

Union Calendar No. 221

105TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 2534

[Report No. 105-376]

A BILL

To reform, extend, and repeal certain agricultural research, extension, and education programs, and for other purposes.

NOVEMBER 4, 1997

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

Union Calendar No. 221

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2534

[Report No. 105-376]

To reform, extend, and repeal certain agricultural research, extension, and education programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 24, 1997

Mr. COMBEST (for himself, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, and Mr. STENHOLM) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

NOVEMBER 4, 1997

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on September 24, 1997]

A BILL

To reform, extend, and repeal certain agricultural research, extension, and education programs, 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 “Ag-*
 3 *ricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reauthor-*
 4 *ization Act of 1997”.*

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

**TITLE I—COORDINATION, PLANNING, AND DEFINITIONS
 REGARDING AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION,
 AND EDUCATION**

Sec. 101. Priorities and management principles for federally supported and con-
ducted agricultural research, education, and extension.

Sec. 102. Principal definitions regarding agricultural research, education, and
extension.

Sec. 103. Consultation with National Agricultural Research, Extension, Edu-
cation, and Economics Advisory Board.

Sec. 104. Relevance and merit of federally funded agricultural research, extension,
and education.

Sec. 105. Expansion of authority to enter into cost-reimbursable agreements.

Sec. 106. Evaluation and assessment of agricultural research, extension, and edu-
cation programs.

**TITLE II—REFORM OF EXISTING RESEARCH, EXTENSION,
 AND EDUCATION AUTHORITIES**

Subtitle A—Smith-Lever Act and Hatch Act of 1887

Sec. 201. Adoption of short titles for Smith-Lever Act and Hatch Act of 1887.

Sec. 202. Consistent matching funds requirements under Hatch Act of 1887 and
Smith-Lever Act.

Sec. 203. Plans of work to address critical research and extension issues and use
of protocols to measure success of plans.

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

Sec. 211. Plans of work for 1890 land-grant colleges to address critical research
and extension issues and use of protocols to measure success of
plans.

Sec. 212. Matching funds requirement for research and extension activities at
1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University.

Sec. 213. International research, extension, and teaching.

Sec. 214. Task force on 10-year strategic plan for agricultural research facilities.

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

Sec. 231. National agricultural weather information system.

Sec. 232. Agricultural genome initiative.

Subtitle D—National Research Initiative

Sec. 241. Waiver of matching requirement for certain small colleges and universities.

Subtitle E—Other Existing Laws

Sec. 251. Findings, authorities, and competitive research grants under Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978.

**TITLE III—EXTENSION OR REPEAL OF RESEARCH,
EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES**

Subtitle A—Extensions

Sec. 301. National Research Initiative under Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act.

Sec. 302. Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994.

Sec. 303. Education grants programs for Hispanic-serving institutions.

Sec. 304. General authorization for agricultural research programs.

Sec. 305. General authorization for extension education.

Sec. 306. Grants and fellowships for food and agricultural sciences education.

Sec. 307. Grants for research on the production and marketing of alcohols and industrial hydrocarbons from agricultural commodities and forest products.

Sec. 308. Policy research centers.

Sec. 309. Human nutrition intervention and health promotion research program.

Sec. 310. Pilot research program to combine medical and agricultural research.

Sec. 311. Food and nutrition education program.

Sec. 312. Animal health and disease continuing research.

Sec. 313. Animal health and disease national or regional research.

Sec. 314. Grant program to upgrade agricultural and food sciences facilities at 1890 land-grant colleges.

Sec. 315. National research and training centennial centers.

Sec. 316. Supplemental and alternative crops research.

Sec. 317. Aquaculture research and extension.

Sec. 318. Rangeland research.

Sec. 319. Federal agricultural research facilities.

Sec. 320. Water quality research, education, and coordination.

Sec. 321. National genetics resources program.

Sec. 322. Agricultural telecommunications program.

Sec. 323. Assistive technology program for farmers with disabilities.

Sec. 324. National Rural Information Center Clearinghouse.

Sec. 325. Critical Agricultural Materials Act.

Subtitle B—Repeals

Sec. 341. Aquaculture research facilities.

Sec. 342. Agricultural research program under National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments of 1981.

Sec. 343. Livestock product safety and inspection program.

Sec. 344. Generic authorization of appropriations.

TITLE IV—NEW RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Subtitle A—Partnerships for High-Value Agricultural Product Quality Research.

- Sec. 401. Definitions.*
Sec. 402. Establishment and characteristics of partnerships.
Sec. 403. Elements of grant making process.
Sec. 404. Authorization of appropriations and related provisions.

Subtitle B—Precision Agriculture

- Sec. 411. Definitions.*
Sec. 412. Competitive grants to promote precision agriculture.
Sec. 413. Reservation of funds for education and information dissemination projects.
Sec. 414. Precision agriculture partnerships.
Sec. 415. Miscellaneous provisions.
Sec. 416. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle C—Other Initiatives

- Sec. 421. High-priority research and extension initiatives.*
Sec. 422. Organic agriculture research and extension initiative.
Sec. 423. United States-Mexico joint agricultural research.
Sec. 424. Competitive grants for international agricultural science and education programs.
Sec. 425. Food animal residue avoidance database program.
Sec. 426. Development and commercialization of new biobased products.
Sec. 427. Thomas Jefferson Initiative for Crop Diversification.
Sec. 428. Integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants program.
Sec. 429. Research grants under Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994.

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Sec. 501. Role of Secretary of Agriculture regarding food and agricultural sciences research, education, and extension.*
Sec. 502. Office of Pest Management Policy.
Sec. 503. Food Safety Research Information Office and national conference.
Sec. 504. Nutrient composition data.
Sec. 505. Availability of funds received or collected on behalf of National Arboretum.
Sec. 506. Retention and use of Agricultural Research Service patent culture collection fees.
Sec. 507. Reimbursement of expenses incurred under Sheep Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1994.
Sec. 508. Sense of Congress regarding Agricultural Research Service emphasis on in field research regarding methyl bromide alternatives.
Sec. 509. Sense of Congress regarding importance of school-based agricultural education.
Sec. 510. Sense of Congress regarding designation of Department Crisis Management Team.

1 **TITLE I—COORDINATION, PLAN-**
2 **NING, AND DEFINITIONS RE-**
3 **GARDING AGRICULTURAL RE-**
4 **SEARCH, EXTENSION, AND**
5 **EDUCATION**

6 **SEC. 101. PRIORITIES AND MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES FOR**
7 **FEDERALLY SUPPORTED AND CONDUCTED**
8 **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND**
9 **EXTENSION.**

10 *(a) PRIORITY SETTING PROCESS.—Section 1402 of the*
11 *National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching*
12 *Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3101) is amended—*

13 *(1) by inserting “(a) PURPOSES.—” before “The*
14 *purposes”; and*

15 *(2) by adding at the end the following new sub-*
16 *section:*

17 *“(b) PRIORITY SETTING PROCESS.—Consistent with*
18 *subsection (a), the Secretary shall establish priorities for ag-*
19 *ricultural research, extension, and education activities con-*
20 *ducted or funded by the Department. In establishing such*
21 *priorities, the Secretary shall solicit and consider input and*
22 *recommendations from the Advisory Board and persons who*
23 *conduct or use agricultural research, extension, or edu-*
24 *cation.”.*

1 (b) *MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES*.—Such section is fur-
2 ther amended by adding after subsection (b), as added by
3 subsection (a)(2), the following new subsection:

4 “(c) *MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES*.—To the maximum
5 extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that agricul-
6 tural research, education, and extension activities con-
7 ducted or funded by the Department are accomplished in
8 a manner that—

9 “(1) integrates agricultural research, education,
10 and extension functions to better link research to tech-
11 nology transfer and information dissemination activi-
12 ties;

13 “(2) encourages multi-State and multi-institu-
14 tional programs to address relevant issues of common
15 concern and to better leverage scarce resources; and

16 “(3) achieves agricultural research, education,
17 and extension objectives through multi-institutional
18 and multifunctional approaches and by conducting
19 research at facilities and institutions best equipped to
20 achieve those objectives.”.

21 (c) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT*.—The heading of such sec-
22 tion is amended by inserting “, **PRIORITIES, AND MAN-**
23 **AGEMENT PRINCIPLES**” after “**PURPOSES**”.

1 **SEC. 102. PRINCIPAL DEFINITIONS REGARDING AGRICUL-**
2 **TURAL RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTEN-**
3 **SION.**

4 (a) *FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES.*—Paragraph
5 (8) of section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research,
6 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
7 3103) is amended to read as follows:

8 “(8) *FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES.*—The
9 term ‘food and agricultural sciences’ means basic, ap-
10 plied, and developmental research, extension, and
11 teaching activities in food and fiber, agricultural, re-
12 newable natural resources, forestry, and physical and
13 social sciences, including (but not limited to) activi-
14 ties relating to the following:

15 “(A) *Animal health, production, and well-*
16 *being.*

17 “(B) *Plant health and production.*

18 “(C) *Animal and plant germ plasm collec-*
19 *tion and preservation.*

20 “(D) *Aquaculture.*

21 “(E) *Food safety.*

22 “(F) *Soil and water conservation and im-*
23 *provement.*

24 “(G) *Forestry, horticulture, and range man-*
25 *agement.*

26 “(H) *Nutritional sciences and promotion.*

1 “(I) *Farm enhancement, including finan-*
2 *cial management, input efficiency, and profit-*
3 *ability.*

4 “(J) *Home economics.*

5 “(K) *Rural human ecology.*

6 “(L) *Youth development and agricultural*
7 *education, including 4–H.*

8 “(M) *Expansion of domestic and inter-*
9 *national markets for agricultural commodities*
10 *and products, including agricultural trade bar-*
11 *rier identification and comprehension.*

12 “(N) *Information management and tech-*
13 *nology transfer related to agriculture.*

14 “(O) *Biotechnology related to agriculture.*”.

15 (b) *REFERENCES TO TEACHING OR EDUCATION.—*
16 *Paragraph (14) of such section is amended by striking “the*
17 *term ‘teaching’ means” and inserting “TEACHING AND EDU-*
18 *CATION.—The terms ‘teaching’ and ‘education’ mean”.*

19 (c) *APPLICATION OF DEFINITIONS TO AGRICULTURAL*
20 *RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION.—Such section is*
21 *further amended by striking the section heading and all*
22 *that follows through the matter preceding paragraph (1)*
23 *and inserting the following:*

1 **“SEC. 1404. PRINCIPAL DEFINITIONS REGARDING AGRICUL-**
2 **TURAL RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTEN-**
3 **SION.**

4 *“When used in this title or any other law relating to*
5 *any research, extension, or education activities of the De-*
6 *partment of Agriculture regarding the food and agricultural*
7 *sciences (unless the context requires otherwise):”.*

8 *(d) IN-KIND SUPPORT.—Such section is further*
9 *amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:*

10 *“(18) IN-KIND SUPPORT.—The term ‘in-kind*
11 *support’, with regard to a requirement that the recip-*
12 *ient of funds provided by the Secretary match all or*
13 *some portion of the amount of the funds, means con-*
14 *tributions such as office space, equipment, and staff*
15 *support.”.*

16 *(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Such section is fur-*
17 *ther amended—*

18 *(1) by striking “the term” in paragraphs (1),*
19 *(2), (3), (5), (6), (7), (10) through (13), and (15),*
20 *(16), and (17) and inserting “The term”;*

21 *(2) in paragraph (4), by striking “the terms”*
22 *and inserting “The terms”;*

23 *(3) in paragraph (9), by striking “the term” the*
24 *first place it appears and inserting “The term”;*

1 (4) *by striking the semicolon at the end of para-*
2 *graphs (1) through (7) and (9) through (15) and in-*
3 *serting a period; and*

4 (5) *in paragraph (16)(F), by striking “; and”*
5 *and inserting a period.*

6 **SEC. 103. CONSULTATION WITH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL**
7 **RESEARCH, EXTENSION, EDUCATION, AND EC-**
8 **ONOMICS ADVISORY BOARD.**

9 *Subsection (d) of section 1408 of the National Agricul-*
10 *tural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977*
11 *(7 U.S.C. 3123) is amended to read as follows:*

12 “(d) **CONSULTATION.**—

13 “(1) **AS AFFECTING ADVISORY BOARD.**—*In car-*
14 *rying out this section, the Advisory Board shall solicit*
15 *opinions and recommendations from persons who will*
16 *benefit from and use federally funded agricultural re-*
17 *search, extension, education, and economics.*

18 “(2) **AS AFFECTING SECRETARY.**—*To comply*
19 *with a provision of this title or any other law that*
20 *requires the Secretary to consult or cooperate with the*
21 *Advisory Board or that authorizes the Advisory*
22 *Board to submit recommendations to the Secretary,*
23 *the Secretary shall—*

24 “(A) *solicit the written opinions and rec-*
25 *ommendations of the Advisory Board; and*

1 “(B) provide a written response to the Advi-
2 sory Board regarding the manner and extent to
3 which the Secretary will implement rec-
4 ommendations submitted by the Advisory
5 Board.”.

6 **SEC. 104. RELEVANCE AND MERIT OF FEDERALLY FUNDED**
7 **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND**
8 **EDUCATION.**

9 (a) *REVIEW OF RELEVANCE AND MERIT.*—Subtitle K
10 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
11 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting before
12 section 1463 (7 U.S.C. 3311) the following new section:

13 **“SEC. 1461. RELEVANCE AND MERIT OF FEDERALLY FUND-**
14 **ED AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION,**
15 **AND EDUCATION.**

16 “(a) *REVIEW OF COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH,*
17 *EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE.*—

18 “(1) *PEER REVIEW OF RESEARCH GRANTS.*—The
19 Secretary shall establish procedures that provide for
20 scientific peer review of each agricultural research
21 grant administered, on a competitive basis, by the Co-
22 operative State Research, Education, and Extension
23 Service of the Department.

