

AGRICULTURE MANAGER'S PACKAGE

Bill/Report language for Senator Udall regarding socially disadvantaged farmers

Bill/Report language for Senator Merkley regarding the Watershed and Flood Prevention Act

Bill/Report language for Senator Tester regarding the Under Secretary for Rural Development

Bill/Report language for Senator Moran regarding agricultural research and extension

Bill/Report for Senator McConnell regarding industrial hemp

Bill/Report language for Senator Hoeven regarding drought relief

Report language for Senator Tester regarding imported beef

Report language for Senator Leahy regarding State Rural Development Councils

Report language for Senator Schatz regarding coffee germplasm

Report language for Senator Schatz regarding fruit fly and exotic pest control

Report language for Senator Kennedy regarding agricultural research

Report language for Senator Kennedy regarding pest management

Report language for Senator Lankford regarding emergency assistance programs

Report language for Senator Collins regarding caloric content

Report language for Senator Durbin regarding Center for Safety and Nutrition Centers of Excellence

Report language for Senator Graham regarding dietary ingredients

Report language for Senator Reed regarding Food Safety Modernization Act

Report language for Senator Murphy regarding medical gas rulemaking

On page 2 of the bill, line 13, strike “\$45,355,000” and insert “\$48,355,000”.

On page 2 of the bill, line 24, strike “\$1,209,000” and insert “\$4,209,000”.

On page 6 of the bill, line 14, strike “\$75,189,000” and insert “\$67,293,000”.

On page 11 of the bill, line 5, strike “\$852,871,000” and insert “\$854,871,000”.

On page 12 of the bill, line 14, strike “\$479,376,000” and insert “\$481,376,000”.

On page 32 of the bill, after line 2, insert the following:

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, \$896,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Rural Development mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

On page 85 of the bill, line 2, between “hemp” and “that” insert “, or seeds of such plant,”.

On page 112 of the bill, at the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 754. (a) Section 2 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1002) is amended in the matter following paragraph (3) by striking “\$5,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”.

(b) Section 5 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1005) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “\$5,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”; and

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking “\$5,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”.

SEC. 755. (a) *In General*.—Section 231 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6941) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “is authorized to” and inserting “shall”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “If the Secretary” and all that follows through “the Under Secretary” and inserting “The Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development”;

(3) by striking subsection (d); and

(4) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d).

(b) Authority.—Section 296(b) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7014(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(9) The authority of the Secretary to establish in the Department the position of Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development under section 231.”.

SEC. 756. Funds made available for ELAP assistance shall also be made available for the transporting of hay and livestock due to an eligible drought.

On page 7 of the report, under the boxhead “Office of the Secretary”, strike “45,355,000” and insert “48,355,000”.

On page 7 of the report, under the paragraph “Committee Recommendations”, strike “\$45,355,000” and insert “\$48,355,000”.

On page 7 of the report, in the table, strike “1,209” under Committee Recommendation and insert “4,209”; strike “45,355” under Committee Recommendation and insert “48,355”.

On page 8 of the report, after the header “Drought Relief” strike the paragraph and insert the following:

The Committee directs USDA to provide quarterly reports to the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations detailing USDA’s efforts to provide drought relief to States where all or the majority of counties are declared to be in a drought disaster, as well as any unmet needs or backlogs for USDA drought relief programs. The Committee encourages USDA to consider providing drought relief by opening CP ineligible acres to emergency grazing and haying, at the discretion of the Secretary, after the conclusion of the primary nesting season for D2 and higher intensity drought areas. The Committee further encourages USDA to allocate additional staff and other appropriate resources to drought stricken areas to provide support to local staff to address the backlog and expedite relief for producers.

