUBTITLE C—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 12301. Grants to Improve Supply, Stability, Safety, and Training of Agricultural Labor Force

Section 12301 amends section 14204(d) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to include an authorization of appropriations of \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year 2013 through 2017.

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6083

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 2012

Mr. LUCAS (for himself and Mr. PETERSON) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
 3 “Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act
 4 of 2012”.

5 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of
 6 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary of Agriculture.

TITLE I—COMMODITIES

Subtitle A—Repeals and Reforms

Sec. 1101. Repeal of direct payments.

Sec. 1102. Repeal of counter-cyclical payments.

Sec. 1103. Repeal of average crop revenue election program.

Sec. 1104. Definitions.

Sec. 1105. Base acres.

Sec. 1106. Payment yields.

Sec. 1107. Farm risk management election.

Sec. 1108. Producer agreements.

Sec. 1109. Period of effectiveness.

Subtitle B—Marketing Loans

Sec. 1201. Availability of nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for loan commodities.

Sec. 1202. Loan rates for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans.

Sec. 1203. Term of loans.

Sec. 1204. Repayment of loans.

Sec. 1205. Loan deficiency payments.

Sec. 1206. Payments in lieu of loan deficiency payments for grazed acreage.

Sec. 1207. Special marketing loan provisions for upland cotton.

Sec. 1208. Special competitive provisions for extra long staple cotton.

Sec. 1209. Availability of recourse loans for high moisture feed grains and seed cotton.

Sec. 1210. Adjustments of loans.

Subtitle C—Sugar

Sec. 1301. Sugar program.

Subtitle D—Dairy

**PART I—DAIRY PRODUCER MARGIN PROTECTION AND DAIRY MARKET
STABILIZATION PROGRAMS**

Sec. 1401. Definitions.

Sec. 1402. Calculation of average feed cost and actual dairy producer margins.

SUBPART A—DAIRY PRODUCER MARGIN PROTECTION PROGRAM

- Sec. 1411. Establishment of dairy producer margin protection program.
- Sec. 1412. Participation of dairy producers in margin protection program.
- Sec. 1413. Production history of participating dairy producers.
- Sec. 1414. Basic margin protection.
- Sec. 1415. Supplemental margin protection.
- Sec. 1416. Effect of failure to pay administrative fees or premiums.

SUBPART B—DAIRY MARKET STABILIZATION PROGRAM

- Sec. 1431. Establishment of dairy market stabilization program.
- Sec. 1432. Threshold for implementation and reduction in dairy producer payments.
- Sec. 1433. Producer milk marketings information.
- Sec. 1434. Calculation and collection of reduced dairy producer payments.
- Sec. 1435. Remitting monies to the Secretary and use of monies.
- Sec. 1436. Suspension of reduced payment requirement.
- Sec. 1437. Enforcement.
- Sec. 1438. Audit requirements.

SUBPART C—COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

- Sec. 1451. Use of Commodity Credit Corporation.

SUBPART D—INITIATION AND DURATION

- Sec. 1461. Rulemaking.
- Sec. 1462. Duration.

PART II—REPEAL OR REAUTHORIZATION OF OTHER DAIRY-RELATED PROVISIONS

- Sec. 1481. Repeal of dairy product price support and milk income loss contract programs.
- Sec. 1482. Repeal of dairy export incentive program.
- Sec. 1483. Extension of dairy forward pricing program.
- Sec. 1484. Extension of dairy indemnity program.
- Sec. 1485. Extension of dairy promotion and research program.
- Sec. 1486. Repeal of Federal Milk Marketing Order Review Commission.

PART III—EFFECTIVE DATE

- Sec. 1491. Effective date.

Subtitle E—Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs

- Sec. 1501. Supplemental agricultural disaster assistance.

Subtitle F—Administration

- Sec. 1601. Administration generally.
- Sec. 1602. Suspension of permanent price support authority.
- Sec. 1603. Payment limitations.
- Sec. 1604. Adjusted gross income limitation.
- Sec. 1605. Geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.
- Sec. 1606. Personal liability of producers for deficiencies.
- Sec. 1607. Prevention of deceased individuals receiving payments under farm commodity programs.
- Sec. 1608. Technical corrections.

- Sec. 1609. Assignment of payments.
- Sec. 1610. Tracking of benefits.
- Sec. 1611. Signature authority.
- Sec. 1612. Implementation.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION

Subtitle A—Conservation Reserve Program

- Sec. 2001. Extension and enrollment requirements of conservation reserve program.
- Sec. 2002. Farmable wetland program.
- Sec. 2003. Duties of owners and operators.
- Sec. 2004. Duties of the Secretary.
- Sec. 2005. Payments.
- Sec. 2006. Contract requirements.
- Sec. 2007. Conversion of land subject to contract to other conserving uses.
- Sec. 2008. Effective date.

Subtitle B—Conservation Stewardship Program

- Sec. 2101. Conservation stewardship program.

Subtitle C—Environmental Quality Incentives Program

- Sec. 2201. Purposes.
- Sec. 2202. Definitions.
- Sec. 2203. Establishment and administration.
- Sec. 2204. Evaluation of applications.
- Sec. 2205. Duties of producers.
- Sec. 2206. Limitation on payments.
- Sec. 2207. Conservation innovation grants and payments.
- Sec. 2208. Effective date.

Subtitle D—Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

- Sec. 2301. Agricultural conservation easement program.

Subtitle E—Regional Conservation Partnership Program

- Sec. 2401. Regional conservation partnership program.

Subtitle F—Other Conservation Programs

- Sec. 2501. Conservation of private grazing land.
- Sec. 2502. Grassroots source water protection program.
- Sec. 2503. Voluntary public access and habitat incentive program.
- Sec. 2504. Agriculture conservation experienced services program.
- Sec. 2505. Small watershed rehabilitation program.
- Sec. 2506. Agricultural management assistance program.

Subtitle G—Funding and Administration

- Sec. 2601. Funding.
- Sec. 2602. Technical assistance.
- Sec. 2603. Regional equity.
- Sec. 2604. Reservation of funds to provide assistance to certain farmers or ranchers for conservation access.
- Sec. 2605. Annual report on program enrollments and assistance.

- Sec. 2606. Review of conservation practice standards.
- Sec. 2607. Administrative requirements applicable to all conservation programs.
- Sec. 2608. Standards for State technical committees.
- Sec. 2609. Rulemaking authority.

Subtitle H—Repeal of Superseded Program Authorities and Transitional Provisions; Technical Amendments

- Sec. 2701. Comprehensive conservation enhancement program.
- Sec. 2702. Emergency forestry conservation reserve program.
- Sec. 2703. Wetlands reserve program.
- Sec. 2704. Farmland protection program and farm viability program.
- Sec. 2705. Grassland reserve program.
- Sec. 2706. Agricultural water enhancement program.
- Sec. 2707. Wildlife habitat incentive program.
- Sec. 2708. Great Lakes basin program.
- Sec. 2709. Chesapeake Bay watershed program.
- Sec. 2710. Cooperative conservation partnership initiative.
- Sec. 2711. Environmental easement program.
- Sec. 2712. Technical amendments.

TITLE III—TRADE

Subtitle A—Food for Peace Act

- Sec. 3001. General authority regarding emergency and private assistance programs.
- Sec. 3002. Set-aside for support for organizations through which nonemergency assistance is provided.
- Sec. 3003. Food aid quality.
- Sec. 3004. Minimum levels of assistance.
- Sec. 3005. Food Aid Consultative Group.
- Sec. 3006. Oversight, monitoring, and evaluation of Food for Peace Act programs.
- Sec. 3007. Assistance for stockpiling and rapid transportation, delivery, and distribution of shelf-stable prepackaged foods.
- Sec. 3008. General provisions.
- Sec. 3009. Procurement, transportation, and storage of agricultural commodities for prepositioning in the United States and foreign countries.
- Sec. 3010. Annual report regarding food aid programs and activities.
- Sec. 3011. Deadline for agreements to finance sales or to provide other assistance.
- Sec. 3012. Authorization of appropriations; minimum level of nonemergency food assistance.
- Sec. 3013. Micronutrient fortification programs.
- Sec. 3014. John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer Program.

Subtitle B—Agricultural Trade Act of 1978

- Sec. 3101. Funding for export credit guarantee program.
- Sec. 3102. Funding for market access program.
- Sec. 3103. Foreign market development cooperator program.

Subtitle C—Other Agricultural Trade Laws

- Sec. 3201. Food for Progress Act of 1985.

- Sec. 3202. Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust.
- Sec. 3203. Promotion of agricultural exports to emerging markets.
- Sec. 3204. McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.
- Sec. 3205. Technical assistance for specialty crops.
- Sec. 3206. Global Crop Diversity Trust.

TITLE IV—NUTRITION

Subtitle A—Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

- Sec. 4001. Retailers.
- Sec. 4002. Enhancing services to elderly and disabled supplemental nutrition assistance program recipients.
- Sec. 4003. Food distribution program on Indian reservations.
- Sec. 4004. Updating program eligibility.
- Sec. 4005. Standard utility allowances based on the receipt of energy assistance payments.
- Sec. 4006. Eligibility disqualifications.
- Sec. 4007. Ending supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits for lottery or gambling winners.
- Sec. 4008. Improving security of food assistance.
- Sec. 4009. Demonstration projects on acceptance of benefits of mobile transactions.
- Sec. 4010. Restaurant meals program.
- Sec. 4011. Repeal of bonus program.
- Sec. 4012. Funding of employment and training programs.
- Sec. 4013. Monitoring employment and training program.
- Sec. 4014. Cooperation with program research and evaluation.
- Sec. 4015. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 4016. Assistance for community food projects.
- Sec. 4017. Emergency food assistance.
- Sec. 4018. Nutrition education.
- Sec. 4019. Retailer trafficking.
- Sec. 4020. Technical and conforming amendments.
- Sec. 4021. Tolerance level for excluding small errors.
- Sec. 4022. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands pilot program.