24 “(2) *MERIT REVIEW OF EXTENSION AND EDU-*
25 *CATION.*—The Secretary shall establish procedures

1 *that provide for merit review of each agricultural ex-*
2 *ension or education grant administered, on a com-*
3 *petitive basis, by the Cooperative State Research,*
4 *Education, and Extension Service. The Secretary*
5 *shall consult with the Advisory Board in establishing*
6 *such merit review procedures.*

7 “(b) *REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS: REQUEST AND CON-*
8 *SIDERATION OF INPUT.*—*When formulating a request for*
9 *proposals involving an agricultural research, extension, or*
10 *education activity to be funded by the Secretary on a com-*
11 *petitive basis, the Secretary shall solicit and consider input*
12 *from the Advisory Board and users of agricultural research,*
13 *extension, and education regarding the request for proposals*
14 *for the preceding year. If an agricultural research, exten-*
15 *sion, or education activity has not been the subject of a pre-*
16 *vious request for proposals, the Secretary shall solicit and*
17 *consider input from the Advisory Board and users of agri-*
18 *cultural research, extension, and education before publica-*
19 *tion of the first request for proposals regarding the activity.*

20 “(c) *SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL*
21 *RESEARCH.*—

22 “(1) *PEER REVIEW PROCEDURES.*—*The Sec-*
23 *retary shall establish procedures that ensure scientific*
24 *peer review of all research activities conducted by the*
25 *Department of Agriculture.*

1 “(2) *REVIEW PANEL REQUIRED.*—As part of the
2 *procedures established under paragraph (1), a review*
3 *panel shall verify, at least once every three years, that*
4 *each research activity of the Department and research*
5 *conducted under each research program of the Depart-*
6 *ment have scientific merit and relevance. If the re-*
7 *search activity or program to be reviewed is included*
8 *in the research, educational, and economics mission*
9 *area of the Department, the review panel shall con-*
10 *sider—*

11 “(A) *the scientific merit and relevance of*
12 *the activity or research in light of the priorities*
13 *established pursuant to section 1402(b) ; and*

14 “(B) *the national or multi-State signifi-*
15 *cance of the activity or research.*

16 “(3) *COMPOSITION OF REVIEW PANEL.*—A review
17 *panel shall be composed of individuals with scientific*
18 *expertise, a majority of whom are not employees of*
19 *the agency whose research is being reviewed. To the*
20 *extent possible, the Secretary shall use scientists from*
21 *colleges and universities to serve on the review panels.*

22 “(4) *SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.*—The results of
23 *the panel reviews shall be submitted to the Advisory*
24 *Board.*

1 “(5) *APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.*—*The Fed-*
2 *eral Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) and*
3 *title XVIII of this Act (7 U.S.C. 2281 et seq.) shall*
4 *not apply to a review panel.*

5 “(d) *MERIT REVIEW OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY*
6 *RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.*—

7 “(1) *LAND-GRANT INSTITUTIONS.*—*Effective be-*
8 *ginning October 1, 1998, to be eligible to obtain agri-*
9 *cultural research or extension funds from the Sec-*
10 *retary for an activity, a land-grant college or univer-*
11 *sity shall—*

12 “(A) *establish a process for merit review of*
13 *the activity; and*

14 “(B) *review the activity in accordance with*
15 *the process.*

16 “(2) *1994 INSTITUTIONS.*—*Effective beginning*
17 *October 1, 1998, to obtain agricultural extension*
18 *funds from the Secretary for an activity, each 1994*
19 *Institution (as defined in section 532 of the Equity*
20 *in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Pub-*
21 *lic Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note)) shall—*

22 “(A) *establish a process for merit review of*
23 *the activity; and*

24 “(B) *review the activity in accordance with*
25 *the process.”.*

1 (b) *REPEAL OF PROVISIONS FOR WITHHOLDING*
2 *FUNDS.*—

3 (1) *SMITH-LEVER ACT.*—Section 6 of the *Smith-*
4 *Lever Act* (7 U.S.C. 346) is repealed.

5 (2) *HATCH ACT OF 1887.*—Section 7 of the *Hatch*
6 *Act of 1887* (7 U.S.C. 361g) is amended by striking
7 *the last paragraph.*

8 (3) *NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EX-*
9 *TENSION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT OF 1977.*—The
10 *National Agricultural Research, Extension, and*
11 *Teaching Policy Act of 1977* is amended—

12 (A) in section 1444 (7 U.S.C. 3221)—

13 (i) by striking subsection (f); and

14 (ii) by redesignating subsection (g) as
15 subsection (f);

16 (B) in section 1445(g) (7 U.S.C. 3222(g)),
17 by striking paragraph (3); and

18 (C) by striking section 1468 (7 U.S.C.
19 3314).

20 **SEC. 105. EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO COST-**
21 **REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENTS.**

22 Section 1473A of the *National Agricultural Research,*
23 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977* (7 U.S.C.
24 3319a) is amended in the first sentence by inserting “or
25 *other colleges and universities*” after “institutions”.

1 **SEC. 106. EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT OF AGRICUL-**
2 **TURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDU-**
3 **CATION PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) *EVALUATION.*—*The Secretary shall conduct a per-*
5 *formance evaluation to determine whether agricultural re-*
6 *search, extension, and education programs conducted or*
7 *funded by the Department of Agriculture result in public*
8 *benefits that have national or multi-State significance.*

9 (b) *GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMANCE MEASURE-*
10 *MENT.*—*The Secretary shall develop practical guidelines for*
11 *measuring the performance of agricultural research, exten-*
12 *sion and education programs evaluated under subsection*
13 *(a).*

14 **TITLE II—REFORM OF EXISTING**
15 **RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND**
16 **EDUCATION AUTHORITIES**
17 **Subtitle A—Smith-Lever Act and**
18 **Hatch Act of 1887**

19 **SEC. 201. ADOPTION OF SHORT TITLES FOR SMITH-LEVER**
20 **ACT AND HATCH ACT OF 1887.**

21 (a) *SMITH-LEVER ACT.*—*The Act of May 8, 1914*
22 *(commonly known as the Smith-Lever Act; 7 U.S.C. 341*
23 *et seq.), is amended by adding at the end the following new*
24 *section:*

25 **“SEC. 11. SHORT TITLE.**

26 **“This Act may be cited as the ‘Smith-Lever Act’.”**

1 (b) *HATCH ACT OF 1887.*—*The Act of March 2, 1887*
2 *(commonly known as the Hatch Act of 1887; 7 U.S.C. 361a*
3 *et seq.), is amended by adding at the end the following new*
4 *section:*

5 **“SEC. 10. SHORT TITLE.**

6 *“This Act may be cited as the ‘Hatch Act of 1887’.”.*

7 (c) *COORDINATION WITH OTHER AMENDMENTS.*—*For*
8 *purposes of executing amendments made by provisions of*
9 *this Act (other than this section), this section shall be treat-*
10 *ed as having been enacted immediately before the other pro-*
11 *visions of this Act.*

12 **SEC. 202. CONSISTENT MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENTS**
13 **UNDER HATCH ACT OF 1887 AND SMITH-**
14 **LEVER ACT.**

15 (a) *HATCH ACT OF 1887.*—*Subsection (d) of section*
16 *3 of the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361c) is amended*
17 *to read as follows:*

18 “(d) *MATCHING FUNDS.*—

19 “(1) *REQUIREMENT.*—*Except as provided in*
20 *paragraph (4), no allotment shall be made to a State*
21 *under subsections (b) and (c), and no payments of*
22 *such allotment shall be made to a State, in excess of*
23 *the amount which the State makes available out of*
24 *non-Federal funds for agricultural research and for*

1 *the establishment and maintenance of facilities for the*
2 *performance of such research.*

3 “(2) *FAILURE TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS.—*
4 *If a State fails to comply with the requirement to*
5 *provide matching funds for a fiscal year under para-*
6 *graph (1), the Secretary of Agriculture shall withhold*
7 *from payment to the State for that fiscal year an*
8 *amount equal to the difference between—*

9 “(A) *the amount that would be allotted and*
10 *paid to the State under subsections (b) and (c)*
11 *(if the full amount of matching funds were pro-*
12 *vided by the State); and*

13 “(B) *the amount of matching funds actually*
14 *provided by the State.*

15 “(3) *REAPPORTIONMENT.—The Secretary shall*
16 *reapportion amounts withheld under paragraph (2)*
17 *for a fiscal year among the States satisfying the*
18 *matching requirement for that fiscal year. Any re-*
19 *apportionment of funds under this paragraph shall be*
20 *subject to the matching requirement specified in para-*
21 *graph (1).*

22 “(4) *EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not*
23 *apply to funds provided to a State from the Regional*
24 *research fund, State agricultural experiment sta-*
25 *tions.”.*

1 **(b) SMITH-LEVER ACT.**—*Section 3 of the Smith-Lever*
2 *Act (7 U.S.C. 343) is amended—*

3 *(1) in subsection (c)2, by striking “That pay-*
4 *ments” and all that follows through “Provided fur-*
5 *ther,”; and*

6 *(2) by striking subsections (e) and (f) and insert-*
7 *ing the following new subsections:*

8 **“(e) MATCHING FUNDS.**—

9 **“(1) REQUIREMENT.**—*No allotment shall be*
10 *made to a State under subsections (b) and (c), and*
11 *no payments of such allotment shall be made to a*
12 *State, in excess of the amount which the State makes*
13 *available out of non-Federal funds for cooperative ex-*
14 *tension work.*

15 **“(2) FAILURE TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS.**—
16 *If a State fails to comply with the requirement to*
17 *provide matching funds for a fiscal year under para-*
18 *graph (1), the Secretary of Agriculture shall withhold*
19 *from payment to the State for that fiscal year an*
20 *amount equal to the difference between—*

21 **“(A) the amount that would be allotted and**
22 *paid to the State under subsections (b) and (c)*
23 *(if the full amount of matching funds were pro-*
24 *vided by the State); and*

1 “(B) the amount of matching funds actually
2 provided by the State.

3 “(3) REAPPORTIONMENT.—The Secretary shall
4 reapportion amounts withheld under paragraph (2)
5 for a fiscal year among the States satisfying the
6 matching requirement for that fiscal year. Any re-
7 apportionment of funds under this paragraph shall be
8 subject to the matching requirement specified in para-
9 graph (1).

10 “(f) MATCHING FUNDS EXCEPTION FOR 1994 INSTITU-
11 TIONS.—There shall be no matching requirement for funds
12 made available to 1994 Institutions pursuant to subsection
13 (b)(3).”.

14 (c) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—

15 (1) RECOGNITION OF STATEHOOD OF ALASKA
16 AND HAWAII.—Section 1 of the Hatch Act of 1887 (7
17 U.S.C. 361a) is amended by striking “Alaska, Ha-
18 waii,”.

19 (2) ROLE OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.—
20 Section 3 of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343) is
21 amended—

22 (A) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “Fed-
23 eral Extension Service” and inserting “Secretary
24 of Agriculture”;

1 (B) in subsection (c)1, by striking “Federal
2 Extension Service” and inserting “Secretary of
3 Agriculture”;

4 (C) in subsection (d), by striking “Federal
5 Extension Service” and inserting “Secretary of
6 Agriculture”; and

7 (D) in subsection (g)(1), by striking
8 “through the Federal Extension Service”.

9 (3) REFERENCES TO REGIONAL RESEARCH

10 FUND.—The Hatch Act of 1887 is amended—

11 (A) in section 3 (7 U.S.C. 361c)—

12 (i) in subsection (b)(1), by striking
13 “subsection 3(c)(3)” and inserting “sub-
14 section (c)3”; and

15 (ii) in subsection (e), by striking “sub-
16 section 3(c)3” and inserting “subsection
17 (c)3”; and

18 (B) in section 5 (7 U.S.C. 361e), by striking
19 “regional research fund authorized by subsection
20 3(c)(3)” and inserting “Regional research fund,
21 State agricultural experiment stations”.

1 **SEC. 203. PLANS OF WORK TO ADDRESS CRITICAL RE-**
2 **SEARCH AND EXTENSION ISSUES AND USE OF**
3 **PROTOCOLS TO MEASURE SUCCESS OF**
4 **PLANS.**

5 (a) *SMITH-LEVER ACT.*—Section 4 of the Smith-Lever
6 Act (7 U.S.C. 344) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “SEC. 4.” and inserting the fol-
8 lowing:

9 **“SEC. 4. ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT OF STATE TO**
10 **FUNDS, TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT,**
11 **STATE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND**
12 **PLANS FOR WORK.**

13 “(a) *ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT.*—”;

14 (2) in the last sentence, by striking “Such sums”
15 and inserting the following:

16 “(b) *TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT; RELATED RE-*
17 *PORTS.*—The amount to which a State is entitled”; and

18 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
19 sections:

20 “(c) *REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF WORK.*—
21 Each extension plan of work for a State required under sub-
22 section (a) shall contain descriptions of the following:

23 “(1) The critical short-term, intermediate, and
24 long-term agricultural issues in the State and the
25 current and planned extension programs and projects
26 targeted to address such issues.

1 “(2) *The process established to consult with ex-*
2 *ension users regarding the identification of critical*
3 *agricultural issues in the State and the development*
4 *of extension programs and projects targeted to address*
5 *such issues.*

6 “(3) *The efforts made to identify and collaborate*
7 *with other colleges and universities within the State*
8 *and other States that have unique capacity to address*
9 *the identified agricultural issues in the State and cur-*
10 *rent and emerging efforts to work with these other in-*
11 *stitutions and States.*

12 “(4) *The manner in which research and exten-*
13 *sion, including research and extension activities fund-*
14 *ed other than through formula funds, will cooperate*
15 *to address the critical issues in the State, including*
16 *the activities to be carried out separately, the activi-*
17 *ties to be carried out sequentially, and the activities*
18 *to be carried out jointly.*

19 “(5) *The education and outreach programs al-*
20 *ready underway to convey currently available re-*
21 *search results that are pertinent to a critical agricul-*
22 *tural issue, including efforts to encourage multi-coun-*
23 *ty cooperation in the dissemination of research re-*
24 *sults.*

1 “(d) *EXTENSION PROTOCOLS.*—*The Secretary of Agri-*
 2 *culture shall develop protocols to be used to evaluate the suc-*
 3 *cess of multi-State, multi-institutional, and multidisci-*
 4 *plinary extension activities and joint research and exten-*
 5 *sion activities in addressing critical agricultural issues*
 6 *identified in the plans of work submitted under subsection*
 7 *(a). The Secretary shall develop the protocols in consulta-*
 8 *tion with the National Agricultural Research, Extension,*
 9 *Education, and Economics Advisory Board and land-grant*
 10 *colleges and universities.*

11 “(e) *TREATMENT OF PLANS OF WORK FOR OTHER*
 12 *PURPOSES.*—*To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall*
 13 *consider plans of work submitted under subsection (a) to*
 14 *satisfy other appropriate Federal reporting requirements.”.*

15 (b) *HATCH ACT OF 1887.*—*Section 7 of the Hatch Act*
 16 *of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361g), as amended by section 104(b), is*
 17 *further amended—*

18 (1) *by striking “SEC. 7.” and inserting the fol-*
 19 *lowing:*

20 **“SEC. 7. DUTIES OF SECRETARY, ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTI-**
 21 **TLEMENT OF STATE TO FUNDS, AND PLANS**
 22 **FOR WORK.**

23 “(a) *DUTIES OF SECRETARY.*—”;

24 (2) *by striking “On or before” and inserting the*
 25 *following:*

1 “(b) *ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT.*—On or be-
2 fore”;

3 (3) by striking “Whenever it shall appear” and
4 inserting the following:

5 “(c) *EFFECT OF FAILURE TO EXPEND FULL ALLOT-*
6 *MENT.*—Whenever it shall appear”; and

7 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
8 sections:

9 “(d) *PLAN OF WORK REQUIRED.*—Before funds may
10 be provided to a State under this Act for any fiscal year,
11 plans for the work to be carried on under this Act shall
12 be submitted by the proper officials of the State and ap-
13 proved by the Secretary of Agriculture.

14 “(e) *REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF WORK.*—
15 Each research plan of work for a State required under sub-
16 section (d) shall contain descriptions of the following:

17 “(1) The critical short-term, intermediate, and
18 long-term agricultural issues in the State and the
19 current and planned research programs and projects
20 targeted to address such issues.

21 “(2) The process established to consult with users
22 of agricultural research regarding the identification of
23 critical agricultural issues in the State and the devel-
24 opment of research programs and projects targeted to
25 address such issues.

