



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Office  
of the  
Secretary

Office of Budget  
and Program  
Analysis

Washington,  
D.C.  
20250

*Sabat*

*Agency  
needs*

MAY 25 2006

**TO:** The Secretary  
The Deputy Secretary  
Subcabinet Officials

**FROM:** W. Scott Steele  
Director

*Steele*

**SUBJECT:** House Action on Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Agriculture Appropriations

On Tuesday, May 23, the House passed H.R. 5384, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2007. Attached is a table summarizing the changes in funding levels for specific programs.

A number of amendments were considered during floor action. A Rep. Hefley (R-CO) amendment to reduce discretionary funding by 1 percent across the board was rejected, as were several amendments offered by Rep. Flake (R-AZ) to curb earmarks in the bill. Highlights of other actions during the floor debate include:

#### Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services

Sustaining a point of order raised by Rep. Goodlatte (R-VA) against a general provision extending the Farm Bill peanut storage program through FY 2007.

Sustaining a point of order also raised by Rep. Goodlatte (R-VA) against a general provision extending the Milk Income Loss Contract program through FY 2007.

Approving a Rep. Ryan (D-OH) amendment to require the Secretary to hold a public meeting 30 days "before" the date on which the Secretary proposes to close a Farm Service Agency office rather than 30 days "after" the date.

Approving a Rep. Carter (R-TX) amendment to fund up to \$3.6 million for the data mining activities for the Crop Insurance Program from mandatory funding.

Rejecting a Rep. Chabot (R-OH) amendment to eliminate the Market Access Program.

Rejecting a Rep. Blumenauer (D-OR) amendment to cut by 6% the Sugar Loan Program by reducing loan rates for raw sugar cane and refined beet sugar.

#### Rural Development

Accepting a Rep. Sanders (I-VT) amendment to provide \$1.5 million for the National Agri-Tourism Initiative within the funding provided for the Rural Community Advancement Program.

### Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services

Approving a Rep. Garrett (R-NJ) amendment to prohibit the use of funds under the Food Stamp Program to contravene existing immigration law requiring sponsors of legal immigrants to be financially liable for their government benefits.

### Natural Resources and Environment

Approving a Rep. Lucas (R-OK) amendment to eliminate funding for the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

Rejecting a Rep. Gutknecht (R-MN) amendment to cut \$82 million from various programs to fund the Wetlands Reserve Program to attain the 250,000 acres proposed in the President's budget.

### Research, Education and Economics

Approving a Rep. Boren (D-OK) amendment to prohibit the use of funds from being made available for the Agricultural Research Service to reprogram programs and resources currently operating at Lane, Oklahoma.

### Marketing and Regulatory Programs

Approving a Rep. Weiner (D-NY) amendment to add \$23 million to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for plant pest eradication programs. This increase is offset by a reduction to the Common Computing Environment

Rejecting a Rep. Paul (R-TX) amendment to prohibit the use of funds to implement and administer the National Animal Identification Program.

The House passed the Agriculture appropriations bill by a recorded vote of 378 Yeas to 46 Nays. We will keep you informed of further action.

### Attachment

cc: Dale Moore, Chief of Staff  
Drew DeBerry, Deputy Chief of Staff  
Beth Johnson, Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief Assistant to the Deputy Secretary  
Jennifer Cervantes-Eggers, Senior Advisor to the Secretary  
Agency Heads  
Agency Budget Officers

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**FY 2007 -- New Budget Authority by Appropriations**  
**Amendments Passed by the House**  
**(Dollars in Thousands)**

<u>Agency or Item</u>	<u>2006</u> <u>Estimate</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>President's</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>House</u> <u>Committee</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>House</u> <u>Action</u>
<b>FARM BILL PROGRAMS:</b>					
Environmental Quality Incentives Program.....	\$1,017,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,087,000	\$40,000	\$1,127,000
<b>RURAL DEVELOPMENT:</b>					
Rural Community Advancement Program.....	694,922	600,762	699,893	5,000	704,893
<b>COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE:</b>					
Research and Education:					
National Research Initiative.....	181,170	247,500	190,000	-1,000	189,000
Grants for Insular Areas.....	495	495	500	200	700
Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions.....	5,940	5,588	5,940	700	6,640
Integrated Activities: Organic Transitions Program.....	1,855	0	1,855	3,145	5,000
Outreach for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers.....	5,940	6,930	6,930	100	7,030
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE.....	139,293	152,584	148,719	-500	148,219
<b>ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE:</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	807,306	953,374	898,116	23,500	921,616
<b>OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY</b>					
Office of the Under Secretary for					
Natural Resources and Environment.....	737	957	810	-810	0
AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES.....	185,857	209,814	209,814	-3,145	206,669
COMMON COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT.....	108,971	108,900	68,971	-30,576	38,395
<b>SCORING OFFSETS:</b>					
Milk Income Loss Contract Program extension rejected...				-40,000	
<b>TOTAL, NET CHANGES.....</b>				<u><u>-3,386</u></u>	