On page 8 of the report, between “Drought Relief” and “Livestock Crossing”, insert the following paragraph:

Imported Beef.—The Committee is encouraged by the Secretary of Agriculture’s recent decision to protect American consumers and ranchers by halting imports of all raw intact beef products from Brazil. The Committee, however, remains concerned about the long-term safety of imported meat products from Brazil following the recent bribery scandal and the reports on the unacceptable level of physical examination failures of raw intact beef. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary to report to the Committee within 60 days of enactment on the status of the Department’s actions regarding meat imports from Brazil from the period March 18, 2017 to the present. Specifically, the Secretary shall identify 1) the results of any onsite trips

taken by USDA personnel to Brazil since March 18, 2017 2) when the next comprehensive audit of the Brazilian meat inspection system will be conducted 3) the results of the intensified re-inspection regime at our ports-of-entry on Brazilian meat products still accepted, including failure rates broken down by meat product 4) a detailed explanation of benchmarks that Brazil will be required to meet to resume exporting raw intact beef to the United States.

On page 9 in the report, in the paragraph “Outreach to Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers”, insert the following sentence:

Additionally, the Committee recommendation includes an increase of \$3 million in discretionary funding for these activities.

On page 9 of the report, between “Resource Conservation and Development Councils” and “Wheat Grading”, insert the following paragraph:

State Rural Development Councils.—The Committee recognizes the successful work of State Rural Development Councils (SRDCs) and their role in advancing rural America and promoting strength and prosperity across the country, and urges the Secretary to provide resources to help improve and expand the impact of SRDCs.

On page 13 of the report, under the boxhead “Agriculture Buildings and Facilities”, strike the Committee Recommendation of “\$75,189,000” and insert “\$67,293,000”.

On page 13 of the report, under the paragraph “Committee Recommendations” for Agriculture Buildings and Facilities, strike “\$75,189,000” and insert “\$67,293,000”.

On page 15 of the report, in the appropriate place within “Committee Recommendations” for the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, insert the following paragraph:

Industrial Hemp. – The Committee is aware of statements made by the Department acknowledging the eligibility of researchers participating in industrial hemp pilot programs as defined by Section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 to compete for federal funds awarded by the Department. The Committee directs the Department to work with and inform stakeholders of this eligibility and to support industrial hemp research as authorized by Section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

On page 20 of the report, above the paragraph “Cotton Ginning”, insert the following paragraph:

Coffee Germplasm.—The Committee directs ARS to issue a report and recommendations on the feasibility of including coffee in the National Clonal Germplasm Repository within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

On page 21 of the report, between “Forest Products” and “Genetic Oat Research”, insert the following paragraph:

Fruit Fly and Exotic Pest Control.—Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs ARS to study and make recommendations on the feasibility of additional support to prevent the spread of fruit flies and other exotic pests to the U.S. mainland from the tropical Pacific.

On page 23 of the report, between “Research Facilities” and “Sage Steppe Restoration Science” insert the following paragraph:

Roseau Cane. – The Committee is concerned with the invasive species scale insect pest that is destroying Roseau cane in the Mississippi River’s Delta region along the Gulf of Mexico. An estimated 225,000 acres of wetlands in the Delta have been affected with the die-off, and Roseau cane is important in maintaining a healthy marsh and preventing erosion. The Committee directs ARS to work with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and stakeholders to develop an integrated management program for control of the Roseau cane scale insect pest infestation.

On page 25 of the report, under the boxhead “Research and Education Activities”, strike the Committee Recommendation of “\$852,871,000” and insert “\$854,871,000”.

On page 26 of the report, under the paragraph “Committee Recommendations” for Research and Education Activities, strike “\$852,871,000” and insert “\$854,871,000”.

On page 26 of the report, in the table, strike “1,801” under Committee Recommendation and insert “3,801”; strike “852,871” under Committee Recommendation and insert “854,871”.

On page 31 of the report, under the boxhead “Extension Activities”, strike the Committee Recommendation of “\$479,376,000” and insert “\$481,376,000”.

On page 32 of the report, under the paragraph “Committee Recommendations” for Extension Activities, strike “\$479,376,000” and insert “\$481,376,000”.

On page 32 of the report, in the table, strike “4,446” under Committee Recommendation and insert “6,446”; strike “479,376” under Committee Recommendation and insert “481,376”.

On page 39 of the report, between “Regional Biosecurity Plan for Micronesia and Hawaii” and “Sudden Oak Death” insert the following paragraph:

Roseau Cane. – The Committee is concerned with the invasive species scale insect pest that is destroying Roseau cane in the Mississippi River’s Delta region along the Gulf of Mexico. An estimated 225,000 acres of wetlands in the Delta have been affected with the die-off, and Roseau cane is important in maintaining a healthy marsh and preventing erosion. The Committee directs APHIS to work with the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and

stakeholders to develop an integrated management program for control of the Roseau cane scale insect pest infestation.