1 “(3) *The efforts made to identify and collaborate*
2 *with other colleges and universities within the State*
3 *and other States that have unique capacity to address*
4 *the identified agricultural issues in the State and cur-*
5 *rent and emerging efforts (including regional efforts)*
6 *to work with these other institutions and States.*

7 “(4) *The manner in which research and exten-*
8 *sion, including research and extension activities fund-*
9 *ed other than through formula funds, will cooperate*
10 *to address the critical issues in the State, including*
11 *the activities to be carried out separately, the activi-*
12 *ties to be carried out sequentially, and the activities*
13 *to be carried out jointly.*

14 “(f) *RESEARCH PROTOCOLS.—The Secretary of Agri-*
15 *culture shall develop protocols to be used to evaluate the suc-*
16 *cess of multi-State, multi-institutional, and multidisci-*
17 *plinary research activities and joint research and extension*
18 *activities in addressing critical agricultural issues identi-*
19 *fied in the plans of work submitted under subsection (d).*
20 *The Secretary shall develop the protocols in consultation*
21 *with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Edu-*
22 *cation, and Economics Advisory Board and land-grant col-*
23 *leges and universities.*

24 “(g) *TREATMENT OF PLANS OF WORK FOR OTHER*
25 *PURPOSES.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall*

1 *consider plans of work submitted under subsection (d) to*
 2 *satisfy other appropriate Federal reporting requirements.”.*

3 *(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—*

4 *(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by*
 5 *this section shall take effect on October 1, 1998.*

6 *(2) DELAYED APPLICABILITY.—With respect to a*
 7 *particular State, the Secretary of Agriculture may*
 8 *delay the applicability of the requirements imposed*
 9 *by the amendments made by this section until not*
 10 *later than October 1, 1999, if the Secretary finds that*
 11 *the State will be unable to meet such requirements by*
 12 *October 1, 1998, despite the good faith efforts of the*
 13 *State.*

14 ***Subtitle B—National Agricultural***
 15 ***Research, Extension, and Teach-***
 16 ***ing Policy Act of 1977***

17 ***SEC. 211. PLANS OF WORK FOR 1890 LAND-GRANT COL-***
 18 ***LEGES TO ADDRESS CRITICAL RESEARCH***
 19 ***AND EXTENSION ISSUES AND USE OF PROTO-***
 20 ***COLS TO MEASURE SUCCESS OF PLANS.***

21 *(a) EXTENSION AT 1890 INSTITUTIONS.—Section*
 22 *1444(d) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension,*
 23 *and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221(d)) is*
 24 *amended—*

25 *(1) by striking “(d)” and inserting the following:*

1 “(d) *ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT TO FUNDS;*
2 *TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT; STATE REPORTING RE-*
3 *QUIREMENTS; AND PLANS FOR WORK.—*—

4 “(1) *ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT.—*”;
5 (2) *in the last sentence, by striking “Such sums”*
6 *and inserting the following:*

7 “(2) *TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT; RELATED*
8 *REPORTS.—The amount to which an eligible institu-*
9 *tion is entitled*”; and

10 (3) *by adding at the end the following new para-*
11 *graphs:*

12 “(3) *REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF*
13 *WORK.—Each extension plan of work for an eligible*
14 *institution required under this section shall contain*
15 *descriptions of the following:*

16 “(A) *The critical short-term, intermediate,*
17 *and long-term agricultural issues in the State in*
18 *which the eligible institution is located and the*
19 *current and planned extension programs and*
20 *projects targeted to address such issues.*

21 “(B) *The process established to consult with*
22 *extension users regarding the identification of*
23 *critical agricultural issues in the State and the*
24 *development of extension programs and projects*
25 *targeted to address such issues.*

1 “(C) *The efforts made to identify and col-*
2 *laborate with other colleges and universities*
3 *within the State and other States that have*
4 *unique capacity to address the identified agricul-*
5 *tural issues in the State and current and emerg-*
6 *ing efforts (including regional research efforts) to*
7 *work with these other institutions and States.*

8 “(D) *The manner in which research and ex-*
9 *tension, including research and extension activi-*
10 *ties funded other than through formula funds,*
11 *will cooperate to address the critical issues in the*
12 *State, including the activities to be carried out*
13 *separately, the activities to be carried out se-*
14 *quentially, and the activities to be carried out*
15 *jointly.*

16 “(E) *The education and outreach programs*
17 *already underway to convey currently available*
18 *research results that are pertinent to a critical*
19 *agricultural issue, including efforts to encourage*
20 *multi-county cooperation in the dissemination of*
21 *research results.*

22 “(4) *EXTENSION PROTOCOLS.—The Secretary of*
23 *Agriculture shall develop protocols to be used to evalu-*
24 *ate the success of multi-State, multi-institutional, and*
25 *multidisciplinary extension activities and joint re-*

1 *search and extension activities in addressing critical*
2 *agricultural issues identified in the plans of work*
3 *submitted under this section. The Secretary shall de-*
4 *velop the protocols in consultation with the Advisory*
5 *Board and land-grant colleges and universities.*

6 “(5) *TREATMENT OF PLANS OF WORK FOR*
7 *OTHER PURPOSES.—To the extent practicable, the*
8 *Secretary shall consider plans of work submitted*
9 *under this section to satisfy other appropriate Federal*
10 *reporting requirements.”.*

11 (b) *AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AT 1890 INSTITU-*
12 *TIONS.—Section 1445(c) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 3222(c)) is*
13 *amended—*

14 (1) *by striking “(c)” and inserting the following:*

15 “(c) *PROGRAM AND PLANS FOR WORK.—*

16 “(1) *INITIAL COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF AG-*
17 *RICULTURAL RESEARCH.—”;* *and*

18 (2) *by adding at the end the following new para-*
19 *graphs:*

20 “(2) *PLAN OF WORK REQUIRED.—Before funds*
21 *may be provided to an eligible institution under this*
22 *section for any fiscal year, plans for the work to be*
23 *carried on under this section shall be submitted by the*
24 *research director specified in subsection (d) and ap-*
25 *proved by the Secretary of Agriculture.*

1 “(3) *REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF*
2 *WORK.—Each research plan of work required under*
3 *paragraph (2) shall contain descriptions of the follow-*
4 *ing:*

5 “(A) *The critical short-term, intermediate,*
6 *and long-term agricultural issues in the State in*
7 *which the eligible institution is located and the*
8 *current and planned research programs and*
9 *projects targeted to address such issues.*

10 “(B) *The process established to consult with*
11 *users of agricultural research regarding the iden-*
12 *tification of critical agricultural issues in the*
13 *State and the development of research programs*
14 *and projects targeted to address such issues.*

15 “(C) *Other colleges and universities in the*
16 *State and other States that have unique capacity*
17 *to address the identified agricultural issues in*
18 *the State.*

19 “(D) *The current and emerging efforts to*
20 *work with these other institutions and States to*
21 *build on each other’s experience and take advan-*
22 *tage of each institution’s unique capacities.*

23 “(E) *The manner in which research and ex-*
24 *tension, including research and extension activi-*
25 *ties funded other than through formula funds,*

1 *will cooperate to address the critical issues in the*
2 *State, including the activities to be carried out*
3 *separately, the activities to be carried out se-*
4 *quentially, and the activities to be carried out*
5 *jointly.*

6 “(4) *RESEARCH PROTOCOLS.—The Secretary of*
7 *Agriculture shall develop protocols to be used to evalu-*
8 *ate the success of multi-State, multi-institutional, and*
9 *multidisciplinary research activities and joint re-*
10 *search and extension activities in addressing critical*
11 *agricultural issues identified in the plans of work*
12 *submitted under paragraph (2). The Secretary shall*
13 *develop the protocols in consultation with the Advi-*
14 *sory Board and land-grant colleges and universities.”.*

15 (c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—*

16 (1) *IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by*
17 *this section shall take effect on October 1, 1998.*

18 (2) *DELAYED APPLICABILITY.—With respect to a*
19 *particular eligible institution (as described in sections*
20 *1444(a) and 1445(a) of the National Agricultural Re-*
21 *search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977*
22 *(7 U.S.C. 3221(a), 3222(a))), the Secretary of Agri-*
23 *culture may delay the applicability of the require-*
24 *ments imposed by the amendments made by this sec-*
25 *tion until not later than October 1, 1999, if the Sec-*

1 *institution shall submit to the Secretary a report describing*
2 *for fiscal year 1999 the sources of non-Federal funds avail-*
3 *able to the eligible institution and the amount of funds gen-*
4 *erally available from each such source.*

5 “(c) *MATCHING FORMULA.*—*Notwithstanding any*
6 *other provision of this subtitle, the distribution of formula*
7 *funds to an eligible institution shall be subject to the follow-*
8 *ing matching requirements:*

9 “(1) *In fiscal year 2000, the institution shall*
10 *provide matching funds from non-Federal sources in*
11 *an amount equal to not less than 30 percent of the*
12 *formula funds to be distributed to the eligible institu-*
13 *tion.*

14 “(2) *In fiscal year 2001, the institution shall*
15 *provide matching funds from non-Federal sources in*
16 *an amount equal to not less than 45 percent of the*
17 *formula funds to be distributed to the eligible institu-*
18 *tion.*

19 “(3) *In fiscal year 2002, and each fiscal year*
20 *thereafter, the institution shall provide matching*
21 *funds from non-Federal sources in an amount equal*
22 *to not less than 50 percent of the formula funds to be*
23 *distributed to the eligible institution.*

24 “(d) *LIMITED WAIVER AUTHORITY.*—*Notwithstanding*
25 *subsection (f), the Secretary may waive the matching funds*

1 *requirement under subsection (c)(1) for fiscal year 2000 if*
2 *the Secretary determines with regard to a particular eligi-*
3 *ble institution, based on the report received under sub-*
4 *section (b), that the eligible institution will be unlikely to*
5 *satisfy the matching requirement. The waiver of the match-*
6 *ing requirements for subsequent fiscal years is not per-*
7 *mitted.*

8 “(e) *USE OF MATCHING FUNDS.—Under terms and*
9 *conditions established by the Secretary, matching funds*
10 *provided as required by subsection (c) may be used by an*
11 *eligible institution for research, education, and extension*
12 *activities.*

13 “(f) *REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—Federal funds that*
14 *are not matched by an eligible institution in accordance*
15 *with subsection (c) for a fiscal year shall be redistributed*
16 *by the Secretary to eligible institutions satisfying the*
17 *matching funds requirement for that fiscal year. Any redis-*
18 *tribution of funds under this subsection shall be subject to*
19 *the applicable matching requirement specified in subsection*
20 *(c) and shall be made in a manner consistent with sections*
21 *1444 and 1445, as determined by the Secretary.”.*

22 “(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1445(g) of*
23 *such Act (7 U.S.C. 3222(g)) is amended—*

24 (1) *by striking paragraph (2); and*

1 (2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-
2 graph (2).

3 (c) *REFERENCES TO TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY.*—Such
4 *Act is further amended—*

5 (1) in section 1404 (7 U.S.C. 3103), by striking
6 “*Tuskegee Institute*” in paragraphs (10) and (16)(B)
7 and inserting “*Tuskegee University*”;

8 (2) in section 1444 (7 U.S.C. 3221)—

9 (A) by striking the section heading and
10 “*SEC. 1444.*” and inserting the following:

11 “***SEC. 1444. EXTENSION AT 1890 LAND-GRANT COLLEGES, IN-***
12 ***CLUDING TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY.*”; and**

13 (B) in subsections (a) and (b), by striking
14 “*Tuskegee Institute*” both places it appears and
15 inserting “*Tuskegee University*”; and

16 (3) in section 1445 (7 U.S.C. 3222)—

17 (A) by striking the section heading and
18 “*SEC. 1445.*” and inserting the following:

19 “***SEC. 1445. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AT 1890 LAND-***
20 ***GRANT COLLEGES, INCLUDING TUSKEGEE***
21 ***UNIVERSITY.*”; and**

22 (B) in subsections (a) and (b)(2)(B), by
23 striking “*Tuskegee Institute*” both places it ap-
24 pears and inserting “*Tuskegee University*”.

1 **SEC. 213. INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND**
2 **TEACHING.**

3 (a) *INCLUSION OF TEACHING.*—Section 1458 of the
4 *National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching*
5 *Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3291)* is amended—

6 (1) *in the section heading, by striking “RE-*
7 *SEARCH AND EXTENSION” and inserting “RE-*
8 *SEARCH, EXTENSION, AND TEACHING”;*

9 (2) *in subsection (a)—*

10 (A) *in paragraph (1)—*

11 (i) *by striking “related research and*
12 *extension” and inserting “related research,*
13 *extension, and teaching”;* and

14 (ii) *in subparagraph (B), by striking*
15 *“research and extension on” and inserting*
16 *“research, extension, and teaching activities*
17 *addressing”;*

18 (B) *in paragraphs (2) and (6), by striking*
19 *“education” and inserting “teaching”;*

20 (C) *in paragraph (4), by striking “scientists*
21 *and experts” and inserting “science and edu-*
22 *cation experts”;*

23 (D) *in paragraph (5), by inserting “teach-*
24 *ing,” after “development,”;*

1 (E) in paragraph (7), by striking “research
2 and extension that is” and inserting “research,
3 extension, and teaching programs”; and

4 (F) in paragraph (8), by striking “research
5 capabilities” and inserting “research, extension,
6 and teaching capabilities”; and

7 (3) in subsection (b), by striking “counterpart
8 agencies” and inserting “counterpart research, exten-
9 sion, and teaching agencies”.

10 (b) *FULL PAYMENT OF FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR*
11 *CERTAIN BINATIONAL PROJECT.*—Such section is further
12 amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

13 “(d) *FULL PAYMENT OF FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR*
14 *CERTAIN BINATIONAL PROJECTS.*—Notwithstanding any
15 other provision of law, the full amount of any funds appro-
16 priated or otherwise made available to carry out coopera-
17 tive projects under the arrangement entered into between
18 the Secretary and the Government of Israel to support the
19 Israel-United States Binational Agricultural Research and
20 Development Fund shall be paid directly to the Fund.”.

21 (c) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—The subtitle heading
22 of subtitle I of title XIV of the National Agricultural Re-
23 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
24 U.S.C. 3291 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“Subtitle I—International Re-**
2 **search, Extension, and Teach-**
3 **ing”.**

4 **SEC. 214. TASK FORCE ON 10-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR**
5 **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FACILITIES.**

6 (a) *TRANSFER OF EXISTING PROVISION.*—Section 4 of
7 the *Research Facilities Act* (7 U.S.C. 390b)—

8 (1) is transferred to the *National Agricultural*
9 *Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977*
10 (7 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.);

11 (2) is redesignated as section 1473B;

12 (3) is inserted after section 1473A of the *Na-*
13 *tional Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teach-*
14 *ing Policy Act of 1977* (7 U.S.C. 3319a); and

15 (4) is amended in subsection (f), by striking
16 “Notwithstanding section 2(1), in” and inserting
17 “In”.

18 (b) *CONFORMING REPEAL.*—The *Research Facilities*
19 *Act* (7 U.S.C. 390 et seq.) is repealed.