Subtitle B—Commodity Distribution Programs

- Sec. 4101. Commodity distribution program.
- Sec. 4102. Commodity supplemental food program.
- Sec. 4103. Distribution of surplus commodities to special nutrition projects.
- Sec. 4104. Processing of commodities.

Subtitle C—Miscellaneous

- Sec. 4201. Farmers' market nutrition program.
- Sec. 4202. Nutrition information and awareness pilot program.
- Sec. 4203. Fresh fruit and vegetable program.
- Sec. 4204. Additional authority for purchase of fresh fruits, vegetables, and other specialty food crops.

TITLE V—CREDIT

Subtitle A—Farm Ownership Loans

- Sec. 5001. Eligibility for farm ownership loans.
- Sec. 5002. Conservation loan and loan guarantee program.
- Sec. 5003. Down payment loan program.
- Sec. 5004. Elimination of mineral rights appraisal requirement.

Subtitle B—Operating Loans

- Sec. 5101. Eligibility for farm operating loans.
- Sec. 5102. Authority to waive personal liability for youth loans due to circumstances beyond borrower control.

Subtitle C—Emergency Loans

- Sec. 5201. Eligibility for emergency loans.

Subtitle D—Administrative Provisions

- Sec. 5301. Beginning farmer and rancher individual development accounts pilot program.
- Sec. 5302. Eligible beginning farmers and ranchers.
- Sec. 5303. Loan authorization levels.
- Sec. 5304. Priority for participation loans.
- Sec. 5305. Loan fund set-asides.
- Sec. 5306. Conforming amendment to borrower training provision, relating to eligibility changes.

Subtitle E—State Agricultural Mediation Programs

- Sec. 5401. State agricultural mediation programs.

Subtitle F—Loans to Purchasers of Highly Fractionated Land

- Sec. 5501. Loans to purchasers of highly fractionated land.

TITLE VI—RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Subtitle A—Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act

- Sec. 6001. Water, waste disposal, and wastewater facility grants.
- Sec. 6002. Rural business opportunity grants.
- Sec. 6003. Elimination of reservation of community facilities grant program funds.
- Sec. 6004. Rural water and wastewater circuit rider program.
- Sec. 6005. Tribal college and university essential community facilities.
- Sec. 6006. Emergency and imminent community water assistance grant program.
- Sec. 6007. Grants to nonprofit organizations to finance the construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individually-owned household water well systems in rural areas for individuals with low or moderate incomes.
- Sec. 6008. Rural cooperative development grants.
- Sec. 6009. Locally or regionally produced agricultural food products.
- Sec. 6010. Intermediary relending program.
- Sec. 6011. Simplified applications.
- Sec. 6012. Grants for NOAA weather radio transmitters.
- Sec. 6013. Rural microentrepreneur assistance program.
- Sec. 6014. Delta Regional Authority.
- Sec. 6015. Northern Great Plains Regional Authority.

Sec. 6016. Rural business investment program.

Subtitle B—Rural Electrification Act of 1936

Sec. 6101. Relending for certain purposes.

Sec. 6102. Fees for certain loan guarantees.

Sec. 6103. Guarantees for bonds and notes issued for electrification or telephone purposes.

Sec. 6104. Expansion of 911 access.

Sec. 6105. Access to broadband telecommunications services in rural areas.

Subtitle C—Miscellaneous

Sec. 6201. Distance learning and telemedicine.

Sec. 6202. Value-added agricultural market development program grants.

Sec. 6203. Agriculture innovation center demonstration program.

Sec. 6204. Program metrics.

Sec. 6205. Study of rural transportation issues.

TITLE VII—RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND RELATED MATTERS

Subtitle A—National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977

Sec. 7101. Option to not be included as Hispanic-serving agricultural college or university.

Sec. 7102. National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

Sec. 7103. Specialty crop committee.

Sec. 7104. Veterinary services grant program.

Sec. 7105. Grants and fellowships for food and agriculture sciences education.

Sec. 7106. Policy research centers.

Sec. 7107. Repeal of human nutrition intervention and health promotion research program.

Sec. 7108. Repeal of pilot research program to combine medical and agricultural research.

Sec. 7109. Nutrition education program.

Sec. 7110. Continuing animal health and disease research programs.

Sec. 7111. Repeal of appropriations for research on national or regional problems.

Sec. 7112. Grants to upgrade agricultural and food sciences facilities at 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University.

Sec. 7113. Grants to upgrade agriculture and food science facilities and equipment at insular area land-grant institutions.

Sec. 7114. Repeal of national research and training virtual centers.

Sec. 7115. Hispanic-serving institutions.

Sec. 7116. Competitive grants for international agricultural science and education programs.

Sec. 7117. Repeal of research equipment grants.

Sec. 7118. University research.

Sec. 7119. Extension service.

Sec. 7120. Auditing, reporting, bookkeeping, and administrative requirements.

Sec. 7121. Supplemental and alternative crops.

Sec. 7122. Capacity building grants for NLGCA institutions.

Sec. 7123. Aquaculture assistance programs.

Sec. 7124. Rangeland research programs.

Sec. 7125. Special authorization for biosecurity planning and response.

- Sec. 7126. Distance education and resident instruction grants program for insular area institutions of higher education.
- Sec. 7127. Matching funds requirement.

Subtitle B—Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990

- Sec. 7201. Best utilization of biological applications.
- Sec. 7202. Integrated management systems.
- Sec. 7203. Sustainable agriculture technology development and transfer program.
- Sec. 7204. National training program.
- Sec. 7205. National Genetics Resources Program.
- Sec. 7206. Repeal of National Agricultural Weather Information System.
- Sec. 7207. Repeal of rural electronic commerce extension program.
- Sec. 7208. Repeal of agricultural genome initiative.
- Sec. 7209. High-priority research and extension initiatives.
- Sec. 7210. Repeal of nutrient management research and extension initiative.
- Sec. 7211. Organic agriculture research and extension initiative.
- Sec. 7212. Repeal of agricultural bioenergy feedstock and energy efficiency research and extension initiative.
- Sec. 7213. Farm business management.
- Sec. 7214. Regional centers of excellence.
- Sec. 7215. Repeal of red meat safety research center.
- Sec. 7216. Assistive technology program for farmers with disabilities.
- Sec. 7217. National rural information center clearinghouse.

Subtitle C—Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998

- Sec. 7301. Relevance and merit of agricultural research, extension, and education funded by the Department.
- Sec. 7302. Integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants program.
- Sec. 7303. Repeal of coordinated program of research, extension, and education to improve viability of small and medium size dairy, livestock, and poultry operations.
- Sec. 7304. Repeal of Bovine Johne's disease control program.
- Sec. 7305. Grants for youth organizations.
- Sec. 7306. Specialty crop research initiative.
- Sec. 7307. Food animal residue avoidance database program.
- Sec. 7308. Repeal of national swine research center.
- Sec. 7309. Office of pest management policy.
- Sec. 7310. Repeal of studies of agricultural research, extension, and education.

Subtitle D—Other Laws

- Sec. 7401. Critical Agricultural Materials Act.
- Sec. 7402. Equity in Educational Land-grant Status Act of 1994.
- Sec. 7403. Research Facilities Act.
- Sec. 7404. Repeal of carbon cycle research.
- Sec. 7405. Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act.
- Sec. 7406. Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978.
- Sec. 7407. National Aquaculture Act of 1980.
- Sec. 7408. Repeal of use of remote sensing data.
- Sec. 7409. Repeal of reports under Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

- Sec. 7410. Beginning farmer and rancher development program.
- Sec. 7411. Inclusion of Northern Mariana Islands as a State under McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act.

Subtitle E—Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008

PART 1—AGRICULTURAL SECURITY

- Sec. 7501. Agricultural biosecurity communication center.
- Sec. 7502. Assistance to build local capacity in agricultural biosecurity planning, preparation, and response.
- Sec. 7503. Research and development of agricultural countermeasures.
- Sec. 7504. Agricultural biosecurity grant program.

PART 2—MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 7511. Enhanced use lease authority pilot program.
- Sec. 7512. Grazinglands research laboratory.
- Sec. 7513. Budget submission and funding.
- Sec. 7514. Repeal of research and education grants for the study of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
- Sec. 7515. Repeal of farm and ranch stress assistance network.
- Sec. 7516. Repeal of seed distribution.
- Sec. 7517. Natural products research program.
- Sec. 7518. Sun grant program.
- Sec. 7519. Repeal of study and report on food deserts.
- Sec. 7520. Repeal of agricultural and rural transportation research and education.
- Sec. 7521. Conveyance of land comprising Subtropical Horticulture Research Station.
- Sec. 7522. Concessions, fees, and voluntary services at National Arboretum.
- Sec. 7523. Cotton Disease Research Report.
- Sec. 7524. Miscellaneous technical corrections.

TITLE VIII—FORESTRY

Subtitle A—Repeal of Certain Forestry Programs

- Sec. 8001. Forest land enhancement program.
- Sec. 8002. Watershed forestry assistance program.
- Sec. 8003. Expired cooperative national forest products marketing program.
- Sec. 8004. Hispanic-serving institution agricultural land national resources leadership program.
- Sec. 8005. Tribal watershed forestry assistance program.

Subtitle B—Reauthorization of Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 Programs

- Sec. 8101. Forest Legacy Program.
- Sec. 8102. Community forest and open space conservation program.

Subtitle C—Reauthorization of Other Forestry-Related Laws

- Sec. 8201. Rural revitalization technologies.
- Sec. 8202. Office of International Forestry.
- Sec. 8203. Change in funding source for healthy forests reserve program.
- Sec. 8204. Stewardship end result contracting project authority.

