

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2534

AN ACT

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

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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
3 “Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reau-
4 thorization Act of 1997”.

5 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
6 this 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
conducted 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, exten-
sion, and education.

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

Sec. 106. Evaluation and assessment of agricultural research, extension, and
education 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 re-
search 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 facili-
ties.

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

Sec. 231. 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. Designation of Kika de la Garza Subtropical Agricultural Research Center, Weslaco, Texas.
- Sec. 509. Sense of Congress regarding Agricultural Research Service emphasis on in field research regarding methyl bromide alternatives.
- Sec. 510. Sense of Congress regarding importance of school-based agricultural education.
- Sec. 511. 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,**
9 **AND EXTENSION.**

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

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

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

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

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
11 technology transfer and information dissemination
12 activities;

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

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

22 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The heading of such
23 section is amended by inserting “, **PRIORITIES, AND**
24 **MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES**” after “**PURPOSES**”.

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

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

8 “(8) **FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES.**—
9 The term ‘food and agricultural sciences’ means
10 basic, applied, and developmental research, exten-
11 sion, and teaching activities in food and fiber, agri-
12 cultural, renewable natural resources, forestry, and
13 physical and social sciences, including (but not lim-
14 ited to) activities 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
25 management.

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 agri-
15 culture.”.

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

21 (c) APPLICATION OF DEFINITIONS TO AGRICUL-
22 TURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION.—Such
23 section is further amended by striking the section heading
24 and all that follows through the matter preceding para-
25 graph (1) 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
5 to any research, extension, or education activities of the
6 Department of Agriculture regarding the food and agricul-
7 tural 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 para-
10 graph:

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

17 (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Such section is
18 further amended—

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

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

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

1 (4) by striking the semicolon at the end of
2 paragraphs (1) through (7) and (9) through (15)
3 and inserting 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**
8 **ECONOMICS ADVISORY BOARD.**

9 Subsection (d) of section 1408 of the National Agri-
10 cultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of
11 1977 (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 so-
15 licit opinions and recommendations from persons
16 who will benefit from and use federally funded agri-
17 cultural research, extension, education, and econom-
18 ics.

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

1 “(A) solicit the written opinions and rec-
2 ommendations of the Advisory Board; and

3 “(B) provide a written response to the Ad-
4 visory Board regarding the manner and extent
5 to which the Secretary will implement rec-
6 ommendations submitted by the Advisory
7 Board.”.

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

11 (a) REVIEW OF RELEVANCE AND MERIT.—Subtitle
12 K of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
13 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting be-
14 fore section 1463 (7 U.S.C. 3311) the following new sec-
15 tion:

16 **“SEC. 1461. RELEVANCE AND MERIT OF FEDERALLY FUND-**
17 **ED AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION,**
18 **AND EDUCATION.**

19 “(a) REVIEW OF COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH,
20 EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE.—

21 “(1) PEER REVIEW OF RESEARCH GRANTS.—
22 The Secretary shall establish procedures that pro-
23 vide for scientific peer review of each agricultural re-
24 search grant administered, on a competitive basis,

1 by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and
2 Extension Service of the Department.

3 “(2) MERIT REVIEW OF EXTENSION AND EDU-
4 CATION.—The Secretary shall establish procedures
5 that provide for merit review of each agricultural ex-
6 tension or education grant administered, on a com-
7 petitive basis, by the Cooperative State Research,
8 Education, and Extension Service. The Secretary
9 shall consult with the Advisory Board in establishing
10 such merit review procedures.

11 “(b) REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS: REQUEST AND
12 CONSIDERATION OF INPUT.—When formulating a request
13 for proposals involving an agricultural research, extension,
14 or education activity to be funded by the Secretary on a
15 competitive basis, the Secretary shall solicit and consider
16 input from the Advisory Board and users of agricultural
17 research, extension, and education regarding the request
18 for proposals for the preceding year. If an agricultural re-
19 search, extension, or education activity has not been the
20 subject of a previous request for proposals, the Secretary
21 shall solicit and consider input from the Advisory Board
22 and users of agricultural research, extension, and edu-
23 cation before publication of the first request for proposals
24 regarding the activity.

1 “(c) SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL
2 RESEARCH.—

3 “(1) PEER REVIEW PROCEDURES.—The Sec-
4 retary shall establish procedures that ensure sci-
5 entific peer review of all research activities con-
6 ducted by the Department of Agriculture.