1 ***Subtitle C—Food, Agriculture, Con-***
2 ***servation, and Trade Act of 1990***

3 ***SEC. 231. NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL WEATHER INFORMA-***
4 ***TION SYSTEM.***

5 *Subtitle D of title XVI of the Food, Agriculture, Con-*
6 *servation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5851–5855) is*
7 *amended to read as follows:*

8 ***“Subtitle D—National Agricultural***
9 ***Weather Information System***

10 ***“SEC. 1637. SHORT TITLE; PURPOSES.***

11 *“(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subtitle may be cited as the*
12 *‘National Agricultural Weather Information System Act of*
13 *1997’.*

14 *“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this subtitle are—*

15 *“(1) to facilitate the management and coordina-*
16 *tion of a national agricultural weather and climate*
17 *station network for Federal and State agencies, col-*
18 *leges and universities, and the private sector;*

19 *“(2) to ensure that timely and accurate informa-*
20 *tion is obtained and disseminated; and*

21 *“(3) to aid research and education that requires*
22 *a comprehensive agricultural weather and climate*
23 *database.*

1 **“SEC. 1638. AGRICULTURAL WEATHER SYSTEM.**

2 “(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*The Secretary of Agriculture*
3 *may establish the National Agricultural Weather Informa-*
4 *tion System (referred to in this subtitle as the ‘System’).*
5 *The System shall be comprised of the operational and re-*
6 *search activities of the Federal, State, and regional agricul-*
7 *tural weather information systems.*

8 “(b) *AUTHORITY.*—*Notwithstanding chapter 63 of title*
9 *31, United States Code, to carry out this subtitle, the Sec-*
10 *retary may—*

11 “(1) *enter into contracts, grants, cooperative*
12 *agreements and interagency agreements without re-*
13 *gard to competitive requirements, except as otherwise*
14 *provided in this subtitle, with other Federal and*
15 *State agencies to—*

16 “(A) *support operational weather and cli-*
17 *mate data observations, analysis, and derived*
18 *products;*

19 “(B) *preserve historical data records for re-*
20 *search studies useful in agriculture;*

21 “(C) *jointly develop improved computer*
22 *models and computing capacity for storage, re-*
23 *trieval, dissemination and analysis of agricul-*
24 *tural weather and climate information;*

25 “(D) *enhance the quality and availability*
26 *of weather and climate information needed by*

1 *the private sector for value-added products and*
2 *agriculturists for decisionmaking; and*

3 “(E) sponsor joint programs to train pri-
4 *vate sector meteorologists and agriculturists*
5 *about the optimum use of agricultural weather*
6 *and climate data;*

7 “(2) obtain standardized weather observation
8 *data collected in near real time through regional and*
9 *State agricultural weather information systems;*

10 “(3) coordinate the activities of the Chief Mete-
11 *orologist of the Department of Agriculture and weath-*
12 *er and climate research activities of the Department*
13 *of Agriculture with other Federal agencies and the*
14 *private sector;*

15 “(4) make grants to plan and administer State
16 *and regional agricultural weather information sys-*
17 *tems, including research in atmospheric sciences and*
18 *climatology;*

19 “(5) encourage private sector participation in
20 *the System through cooperation with the private sec-*
21 *tor, including cooperation in the generation of weath-*
22 *er and climate data useful for site-specific agricul-*
23 *tural weather forecasting; and*

24 “(6) make competitive grants to carry out re-
25 *search in all aspects of atmospheric sciences and cli-*

1 *matology regarding the collection, retention, and dis-*
2 *semination of agricultural weather and climate obser-*
3 *vations and information, with priority given to pro-*
4 *posals that emphasize—*

5 *“(A) techniques and processes that relate*
6 *to—*

7 *“(i) weather- or climate-induced agri-*
8 *cultural losses; and*

9 *“(ii) improvement of information on*
10 *weather and climate extremes (such as*
11 *drought, floods, freeze, and storms) well in*
12 *advance of their occurrence;*

13 *“(B) the improvement of site-specific weath-*
14 *er data collection and forecasting;*

15 *“(C) the impact of weather on economic and*
16 *environmental costs in agricultural production;*

17 *or*

18 *“(D) the preservation and management of*
19 *the ecosystem.*

20 **“SEC. 1639. FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION.**

21 *“(a) USE OF FUNDS.—*

22 *“(1) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC AD-*
23 *MINISTRATION WORK.—Not more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the funds*
24 *made available for a fiscal year to carry out this sub-*

1 *title shall be used for work with the National Oceanic*
2 *and Atmospheric Administration.*

3 “(2) *ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.*—*The Secretary of*
4 *Agriculture may retain for administration of the Sys-*
5 *tem up to four percent of the amounts made available*
6 *to carry out this subtitle, notwithstanding the avail-*
7 *ability of any appropriation for administrative ex-*
8 *penditures to carry out this subtitle.*

9 “(3) *LIMITATIONS.*—

10 “(A) *BUILDINGS OR FACILITIES.*—*Funds*
11 *made available to carry out this subtitle shall*
12 *not be used for the planning, repair, rehabilita-*
13 *tion, acquisition, or construction of a building or*
14 *facility.*

15 “(B) *EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.*—*Of funds*
16 *made available under a grant award under this*
17 *subtitle, a grantee may use for equipment pur-*
18 *chases not more than the lesser of—*

19 “(i) \$15,000; or

20 “(ii) $\frac{1}{3}$ of the amount of the grant
21 award.

22 “(b) *APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.*—*The Federal*
23 *Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) and title XVIII*
24 *of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2281*
25 *et seq.) shall not apply to a panel or board created for the*

1 *purpose of reviewing applications or proposals submitted*
2 *for grants under section 1638.*

3 **“SEC. 1640. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 *“There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out*
5 *this subtitle \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1998*
6 *through 2002.”.*

7 **SEC. 232. AGRICULTURAL GENOME INITIATIVE.**

8 *(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE OF INITIATIVE.—*
9 *Section 1671 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and*
10 *Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5924) is amended by striking*
11 *the section heading and subsection (a) and inserting the fol-*
12 *lowing:*

13 **“SEC. 1671. AGRICULTURAL GENOME INITIATIVE.**

14 *“(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agri-*
15 *culture shall conduct a research initiative for the purpose*
16 *of—*

17 *“(1) supporting basic and applied research and*
18 *technology development in the area of genome struc-*
19 *ture and function in support of agriculturally impor-*
20 *tant species, with a particular focus on research*
21 *projects that will yield scientifically important results*
22 *that will enhance the usefulness of many agricultur-*
23 *ally important species;*

1 “(2) *studying and mapping agriculturally sig-*
2 *nificant genes to achieve sustainable and secure agri-*
3 *cultural production;*

4 “(3) *ensuring that current gaps in existing agri-*
5 *cultural genetics knowledge are filled;*

6 “(4) *identifying and developing a functional un-*
7 *derstanding of genes responsible for economically im-*
8 *portant traits in agriculturally important species, in-*
9 *cluding emerging plant and animal diseases causing*
10 *economic hardship;*

11 “(5) *ensuring the future genetic improvement of*
12 *agriculturally important species;*

13 “(6) *supporting the preservation of diverse*
14 *germplasm; and*

15 “(7) *ensuring the preservation of biodiversity to*
16 *maintain access to genes that may be of importance*
17 *in the future.”.*

18 **(b) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.**—*Subsection (b) of such sec-*
19 *tion is amended by striking “subsection (c)” and inserting*
20 *“subsection (a)”.*

21 **(c) GRANT TYPES AND PROCESS; PROHIBITION ON**
22 **CONSTRUCTION.**—*Subsection (c) of such section is amended*
23 *to read as follows:*

24 “(c) **GRANT TYPES AND PROCESS; PROHIBITION ON**
25 **CONSTRUCTION.**—*Paragraphs (6), (7), and (11) of sub-*

1 *section (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Re-*
2 *search Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) shall apply with respect*
3 *to the making of grants under this section.”.*

4 *(d) MATCHING FUNDS.—Subsection (d) of such section*
5 *is amended to read as follows:*

6 *“(d) MATCHING OF FUNDS.—*

7 *“(1) GENERAL REQUIREMENT.—If a grant under*
8 *this section is to the particular benefit of a specific*
9 *agricultural commodity, the Secretary shall require*
10 *the recipient of the grant to provide funds or in-kind*
11 *support to match the amount of funds provided by the*
12 *Secretary in the grant.*

13 *“(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the*
14 *matching funds requirement specified in paragraph*
15 *(1) with respect to a research project if the Secretary*
16 *determines that—*

17 *“(A) the results of the project, while of par-*
18 *ticular benefit to a specific agricultural commod-*
19 *ity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural*
20 *commodities generally; or*

21 *“(B) the project involves a minor commod-*
22 *ity, deals with scientifically important research,*
23 *and the grant recipient would be unable to sat-*
24 *isfy the matching funds requirement.”.*

1 (e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—Subsection
2 (g) of such section is amended by striking “fiscal years 1996
3 and 1997” and inserting “fiscal years 1998 through 2002”.

4 ***Subtitle D—National Research***
5 ***Initiative***

6 **SEC. 241. WAIVER OF MATCHING REQUIREMENT FOR CER-**
7 ***TAIN SMALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.***

8 Subsection (b)(8)(B) of the Competitive, Special, and
9 Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) is amend-
10 ed—

11 (1) by striking “the cost” and inserting “the cost
12 of”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new sen-
14 tence: “The Secretary may waive all or a portion of
15 the matching requirement under this subparagraph in
16 the case of a smaller college or university (as de-
17 scribed in subsection (c)(2)(C)(i) of section 793 of the
18 Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of
19 1996 (7 U.S.C. 2204f)) if the equipment to be ac-
20 quired costs not more than \$25,000 and has multiple
21 uses within a single research project or is usable in
22 more than one research project.”.

1 **Subtitle E—Other Existing Laws**

2 **SEC. 251. FINDINGS, AUTHORITIES, AND COMPETITIVE RE-**
3 **SEARCH GRANTS UNDER FOREST AND**
4 **RANGELAND RENEWABLE RESOURCES RE-**
5 **SEARCH ACT OF 1978.**

6 *(a) FINDINGS.—Section 2 of the Forest and Rangeland*
7 *Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1641)*
8 *is amended by striking “SEC. 2.” and subsection (a) and*
9 *inserting the following:*

10 **“SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

11 *“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:*

12 *“(1) Forests and rangelands, and the resources of*
13 *forests and rangelands, are of strategic economic and*
14 *ecological importance to the United States, and the*
15 *Federal Government has an important and substan-*
16 *tial role in ensuring the continued health, productiv-*
17 *ity, and sustainability of the Nation’s forests and*
18 *rangelands.*

19 *“(2) Over 75 percent of the productive commer-*
20 *cial forest land in the United States is in private*
21 *ownership, with some 60 percent owned by small non-*
22 *industrial private owners. These 10,000,000 non-*
23 *industrial private owners are critical to providing*
24 *both commodity and noncommodity values to the citi-*
25 *zens of the United States.*

1 “(3) *The National Forest System manages only*
2 *17 percent of the Nation’s commercial timberlands,*
3 *with over half of the standing softwoods inventory lo-*
4 *cated on those lands. Dramatic changes in Federal*
5 *agency policy during the early 1990’s have signifi-*
6 *cantly curtailed the management of this vast timber*
7 *resource, causing abrupt shifts in the supply of timber*
8 *from public to private ownership. As a result of these*
9 *shifts in supply, some 60 percent of total wood pro-*
10 *duction in the United States is now coming from pri-*
11 *vate forest lands in the southern United States.*

12 “(4) *At the same time that pressures are build-*
13 *ing for the removal of even more land from commer-*
14 *cial production, the Federal Government is signifi-*
15 *cantly reducing its commitment to productivity-relat-*
16 *ed research regarding forests and rangelands, which is*
17 *critically needed by the private sector for the sus-*
18 *tained management of remaining available timber*
19 *and forage resources for the benefit of all species.*

20 “(5) *Uncertainty over the availability of the*
21 *United States timber supply, increasing regulatory*
22 *burdens, and the lack of Federal Government support*
23 *for research is causing domestic wood and paper pro-*
24 *ducers to move outside the United States to find reli-*
25 *able sources of wood supplies, which in turns results*

1 *in a worsening of the United States trade balance, the*
2 *loss of employment and infrastructure investments,*
3 *and an increased risk of infestations of exotic pests*
4 *and diseases from imported wood products.*

5 *“(6) Wood and paper producers in the United*
6 *States are being challenged not only by shifts in Gov-*
7 *ernment policy, but also by international competition*
8 *from tropical countries where growth rates of trees far*
9 *exceed those in the United States. Wood production*
10 *per acre will need to quadruple from 1996 levels for*
11 *the United States forestry sector to remain inter-*
12 *nationally competitive on an ever decreasing forest*
13 *land base.*

14 *“(7) Better and more frequent forest*
15 *inventorying and analysis is necessary to identify*
16 *productivity-related forestry research needs and to*
17 *provide forest managers with the current data nec-*
18 *essary to make timely and effective management deci-*
19 *sions.”.*

20 *(b) HIGH PRIORITY FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDU-*
21 *CATION.—Subsection (d) of section 3 of the Forest and*
22 *Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16*
23 *U.S.C. 1642) is amended to read as follows:*

24 *“(d) HIGH PRIORITY FORESTRY AND RANGELANDS*
25 *RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.—The Secretary may conduct,*

1 *support, and cooperate in forestry and rangelands research*
2 *and education that is of the highest priority to the United*
3 *States and to users of public and private forest lands and*
4 *rangelands in the United States. Such research and edu-*
5 *cation priorities include the following:*

6 “(1) *The biology of forest organisms and range-*
7 *land organisms.*”

8 “(2) *Functional characteristics and cost-effective*
9 *management of forest and rangeland ecosystems.*”

10 “(3) *Interactions between humans and forests*
11 *and rangelands.*”

12 “(4) *Wood and forage as a raw material.*”

13 “(5) *International trade, competition, and co-*
14 *operation.*”.

15 (c) *FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS.*—Section 3 of
16 *the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research*
17 *Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1642) is amended by adding at the*
18 *end the following new subsection:*

19 “(e) *FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS.*—

20 “(1) *PROGRAM REQUIRED.*—*In compliance with*
21 *existing statutory authority, the Secretary shall estab-*
22 *lish a program to inventory and analyze, in a timely*
23 *manner, public and private forests and their resources*
24 *in the United States.*”

1 “(2) *ANNUAL STATE INVENTORY.*—Not later than
2 the end of each full fiscal year beginning after the
3 date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary
4 shall prepare for each State, in cooperation with the
5 State forester for the State, an inventory of forests
6 and their resources in the State. For purposes of pre-
7 paring the inventory for a State, the Secretary shall
8 measure annually 20 percent of all sample plots that
9 are included in the inventory program for that State.
10 Upon completion of the inventory for a year, the Sec-
11 retary shall make available to the public a compila-
12 tion of all data collected for that year from measure-
13 ments of sample plots as well as any analysis made
14 of such samples.

15 “(3) *FIVE-YEAR REPORTS.*—At intervals not
16 greater than every five full fiscal years after the date
17 of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall
18 prepare, publish, and make available to the public a
19 report, prepared in cooperation with State foresters,
20 that—

21 “(A) contains a description of each State
22 inventory of forests and their resources, incor-
23 porating all sample plot measurements con-
24 ducted during the five years covered by the re-
25 port;

1 “(B) displays and analyzes on a nationwide
2 basis the results of the annual reports required
3 by paragraph (2); and

4 “(C) contains an analysis of forest health
5 conditions and trends over the previous two dec-
6 ades, with an emphasis on such conditions and
7 trends during the period subsequent to the imme-
8 diately preceding report under this paragraph.