Subtitle D—National Forest Critical Area Response

- Sec. 8301. Definitions.
- Sec. 8302. Designation of critical areas.
- Sec. 8303. Application of expedited procedures and activities of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to critical areas.
- Sec. 8304. Good neighbor authority.

Subtitle E—Miscellaneous Provisions

- Sec. 8401. Revision of strategic plan for forest inventory and analysis.
- Sec. 8402. Forest Service participation in ACES Program.

TITLE IX—ENERGY

- Sec. 9001. Definition of renewable energy system.
- Sec. 9002. Biobased markets program.
- Sec. 9003. Biorefinery Assistance.
- Sec. 9004. Repeal of repowering assistance program and transfer of remaining funds.
- Sec. 9005. Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels.
- Sec. 9006. Biodiesel Fuel Education Program.
- Sec. 9007. Rural Energy for America Program.
- Sec. 9008. Biomass Research and Development.
- Sec. 9009. Feedstock Flexibility Program for Bioenergy Producers.
- Sec. 9010. Biomass Crop Assistance Program.
- Sec. 9011. Community wood energy program.
- Sec. 9012. Repeal of biofuels infrastructure study.
- Sec. 9013. Repeal of renewable fertilizer study.

TITLE X—HORTICULTURE

- Sec. 10001. Specialty crops market news allocation.
- Sec. 10002. Repeal of grant program to improve movement of specialty crops.
- Sec. 10003. Farmers market and local food promotion program.
- Sec. 10004. Organic agriculture.
- Sec. 10005. Investigations and enforcement of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990.
- Sec. 10006. Food safety education initiatives.
- Sec. 10007. Specialty crop block grants.
- Sec. 10008. Report on honey.
- Sec. 10009. Bulk shipments of apples to Canada.
- Sec. 10010. Inclusion of olive oil in import controls under the Agricultural Adjustment Act.
- Sec. 10011. Petitions to determine organism not a plant pest.
- Sec. 10012. Consolidation of plant pest and disease management and disaster prevention programs.
- Sec. 10013. Authority for regulation of plants.
- Sec. 10014. Report to Congress on regulation of biotechnology.
- Sec. 10015. Pesticide Registration Improvement.
- Sec. 10016. Modification, cancellation, or suspension on basis of a biological opinion.
- Sec. 10017. Use and discharges of authorized pesticides.
- Sec. 10018. Effective date.

TITLE XI—CROP INSURANCE

- Sec. 11001. Information sharing.
- Sec. 11002. Publication of information on violations of prohibition on premium adjustments.
- Sec. 11003. Supplemental coverage option.
- Sec. 11004. Premium amounts for catastrophic risk protection.
- Sec. 11005. Repeal of preformance-based discount.
- Sec. 11006. Permanent enterprise unit subsidy.
- Sec. 11007. Enterprise units for irrigated and nonirrigated crops.
- Sec. 11008. Data collection.
- Sec. 11009. Adjustment in actual production history to establish insurable yields.
- Sec. 11010. Submission and review of policies.
- Sec. 11011. Equitable relief for specialty crop producers.
- Sec. 11012. Budget limitations on renegotiation of the standard reinsurance agreement.
- Sec. 11013. Crop production on native sod.
- Sec. 11014. Coverage levels by practice.
- Sec. 11015. Beginning farmer and rancher provisions.
- Sec. 11016. Stacked income protection plan for producers of upland cotton.
- Sec. 11017. Peanut revenue crop insurance.
- Sec. 11018. Authority to correct errors.
- Sec. 11019. Implementation.
- Sec. 11020. Research and development priorities.
- Sec. 11021. Additional research and development contracting requirements.
- Sec. 11022. Pilot programs.
- Sec. 11023. Limitation on expenditures for livestock pilot programs.
- Sec. 11024. Noninsured crop assistance program.
- Sec. 11025. Technical amendments.

TITLE XII—MISCELLANEOUS

Subtitle A—Livestock

- Sec. 12101. National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.
- Sec. 12102. Trichinae certification program.
- Sec. 12103. National Aquatic Animal Health Plan.

Subtitle B—Socially Disadvantaged Producers and Limited Resource Producers

- Sec. 12201. Outreach and assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and veteran farmers and ranchers.
- Sec. 12202. Office of Advocacy and Outreach.

Subtitle C—Other Miscellaneous Provisions

- Sec. 12301. Grants to improve supply, stability, safety, and training of agricultural labor force.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.**

- 2 In this Act, the term “Secretary” means the Sec-
- 3 retary of Agriculture.

TITLE I—COMMODITIES

Subtitle A—Repeals and Reforms

SEC. 1101. REPEAL OF DIRECT PAYMENTS.

(a) REPEAL.—Sections 1103 and 1303 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8713, 8753) are repealed.

(b) CONTINUED APPLICATION FOR 2012 CROP YEAR.—Sections 1103 and 1303 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8713, 8753), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply through the 2012 crop year with respect to all covered commodities (as defined in section 1001 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 8702)) and peanuts on a farm.

SEC. 1102. REPEAL OF COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.

(a) REPEAL.—Sections 1104 and 1304 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8714, 8754) are repealed.

(b) CONTINUED APPLICATION FOR 2012 CROP YEAR.—Sections 1104 and 1304 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8714, 8754), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply through the 2012 crop year with respect to all covered commodities (as defined in sec-

tion 1001 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 8702)) and peanuts on a farm.

SEC. 1103. REPEAL OF AVERAGE CROP REVENUE ELECTION PROGRAM.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 1105 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8715) is repealed.

(b) CONTINUED APPLICATION FOR 2012 CROP YEAR.—Section 1105 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8715), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply through the 2012 crop year with respect to all covered commodities (as defined in section 1001 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 8702)) and peanuts on a farm for which the irrevocable election under section 1105 of that Act was made before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1104. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle and subtitle B:

(1) ACTUAL COUNTY REVENUE.—The term “actual county revenue”, with respect to a covered commodity for a crop year, means the amount determined by the Secretary under section 1107(c)(4) to determine whether revenue loss coverage payments are required to be provided for that crop year.

(2) BASE ACRES.—The term “base acres”, with respect to a covered commodity and cotton on a

1 farm, means the number of acres established under
2 section 1101 and 1302 of the Farm Security and
3 Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7911,
4 7952) or section 1101 and 1302 of the Food, Con-
5 servation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8711,
6 8752), as in effect on September 30, 2012, subject
7 to any adjustment under section 1105 of this Act.

8 (3) COUNTY REVENUE LOSS COVERAGE TRIG-
9 GER.—The term “county revenue loss coverage trig-
10 ger”, with respect to a covered commodity for a crop
11 year, means the amount determined by the Secretary
12 under section 1107(c)(5) to determine whether rev-
13 enue loss coverage payments are required to be pro-
14 vided for that crop year.

15 (4) COVERED COMMODITY.—The term “covered
16 commodity” means wheat, oats, and barley (includ-
17 ing wheat, oats, and barley used for haying and
18 grazing), corn, grain sorghum, long grain rice, me-
19 dium grain rice, pulse crops, soybeans, other oil-
20 seeds, and peanuts.

21 (5) EFFECTIVE PRICE.—The term “effective
22 price”, with respect to a covered commodity for a
23 crop year, means the price calculated by the Sec-
24 retary under section 1107(b)(2) to determine wheth-

er price loss coverage payments are required to be provided for that crop year.

(6) EXTRA LONG STAPLE COTTON.—The term “extra long staple cotton” means cotton that—

(A) is produced from pure strain varieties of the Barbados species or any hybrid of the species, or other similar types of extra long staple cotton, designated by the Secretary, having characteristics needed for various end uses for which United States upland cotton is not suitable and grown in irrigated cotton-growing regions of the United States designated by the Secretary or other areas designated by the Secretary as suitable for the production of the varieties or types; and

(B) is ginned on a roller-type gin or, if authorized by the Secretary, ginned on another type gin for experimental purposes.

(7) FARM BASE ACRES.—The term “farm base acres” means the sum of the base acreage for all covered commodities and cotton on a farm in effect as of September 30, 2012, and subject to any adjustment under section 1105.

(8) MEDIUM GRAIN RICE.—The term “medium grain rice” includes short grain rice.

1 (9) MIDSEASON PRICE.—The term “midseason
2 price” means the applicable national average market
3 price received by producers for the first 5 months of
4 the applicable marketing year, as determined by the
5 Secretary.

6 (10) OTHER OILSEED.—The term “other oil-
7 seed” means a crop of sunflower seed, rapeseed,
8 canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe,
9 sesame seed, or any oilseed designated by the Sec-
10 retary.

11 (11) PAYMENT ACRES.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
13 subparagraphs (B) through (D), the term “pay-
14 ment acres”, with respect to the provision of
15 price loss coverage payments and revenue loss
16 coverage payments, means—

17 (i) 85 percent of total acres planted
18 for the year to each covered commodity on
19 a farm; and

20 (ii) 30 percent of approved total acres
21 prevented from being planted for the year
22 to each covered commodity on a farm.

23 (B) MAXIMUM.—The total quantity of pay-
24 ment acres determined under subparagraph (A)
25 shall not exceed the farm base acres.

1 (C) REDUCTION.—If the sum of all pay-
2 ment acres for a farm exceeds the limits estab-
3 lished under subparagraph (B), the Secretary
4 shall reduce the payment acres applicable to
5 each crop proportionately.

6 (D) EXCLUSION.—The term “payment
7 acres” does not include any crop subsequently
8 planted during the same crop year on the same
9 land for which the first crop is eligible for pay-
10 ments under this subtitle, unless the crop was
11 approved for double cropping in the county, as
12 determined by the Secretary.