7 “(2) REVIEW PANEL REQUIRED.—As part of
8 the procedures established under paragraph (1), a
9 review panel shall verify, at least once every three
10 years, that each research activity of the Department
11 and research conducted under each research pro-
12 gram of the Department have scientific merit and
13 relevance. If the research activity or program to be
14 reviewed is included in the research, educational,
15 and economics mission area of the Department, the
16 review panel shall consider—

17 “(A) the scientific merit and relevance of
18 the activity or research in light of the priorities
19 established pursuant to section 1402(b) ; and

20 “(B) the national or multi-State signifi-
21 cance of the activity or research.

22 “(3) COMPOSITION OF REVIEW PANEL.—A re-
23 view panel shall be composed of individuals with sci-
24 entific expertise, a majority of whom are not employ-
25 ees of the agency whose research is being reviewed.

1 To the extent possible, the Secretary shall use sci-
2 entists from colleges and universities to serve on the
3 review panels.

4 “(4) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—The results of
5 the panel reviews shall be submitted to the Advisory
6 Board.

7 “(5) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.—The
8 Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)
9 and title XVIII of this Act (7 U.S.C. 2281 et seq.)
10 shall not apply to a review panel.

11 “(d) MERIT REVIEW OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY
12 RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.—

13 “(1) LAND-GRANT INSTITUTIONS.—Effective
14 beginning October 1, 1998, to be eligible to obtain
15 agricultural research or extension funds from the
16 Secretary for an activity, a land-grant college or uni-
17 versity shall—

18 “(A) establish a process for merit review of
19 the activity; and

20 “(B) review the activity in accordance with
21 the process.

22 “(2) 1994 INSTITUTIONS.—Effective beginning
23 October 1, 1998, to obtain agricultural extension
24 funds from the Secretary for an activity, each 1994
25 Institution (as defined in section 532 of the Equity

1 in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994
2 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note) shall—

3 “(A) establish a process for merit review of
4 the activity; and

5 “(B) review the activity in accordance with
6 the process.”.

7 (b) REPEAL OF PROVISIONS FOR WITHHOLDING
8 FUNDS.—

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

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

14 (3) NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EX-
15 TENSION, AND TEACHING POLICY ACT OF 1977.—The
16 National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
17 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended—

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

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

20 (ii) by redesignating subsection (g) as
21 subsection (f);

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

24 (C) by striking section 1468 (7 U.S.C.
25 3314).

1 **SEC. 105. EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO**
2 **COST-REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENTS.**

3 Section 1473A of the National Agricultural Research,
4 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
5 3319a) is amended in the first sentence by inserting “or
6 other colleges and universities” after “institutions”.

7 **SEC. 106. EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT OF AGRICUL-**
8 **TURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDU-**
9 **CATION PROGRAMS.**

10 (a) **EVALUATION.**—The Secretary shall conduct a
11 performance evaluation to determine whether agricultural
12 research, extension, and education programs conducted or
13 funded by the Department of Agriculture result in public
14 benefits that have national or multi-State significance.

15 (b) **GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMANCE MEASURE-**
16 **MENT.**—The Secretary shall develop practical guidelines
17 for measuring the performance of agricultural research,
18 extension and education programs evaluated under sub-
19 section (a).

1 **TITLE II—REFORM OF EXISTING**
2 **RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND**
3 **EDUCATION AUTHORITIES**
4 **Subtitle A—Smith-Lever Act and**
5 **Hatch Act of 1887**

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

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

12 **“SEC. 11. SHORT TITLE.**

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

14 (b) HATCH ACT OF 1887.—The Act of March 2,
15 1887 (commonly known as the Hatch Act of 1887; 7
16 U.S.C. 361a et seq.), is amended by adding at the end
17 the following new section:

18 **“SEC. 10. SHORT TITLE.**

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

20 (c) COORDINATION WITH OTHER AMENDMENTS.—
21 For purposes of executing amendments made by provi-
22 sions of this Act (other than this section), this section
23 shall be treated as having been enacted immediately before
24 the other provisions of this Act.

1 **SEC. 202. CONSISTENT MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENTS**
2 **UNDER HATCH ACT OF 1887 AND SMITH-**
3 **LEVER ACT.**

4 (a) HATCH ACT OF 1887.—Subsection (d) of section
5 3 of the Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361c) is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 “(d) MATCHING FUNDS.—

8 “(1) REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided in
9 paragraph (4), no allotment shall be made to a State
10 under subsections (b) and (c), and no payments of
11 such allotment shall be made to a State, in excess
12 of the amount which the State makes available out
13 of non-Federal funds for agricultural research and
14 for the establishment and maintenance of facilities
15 for the performance of such research.