9 “(4) NATIONAL STANDARDS AND DEFINITIONS.—
10 To ensure uniform and consistent data collection for
11 all public and private forest ownerships and each
12 State, the Secretary shall develop, in consultation
13 with State foresters and Federal land management
14 agencies not under the jurisdiction of the Secretary,
15 and publish national standards and definitions to be
16 applied in inventorying and analyzing forests and
17 their resources under this subsection. The standards
18 shall include a core set of variables to be measured on
19 all sample plots under paragraph (2) and a standard
20 set of tables to be included in the reports under para-
21 graph (3).

22 “(5) PROTECTION FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY
23 RIGHTS.—The Secretary shall obtain written author-
24 ization from property owners prior to collecting data

1 *from sample plots located on private property pursu-*
2 *ant to paragraphs (2) and (3).*

3 “(6) *STRATEGIC PLAN.*—*Not later than 180 days*
4 *after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the*
5 *Secretary shall prepare and submit to Congress a*
6 *strategic plan to implement and carry out this sub-*
7 *section, including the annual updates required by*
8 *paragraph (2) and the reports required by paragraph*
9 *(3), that shall describe in detail—*

10 “(A) *the financial resources required to im-*
11 *plement and carry out this subsection, including*
12 *the identification of any resources required in*
13 *excess of the amounts provided for forest*
14 *inventorying and analysis in recent appropria-*
15 *tions Acts;*

16 “(B) *the personnel necessary to implement*
17 *and carry out this subsection, including any per-*
18 *sonnel in addition to personnel currently per-*
19 *forming inventorying and analysis functions;*

20 “(C) *the organization and procedures nec-*
21 *essary to implement and carry out this sub-*
22 *section, including proposed coordination with*
23 *Federal land management agencies and State*
24 *foresters;*

1 “(D) the schedules for annual sample plot
2 measurements in each State inventory required
3 by paragraph (2) within the first five-year inter-
4 val after the date of the enactment of this sub-
5 section;

6 “(E) the core set of variables to be measured
7 in each sample plot under paragraph (2) and the
8 standard set of tables to be used in each State
9 and national report under paragraph (3); and

10 “(F) the process for employing, in coordina-
11 tion with the Department of Energy and the Na-
12 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration,
13 remote sensing, global positioning systems, and
14 other advanced technologies to carry out this sub-
15 section, and the subsequent use of such tech-
16 nologies.”.

17 (d) *FORESTRY AND RANGELANDS COMPETITIVE RE-*
18 *SEARCH GRANTS.*—Section 5 of the Forest and Rangeland
19 Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.
20 16442) is amended—

21 (1) by striking the section heading and “SEC. 5.”
22 and inserting the following:

23 “**SEC. 5. FORESTRY AND RANGELANDS COMPETITIVE RE-**
24 **SEARCH GRANTS.**

25 “(a) *COMPETITIVE GRANT AUTHORITY.*—”; and

1 (2) *by adding at the end the following new sub-*
2 *sections:*

3 “(b) *EMPHASIS ON CERTAIN HIGH PRIORITY FOR-*
4 *ESTRY RESEARCH.—The Secretary may use up to five per-*
5 *cent of the amounts made available for research under sec-*
6 *tion 3 to make competitive grants regarding forestry re-*
7 *search in the high priority research areas identified in sec-*
8 *tion 3(d).*

9 “(c) *EMPHASIS ON CERTAIN HIGH PRIORITY RANGE-*
10 *LANDS RESEARCH.—The Secretary may use up to five per-*
11 *cent of the amounts made available for research under sec-*
12 *tion 3 to make competitive grants regarding rangelands re-*
13 *search in the high priority research areas identified in sec-*
14 *tion 3(d).*

15 “(d) *PRIORITIES.—In making grants under sub-*
16 *sections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall give priority to re-*
17 *search proposals in which—*

18 “(1) *the proposed research will be collaborative*
19 *research organized through a center of scientific excel-*
20 *lence;*

21 “(2) *the applicant agrees to provide matching*
22 *funds (in the form of direct funding or in-kind sup-*
23 *port) in an amount equal to not less than 50 percent*
24 *of the grant amount; and*

1 “(3) the proposed research will be conducted as
2 part of an existing private and public partnership or
3 cooperative research effort and involves several inter-
4 ested research partners.”.

5 **TITLE III—EXTENSION OR RE-**
6 **PEAL OF RESEARCH, EXTEN-**
7 **SION, AND EDUCATION INI-**
8 **TIATIVES**

9 **Subtitle A—Extensions**

10 **SEC. 301. NATIONAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE UNDER COM-**
11 **PETITIVE, SPECIAL, AND FACILITIES RE-**
12 **SEARCH GRANT ACT.**

13 *Subsection (b)(10) of the Competitive, Special, and*
14 *Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)(10)) is*
15 *amended by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.*

16 **SEC. 302. EQUITY IN EDUCATIONAL LAND-GRANT STATUS**
17 **ACT OF 1994.**

18 *Sections 533(b) and 535 of the Equity in Educational*
19 *Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7*
20 *U.S.C. 301 note) are amended by striking “2000” each*
21 *place it appears and inserting “2002”.*

22 **SEC. 303. EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAMS FOR HISPANIC-**
23 **SERVING INSTITUTIONS.**

24 *Section 1455(c) of the National Agricultural Research,*
25 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.*

1 3241(c)) is amended by striking “fiscal year 1997” and in-
2 serting “each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2002”.

3 **SEC. 304. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR AGRICULTURAL**
4 **RESEARCH PROGRAMS.**

5 Section 1463 of the National Agricultural Research,
6 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
7 3311) is amended in subsections (a) and (b) by striking
8 “1997” each place it appears and inserting “2002”.

9 **SEC. 305. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR EXTENSION EDU-**
10 **CATION.**

11 Section 1464 of the National Agricultural Research,
12 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
13 3312) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.

14 **SEC. 306. GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOOD AND AGRI-**
15 **CULTURAL SCIENCES EDUCATION.**

16 Section 1417(j) of the National Agricultural Research,
17 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
18 3152(j)) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting
19 “2002”.

1 **SEC. 307. GRANTS FOR RESEARCH ON THE PRODUCTION**
2 **AND MARKETING OF ALCOHOLS AND INDUS-**
3 **TRIAL HYDROCARBONS FROM AGRICUL-**
4 **TURAL COMMODITIES AND FOREST PROD-**
5 **UCTS.**

6 *Section 1419(d) of the National Agricultural Research,*
7 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.*
8 *3154(d)) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting*
9 *“2002”.*

10 **SEC. 308. POLICY RESEARCH CENTERS.**

11 *Section 1419A(d) of the National Agricultural Re-*
12 *search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7*
13 *U.S.C. 3155(d)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 1996*
14 *and 1997” and inserting “each of fiscal years 1996 through*
15 *2002”.*

16 **SEC. 309. HUMAN NUTRITION INTERVENTION AND HEALTH**
17 **PROMOTION RESEARCH PROGRAM.**

18 *Section 1424(d) of the National Agricultural Research,*
19 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.*
20 *3174(d)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 1996 and*
21 *1997” and inserting “each of fiscal years 1996 through*
22 *2002”.*

23 **SEC. 310. PILOT RESEARCH PROGRAM TO COMBINE MEDI-**
24 **CAL AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.**

25 *Section 1424A(d) of the National Agricultural Re-*
26 *search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7*

1 *U.S.C. 3174a(d)) is amended by striking “fiscal year 1997”*
2 *and inserting “each of fiscal years 1997 through 2002”.*

3 **SEC. 311. FOOD AND NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

4 *Section 1425(c)(3) of the National Agricultural Re-*
5 *search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7*
6 *U.S.C. 3175(c)(3)) is amended by striking “and 1997” and*
7 *inserting “through 2002”.*

8 **SEC. 312. ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE CONTINUING RE-**
9 **SEARCH.**

10 *Section 1433(a) of the National Agricultural Research,*
11 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.*
12 *3195(a)) is amended in the first sentence by striking*
13 *“1997” and inserting “2002”.*

14 **SEC. 313. ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE NATIONAL OR RE-**
15 **GIONAL RESEARCH.**

16 *Section 1434(a) of the National Agricultural Research,*
17 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.*
18 *3196(a)) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting*
19 *“2002”.*

20 **SEC. 314. GRANT PROGRAM TO UPGRADE AGRICULTURAL**
21 **AND FOOD SCIENCES FACILITIES AT 1890**
22 **LAND-GRANT COLLEGES.**

23 *Section 1447(b) of the National Agricultural Research,*
24 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.*

1 3222b(b)) is amended by striking “and 1997” and inserting
2 “through 2002”.

3 **SEC. 315. NATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTEN-**
4 **NIAL CENTERS.**

5 Section 1448 of the National Agricultural Research,
6 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
7 3222c) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “and 1997”
9 and inserting “through 2002”; and

10 (2) in subsection (f), by striking “1997” and in-
11 serting “2002”.

12 **SEC. 316. SUPPLEMENTAL AND ALTERNATIVE CROPS RE-**
13 **SEARCH.**

14 Section 1473D(a) of the National Agricultural Re-
15 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
16 U.S.C. 3319d(a)) is amended by striking “1997” and in-
17 serting “2002”.

18 **SEC. 317. AQUACULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.**

19 Section 1477 of the National Agricultural Research,
20 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
21 3324) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.

22 **SEC. 318. RANGELAND RESEARCH.**

23 Section 1483(a) of the National Agricultural Research,
24 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.

1 3336(a)) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting
2 “2002”.

3 **SEC. 319. FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FACILITIES.**

4 *Section 1431 of the National Agricultural Research,*
5 *Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments of 1985*
6 *(Public Law 99–198; 99 Stat. 1566) is amended by striking*
7 *“1997” and inserting “2002”.*

8 **SEC. 320. WATER QUALITY RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND CO-**
9 **ORDINATION.**

10 *Section 1481(d) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-*
11 *tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5501(d)) is amended*
12 *by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.*

13 **SEC. 321. NATIONAL GENETICS RESOURCES PROGRAM.**

14 *Section 1635(b) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,*
15 *and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5844(b)) is amended by*
16 *striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.*

17 **SEC. 322. AGRICULTURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS PRO-**
18 **GRAM.**

19 *Section 1673(h) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-*
20 *tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5926(h)) is amended*
21 *by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.*

22 **SEC. 323. ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR FARMERS**
23 **WITH DISABILITIES.**

24 *Section 1680 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,*
25 *and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5933) is amended—*

1 (1) in subsection (a)(6)(B), by striking “1997”
2 and inserting “2002”; and

3 (2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “1997” and
4 inserting “2002”.

5 **SEC. 324. NATIONAL RURAL INFORMATION CENTER CLEAR-**
6 **INGHOUSE.**

7 Section 2381(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
8 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 3125b(e)) is amended by
9 striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.

10 **SEC. 325. CRITICAL AGRICULTURAL MATERIALS ACT.**

11 Section 16(a) of the Critical Agricultural Materials
12 Act (7 U.S.C. 178n(a)) is amended by striking “1997” and
13 inserting “2002”.

14 **Subtitle B—Repeals**

15 **SEC. 341. AQUACULTURE RESEARCH FACILITIES.**

16 Section 1476 of the National Agricultural Research,
17 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
18 3323) is repealed.

19 **SEC. 342. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROGRAM UNDER NA-**
20 **TIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTEN-**
21 **SION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT AMEND-**
22 **MENTS OF 1981.**

23 Subsection (b) of section 1432 of the National Agricul-
24 tural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act

1 *Amendments of 1981 (Public Law 97–98; 7 U.S.C. 3222*
2 *note) is repealed.*

3 **SEC. 343. LIVESTOCK PRODUCT SAFETY AND INSPECTION**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 *Section 1670 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,*
6 *and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5923) is repealed.*

7 **SEC. 344. GENERIC AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 *Sections 897 and 898 of the Federal Agriculture Im-*
9 *provement and Reform Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–127;*
10 *110 Stat. 1184) are repealed.*

11 **TITLE IV—NEW RESEARCH, EX-**
12 **TENSION, AND EDUCATION**
13 **INITIATIVES**

14 **Subtitle A—Partnerships for High-**
15 **Value Agricultural Product**
16 **Quality Research**

17 **SEC. 401. DEFINITIONS.**

18 *For the purposes of this subtitle:*

19 *(1) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—The term “eligible*
20 *partnership” means a partnership consisting of a*
21 *land-grant college or university and other entities*
22 *specified in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of section*
23 *402 that satisfies the eligibility criteria contained in*
24 *such subsection.*

1 (2) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
2 *the Secretary of Agriculture.*

3 **SEC. 402. ESTABLISHMENT AND CHARACTERISTICS OF**
4 **PARTNERSHIPS.**

5 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT BY GRANT.*—

6 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary may make*
7 *grants to an eligible partnership to coordinate and*
8 *manage research and extension activities to enhance*
9 *the quality of high-value agricultural products.*

10 (2) *AWARDING OF GRANTS.*—*Grants under para-*
11 *graph (1) shall be awarded on a competitive basis.*

12 (b) *CRITERIA FOR AN ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.*—

13 (1) *PRIMARY INSTITUTIONS IN PARTNERSHIP.*—
14 *The primary institution involved in an eligible part-*
15 *nership shall be a land-grant college or university,*
16 *acting in partnership with other colleges or univer-*
17 *sities, nonprofit research and development entities,*
18 *and Federal laboratories.*

19 (2) *PRIORITIZATION OF RESEARCH ACTIVI-*
20 *TIES.*—*An eligible partnership shall prioritize re-*
21 *search and extension activities in order to—*

22 (A) *enhance the competitiveness of United*
23 *States agricultural products;*

24 (B) *increase exports of such products; and*

1 (C) substitute such products for imported
2 products.

3 (3) COORDINATION.—An eligible partnership
4 shall coordinate among the entities comprising the
5 partnership the activities supported by the eligible
6 partnership, including the provision of mechanisms
7 for sharing resources between institutions and labora-
8 tories and the coordination of public and private sec-
9 tor partners to maximize cost-effectiveness.

10 (c) TYPES OF RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVI-
11 TIES.—Research or extension supported by an eligible part-
12 nership may address the full spectrum of production, proc-
13 essing, packaging, transportation, and marketing issues re-
14 lated to a high-value agricultural product. Such issues in-
15 clude—

16 (1) environmentally responsible—

17 (A) pest management alternatives and bio-
18 technology;

19 (B) sustainable farming methods; and

20 (C) soil conservation and enhanced resource
21 management;

22 (2) genetic research to develop improved agricul-
23 tural-based products;

1 (3) *refinement of field production practices and*
2 *technology to improve quality, yield, and production*
3 *efficiencies;*

4 (4) *processing and package technology to im-*
5 *prove product quality, stability, or flavor intensity;*

6 (5) *marketing research regarding consumer per-*
7 *ceptions and preferences;*

8 (6) *economic research, including industry char-*
9 *acteristics, growth, competitive analysis; and*

10 (7) *research to facilitate diversified, value-added*
11 *enterprises in rural areas.*

12 **SEC. 403. ELEMENTS OF GRANT MAKING PROCESS.**

13 (a) *PERIOD OF GRANT.*—*The Secretary may award a*
14 *grant under this subtitle for a period not to exceed five*
15 *years.*

16 (b) *PREFERENCES.*—*In making grants under this sub-*
17 *title, the Secretary shall give preference to proposals that—*

18 (1) *demonstrate linkages with—*

19 (A) *agencies of the Department of Agri-*
20 *culture;*

21 (B) *other related Federal research labora-*
22 *tories and agencies;*

23 (C) *colleges and universities; and*

24 (D) *private industry; and*

1 (1) *PRECISION AGRICULTURE.*—The term “*preci-*
2 *sion agriculture*” means an integrated information-
3 and production-based farming system that is designed
4 to increase long-term, site specific and whole farm
5 production efficiencies, productivity, and profitability
6 while minimizing unintended impacts on wildlife and
7 the environment by—

8 (A) combining agricultural sciences, agri-
9 cultural inputs and practices, agronomic produc-
10 tion databases, and precision agriculture tech-
11 nologies to efficiently manage agronomic and
12 livestock production systems;

13 (B) gathering on-farm information pertain-
14 ing to the variation and interaction of site-spe-
15 cific spatial and temporal factors affecting crop
16 and livestock production;

17 (C) integrating such information with ap-
18 propriate data derived from field scouting, re-
19 mote sensing, and other precision agriculture
20 technologies in a timely manner in order to fa-
21 cilitate on-farm decisionmaking; or

22 (D) using such information to prescribe and
23 deliver site-specific application of agricultural
24 inputs and management practices in agricul-
25 tural production systems.