On page 48 of the report, under Committee Recommendations, below “Deputy Under Secretary for Conservation” insert the following paragraph:

Emergency Response. – The Committee directs USDA to produce a report outlining the average and longest length of time it takes USDA to provide reimbursement under the following emergency assistance programs: crop insurance; Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP); Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP); Tree Assistance Program (TAP); Emergency Conservation Program; and Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP). USDA is also directed to include in the report any barriers to implementing a more efficient reimbursement process and recommendations to the Committee on potential improvements.

On page 59 of the report, in the boxhead, strike “...” And insert “896,000”.

On page 59 of the report, under “Committee Recommendations”, strike “does not recommend an appropriation” and insert “recommends an appropriation of \$896,000”.

On page 91 of the report, in the appropriate place above “Centers of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation” insert the following paragraph:

Caloric Content. - The Committee is concerned that the FDA Nutrition Facts Label final rule does not include specific requirements for certain carbohydrates that may have insignificant or no caloric content. Consumers generally rely on the caloric information provided on food and beverage labels. The Committee is aware that the FDA is working to provide additional information for food manufacturers clarifying how certain carbohydrates, as appropriate, that may have insignificant or no caloric content should be labeled. The Committee urges the FDA to provide clarity to food manufacturers on the labeling of such carbohydrates, as appropriate.

On page 91 of the report, in the appropriate place above “Centers of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation” insert the following paragraph:

Center for Safety and Nutrition Centers of Excellence.—The Committee is aware of the important contribution of the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition’s Centers of Excellence [COEs] program in supporting critical basic research as well as facilitating the implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act. The Committee encourages the Agency to continue to fully utilize the COEs to accomplish these goals, and instructs that it enhance its level of support for FDA Food Safety Modernization Act activities.

On page 91 of the report, between “Dietary Fiber” and “Donor Milk Supply” insert the following paragraph:

Dietary Ingredients Guidance. - The Committee encourages FDA to meet with representatives of the supplement industry as well as consumer groups and to review all comments received regarding the "Dietary Supplements: New Dietary Ingredient (NDI) Notifications and Related Issues" guidance.

On page 92 of the report, between “Food Safety Mission” and “Foreign High Risk Inspections”, insert the following paragraph:

Food Safety Modernization Act. – The Committee is aware that some states that have entered into cooperative agreements under the State Produce Implementation Cooperative Agreement Program to provide education, outreach, and technical assistance are considering changing the state agency responsible for implementing these agreements. The Food and Drug Administration is directed to work with any state that designates a new implementing agency to ensure it can continue to receive funding under existing cooperative agreements without delay or loss of funding.

On page 94 of the report, strike the paragraph “Medical Gases”, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Medical Gas Rulemaking.—The Committee is concerned that the FDA has not initiated a rulemaking on medical air labeling, adverse event reporting, or the numerous longstanding medical gas regulatory issues identified at the December 6, 2013 public meeting. While Section 1112 of Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (FDASIA) required the Secretary to make a determination on whether to propose new regulations for medical gases, the 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act required the Secretary to issue new regulations by July 15, 2017. Congress has twice enacted laws on this issue and expects the FDA to reach a consensus with industry by incorporating general concerns into regulations, either through incorporation by reference or principle-based regulation. FDA’s role as a regulator is to vet and propose regulations, especially when directed to do so by Congress. Resources have been provided to the FDA through discretionary appropriations and user fees to accomplish its mission. FDA is directed to convene with stakeholders in a public meeting on the regulation of medical gases and provide a written report to Congress including a description of the sections of the Code of Federal Regulations that will be updated no later than December 31, 2017 and issue the final regulations required by Public Law No: 115-31 no later than July 15, 2018.

On page 102 of the report, at the appropriate place, insert the following:

- Section 754. This section includes language regarding watersheds.
- Section 755. This section includes language regarding rural development.
- Section 756. This section includes language regarding disaster assistance.