13 (12) PAYMENT YIELD.—The term “payment
14 yield” means the yield established for counter-cycli-
15 cal payments under section 1102 or 1302 of the
16 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7
17 U.S.C. 7912, 7952), section 1102 of the Food, Con-
18 servation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8712),
19 as in effect on September 30, 2012, or under section
20 1106 of this Act, for a farm for a covered com-
21 modity.

22 (13) PRICE LOSS COVERAGE.—The term “price
23 loss coverage” means coverage provided under sec-
24 tion 1107(b).

25 (14) PRODUCER.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “producer”
 2 means an owner, operator, landlord, tenant, or
 3 sharecropper that shares in the risk of pro-
 4 ducing a crop and is entitled to share in the
 5 crop available for marketing from the farm, or
 6 would have shared had the crop been produced.

7 (B) HYBRID SEED.—In determining
 8 whether a grower of hybrid seed is a producer,
 9 the Secretary shall—

10 (i) not take into consideration the ex-
 11 istence of a hybrid seed contract; and

12 (ii) ensure that program requirements
 13 do not adversely affect the ability of the
 14 grower to receive a payment under this
 15 title.

16 (15) PULSE CROP.—The term “pulse crop”
 17 means dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas, and large
 18 chickpeas.

19 (16) REFERENCE PRICE.—The term “reference
 20 price”, with respect to a covered commodity for a
 21 crop year means the following:

22 (A) Wheat, \$5.50 per bushel.

23 (B) Corn, \$3.70 per bushel.

24 (C) Grain sorghum, \$3.95 per bushel.

25 (D) Barley, \$4.95 per bushel.

1 (E) Oats, \$2.40 per bushel.

2 (F) Long grain rice, \$14.00 per hundred-
3 weight.

4 (G) Medium grain rice, \$14.00 per hun-
5 dredweight.

6 (H) Soybeans, \$8.40 per bushel.

7 (I) Other oilseeds, \$20.15 per hundred-
8 weight.

9 (J) Peanuts \$535.00 per ton.

10 (K) Dry peas, \$11.00 per hundredweight.

11 (L) Lentils, \$19.97 per hundredweight.

12 (M) Small chickpeas, \$19.04 per hundred-
13 weight.

14 (N) Large chickpeas, \$21.54 per hundred-
15 weight.

16 (17) REVENUE LOSS COVERAGE.—The term
17 “revenue loss coverage” means coverage provided
18 under section 1107(c).

19 (18) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
20 means the Secretary of Agriculture.

21 (19) STATE.—The term “State” means—

22 (A) a State;

23 (B) the District of Columbia;

24 (C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

25 and

1 (D) any other territory or possession of the
2 United States.

3 (20) TRANSITIONAL YIELD.—The term “transi-
4 tional yield” has the meaning given the term in sec-
5 tion 502(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7
6 U.S.C. 1502(b)).

7 (21) UNITED STATES.—The term “United
8 States”, when used in a geographical sense, means
9 all of the States.

10 (22) UNITED STATES PREMIUM FACTOR.—The
11 term “United States Premium Factor” means the
12 percentage by which the difference in the United
13 States loan schedule premiums for Strict Middling
14 (SM) 1¹/₈-inch upland cotton and for Middling (M)
15 1³/₃₂-inch upland cotton exceeds the difference in the
16 applicable premiums for comparable international
17 qualities.

18 **SEC. 1105. BASE ACRES.**

19 (a) ADJUSTMENT OF BASE ACRES.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
21 for an adjustment, as appropriate, in the base acres
22 for covered commodities and cotton for a farm when-
23 ever any of the following circumstances occurs:

24 (A) A conservation reserve contract en-
25 tered into under section 1231 of the Food Secu-

1 rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) with respect
2 to the farm expires or is voluntarily terminated.

3 (B) Cropland is released from coverage
4 under a conservation reserve contract by the
5 Secretary.

6 (C) The producer has eligible oilseed acre-
7 age as the result of the Secretary designating
8 additional oilseeds, which shall be determined in
9 the same manner as eligible oilseed acreage
10 under section 1101(a)(1)(D) of the Food, Con-
11 servation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
12 8711(a)(1)(D)).

13 (2) SPECIAL CONSERVATION RESERVE ACREAGE
14 PAYMENT RULES.—For the crop year in which a
15 base acres adjustment under subparagraph (A) or
16 (B) of paragraph (1) is first made, the owner of the
17 farm shall elect to receive price loss coverage or rev-
18 enue loss coverage with respect to the acreage added
19 to the farm under this subsection or a prorated pay-
20 ment under the conservation reserve contract, but
21 not both.

22 (b) PREVENTION OF EXCESS BASE ACRES.—

23 (1) REQUIRED REDUCTION.—If the sum of the
24 base acres for a farm, together with the acreage de-
25 scribed in paragraph (2) exceeds the actual cropland

1 acreage of the farm, the Secretary shall reduce the
2 base acres for 1 or more covered commodities or cot-
3 ton for the farm so that the sum of the base acres
4 and acreage described in paragraph (2) does not ex-
5 ceed the actual cropland acreage of the farm.

6 (2) OTHER ACREAGE.—For purposes of para-
7 graph (1), the Secretary shall include the following:

8 (A) Any acreage on the farm enrolled in
9 the conservation reserve program or wetlands
10 reserve program (or successor programs) under
11 chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food
12 Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3830 et seq.).

13 (B) Any other acreage on the farm en-
14 rolled in a Federal conservation program for
15 which payments are made in exchange for not
16 producing an agricultural commodity on the
17 acreage.

18 (C) If the Secretary designates additional
19 oilseeds, any eligible oilseed acreage, which shall
20 be determined in the same manner as eligible
21 oilseed acreage under subsection (a)(1)(C).

22 (3) SELECTION OF ACRES.—The Secretary shall
23 give the owner of the farm the opportunity to select
24 the base acres for a covered commodity or cotton for

1 the farm against which the reduction required by
2 paragraph (1) will be made.

3 (4) EXCEPTION FOR DOUBLE-CROPPED ACRE-
4 AGE.—In applying paragraph (1), the Secretary
5 shall make an exception in the case of double crop-
6 ping, as determined by the Secretary.

7 (c) REDUCTION IN BASE ACRES.—

8 (1) REDUCTION AT OPTION OF OWNER.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—The owner of a farm
10 may reduce, at any time, the base acres for any
11 covered commodity or cotton for the farm.

12 (B) EFFECT OF REDUCTION.—A reduction
13 under subparagraph (A) shall be permanent
14 and made in a manner prescribed by the Sec-
15 retary.

16 (2) REQUIRED ACTION BY SECRETARY.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
18 proportionately reduce base acres on a farm for
19 covered commodities and cotton for land that
20 has been subdivided and developed for multiple
21 residential units or other nonfarming uses if the
22 size of the tracts and the density of the subdivi-
23 sion is such that the land is unlikely to return
24 to the previous agricultural use, unless the pro-
25 ducers on the farm demonstrate that the land—

1 (i) remains devoted to commercial ag-
2 ricultural production; or

3 (ii) is likely to be returned to the pre-
4 vious agricultural use.

5 (B) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall
6 establish procedures to identify land described
7 in subparagraph (A).

8 **SEC. 1106. PAYMENT YIELDS.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—For the pur-
10 pose of making payments under this subtitle, the Sec-
11 retary shall provide for the establishment of a yield for
12 each farm for any designated oilseed for which a payment
13 yield was not established under section 1102 of the Food,
14 Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8712)
15 in accordance with this section.

16 (b) PAYMENT YIELDS FOR DESIGNATED OIL-
17 SEEDS.—

18 (1) DETERMINATION OF AVERAGE YIELD.—In
19 the case of designated oilseeds, the Secretary shall
20 determine the average yield per planted acre for the
21 designated oilseed on a farm for the 1998 through
22 2001 crop years, excluding any crop year in which
23 the acreage planted to the designated oilseed was
24 zero.

25 (2) ADJUSTMENT FOR PAYMENT YIELD.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The payment yield for
2 a farm for a designated oilseed shall be equal
3 to the product of the following:

4 (i) The average yield for the des-
5 ignated oilseed determined under para-
6 graph (1).

7 (ii) The ratio resulting from dividing
8 the national average yield for the des-
9 ignated oilseed for the 1981 through 1985
10 crops by the national average yield for the
11 designated oilseed for the 1998 through
12 2001 crops.

13 (B) NO NATIONAL AVERAGE YIELD INFOR-
14 MATION AVAILABLE.—To the extent that na-
15 tional average yield information for a des-
16 ignated oilseed is not available, the Secretary
17 shall use such information as the Secretary de-
18 termines to be fair and equitable to establish a
19 national average yield under this section.

20 (3) USE OF COUNTY AVERAGE YIELD.—If the
21 yield per planted acre for a crop of a designated oil-
22 seed for a farm for any of the 1998 through 2001
23 crop years was less than 75 percent of the county
24 yield for that designated oilseed, the Secretary shall
25 assign a yield for that crop year equal to 75 percent

1 of the county yield for the purpose of determining
2 the average under paragraph (1).

3 (4) NO HISTORIC YIELD DATA AVAILABLE.—In
4 the case of establishing yields for designated oil-
5 seeds, if historic yield data is not available, the Sec-
6 retary shall use the ratio for dry peas calculated
7 under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) in determining the yields
8 for designated oilseeds, as determined to be fair and
9 equitable by the Secretary.

10 (c) EFFECT OF LACK OF PAYMENT YIELD.—

11 (1) ESTABLISHMENT BY SECRETARY.—If no
12 payment yield is otherwise established for a farm for
13 which a covered commodity is planted and eligible to
14 receive price loss coverage payments, the Secretary
15 shall establish an appropriate payment yield for the
16 covered commodity on the farm under paragraph
17 (2).

