



U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

PRESS RELEASE

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Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Bill and Report Now Available Online

Washington, D.C. . The Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill and report are now available online. The bill invests in some of the nation's most important education, workforce, science, and technology projects. The bill strengthens the nation's top food and drug regulation agency, increases rural development and global food assistance, and provides rental assistance for the nation's neediest households. The legislation invests **\$20.435 billion** in these critical programs to meet the nation's health, housing, food and drug safety needs.

“I am pleased that the Agriculture bill restores the President's ill-considered cuts in rural housing and rural development. At a time when food costs are dramatically on the rise, we provide significant increases above the President's request for the Women, Infants and Children, and Commodity Supplemental Food programs,” said Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va. “The funding levels contained in the bill will provide critical nutrition services to 894,000 people who have received such services under the President's request. Although this bill is in excess of the President's request, I once again call on the President to reconsider his unwise veto threats. Now is not the time to cut or eliminate programs that invest in the growth of our Nation and support nutritional assistance to Americans who are suffering from a shrinking economy.”

Link to the Senate Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations legislation, through the Government Printing Office:
<http://www.congress.gov/cgi-lis/query/z?c110:S.3288>:

Link to the Committee report to accompany the legislation, through the Government Printing Office:
[http://www.congress.gov/cgi-lis/cpquery/R?cp110:FLD010:@1\(sr425\)](http://www.congress.gov/cgi-lis/cpquery/R?cp110:FLD010:@1(sr425))

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