1 (2) *PRECISION AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGIES.*—
2 The term “precision agriculture technologies” in-
3 cludes—

4 (A) *instrumentation and techniques ranging*
5 *from sophisticated sensors and software systems*
6 *to manual sampling and data collection tools*
7 *that measure, record, and manage spatial and*
8 *temporal data;*

9 (B) *technologies for searching out and as-*
10 *sembling information necessary for sound agri-*
11 *cultural production decision making;*

12 (C) *open systems technologies for data*
13 *networking and processing that produce valued*
14 *systems for farm management decisionmaking;*
15 *or*

16 (D) *machines that deliver information*
17 *based management practices.*

18 (3) *ADVISORY BOARD.*—The term “Advisory
19 Board” means the National Agricultural Research,
20 Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory
21 Board established under section 1408 of the National
22 Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Pol-
23 icy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123).

24 (4) *AGRICULTURAL INPUTS.*—The term “agricul-
25 tural inputs” includes all farm management, agro-

1 *nomie, and field applied agricultural production in-*
2 *puts, such as machinery, labor, time, fuel, irrigation*
3 *water, commercial nutrients, feed stuffs, veterinary*
4 *drugs and vaccines, livestock waste, crop protection*
5 *chemicals, agronomic data and information, applica-*
6 *tion and management services, seed, and other inputs*
7 *used in agriculture production.*

8 (5) *ELIGIBLE ENTITY.*—*The term “eligible en-*
9 *tity” means—*

10 (A) *a State agricultural experiment station;*

11 (B) *a college or university;*

12 (C) *a research institution or organization;*

13 (D) *a Federal or State government entity or*
14 *agency;*

15 (E) *a national laboratory;*

16 (F) *a private organization or corporation;*

17 (G) *an agricultural producer or other land*
18 *manager; or*

19 (H) *a precision agriculture partnership re-*
20 *ferred to in section 414.*

21 (6) *SYSTEMS RESEARCH.*—*The term “systems re-*
22 *search” means an integrated, coordinated, and itera-*
23 *tive investigative process, which considers the mul-*
24 *tiple interacting components and aspects of precision*
25 *agriculture systems, including synthesis of new*

1 *knowledge regarding the physical-chemical-biological*
2 *processes and complex interactions with cropping,*
3 *livestock production practices, and natural resource*
4 *systems, precision agriculture technologies develop-*
5 *ment and implementation, data and information col-*
6 *lection and interpretation, production scale planning,*
7 *production-scale implementation, and farm produc-*
8 *tion efficiencies, productivity, and profitability.*

9 **SEC. 412. COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO PROMOTE PRECISION**
10 **AGRICULTURE.**

11 *(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agri-*
12 *culture may make competitive grants, for periods not to ex-*
13 *ceed five years, to eligible entities to conduct research, edu-*
14 *cation, or information dissemination projects for the devel-*
15 *opment and advancement of precision agriculture. Such*
16 *grants shall be limited to those projects that the Secretary*
17 *determines are unlikely to be financed by the private sector*
18 *in the absence of a grant under this section. The Secretary*
19 *shall make such grants in consultation with the Advisory*
20 *Board.*

21 *(b) PURPOSE OF PROJECTS.—Research, education, or*
22 *information dissemination projects supported by a grant*
23 *under subsection (a) shall address one or more of the follow-*
24 *ing:*

1 (1) *The study and promotion of components of*
2 *precision agriculture technologies using a systems re-*
3 *search approach that would increase long-term, site-*
4 *specified and whole farm production efficiencies, pro-*
5 *ductivity, profitability.*

6 (2) *The improvement in the understanding of ag-*
7 *ronomic systems, including, soil, water, land cover*
8 *(including grazing lands), pest management systems,*
9 *and meteorological variability.*

10 (3) *The provision of training and educational*
11 *programs for State cooperative extension services*
12 *agents, and other professionals involved in the agri-*
13 *cultural production and transfer of integrated preci-*
14 *sion agriculture technology.*

15 (4) *The development, demonstration, and dis-*
16 *semination of information regarding precision agri-*
17 *culture technologies and systems and the potential*
18 *benefits of precision agriculture as it relates to in-*
19 *creased long-term farm production efficiencies, pro-*
20 *ductivity, profitability, and the maintenance of the*
21 *environment, and improvements in international*
22 *trade into an integrated program to educate agricul-*
23 *tural producers and consumers, including family*
24 *owned and operated farms.*

1 (c) *GRANT PRIORITIES.*—*In making grants to eligible*
2 *entities under subsection (a), the Secretary, in consultation*
3 *with the Advisory Board, shall give priority to research,*
4 *education, or information dissemination projects designed*
5 *to accomplish the following:*

6 (1) *Evaluate the use of precision agriculture*
7 *technologies using a systems research approach to in-*
8 *crease long-term site-specific and whole farm produc-*
9 *tion efficiencies, productivity, profitability.*

10 (2) *Integrate research, education, and informa-*
11 *tion dissemination components in a practical and*
12 *readily available manner so that the findings of the*
13 *project will be made readily usable by farmers.*

14 (3) *Demonstrate the efficient use of agricultural*
15 *inputs, rather than the uniform reduction in the use*
16 *of agricultural inputs.*

17 (4) *Maximize the involvement and cooperation of*
18 *precision agriculture producers, certified crop advis-*
19 *ers, State cooperative extension services agents, agri-*
20 *cultural input machinery, product and service pro-*
21 *viders, nonprofit organizations, agribusiness, veteri-*
22 *narians, land-grant colleges and universities, and*
23 *Federal agencies in precision agriculture systems re-*
24 *search projects involving on-farm research, education,*

1 *tension services, other colleges and universities with*
2 *demonstrable expertise regarding precision agri-*
3 *culture, agencies of the Department of Agriculture,*
4 *national laboratories, agribusinesses, agricultural*
5 *equipment and input manufacturers and retailers,*
6 *certified crop advisers, commodity organizations,*
7 *veterinaries, other Federal or State government enti-*
8 *ties and agencies, or nonagricultural industries and*
9 *nonprofit organizations with demonstrable expertise*
10 *regarding precision agriculture; and*

11 *(2) agricultural producers or other land man-*
12 *agers.*

13 **SEC. 415. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

14 *(a) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR CERTAIN*
15 *PURPOSES.—The Secretary of Agriculture may not make*
16 *a grant under section 412 for the planning, repair, rehabili-*
17 *tation, acquisition, or construction of a building or facility.*

18 *(b) APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.—The Federal Ad-*
19 *visory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) and title XVIII of*
20 *the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2281 et*
21 *seq.) shall not apply to a panel or board created for the*
22 *purpose of reviewing applications or proposals submitted*
23 *under this subtitle.*

1 **SEC. 416. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 (a) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There are*
 3 *hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sub-*
 4 *title \$40,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1998 through*
 5 *2002.*

6 (b) *ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.*—*Not more than 3 per-*
 7 *cent of the amount appropriated under this subtitle may*
 8 *be retained by the Secretary to pay the administrative costs*
 9 *incurred by the Secretary in carrying out this subtitle.*

10 (c) *AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.*—*Funds made available*
 11 *under paragraph (a) shall be available for obligation for*
 12 *a two-year period beginning on October 1 of the fiscal year*
 13 *for which the funds are made available.*

14 ***Subtitle C—Other Initiatives***

15 **SEC. 421. HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INI-**
 16 **TIATIVES.**

17 *Section 1672 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,*
 18 *and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925) is amended to read*
 19 *as follows:*

20 **“SEC. 1672. HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INI-**
 21 **TIATIVES.**

22 *“(a) COMPETITIVE SPECIALIZED RESEARCH AND EX-*
 23 *TENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.*—*The Secretary of Agri-*
 24 *culture, in consultation with the National Agricultural Re-*
 25 *search, Education, Extension, and Economics Advisory*
 26 *Board, may make competitive grants to support research*

1 *and extension activities in the high-priority research and*
2 *extension areas specified in subsection (e).*

3 “(b) *GRANT TYPES AND PROCESS; PROHIBITION ON*
4 *CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraphs (6), (7), and (11) of sub-*
5 *section (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Re-*
6 *search Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) shall apply with respect*
7 *to the making of grants under this section.*

8 “(c) *MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—*

9 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require*
10 *the recipient of a grant under this section to provide*
11 *funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources in*
12 *an amount at least equal to the amount provided by*
13 *the Federal Government.*

14 “(2) *WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may*
15 *waive the matching funds requirement specified in*
16 *paragraph (1) with respect to a research project if the*
17 *Secretary determines that—*

18 “(A) *the results of the project, while of par-*
19 *ticular benefit to a specific agricultural commod-*
20 *ity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural*
21 *commodities generally; or*

22 “(B) *the project involves a minor commod-*
23 *ity, deals with scientifically important research,*
24 *and the grant recipient would be unable to sat-*
25 *isfy the matching funds requirement.*

1 “(d) *PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGED.*—Following the
2 completion of a peer review process for grant proposals re-
3 ceived under this section, the Secretary may give priority
4 to those grant proposals found to be scientifically meritori-
5 ous that involve the cooperation of multiple institutions.

6 “(e) *HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION*
7 *AREAS.*—

8 “(1) *BROWN CITRUS APHID AND CITRUS*
9 *TRISTEZA VIRUS RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.*—Re-
10 search and extension grants may be made under this
11 section for the purpose of—

12 “(A) developing methods to control or eradi-
13 cate the brown citrus aphid and the citrus
14 tristeza virus from citrus crops grown in the
15 United States; or

16 “(B) adapting citrus crops grown in the
17 United States to the brown citrus aphid and the
18 citrus tristeza virus.

19 “(2) *ETHANOL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.*—Re-
20 search and extension grants may be made under this
21 section for the purpose of carrying on or enhancing
22 research on ethanol derived from agricultural crops as
23 an alternative fuel source.

24 “(3) *AFLATOXIN RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.*—
25 Research and extension grants may be made under

1 *this section for the purpose of identifying and control-*
2 *ling aflatoxin in the food and feed chains.*

3 “(4) *MESQUITE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—*
4 *Research and extension grants may be made under*
5 *this section for the purpose of developing enhanced*
6 *production methods and commercial uses of mesquite.*

7 “(5) *PRICKLY PEAR RESEARCH AND EXTEN-*
8 *SION.—Research and extension grants may be made*
9 *under this section for the purpose of investigating en-*
10 *hanced genetic selection and processing techniques of*
11 *prickly pears.*

12 “(6) *DEER TICK ECOLOGY RESEARCH AND EX-*
13 *TENSION.—Research and extension grants may be*
14 *made under this section for the purpose of studying*
15 *the population ecology of deer ticks and other insects*
16 *and pests which transmit Lyme disease.*

17 “(7) *RED MEAT SAFETY RESEARCH AND EXTEN-*
18 *SION.—Research and extension grants may be made*
19 *under this section for the purpose of developing—*

20 “(A) *intervention strategies that reduce mi-*
21 *crobial contamination on carcass surfaces;*

22 “(B) *microbiological mapping of carcass*
23 *surfaces; and*

24 “(C) *model hazard analysis and critical*
25 *control point plans.*

1 “(8) *GRAIN SORGHUM ERGOT RESEARCH AND*
2 *EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be*
3 *made under this section for the purpose of developing*
4 *techniques for the eradication of sorghum ergot.*

5 “(9) *ANIMAL WASTE AND ODOR MANAGEMENT*
6 *RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension*
7 *grants may be made under this section for the pur-*
8 *pose of—*

9 “(A) *identifying, evaluating, and dem-*
10 *onstrating innovative technologies for animal*
11 *waste management and odor control; and*

12 “(B) *conducting information workshops to*
13 *disseminate the results of such research.*

14 “(10) *FIRE ANT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—*
15 *Research and extension grants may be made under*
16 *this section for the purpose of control, management,*
17 *and eradication of fire ants.*

18 “(11) *WHEAT SCAB RESEARCH AND EXTEN-*
19 *SION.—Research and extension grants may be made*
20 *under this section to a consortium of land-grant col-*
21 *leges and universities for the purpose of understand-*
22 *ing and combating diseases of wheat and barley*
23 *caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related fungi*
24 *(commonly known as wheat scab).*

1 “(12) *PEANUT MARKET ENHANCEMENT RE-*
2 *SEARCH AND EXTENSION.*—*Research and extension*
3 *grants may be made under this section for the pur-*
4 *pose of evaluating the economics of applying innova-*
5 *tive technologies for peanut processing in a commer-*
6 *cial environment.*

7 “(13) *DAIRY FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT RE-*
8 *SEARCH AND EXTENSION.*—*Research and extension*
9 *grants may be made under this section for the pur-*
10 *pose of providing research, development, or education*
11 *materials, information, and outreach programs re-*
12 *garding risk management strategies for dairy produc-*
13 *ers and for dairy cooperatives and other processors*
14 *and marketers of milk.*

15 “(14) *COTTON RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.*—*Re-*
16 *search and extension grants may be made under this*
17 *section for the purpose of improving pest manage-*
18 *ment, fiber quality enhancement, economic assess-*
19 *ment, textile production, and optimized production*
20 *systems for short staple cotton.*

21 “(15) *METHYL BROMIDE RESEARCH AND EXTEN-*
22 *SION.*—*Research and extension grants may be made*
23 *under this section for the purpose of—*

24 “(A) *developing and evaluating chemical*
25 *and nonchemical alternatives, and use and emis-*

1 *sion reduction strategies, for pre-planting and*
2 *post-harvest uses of methyl bromide; and*

3 *“(B) transferring the results of such re-*
4 *search for agricultural producer use.*

5 *“(16) WATER QUALITY AND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM*
6 *RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension*
7 *grants may be made under this section for the pur-*
8 *pose of investigating the impact on aquatic food webs,*
9 *especially commercially important aquatic species*
10 *and their habitats, of microorganisms of the genus*
11 *Pfiesteria and other microorganisms that are a threat*
12 *to human or animal health.*

13 *“(17) POTATO RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Re-*
14 *search and extension grants may be made under this*
15 *section for the purpose of developing and evaluating*
16 *new strains of potatoes which are resistant to blight*
17 *and other diseases, as well as insects. Emphasis may*
18 *be placed on developing potato varieties that lend*
19 *themselves to innovative marketing approaches.*