18 (2) USE OF SIMILARLY SITUATED FARMS.—
19 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, to es-
20 tablish an appropriate payment yield for a covered
21 commodity on a farm as required by paragraph (1),
22 the Secretary shall take into consideration the farm
23 program payment yields applicable to that covered
24 commodity for similarly situated farms.

1 (d) SINGLE OPPORTUNITY TO UPDATE YIELDS USED
2 TO DETERMINE PRICE LOSS COVERAGE PAYMENTS.—

3 (1) ELECTION TO UPDATE.—At the sole discre-
4 tion of the owner of a farm, the owner of a farm
5 shall have a 1-time opportunity to update the pay-
6 ment yields on a covered commodity-by-covered com-
7 modity basis that would otherwise be used in calcu-
8 lating any price loss coverage payment for covered
9 commodities on the farm.

10 (2) TIME FOR ELECTION.—The election under
11 paragraph (1) shall be made at a time and manner
12 to be in effect for the 2013 crop year as determined
13 by the Secretary.

14 (3) METHOD OF UPDATING YIELDS.—If the
15 owner of a farm elects to update yields under this
16 subsection, the payment yield for a covered com-
17 modity on the farm, for the purpose of calculating
18 price loss coverage payments only, shall be equal to
19 90 percent of the average of the yield per planted
20 acre for the crop of the covered commodity on the
21 farm for the 2008 through 2012 crop years, as de-
22 termined by the Secretary, excluding any crop year
23 in which the acreage planted to the crop of the cov-
24 ered commodity was zero.

1 (4) USE OF COUNTY AVERAGE YIELD.—If the
2 yield per planted acre for a crop of the covered com-
3 modity for a farm for any of the 2008 through 2012
4 crop years was less than 75 percent of the average
5 of the 2008 through 2012 county yield for that com-
6 modity, the Secretary shall assign a yield for that
7 crop year equal to 75 percent of the average of the
8 2008 through 2012 county yield for the purposes of
9 determining the average yield under paragraph (3).

10 (5) EFFECT OF LACK OF PAYMENT YIELD.—

11 (A) ESTABLISHMENT BY SECRETARY.—

12 For purposes of this subsection, if no payment
13 yield is otherwise established for a covered com-
14 modity on a farm, the Secretary shall establish
15 an appropriate updated payment yield for the
16 covered commodity on the farm under subpara-
17 graph (B).

18 (B) USE OF SIMILARLY SITUATED
19 FARMS.—Notwithstanding any other provision
20 of law, to establish an appropriate updated pay-
21 ment yield for a covered commodity on a farm
22 as required by subparagraph (A), the Secretary
23 shall take into consideration the farm program
24 payment yields applicable to that covered com-
25 modity for similarly situated farms, but before

1 the yields for the similarly situated farms are
2 updated as provided in this subsection.

3 **SEC. 1107. FARM RISK MANAGEMENT ELECTION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—

5 (1) PAYMENTS REQUIRED.—Except as provided
6 in paragraph (2), if the Secretary determines that
7 payments are required under subsection (b)(1) or
8 (c)(2) for a covered commodity, the Secretary shall
9 make payments for that covered commodity available
10 under such subsection to producers on a farm pursu-
11 ant to the terms and conditions of this section.

12 (2) PROHIBITION ON PAYMENTS; EXCEP-
13 TIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this
14 title, a producer on a farm may not receive price loss
15 coverage payments or revenue loss coverage pay-
16 ments if the sum of the planted acres of covered
17 commodities on the farm is 10 acres or less, as de-
18 termined by the Secretary, unless the producer is—

19 (A) a socially disadvantaged farmer or
20 rancher (as defined in section 355(e) of the
21 Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act
22 (7 U.S.C. 2003(e))); or

23 (B) a limited resource farmer or rancher,
24 as defined by the Secretary.

25 (b) PRICE LOSS COVERAGE.—

1 (1) PAYMENTS.—For each of the 2013 through
2 2017 crop years, the Secretary shall make price loss
3 coverage payments to producers on a farm for a cov-
4 ered commodity if the Secretary determines that—

5 (A) the effective price for the covered com-
6 modity for the crop year; is less than

7 (B) the reference price for the covered
8 commodity for the crop year.

9 (2) EFFECTIVE PRICE.—The effective price for
10 a covered commodity for a crop year shall be the
11 higher of—

12 (A) the midseason price; or

13 (B) the national average loan rate for a
14 marketing assistance loan for the covered com-
15 modity in effect for crop years 2013 through
16 2017 under subtitle B.

17 (3) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment rate shall
18 be equal to the difference between—

19 (A) the reference price for the covered
20 commodity; and

21 (B) the effective price determined under
22 paragraph (2) for the covered commodity;

23 (4) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—If price loss coverage
24 payments are required to be provided under this
25 subsection for any of the 2013 through 2017 crop

years for a covered commodity, the amount of the price loss coverage payment to be paid to the producers on a farm for the crop year shall be equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

(A) the payment rate for the covered commodity under paragraph (3);

(B) the payment yield for the covered commodity; and

(C) the payment acres for the covered commodity.

(5) TIME FOR PAYMENTS.—If the Secretary determines under this subsection that price loss coverage payments are required to be provided for the covered commodity, the payments shall be made beginning October 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter, after the end of the applicable marketing year for the covered commodity.

(6) SPECIAL RULE.—In determining the effective price for barley in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall use the all-barley price.

(c) REVENUE LOSS COVERAGE.—

(1) AVAILABLE AS AN ALTERNATIVE.—As an alternative to receiving price loss coverage payments under subsection (b) for a covered commodity, all of the owners of the farm may make a one-time, irrev-

1 ovable election on a covered commodity-by-covered
2 commodity basis to receive revenue loss coverage
3 payments for each covered commodity in accordance
4 with this subsection. If any of the owners of the
5 farm make different elections on the same covered
6 commodity on the farm, all of the owners of the
7 farm shall be deemed to have not made the election
8 available under this paragraph.

9 (2) PAYMENTS.—In the case of owners of a
10 farm that make the election described in paragraph
11 (1) for a covered commodity, the Secretary shall
12 make revenue loss coverage payments available
13 under this subsection for each of the 2013 through
14 2017 crop years if the Secretary determines that—

15 (A) the actual county revenue for the crop
16 year for the covered commodity; is less than

17 (B) the county revenue loss coverage trig-
18 ger for the crop year for the covered com-
19 modity.

20 (3) TIME FOR PAYMENTS.—If the Secretary de-
21 termines under this subsection that revenue loss cov-
22 erage payments are required to be provided for the
23 covered commodity, payments shall be made begin-
24 ning October 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter,

1 after the end of the applicable marketing year for
2 the covered commodity.

3 (4) ACTUAL COUNTY REVENUE.—The amount
4 of the actual county revenue for a crop year of a
5 covered commodity shall be equal to the product ob-
6 tained by multiplying—

7 (A) the actual county yield, as determined
8 by the Secretary, for each planted acre for the
9 crop year for the covered commodity; and

10 (B) the higher of—

11 (i) the midseason price; or

12 (ii) the national average loan rate for
13 a marketing assistance loan for the covered
14 commodity in effect for crop years 2013
15 through 2017 under subtitle B.

16 (5) COUNTY REVENUE LOSS COVERAGE TRIG-
17 GER.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—The county revenue
19 loss coverage trigger for a crop year for a cov-
20 ered commodity on a farm shall equal 85 per-
21 cent of the benchmark county revenue.

22 (B) BENCHMARK COUNTY REVENUE.—

23 (i) IN GENERAL.—The benchmark
24 county revenue shall be the product ob-
25 tained by multiplying—

1 (I) subject to clause (ii), the av-
2 erage historical county yield as deter-
3 mined by the Secretary for the most
4 recent 5 crop years, excluding each of
5 the crop years with the highest and
6 lowest yields; and

7 (II) subject to clause (iii), the av-
8 erage national marketing year average
9 price for the most recent 5 crop years,
10 excluding each of the crop years with
11 the highest and lowest prices.

12 (ii) YIELD CONDITIONS.—If the his-
13 torical county yield in clause (i)(I) for any
14 of the 5 most recent crop years, as deter-
15 mined by the Secretary, is less than 70
16 percent of the transitional yield, as deter-
17 mined by the Secretary, the amounts used
18 for any of those years in clause (i)(I) shall
19 be 70 percent of the transitional yield.

20 (iii) REFERENCE PRICE.—If the na-
21 tional marketing year average price in
22 clause (i)(II) for any of the 5 most recent
23 crop years is lower than the reference price
24 for the covered commodity, the Secretary
25 shall use the reference price for any of

1 those years for the amounts in clause
2 (i)(II).

3 (6) PAYMENT RATE.—The payment rate shall
4 be equal to the lesser of—

5 (A) the difference between—

6 (i) the county revenue loss coverage
7 trigger for the covered commodity; and

8 (ii) the actual county revenue for the
9 crop year for the covered commodity; or

10 (B) 10 percent of the benchmark county
11 revenue for the crop year for the covered com-
12 modity.

13 (7) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—If revenue loss cov-
14 erage payments under this subsection are required
15 to be provided for any of the 2013 through 2017
16 crop years of a covered commodity, the amount of
17 the revenue loss coverage payment to be provided to
18 the producers on a farm for the crop year shall be
19 equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

20 (A) the payment rate under paragraph (6);
21 and

22 (B) the payment acres of the covered com-
23 modity on the farm.

1 (8) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—In providing
2 revenue loss coverage payments under this sub-
3 section, the Secretary—

4 (A) shall ensure that producers on a farm
5 do not reconstitute the farm of the producers to
6 void or change the election made under para-
7 graph (1);

8 (B) to the maximum extent practicable,
9 shall use all available information and analysis,
10 including data mining, to check for anomalies
11 in the provision of revenue loss coverage pay-
12 ments;

13 (C) to the maximum extent practicable,
14 shall calculate a separate county revenue loss
15 coverage trigger for irrigated and nonirrigated
16 covered commodities and a separate actual
17 county revenue for irrigated and nonirrigated
18 covered commodities;

19 (D) shall assign a benchmark county yield
20 for each planted acre for the crop year for the
21 covered commodity on the basis of the yield his-
22 tory of representative farms in the State, re-
23 gion, or crop reporting district, as determined
24 by the Secretary, if—

1 (i) the Secretary cannot establish the
 2 benchmark county yield for each planted
 3 acre for a crop year for a covered com-
 4 modity in the county in accordance with
 5 paragraph (5); or

6 (ii) the yield determined under para-
 7 graph (5) is an unrepresentative average
 8 yield for the county (as determined by the
 9 Secretary); and

10 (E) to the maximum extent practicable,
 11 shall ensure that in order to be eligible for a
 12 payment under this subsection, the producers
 13 on the farm suffered an actual loss on the cov-
 14 ered commodity for the crop year for which
 15 payment is sought.

16 **SEC. 1108. PRODUCER AGREEMENTS.**

17 (a) COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—

18 (1) REQUIREMENTS.—Before the producers on
 19 a farm may receive price loss coverage payments or
 20 revenue loss coverage payments with respect to the
 21 farm, the producers shall agree, during the crop year
 22 for which the payments are made and in exchange
 23 for the payments—

24 (A) to comply with applicable conservation
 25 requirements under subtitle B of title XII of

1 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3811
2 et seq.);

3 (B) to comply with applicable wetland pro-
4 tection requirements under subtitle C of title
5 XII of that Act (16 U.S.C. 3821 et seq.); and

6 (C) to effectively control noxious weeds
7 and otherwise maintain the land in accordance
8 with sound agricultural practices, as determined
9 by the Secretary.

10 (2) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary may issue
11 such rules as the Secretary considers necessary to
12 ensure producer compliance with the requirements of
13 paragraph (1).

14 (3) MODIFICATION.—At the request of the
15 transferee or owner, the Secretary may modify the
16 requirements of this subsection if the modifications
17 are consistent with the objectives of this subsection,
18 as determined by the Secretary.

19 (b) TRANSFER OR CHANGE OF INTEREST IN
20 FARM.—

21 (1) TERMINATION.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
23 paragraph (2), a transfer of (or change in) the
24 interest of the producers on a farm for which
25 price loss coverage payments or revenue loss

1 coverage payments are provided shall result in
2 the termination of the price loss coverage and
3 revenue loss coverage, unless the transferee or
4 owner of the acreage agrees to assume all obli-
5 gations under subsection (a).

6 (B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The termination
7 shall take effect on the date determined by the
8 Secretary.

9 (2) EXCEPTION.—If a producer entitled to a
10 price loss coverage payment or revenue loss coverage
11 payment dies, becomes incompetent, or is otherwise
12 unable to receive the payment, the Secretary shall
13 make the payment in accordance with rules issued
14 by the Secretary.

15 (c) ACREAGE REPORTS.—As a condition on the re-
16 ceipt of any benefits under this subtitle or subtitle B, the
17 Secretary shall require producers on a farm to submit to
18 the Secretary annual acreage reports with respect to all
19 cropland on the farm.

20 (d) TENANTS AND SHARECROPPERS.—In carrying
21 out this subtitle, the Secretary shall provide adequate safe-
22 guards to protect the interests of tenants and share-
23 croppers.

24 (e) SHARING OF PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall
25 provide for the sharing of price loss coverage payments

1 and revenue loss coverage payments among the producers
 2 on a farm on a fair and equitable basis.

3 **SEC. 1109. PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.**

4 This subtitle shall be effective beginning with the
 5 2013 crop year of each covered commodity through the
 6 2017 crop year.

7 **Subtitle B—Marketing Loans**

8 **SEC. 1201. AVAILABILITY OF NONRECOURSE MARKETING**

9 **ASSISTANCE LOANS FOR LOAN COMMOD-**

10 **ITIES.**

11 (a) DEFINITION OF LOAN COMMODITY.—In this sub-
 12 title, the term “loan commodity” means wheat, corn, grain
 13 sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, extra long staple
 14 cotton, long grain rice, medium grain rice, peanuts, soy-
 15 beans, other oilseeds, graded wool, nongraded wool, mo-
 16 hair, honey, dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas, and large
 17 chickpeas.

18 (b) NONRECOURSE LOANS AVAILABLE.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—For each of the 2013
 20 through 2017 crops of each loan commodity, the
 21 Secretary shall make available to producers on a
 22 farm nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for
 23 loan commodities produced on the farm.

24 (2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The marketing
 25 assistance loans shall be made under terms and con-

1 **PART III—EFFECTIVE DATE**

2 **SEC. 1491. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

3 This subtitle and the amendments made by this sub-
4 title shall take effect on October 1, 2012.

5 **Subtitle E—Supplemental Agricultural**
6 **Disaster Assistance Pro-**
7 **grams**

8 **SEC. 1501. SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURAL DISASTER AS-**
9 **SISTANCE.**

10 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

11 (1) **ELIGIBLE PRODUCER ON A FARM.**—

12 (A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “eligible pro-
13 ducer on a farm” means an individual or entity
14 described in subparagraph (B) that, as deter-
15 mined by the Secretary, assumes the production
16 and market risks associated with the agricul-
17 tural production of crops or livestock.

18 (B) **DESCRIPTION.**—An individual or enti-
19 ty referred to in subparagraph (A) is—

20 (i) a citizen of the United States;

21 (ii) a resident alien;

22 (iii) a partnership of citizens of the
23 United States; or

24 (iv) a corporation, limited liability cor-
25 poration, or other farm organizational
26 structure organized under State law.

1 (2) FARM-RAISED FISH.—The term “farm-
2 raised fish” means any aquatic species that is propa-
3 gated and reared in a controlled environment.

4 (3) LIVESTOCK.—The term “livestock” in-
5 cludes—

6 (A) cattle (including dairy cattle);

7 (B) bison;

8 (C) poultry;

9 (D) sheep;

10 (E) swine;

11 (F) horses; and

12 (G) other livestock, as determined by the
13 Secretary.

14 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of Agriculture.

16 (b) LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PAYMENTS.—

17 (1) PAYMENTS.—For each of the fiscal years
18 2012 through 2017, the Secretary shall use such
19 sums as are necessary of the funds of the Com-
20 modity Credit Corporation to make livestock indem-
21 nity payments to eligible producers on farms that
22 have incurred livestock death losses in excess of the
23 normal mortality, as determined by the Secretary,
24 due to—

TITLE II—CONSERVATION
Subtitle A—Conservation Reserve
Program

SEC. 2001. EXTENSION AND ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS
OF CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 1231(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(a)) is amended by striking “2012” and inserting “2017”.

(b) ELIGIBLE LAND.—Section 1231(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “the date of enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008” and inserting “the date of the enactment of the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2012”;

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2);

(3) by inserting before paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

“(3) grasslands that—

“(A) contain forbs or shrubland (including improved rangeland and pastureland) for which grazing is the predominant use;

“(B) are located in an area historically dominated by grasslands; and

1 “(C) could provide habitat for animal and
2 plant populations of significant ecological value
3 if the land is retained in its current use or re-
4 stored to a natural condition;”;

5 (4) in paragraph (4)(C), by striking
6 “filterstrips devoted to trees or shrubs” and insert-
7 ing “filterstrips or riparian buffers devoted to trees,
8 shrubs, or grasses”; and

9 (5) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the
10 following new paragraph:

11 “(5) the portion of land in a field not enrolled
12 in the conservation reserve in a case in which—

13 “(A) more than 50 percent of the land in
14 the field is enrolled as a buffer or filterstrip, or
15 more than 75 percent of the land in the field
16 is enrolled as a conservation practice other than
17 as a buffer or filterstrip; and

18 “(B) the remainder of the field is—

19 “(i) infeasible to farm; and

20 “(ii) enrolled at regular rental rates.”.

21 (c) PLANTING STATUS OF CERTAIN LAND.—Section
22 1231(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.
23 3831(c)) is amended by striking “if” and all that follows
24 through the period at the end and inserting “if, during
25 the crop year, the land was devoted to a conserving use.”.

1 (d) ENROLLMENT.—Subsection (d) of section 1231
2 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 “(d) ENROLLMENT.—

5 “(1) MAXIMUM ACREAGE ENROLLED.—The
6 Secretary may maintain in the conservation reserve
7 at any one time during—

8 “(A) fiscal year 2012, no more than
9 32,000,000 acres;

10 “(B) fiscal year 2013, no more than
11 29,000,000 acres;

12 “(C) fiscal year 2014, no more than
13 26,000,000 acres;

14 “(D) fiscal year 2015, no more than
15 26,000,000 acres;

16 “(E) fiscal year 2016, no more than
17 25,500,000 acres; and

18 “(F) fiscal year 2017, no more than
19 25,000,000 acres.

20 “(2) GRASSLANDS.—

21 “(A) LIMITATION.—For purposes of apply-
22 ing the limitations in paragraph (1), no more
23 than 2,000,000 acres of the land described in
24 subsection (b)(3) may be enrolled in the pro-

1 gram at any one time during the 2013 through
2 2017 fiscal years.

3 “(B) PRIORITY.—In enrolling acres under
4 subparagraph (A), the Secretary may give pri-
5 ority to land with expiring conservation reserve
6 program contracts.

7 “(C) METHOD OF ENROLLMENT.—In en-
8 rolling acres under subparagraph (A), the Sec-
9 retary shall make the program available to own-
10 ers or operators of eligible land on a continuous
11 enrollment basis with one or more ranking peri-
12 ods.”.