20 *“(18) WOOD UTILIZATION RESEARCH AND EX-*
21 *TENSION.—Research and extension grants may be*
22 *made under this section for the purpose of developing*
23 *new uses for wood from underutilized tree species as*
24 *well as investigating methods of modifying wood and*
25 *wood fibers to produce better building materials.*

1 “(19) *LOW-BUSH BLUEBERRY RESEARCH AND*
2 *EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be*
3 *made under this section for the purpose of evaluating*
4 *methods of propagating and developing low-bush blue-*
5 *berry as a marketable crop.*

6 “(20) *FORMOSAN TERMITE ERADICATION RE-*
7 *SEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension*
8 *grants may be made under this section for the pur-*
9 *pose of—*

10 “(A) *conducting research for the control,*
11 *management, and possible eradication of Formo-*
12 *san termites in the United States; and*

13 “(B) *collecting data on the effectiveness of*
14 *research projects conducted under this para-*
15 *graph.*

16 “(21) *SWINE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ODOR*
17 *CONTROL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and*
18 *extension grants may be made under this section for*
19 *the purpose of investigating the microbiology of swine*
20 *waste and developing improved methods to effectively*
21 *manage air and water quality in animal husbandry.*

22 “(22) *WETLANDS UTILIZATION RESEARCH AND*
23 *EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be*
24 *made under this section for the purpose of better uti-*

1 *lizing wetlands in diverse ways to provide various*
2 *economic, agricultural, and environmental benefits.*

3 “(23) *WILD PAMPAS GRASS CONTROL AND ERADI-*
4 *CATION RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and*
5 *extension grants may be made under this section for*
6 *the purpose of control, management, and eradication*
7 *of wild pampas grass.*

8 “(24) *PATHOGEN DETECTION AND LIMITATION*
9 *RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension*
10 *grants may be made under this section for the pur-*
11 *pose of identifying advanced detection and processing*
12 *methods to limit the presence of pathogens, including*
13 *hepatitis A and E. coli 0157:H7, in domestic and im-*
14 *ported foods.*

15 “(25) *FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT RESEARCH*
16 *AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants*
17 *may be made under this section for the purpose of*
18 *providing research, development, or education mate-*
19 *rials, information, and outreach programs regarding*
20 *financial risk management strategies for agricultural*
21 *producers and for cooperatives and other processors*
22 *and marketers of any agricultural commodity.*

23 “(26) *ORNAMENTAL TROPICAL FISH RESEARCH*
24 *AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants*
25 *may be made under this section for the purpose of*

1 *meeting the needs of commercial producers of orna-*
2 *mental tropical fish and aquatic plants for improve-*
3 *ments in the areas of fish reproduction, health, nutri-*
4 *tion, predator control, water use, water quality con-*
5 *trol, and farming technology.*

6 “(27) *SHEEP SCRAPIE RESEARCH AND EXTEN-*
7 *SION.—Research and extension grants may be made*
8 *under this section for the purpose of investigating the*
9 *genetic aspects of scrapie in sheep.*

10 “(28) *ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AT RURAL/*
11 *URBAN INTERFACES.—Research and extension grants*
12 *may be made under this section for the purpose of*
13 *identifying, evaluating, and demonstrating innovative*
14 *technologies to be used for animal waste management*
15 *(including odor control) in rural areas adjacent to*
16 *urban or suburban areas in connection with waste*
17 *management activities undertaken in urban or subur-*
18 *ban areas.*

19 “(29) *GYPSY MOTH RESEARCH AND EXTEN-*
20 *SION.—Research and extension grants may be made*
21 *under this section for the purpose of developing bio-*
22 *logical control, management, and eradication methods*
23 *against nonnative insects, including *Lymantria**
24 **dispar* (commonly known as the Gypsy Moth), that*

1 *contribute to significant agricultural, economical, or*
2 *environmental harm.*

3 “(30) *DAIRY EFFICIENCY, PROFITABILITY, AND*
4 *COMPETITIVENESS RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Re-*
5 *search and extension grants may be made under this*
6 *section for the purpose of improving the efficiency,*
7 *profitability, and competitiveness of dairy production*
8 *on farms that are heavily dependent on manufactur-*
9 *ing uses of milk.*

10 “(31) *ANIMAL FEED RESEARCH AND EXTEN-*
11 *SION.—Research and extension grants may be made*
12 *under this section for the purpose of maximizing nu-*
13 *trition management for livestock, while limiting risks,*
14 *such as mineral bypass, associated with livestock feed-*
15 *ing practices.*

16 “(32) *FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—*
17 *Research and extension grants may be made under*
18 *this section to develop and distribute new, high-qual-*
19 *ity, science-based information for the purpose of im-*
20 *proving the long-term productivity of forest resources*
21 *and contributing to forest-based economic development*
22 *by addressing such issues as forest land use policies,*
23 *multiple-use forest management, including wildlife*
24 *habitat development, improved forest regeneration*
25 *systems, and timber supply, and improved develop-*

1 *ment, manufacturing, and marketing of forest prod-*
2 *ucts.*

3 “(f) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are*
4 *authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years*
5 *1998 through 2002 such sums as may be necessary to make*
6 *grants under this section in each of the high-priority re-*
7 *search and extension areas specified in subsection (e).*

8 “(g) *USE OF TASK FORCES.—*

9 “(1) *ESTABLISHMENT.—To facilitate the making*
10 *of research and extension grants under this section in*
11 *a high-priority research and extension area specified*
12 *in subsection (e), the Secretary may appoint a task*
13 *force to make recommendations to the Secretary.*

14 “(2) *LIMITATION ON COSTS.—The Secretary may*
15 *not incur costs in excess of \$1,000 in any fiscal year*
16 *in connection with each task force established under*
17 *this subsection.*

18 “(3) *APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.—The Fed-*
19 *eral Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) and*
20 *title XVIII of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977*
21 *(7 U.S.C. 2281 et seq.) shall not apply to a task force*
22 *established under this subsection.”.*

1 **SEC. 422. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTEN-**
2 **SION INITIATIVE.**

3 *The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act*
4 *of 1990 is amended by inserting after section 1672 (7*
5 *U.S.C. 5925) the following new section:*

6 **“SEC. 1672A. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EX-**
7 **TENSION INITIATIVE.**

8 *“(a) COMPETITIVE SPECIALIZED RESEARCH AND EX-*
9 *TENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agri-*
10 *culture, in consultation with the National Agricultural Re-*
11 *search, Education, Extension, and Economics Advisory*
12 *Board, may make competitive grants to support research*
13 *and extension activities regarding organically grown and*
14 *processed agricultural commodities for the purpose of—*

15 *“(1) facilitating the development of organic agri-*
16 *culture production and processing methods;*

17 *“(2) evaluating the potential economic benefits to*
18 *producers and processors who use organic methods;*
19 *and*

20 *“(3) exploring international trade opportunities*
21 *for organically grown and processed agricultural com-*
22 *modities.*

23 *“(b) GRANT TYPES AND PROCESS, PROHIBITION ON*
24 *CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraphs (6), (7), and (11) of sub-*
25 *section (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Re-*

1 *search Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i) shall apply with respect*
2 *to the making of grants under this section.*

3 “(c) *MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.*—

4 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall require*
5 *the recipient of a grant under this section to provide*
6 *funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources in*
7 *an amount at least equal to the amount provided by*
8 *the Federal Government.*

9 “(2) *WAIVER AUTHORITY.*—*The Secretary may*
10 *waive the matching funds requirement specified in*
11 *paragraph (1) with respect to a research project if the*
12 *Secretary determines that—*

13 “(A) *the results of the project, while of par-*
14 *ticular benefit to a specified agricultural com-*
15 *modity, are likely to be applicable to agricul-*
16 *tural commodities generally; or*

17 “(B) *the project involves a minor commod-*
18 *ity, deals with scientifically important research,*
19 *and grant recipient would be unable to satisfy*
20 *the matching funds requirement.*

21 “(d) *PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGED.*—*Following the*
22 *completion of a peer review process for grant proposals re-*
23 *ceived under this section, the Secretary may give priority*
24 *to those grant proposals found to be scientifically meritori-*
25 *ous that involved the cooperation of multiple institutions.*

1 *shall be subject to the condition that the Government of Mex-*
 2 *ico match, on at least an equal ratio, any funds provided*
 3 *by the United States Government.*

4 “(d) *LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided*
 5 *under this section may not be used for the planning, repair,*
 6 *rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of a building or*
 7 *facility.”*

8 **SEC. 424. COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL AG-**
 9 **RICULTURAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION PRO-**
 10 **GRAMS.**

11 *Subtitle I of the National Agricultural Research, Ex-*
 12 *tension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3291*
 13 *et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 1459, as added*
 14 *by section 423, the following new section:*

15 **“SEC. 1459A. COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL**
 16 **AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION**
 17 **PROGRAMS.**

18 “(a) *COMPETITIVE GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-*
 19 *retary may make competitive grants to colleges and univer-*
 20 *sities in order to strengthen United States economic com-*
 21 *petitiveness and to promote international market develop-*
 22 *ment.*

23 “(b) *PURPOSE OF GRANTS.—Grants under this section*
 24 *shall be directed to agricultural research, extension, and*
 25 *teaching activities that will—*

1 “(1) enhance the international content of the
2 curricula in colleges and universities so as to ensure
3 that United States students acquire an understanding
4 of the international dimensions and trade implica-
5 tions of their studies;

6 “(2) ensure that United States scientists, exten-
7 sion agents, and educators involved in agricultural
8 research and development activities outside of the
9 United States have the opportunity to convey the im-
10 plications of their activities and findings to their
11 peers and students in the United States and to the
12 users of agricultural research, extension, and teach-
13 ing;

14 “(3) enhance the capabilities of colleges and uni-
15 versities to do collaborative research with other coun-
16 tries, in cooperation with other Federal agencies, on
17 issues relevant to United States agricultural competi-
18 tiveness;

19 “(4) enhance the capabilities of colleges and uni-
20 versities to provide cooperative extension education to
21 promote the application of new technology developed
22 in foreign countries to United States agriculture; and

23 “(5) enhance the capability of United States col-
24 leges and universities, in cooperation with other Fed-
25 eral agencies, to provide leadership and educational

1 (A) *withdrawal times on FDA-approved*
2 *food animal drugs and appropriate withdrawal*
3 *intervals for drugs used in food animals in the*
4 *United States, as established under section*
5 *512(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic*
6 *Act (21 U.S.C. 360b(a));*

7 (B) *official tolerances for drugs and pes-*
8 *ticides in tissues, eggs, and milk;*

9 (C) *descriptions and sensitivities of rapid*
10 *screening tests for detecting residues in tissues,*
11 *eggs, and milk; and*

12 (D) *data on the distribution and fate of*
13 *chemicals in food animals;*

14 (3) *publish periodically a compilation of food*
15 *animal drugs approved by the Food and Drug Ad-*
16 *ministration;*

17 (4) *make information on food animal drugs*
18 *available to the public through handbooks and other*
19 *literature, computer software, a telephone hotline, and*
20 *the Internet;*

21 (5) *furnish producer quality-assurance programs*
22 *with up-to-date data on approved drugs;*

23 (6) *maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date,*
24 *residue avoidance database;*

1 *necessary for the development and commercialization of new*
2 *biobased products to the point of practical application. Co-*
3 *operative activities may include research on potential envi-*
4 *ronmental impacts of a biobased product, methods to reduce*
5 *the cost of manufacturing a biobased product, and other ap-*
6 *propriate research.*

7 (c) *ELIGIBLE PARTNERS.*—*The following entities shall*
8 *be eligible to enter into a cooperative agreement under this*
9 *section:*

10 (1) *A party that has entered into a cooperative*
11 *research and development agreement with the Sec-*
12 *retary under section 12 of the Stevenson-Wydler Tech-*
13 *nology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a).*

14 (2) *A recipient of funding from the Alternative*
15 *Agricultural Research and Commercialization Cor-*
16 *poration established under section 1658 of the Food,*
17 *Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7*
18 *U.S.C. 5902).*

19 (3) *A recipient of funding from the Bio-*
20 *technology Research and Development Corporation.*

21 (4) *A recipient of funding from the Secretary*
22 *under a Small Business Innovation Research Pro-*
23 *gram established under section 9 of the Small Busi-*
24 *ness Act (15 U.S.C. 638).*

1 (d) *SOURCE OF FUNDS.*—*To carry out this section, the*
2 *Secretary may use—*

3 (1) *funds appropriated to carry out this section;*

4 *and*

5 (2) *funds available for cooperative research and*
6 *development agreements (as described in subsection*
7 *(b)).*

8 (e) *SALE OF DEVELOPED PRODUCTS.*—*The Secretary*
9 *shall authorize the private partner or partners in a cooper-*
10 *ative agreement consistent with this section to sell new*
11 *biobased products produced at a pilot plant under the*
12 *agreement for the purpose of determining the market poten-*
13 *tial for the products.*

14 (f) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There are*
15 *authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-*
16 *essary to carry out this section.*

17 **SEC. 427. THOMAS JEFFERSON INITIATIVE FOR CROP DI-**
18 **VERSIFICATION.**

19 (a) *INITIATIVE REQUIRED.*—*The Secretary of Agri-*
20 *culture shall provide for a research initiative (to be known*
21 *as the “Thomas Jefferson Initiative for Crop Diversifica-*
22 *tion”) for the purpose of conducting research and develop-*
23 *ment, in cooperation with other public and private entities,*
24 *on the production and marketing of new and nontraditional*
25 *crops needed to strengthen and diversify the agricultural*

1 *production base of the United States. The initiative shall*
2 *include research and education efforts regarding new and*
3 *nontraditional crops designed—*

4 *(1) to identify and overcome agronomic barriers*
5 *to profitable production;*

6 *(2) to identify and overcome other production*
7 *and marketing barriers; and*

8 *(3) to develop processing and utilization tech-*
9 *nologies for new and nontraditional crops.*

10 *(b) PURPOSES.—The initiative is established—*

11 *(1) to develop a focused program of research and*
12 *development at the regional and national level to*
13 *overcome barriers to development of new crop oppor-*
14 *tunities for farmers and related value-added enter-*
15 *prise development in rural communities; and*

16 *(2) to ensure a broad-based effort encompassing*
17 *research, education, market development, and support*
18 *of entrepreneurial activity leading to increased agri-*
19 *cultural diversification.*

20 *(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF INITIATIVE.—The Secretary*
21 *shall coordinate the initiative through a nonprofit center*
22 *or institute that will coordinate research and education pro-*
23 *grams in cooperation with other public and private entities.*
24 *The Secretary shall administer research and education*
25 *grants made under this section.*

1 (d) *REGIONAL EMPHASIS.*—*The Secretary shall sup-*
2 *port development of multi-State regional efforts in crop di-*
3 *versification. Of funding made available to carry out the*
4 *initiative, 50 percent shall be used for regional efforts cen-*
5 *tered at land-grant colleges and universities in order to fa-*
6 *cilitate site-specific crop development efforts.*

7 (e) *ELIGIBLE GRANTEE.*—*The Secretary may award*
8 *funds under this section to colleges or universities, nonprofit*
9 *organizations, or public agencies.*