13 (e) DURATION OF CONTRACT.—Section 1231(e) of
14 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(e)) is
15 amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting
16 the following new paragraph:

17 “(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN LAND.—In
18 the case of land devoted to hardwood trees,
19 shelterbelts, windbreaks, or wildlife corridors under
20 a contract entered into under this subchapter, the
21 owner or operator of the land may, within the limita-
22 tions prescribed under paragraph (1), specify the du-
23 ration of the contract.”.

1 (f) CONSERVATION PRIORITY AREAS.—Section
2 1231(f) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.
3 3831(f)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “watershed
5 areas of the Chesapeake Bay Region, the Great
6 Lakes Region, the Long Island Sound Region, and
7 other”;

8 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “WATER-
9 SHEDS.—Watersheds” and inserting “AREAS.—
10 Areas”; and

11 (3) in paragraph (3), by striking “a watershed’s
12 designation—” and all that follows through the pe-
13 riod at the end and inserting “an area’s designation
14 if the Secretary finds that the area no longer con-
15 tains actual and significant adverse water quality or
16 habitat impacts related to agricultural production
17 activities.”.

18 **SEC. 2002. FARMABLE WETLAND PROGRAM.**

19 (a) EXTENSION.—Section 1231B(a)(1) of the Food
20 Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831b(a)(1)) is amend-
21 ed—

22 (1) by striking “2012” and inserting “2017”;
23 and

24 (2) by striking “a program” and inserting “a
25 farmable wetland program”.

1 (b) ELIGIBLE ACREAGE.—Section 1231B(b)(1)(B) of
2 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.
3 3831b(b)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “flow from a row
4 crop agriculture drainage system” and inserting “surface
5 and subsurface flow from row crop agricultural produc-
6 tion”.

7 (c) ACREAGE LIMITATION.—Section 1231B(c)(1)(B)
8 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.
9 3831b(c)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “1,000,000” and
10 inserting “750,000”.

11 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The heading of section
12 1231B of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.
13 3831b) is amended to read as follows: “**FARMABLE WET-**
14 **LAND PROGRAM**”.

15 **SEC. 2003. DUTIES OF OWNERS AND OPERATORS.**

16 (a) LIMITATION ON HARVESTING, GRAZING, OR COM-
17 MERCIAL USE OF FORAGE.—Section 1232(a)(8) of the
18 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832(a)(8)) is
19 amended by striking “except that” and all that follows
20 through the semicolon at the end of the paragraph and
21 inserting “except as provided in subsection (b) or (c) of
22 section 1233;”.

23 (b) CONSERVATION PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Sub-
24 section (b) of section 1232 of the Food Security Act of
25 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(b) CONSERVATION PLANS.—The plan referred to
2 in subsection (a)(1) shall set forth—

3 “(1) the conservation measures and practices to
4 be carried out by the owner or operator during the
5 term of the contract; and

6 “(2) the commercial use, if any, to be permitted
7 on the land during the term.”.

8 (c) RENTAL PAYMENT REDUCTION.—Section 1232
9 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3832) is
10 amended by striking subsection (d).

11 **SEC. 2004. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

12 Section 1233 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16
13 U.S.C. 3833) is amended to read as follows:

14 **“SEC. 1233. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

15 “(a) COST-SHARE AND RENTAL PAYMENTS.—In re-
16 turn for a contract entered into by an owner or operator
17 under the conservation reserve program, the Secretary
18 shall—

19 “(1) share the cost of carrying out the con-
20 servation measures and practices set forth in the
21 contract for which the Secretary determines that
22 cost sharing is appropriate and in the public inter-
23 est; and

1 “(2) for a period of years not in excess of the
2 term of the contract, pay an annual rental payment
3 in an amount necessary to compensate for—

4 “(A) the conversion of highly erodible crop-
5 land or other eligible lands normally devoted to
6 the production of an agricultural commodity on
7 a farm or ranch to a less intensive use;

8 “(B) the retirement of any base history
9 that the owner or operator agrees to retire per-
10 manently; and

11 “(C) the development and management of
12 grasslands for multiple natural resource con-
13 servation benefits, including to soil, water, air,
14 and wildlife.

15 “(b) SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES PERMITTED.—The Sec-
16 retary shall permit certain activities or commercial uses
17 of land that is subject to a contract under the conservation
18 reserve program in a manner that is consistent with a plan
19 approved by the Secretary, as follows:

20 “(1) Harvesting, grazing, or other commercial
21 use of the forage in response to a drought or other
22 emergency created by a natural disaster, without
23 any reduction in the rental rate.

24 “(2) Consistent with the conservation of soil,
25 water quality, and wildlife habitat (including habitat

1 during nesting seasons for birds in the area), and in
2 exchange for a reduction of not less than 25 percent
3 in the annual rental rate for the acres covered by
4 the authorized activity—

5 “(A) managed harvesting and other com-
6 mercial use (including the managed harvesting
7 of biomass), except that in permitting managed
8 harvesting, the Secretary, in coordination with
9 the State technical committee—

10 “(i) shall develop appropriate vegeta-
11 tion management requirements; and

12 “(ii) shall identify periods during
13 which managed harvesting may be con-
14 ducted, such that the frequency is not
15 more than once every three years;

16 “(B) routine grazing or prescribed grazing
17 for the control of invasive species, except that
18 in permitting such routine grazing or prescribed
19 grazing, the Secretary, in coordination with the
20 State technical committee—

21 “(i) shall develop appropriate vegeta-
22 tion management requirements and stock-
23 ing rates for the land that are suitable for
24 continued routine grazing; and

1 “(ii) shall identify the periods during
2 which routine grazing may be conducted,
3 such that the frequency is not more than
4 once every two years, taking into consider-
5 ation regional differences such as—

6 “(I) climate, soil type, and nat-
7 ural resources;

8 “(II) the number of years that
9 should be required between routine
10 grazing activities; and

11 “(III) how often during a year in
12 which routine grazing is permitted
13 that routine grazing should be allowed
14 to occur; and

15 “(C) the installation of wind turbines and
16 associated access, except that in permitting the
17 installation of wind turbines, the Secretary shall
18 determine the number and location of wind tur-
19 bines that may be installed, taking into ac-
20 count—

21 “(i) the location, size, and other phys-
22 ical characteristics of the land;

23 “(ii) the extent to which the land con-
24 tains wildlife and wildlife habitat; and

1 “(iii) the purposes of the conservation
2 reserve program under this subchapter.

3 “(3) The intermittent and seasonal use of vege-
4 tative buffer practices incidental to agricultural pro-
5 duction on lands adjacent to the buffer such that the
6 permitted use does not destroy the permanent vege-
7 tative cover.

8 “(c) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES ON GRASSLANDS.—
9 For eligible land described in section 1231(b)(3), the Sec-
10 retary shall permit the following activities:

11 “(1) Common grazing practices, including
12 maintenance and necessary cultural practices, on the
13 land in a manner that is consistent with maintaining
14 the viability of grassland, forb, and shrub species ap-
15 propriate to that locality.

16 “(2) Haying, mowing, or harvesting for seed
17 production, subject to appropriate restrictions dur-
18 ing the nesting season for critical bird species in the
19 area.

20 “(3) Fire presuppression, fire-related rehabilita-
21 tion, and construction of fire breaks.

22 “(4) Grazing-related activities, such as fencing
23 and livestock watering.

24 “(d) RESOURCE CONSERVING USE.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that
2 is 1 year before the date of termination of a contract
3 under the program, the Secretary shall allow an
4 owner or operator to make conservation and land
5 improvements that facilitate maintaining protection
6 of enrolled land after expiration of the contract.

7 “(2) CONSERVATION PLAN.—The Secretary
8 shall require an owner or operator carrying out the
9 activities described in paragraph (1) to develop and
10 implement a conservation plan.

11 “(3) RE-ENROLLMENT PROHIBITED.—Land im-
12 proved under paragraph (1) may not be re-enrolled
13 in the conservation reserve program for 5 years after
14 the date of termination of the contract.”.

15 **SEC. 2005. PAYMENTS.**

16 (a) TREES, WINDBREAKS, SHELTERBELTS, AND
17 WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.—Section 1234(b)(3)(A) of the
18 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(b)(3)(A)) is
19 amended—

20 (1) in clause (i), by inserting “and” after the
21 semicolon;

22 (2) by striking clause (ii); and

23 (3) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (ii).

1 (b) ANNUAL RENTAL PAYMENTS.—Section 1234(c)
2 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(c)) is
3 amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or other eli-
5 gible lands” after “highly erodible cropland” both
6 places it appears; and

7 (2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the
8 following new paragraph:

9 “(2) METHODS OF DETERMINATION.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amounts payable
11 to owners or operators in the form of rental
12 payments under contracts entered into under
13 this subchapter may be determined through—

14 “(i) the submission of bids for such
15 contracts by owners and operators in such
16 manner as the Secretary may prescribe; or

17 “(ii) such other means as the Sec-
18 retary determines are appropriate.

19 “(B) GRASSLANDS.—In the case of eligible
20 land described in section 1231(b)(3), the Sec-
21 retary shall make annual payments in an
22 amount that is not more than 75 percent of the
23 grazing value of the land covered by the con-
24 tract.”.

1 (c) PAYMENT SCHEDULE.—Subsection (d) of section
2 1234 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834)
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 “(d) PAYMENT SCHEDULE.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
6 vided in this section, payments under this sub-
7 chapter shall be made in cash in such amount and
8 on such time schedule as is agreed on and specified
9 in the contract.

10 “(2) ADVANCE PAYMENT.—Payments under
11 this subchapter may be made in advance of deter-
12 mination of performance.”.