10 (f) *ADMINISTRATION.*—

11 (1) *GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.*—*Grants awarded*
12 *through the initiative shall be selected on a competi-*
13 *tive basis. The recipient of a grant may use a portion*
14 *of the grant funds for standard contracts with private*
15 *businesses, such as for test processing of a new or*
16 *nontraditional crop.*

17 (2) *TERMS.*—*The term of a grant awarded*
18 *through the initiative may not exceed five years.*

19 (3) *MATCHING FUNDS.*—*The Secretary shall re-*
20 *quire the recipient of a grant awarded through the*
21 *initiative to contribute an amount of funds from non-*
22 *Federal sources at least equal to the amount provided*
23 *by the Federal Government.*

1 (g) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There are*
2 *authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-*
3 *essary to carry out this section.*

4 **SEC. 428. INTEGRATED RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EX-**
5 **TENSION COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM.**

6 (a) *PURPOSE.*—*It is the purpose of this section to au-*
7 *thorize the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an inte-*
8 *grated research, education, and extension competitive grant*
9 *program to provide funding for integrated, multi-functional*
10 *research, education, and extension activities.*

11 (b) *COMPETITIVE GRANTS AUTHORIZED.*—*Subject to*
12 *the appropriation of funds to carry out this section, the Sec-*
13 *retary may award grants to colleges and universities (as*
14 *defined in section 1404(4) of the National Agricultural Re-*
15 *search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7*
16 *U.S.C. 3103(4)) on a competitive basis for integrated re-*
17 *search, education, and extension projects in accordance with*
18 *the provisions of this section.*

19 (c) *CRITERIA FOR GRANTS.*—*Grants under this section*
20 *shall be awarded to address priorities in United States ag-*
21 *riculture, determined by the Secretary in consultation with*
22 *the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education,*
23 *and Economics Advisory Board, which involve integrated*
24 *research, education, and extension activities.*

25 (d) *MATCHING OF FUNDS.*—

1 (1) *GENERAL REQUIREMENT.*—*If a grant under*
2 *this section is to the particular benefit of a specific*
3 *agricultural commodity, the Secretary shall require*
4 *the recipient of the grant to provide funds or in-kind*
5 *support to match the amount of funds provided by the*
6 *Secretary in the grant.*

7 (2) *WAIVER.*—*The Secretary may waive the*
8 *matching funds requirement specified in paragraph*
9 *(1) with respect to a grant if the Secretary determines*
10 *that—*

11 (A) *the results of the project, while of par-*
12 *ticular benefit to a specific agricultural commod-*
13 *ity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural*
14 *commodities generally; or*

15 (B) *the project involves a minor commodity,*
16 *deals with scientifically important research, and*
17 *the grant recipient would be unable to satisfy the*
18 *matching funds requirement.*

19 (e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There is*
20 *authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-*
21 *essary for each of the fiscal years 1998 through 2002 to*
22 *carry out this section.*

1 **SEC. 429. RESEARCH GRANTS UNDER EQUITY IN EDU-**
2 **CATIONAL LAND-GRANT STATUS ACT OF 1994.**

3 *The Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of*
4 *1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note) is amended*
5 *by adding at the end the following new section—*

6 **“SEC. 536. RESEARCH GRANTS.**

7 *“(a) RESEARCH GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-*
8 *retary of Agriculture may make grants under this section*
9 *on the basis of a competitive application process (and in*
10 *accordance with such regulations that the Secretary may*
11 *promulgate) to a 1994 Institution to assist the 1995 Institu-*
12 *tion to conduct agricultural research that addresses high*
13 *priority concerns of tribal, national, or multi-state signifi-*
14 *cance.*

15 *“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Grant applications submitted*
16 *under this section shall certify that the research to be con-*
17 *ducted will be performed under a cooperative agreement*
18 *with at least one other land-grant college or university (ex-*
19 *clusive of another 1994 Institution).*

20 *“(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There are*
21 *authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-*
22 *essary to carry out this section for each of the fiscal years*
23 *1998 through 2002. Amounts appropriated shall remain*
24 *available until expended.”.*

1 **TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS**
2 **PROVISIONS**

3 **SEC. 501. ROLE OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE REGARD-**
4 **ING FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES RE-**
5 **SEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION.**

6 *The Secretary of Agriculture shall be the principal offi-*
7 *cial in the executive branch responsible for coordinating all*
8 *Federal research and extension activities related to food and*
9 *agricultural sciences.*

10 **SEC. 502. OFFICE OF PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY.**

11 *(a) OBJECTIVE.—The establishment of an Office of*
12 *Pest Management Policy pursuant to this section is in-*
13 *tended to provide for the effective coordination of agricul-*
14 *tural policies and activities within the Department of Agri-*
15 *culture related to pesticides and of the development and use*
16 *of pest management tools, while taking into account the ef-*
17 *fects of regulatory actions of other government agencies.*

18 *(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE; PRINCIPAL RESPON-*
19 *SIBILITIES.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish in*
20 *the Department of Agriculture an Office of Pest Manage-*
21 *ment Policy, which shall be responsible for—*

22 *(1) the development and coordination of Depart-*
23 *ment of Agriculture policy on pest management and*
24 *pesticides;*

1 (2) *the coordination of activities and services of*
2 *the Department, including research, extension, and*
3 *education activities, regarding the development, avail-*
4 *ability, and use of economically and environmentally*
5 *sound pest management tools and practices;*

6 (3) *assisting the Department in fulfilling its re-*
7 *sponsibilities related to pest management or pesticides*
8 *under the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (Pub-*
9 *lic Law 104–170; 110 Stat. 1489), the Federal Insec-*
10 *ticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136*
11 *et seq.), the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act*
12 *(21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), or other law; and*

13 (4) *performing such other functions as may be*
14 *required by law or prescribed by the Secretary.*

15 (c) *INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—In support of its*
16 *responsibilities under subsection (a), the Office of Pest Man-*
17 *agement Policy shall provide leadership to ensure coordina-*
18 *tion of interagency activities with the Environmental Pro-*
19 *tection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, and*
20 *other Federal and State agencies.*

21 (d) *OUTREACH.—The Office of Pest Management Pol-*
22 *icy shall consult with agricultural producers that may be*
23 *affected by pest management or pesticide-related activities*
24 *or actions of the Department or other agencies as necessary*

1 *in carrying out the Office's responsibilities under this sec-*
2 *tion.*

3 (e) *DIRECTOR.*—*The Office of Pest Management Policy*
4 *shall be under the direction of a Director appointed by the*
5 *Secretary who shall report directly to the Secretary or a*
6 *designee of the Secretary.*

7 (f) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There are*
8 *authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-*
9 *essary to carry out this section.*

10 **SEC. 503. FOOD SAFETY RESEARCH INFORMATION OFFICE**
11 **AND NATIONAL CONFERENCE.**

12 (a) *FOOD SAFETY RESEARCH INFORMATION OF-*
13 *FICE.*—

14 (1) *ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.*—*The Sec-*
15 *retary of Agriculture shall establish a Food Safety*
16 *Research Information Office at the National Agricul-*
17 *tural Library. The Office shall provide to the research*
18 *community and the general public information on*
19 *publicly funded, and to the extent possible, privately*
20 *funded food safety research initiatives for the purpose*
21 *of—*

22 (A) *preventing unintended duplication of*
23 *food safety research; and*

24 (B) *assisting the executive and legislative*
25 *branches of the Government and private research*

1 *entities to assess food safety research needs and*
2 *priorities.*

3 (2) *COOPERATION.*—*The Office shall carry out*
4 *paragraph (1) in cooperation with the National Insti-*
5 *tutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration,*
6 *the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, pub-*
7 *lic institutions, and on a voluntary basis, private re-*
8 *search interests.*

9 (b) *NATIONAL CONFERENCE.*—*Not later than 120 days*
10 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary*
11 *shall sponsor a conference to be known as the “National*
12 *Conference on Food Safety Research”, for the purpose of*
13 *beginning the task of food safety research prioritization. The*
14 *Secretary shall sponsor annual workshops in each of the*
15 *subsequent four years after the conference so that priorities*
16 *can be updated or adjusted to reflect changing food safety*
17 *concerns.*

18 (c) *FOOD SAFETY REPORT.*—*With regard to the study*
19 *and report to be prepared by the National Academy of*
20 *Sciences on the scientific and organizational needs for an*
21 *effective food safety system, the study shall include rec-*
22 *ommendations to ensure that the food safety inspection sys-*
23 *tem, within the resources traditionally available to existing*
24 *food safety agencies, protects the public health.*

1 **SEC. 504. NUTRIENT COMPOSITION DATA.**

2 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Agriculture shall*
3 *update, on a periodic basis, nutrient composition data.*

4 (b) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 180 days after the date*
5 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to*
6 *Congress a report that describes—*

7 (1) *the method the Secretary will use to update*
8 *nutrient composition data, including the quality as-*
9 *urance criteria that will be used and the method for*
10 *generating the data; and*

11 (2) *the timing for updating the data.*

12 **SEC. 505. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS RECEIVED OR COL-**
13 **LECTED ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL ARBORE-**
14 **TUM.**

15 *Section 6(b) of the Act of March 4, 1927 (20 U.S.C.*
16 *196(b)), is amended by striking “Treasury” and inserting*
17 *“Treasury. Amounts in the special fund shall be available*
18 *to the Secretary of Agriculture, without further appropria-*
19 *tion,”.*

20 **SEC. 506. RETENTION AND USE OF AGRICULTURAL RE-**
21 **SEARCH SERVICE PATENT CULTURE COLLEC-**
22 **TION FEES.**

23 *All funds collected by the Agricultural Research Serv-*
24 *ice of the Department of Agriculture in connection with the*
25 *acceptance of microorganisms for deposit in, or the distribu-*
26 *tion of microorganisms from, the Patent Culture Collection*

1 *maintained and operated by the Agricultural Research*
2 *Service shall be credited to the appropriation supporting*
3 *the maintenance and operation of the Patent Culture Col-*
4 *lection. The collected funds shall be available to the Agricul-*
5 *tural Research Service, without further appropriation or*
6 *fiscal-year limitation, to carry out its responsibilities under*
7 *law (including international treaty) with respect to the*
8 *Patent Culture Collection.*

9 **SEC. 507. REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED**
10 **UNDER SHEEP PROMOTION, RESEARCH, AND**
11 **INFORMATION ACT OF 1994.**

12 *Using funds available to the Agricultural Marketing*
13 *Service, the Service may reimburse the American Sheep In-*
14 *dustry Association for expenses incurred by American*
15 *Sheep Industry Association between February 6, 1996, and*
16 *May 17, 1996, in preparation for the implementation of*
17 *a sheep and wool promotion, research, education, and infor-*
18 *mation order under the Sheep Promotion, Research, and In-*
19 *formation Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).*

20 **SEC. 508. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING AGRICULTURAL**
21 **RESEARCH SERVICE EMPHASIS ON IN FIELD**
22 **RESEARCH REGARDING METHYL BROMIDE**
23 **ALTERNATIVES.**

24 *It is the sense of Congress that, of the Agricultural Re-*
25 *search Service funds made available for a fiscal year for*

1 *research regarding the development for agricultural use of*
2 *alternatives to methyl bromide, the Secretary of Agriculture*
3 *should use a substantial portion of such funds for research*
4 *to be conducted in real field conditions, in particular pre-*
5 *planting and post-harvest conditions, so as to expedite the*
6 *development and commercial use of methyl bromide alter-*
7 *natives.*

8 **SEC. 509. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING IMPORTANCE**
9 **OF SCHOOL-BASED AGRICULTURAL EDU-**
10 **CATION.**

11 *It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Agri-*
12 *culture and the Secretary of Education should collaborate*
13 *and cooperate in providing both instructional and technical*
14 *support for school-based agricultural education.*

15 **SEC. 510. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING DESIGNATION**
16 **OF DEPARTMENT CRISIS MANAGEMENT**
17 **TEAM.**

18 *(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:*

19 *(1) The Department of Agriculture plays a cru-*
20 *cial role in ensuring that the United States is a world*
21 *leader in maintaining the most affordable, abundant,*
22 *wholesome, and safe food supply for its citizens.*

23 *(2) It is in the best interest of consumers, pro-*
24 *ducers, processors, retailers, government officials, and*
25 *other interested parties to ensure that any crisis that*

1 *may affect the operation of the Department or the*
2 *production of a safe and wholesome food supply is*
3 *addressed in an effective manner.*

4 (3) *Unforeseen circumstances, including natural*
5 *disaster, personnel management problems, threats to*
6 *public health, and trade disruptions, have the poten-*
7 *tial to undermine the operation of the Department*
8 *and the Nation's ability to efficiently provide a safe,*
9 *affordable, abundant, and wholesome food supply.*

10 (4) *Department of Agriculture employees,*
11 *consumer confidence, and the food production sector*
12 *have been adversely impacted as a result of the chal-*
13 *lenges associated with Federal agencies' ability to re-*
14 *spond to incidents in a coordinated and timely fash-*
15 *ion.*

16 (5) *An effective response to crises, emergencies,*
17 *and similar situations depends upon the timely and*
18 *efficient coordination of Federal, State, and local gov-*
19 *ernment agencies.*

20 (6) *It is in the best interests of the Nation to en-*
21 *sure that whenever a crisis occurs the appropriate*
22 *Federal agencies coordinate their activities.*

23 (7) *The Department of Agriculture should take*
24 *the lead in ensuring a safe and wholesome supply of*
25 *food for the Nation because of its broad and diverse*

1 *relationship with consumers and the food production*
2 *sector.*

3 **(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—*It is the sense of Congress*
4 *that the Secretary of Agriculture should—*

5 *(1) designate a Crisis Management Team within*
6 *the Department of Agriculture, which would be com-*
7 *posed of senior departmental personnel with strong*
8 *subject matter expertise selected from each relevant*
9 *agency of the Department and would be headed by a*
10 *team leader with strong management and commu-*
11 *nications skills;*

12 *(2) upon establishment of such a Crisis Manage-*
13 *ment Team, direct that the Crisis Management*
14 *Team—*

15 *(A) develop a department-wide crisis man-*
16 *agement plan, taking into account similar plans*
17 *developed by other government agencies and*
18 *other large organizations;*

19 *(B) develop detailed written procedures for*
20 *implementing the crisis management plan;*

21 *(C) conduct periodic reviews and revisions*
22 *of the crisis management plan and procedures;*

23 *(D) ensure compliance with crisis manage-*
24 *ment procedures by departmental personnel;*

1 (E) coordinate the Department's informa-
2 tion gathering and dissemination activities con-
3 cerning issues managed by the Crisis Manage-
4 ment Team;

5 (F) ensure that all employees of the Depart-
6 ment are familiar with the crisis management
7 plan and procedures and are encouraged to bring
8 information regarding crises or potential crises
9 to the attention of team members;

10 (G) ensure that departmental spokespersons
11 convey accurate, timely, and scientifically sound
12 information that is easily understood by the tar-
13 get audience; and

14 (H) cooperate and coordinate with other
15 Federal agencies, States, local governments, in-
16 dustry, and public interest groups; and

17 (3) seek to enter into cooperative agreements
18 with other Federal departments and agencies that
19 have related programs or activities to help ensure con-
20 sistent, accurate, and coordinated dissemination of
21 information throughout the executive branch in the
22 event of a crisis.