13 (d) PAYMENT LIMITATION.—Section 1234(f) of the
14 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(f)) is amend-
15 ed—

16 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “, including
17 rental payments made in the form of in-kind com-
18 modities,”;

19 (2) by striking paragraph (3); and

20 (3) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-
21 graph (2).

22 **SEC. 2006. CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.**

23 (a) EARLY TERMINATION BY OWNER OR OPER-
24 ATOR.—Section 1235(e) of the Food Security Act of 1985
25 (16 U.S.C. 3835(e)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)(A)—

2 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
3 serting “During fiscal year 2013, the Sec-
4 retary”; and

5 (B) by striking “before January 1, 1995,”;

6 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph

7 (C) and inserting the following:

8 “(C) Land devoted to hardwood trees.

9 “(D) Wildlife habitat, duck nesting habi-
10 tat, pollinator habitat, upland bird habitat buff-
11 er, wildlife food plots, State acres for wildlife
12 enhancement, shallow water areas for wildlife,
13 and rare and declining habitat.

14 “(E) Farmable wetland and restored wet-
15 land.

16 “(F) Land that contains diversions, ero-
17 sion control structures, flood control structures,
18 contour grass strips, living snow fences, salinity
19 reducing vegetation, cross wind trap strips, and
20 sediment retention structures.

21 “(G) Land located within a federally-des-
22 ignated wellhead protection area.

23 “(H) Land that is covered by an easement
24 under the conservation reserve program.

1 “(I) Land located within an average width,
2 according to the applicable Natural Resources
3 Conservation Service field office technical guide,
4 of a perennial stream or permanent water
5 body.”; and

6 (3) in paragraph (3), by striking “60 days after
7 date on which the owner or operator submits the no-
8 tice required under paragraph (1)(C)” and inserting
9 “upon approval by the Secretary”.

10 (b) TRANSITION OPTION FOR CERTAIN FARMERS OR
11 RANCHERS.—Section 1235(f) of the Food Security Act of
12 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3835(f)) is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (1)—

14 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
15 (A), by striking “DUTIES” and all that follows
16 through “a beginning farmer” and inserting
17 “TRANSITION TO COVERED FARMER OR RANCH-
18 ER.—In the case of a contract modification ap-
19 proved in order to facilitate the transfer of land
20 subject to a contract from a retired farmer or
21 rancher to a beginning farmer”;

22 (B) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting “,
23 including preparing to plant an agricultural
24 crop” after “improvements”;

1 (C) in subparagraph (D), by striking “the
2 farmer or rancher” and inserting “the covered
3 farmer or rancher”; and

4 (D) in subparagraph (E), by striking “sec-
5 tion 1001A(b)(3)(B)” and inserting “section
6 1001”; and

7 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “requirement
8 of section 1231(h)(4)(B)” and inserting “option pur-
9 suant to section 1234(c)(2)(A)(ii)”.

10 (c) FINAL YEAR CONTRACT.—Section 1235 of the
11 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3835) is amended
12 by adding at the end the following new subsections:

13 “(g) FINAL YEAR OF CONTRACT.—The Secretary
14 shall not consider an owner or operator to be in violation
15 of a term or condition of the conservation reserve contract
16 if—

17 “(1) during the year prior to expiration of the
18 contract, the land is enrolled in the conservation
19 stewardship program; and

20 “(2) the activity required under the conserva-
21 tion stewardship program pursuant to such enroll-
22 ment is consistent with this subchapter.

23 “(h) LAND ENROLLED IN AGRICULTURAL CON-
24 SERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM.—The Secretary may
25 terminate or modify a contract entered into under this

1 subchapter if eligible land that is subject to such contract
2 is transferred into the agricultural conservation easement
3 program under subtitle H.”.

4 **SEC. 2007. CONVERSION OF LAND SUBJECT TO CONTRACT**
5 **TO OTHER CONSERVING USES.**

6 Section 1235A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16
7 U.S.C. 3835a) is repealed.

8 **SEC. 2008. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this
10 subtitle shall take effect on October 1, 2012, except the
11 amendment made by section 2001(d), which shall take ef-
12 fect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

13 (b) EFFECT ON EXISTING CONTRACTS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
15 graph (2), the amendments made by this subtitle
16 shall not affect the validity or terms of any contract
17 entered into by the Secretary of Agriculture under
18 subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII
19 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831
20 et seq.) before October 1, 2012, or any payments re-
21 quired to be made in connection with the contract.

22 (2) UPDATING OF EXISTING CONTRACTS.—The
23 Secretary shall permit an owner or operator of land
24 subject to a contract entered into under subchapter
25 B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food

1 Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.) be-
 2 fore October 1, 2012, to update the contract to re-
 3 flect the activities and uses of land under contract
 4 permitted under the terms and conditions of section
 5 1233(b) of that Act (as amended by section 2004),
 6 as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

7 **Subtitle B—Conservation** 8 **Stewardship Program**

9 **SEC. 2101. CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM.**

10 (a) REVISION OF CURRENT PROGRAM.—Subchapter
 11 B of chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Secu-
 12 rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838d et seq.) is amended
 13 to read as follows:

14 **“Subchapter B—Conservation Stewardship** 15 **Program**

16 **“SEC. 1238D. DEFINITIONS.**

17 “In this subchapter:

18 “(1) AGRICULTURAL OPERATION.—The term
 19 ‘agricultural operation’ means all eligible land,
 20 whether or not contiguous, that is—

21 “(A) under the effective control of a pro-
 22 ducer at the time the producer enters into a
 23 contract under the program; and

24 “(B) operated with equipment, labor, man-
 25 agement, and production or cultivation prac-

1 (C) by redesignating subclauses (I) and
2 (II) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and in-
3 denting appropriately.

4 **TITLE XII—MISCELLANEOUS**

5 **Subtitle A—Livestock**

6 **SEC. 12101. NATIONAL SHEEP INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT** 7 **CENTER.**

8 Section 375(e)(6)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and
9 Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008j(e)(6)(C)) is
10 amended by striking “2012” and inserting “2017”.

11 **SEC. 12102. TRICHINAE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.**

12 Section 10405(d)(1) of the Animal Health Protection
13 Act (7 U.S.C. 8304(d)(1)) is amended in subparagraphs
14 (A) and (B) by striking “2012” each place it appears and
15 inserting “2017”.

16 **SEC. 12103. NATIONAL AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH PLAN.**

17 Section 11013(d) of the Food, Conservation, and En-
18 ergy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8322(d)) is amended by strik-
19 ing “2012” and inserting “2017”.

1 **Subtitle B—Socially Disadvantaged**
 2 **Producers and Limited Re-**
 3 **source Producers**

4 **SEC. 12201. OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR SOCIALLY**
 5 **DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS**
 6 **AND VETERAN FARMERS AND RANCHERS.**

7 (a) OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR SOCIALLY DIS-
 8 ADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS AND VETERAN
 9 FARMERS AND RANCHERS.—Section 2501 of the Food,
 10 Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7
 11 U.S.C. 2279) is amended—

12 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND**
 13 **VETERAN FARMERS AND RANCHERS**” after
 14 “**RANCHERS**”;

15 (2) in subsection (a)—

16 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and
 17 veteran farmers or ranchers” after “ranchers”;

18 (B) in paragraph (2)(B)(i), by inserting
 19 “and veteran farmers or ranchers” after
 20 “ranchers”; and

21 (C) in paragraph (4)—

22 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

23 (I) in clause (i), by striking
 24 “and” at the end;

1 (II) in clause (ii), by striking the
2 period at the end and inserting “;
3 and”; and

4 (III) by adding at the end the
5 following new clause:

6 “(iii) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal
7 years 2013 through 2017.”; and

8 (ii) by adding at the end the following
9 new subparagraph:

10 “(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
11 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
12 to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for each
13 of fiscal years 2013 through 2017.”;

14 (3) in subsection (b)(2), by inserting “or vet-
15 eran farmers and ranchers” after “socially disadvan-
16 tagged farmers and ranchers”;

17 (4) in subsection (c)—

18 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “vet-
19 eran farmers or ranchers and” before “mem-
20 bers”; and

21 (B) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “vet-
22 eran farmers or ranchers and” before “mem-
23 bers”; and

24 (5) in subsection (e)(5)(A)—

1 (A) in clause (i), by inserting “and veteran
2 farmers or ranchers” after “ranchers”; and

3 (B) in clause (ii), by inserting “and vet-
4 eran farmers or ranchers” after “ranchers”.

5 (b) DEFINITION OF VETERAN FARMER OR RANCH-
6 ER.—Section 2501(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
7 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(e)) is amend-
8 ed by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

9 “(7) VETERAN FARMER OR RANCHER.—The
10 term ‘veteran farmer or rancher’ means a farmer or
11 rancher who served in the active military, naval, or
12 air service, and who was discharged or released from
13 the service under conditions other than dishonor-
14 able.”.

15 **SEC. 12202. OFFICE OF ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH.**

16 Paragraph (3) of section 226B(f) of the Department
17 of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C.
18 6934(f)) is amended to read as follows:

19 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
20 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
21 this subsection—

22 “(A) such sums as are necessary for each
23 of fiscal years 2009 through 2012; and

24 “(B) \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years
25 2013 through 2017.”.

1 **Subtitle C—Other Miscellaneous**
2 **Provisions**

3 **SEC. 12301. GRANTS TO IMPROVE SUPPLY, STABILITY,**
4 **SAFETY, AND TRAINING OF AGRICULTURAL**
5 **LABOR FORCE.**

6 Subsection (d) of section 14204 of the Food, Con-
7 servation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2008q–1)
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 “(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There
10 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec-
11 tion—

12 “(1) such sums as are necessary for each of fis-
13 cal years 2008 through 2012; and

14 “(2) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2013
15 through 2017.”.

○