16 “(2) FAILURE TO PROVIDE MATCHING
17 FUNDS.—If a State fails to comply with the require-
18 ment to provide matching funds for a fiscal year
19 under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Agriculture
20 shall withhold from payment to the State for that
21 fiscal year an amount equal to the difference be-
22 tween—

23 “(A) the amount that would be allotted
24 and paid to the State under subsections (b) and
25 (c) (if the full amount of matching funds were
26 provided by the State); and

1 “(B) the amount of matching funds actu-
2 ally 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
8 be subject to the matching requirement specified in
9 paragraph (1).

10 “(4) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
11 apply to funds provided to a State from the Regional
12 research fund, State agricultural experiment sta-
13 tions.”.

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

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

19 (2) by striking subsections (e) and (f) and in-
20 serting the following new subsections:

21 “(e) MATCHING FUNDS.—

22 “(1) REQUIREMENT.—No allotment shall be
23 made to a State under subsections (b) and (c), and
24 no payments of such allotment shall be made to a
25 State, in excess of the amount which the State

1 makes available out of non-Federal funds for cooper-
2 ative extension work.

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

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

14 “(B) the amount of matching funds actu-
15 ally provided by the State.

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

23 “(f) MATCHING FUNDS EXCEPTION FOR 1994 INSTI-
24 TUTIONS.—There shall be no matching requirement for

1 funds made available to 1994 Institutions pursuant to
2 subsection (b)(3).”.

3 (c) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—

4 (1) RECOGNITION OF STATEHOOD OF ALASKA
5 AND HAWAII.—Section 1 of the Hatch Act of 1887
6 (7 U.S.C. 361a) is amended by striking “Alaska,
7 Hawaii,”.

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

11 (A) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “Fed-
12 eral Extension Service” and inserting “Sec-
13 retary of Agriculture”;

14 (B) in subsection (c)1, by striking “Fed-
15 eral Extension Service” and inserting “Sec-
16 retary of Agriculture”;

17 (C) in subsection (d), by striking “Federal
18 Extension Service” and inserting “Secretary of
19 Agriculture”; and

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

22 (3) REFERENCES TO REGIONAL RESEARCH
23 FUND.—The Hatch Act of 1887 is amended—

24 (A) in section 3 (7 U.S.C. 361c)—

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

4 (ii) in subsection (e), by striking “sub-
 5 section 3(c)3” and inserting “subsection
 6 (c)3”; and

7 (B) in section 5 (7 U.S.C. 361e), by strik-
 8 ing “regional research fund authorized by sub-
 9 section 3(c)(3)” and inserting “Regional re-
 10 search fund, State agricultural experiment sta-
 11 tions”.

12 **SEC. 203. PLANS OF WORK TO ADDRESS CRITICAL RE-**
 13 **SEARCH AND EXTENSION ISSUES AND USE OF**
 14 **PROTOCOLS TO MEASURE SUCCESS OF**
 15 **PLANS.**

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

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

20 **“SEC. 4. ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT OF STATE TO**
 21 **FUNDS, TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT,**
 22 **STATE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND**
 23 **PLANS FOR WORK.**

24 “(a) ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT.—”;

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

3 “(b) TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT; RELATED
4 REPORTS.—The amount to which a State is entitled”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
6 sections:

7 “(c) REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF
8 WORK.—Each extension plan of work for a State required
9 under subsection (a) shall contain descriptions of the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(1) The critical short-term, intermediate, and
12 long-term agricultural issues in the State and the
13 current and planned extension programs and
14 projects targeted to address such issues.

15 “(2) The process established to consult with ex-
16 tension users regarding the identification of critical
17 agricultural issues in the State and the development
18 of extension programs and projects targeted to ad-
19 dress such issues.

20 “(3) The efforts made to identify and collabo-
21 rate with other colleges and universities within the
22 State and other States that have unique capacity to
23 address the identified agricultural issues in the State
24 and current and emerging efforts to work with these
25 other institutions and States.

1 “(4) The manner in which research and exten-
2 sion, including research and extension activities
3 funded other than through formula funds, will co-
4 operate to address the critical issues in the State, in-
5 cluding the activities to be carried out separately,
6 the activities to be carried out sequentially, and the
7 activities to be carried out jointly.

8 “(5) The education and outreach programs al-
9 ready underway to convey currently available re-
10 search results that are pertinent to a critical agricul-
11 tural issue, including efforts to encourage multi-
12 county cooperation in the dissemination of research
13 results.

14 “(d) EXTENSION PROTOCOLS.—The Secretary of Ag-
15 riculture shall develop protocols to be used to evaluate the
16 success of multi-State, multi-institutional, and multidisci-
17 plinary extension activities and joint research and exten-
18 sion activities in addressing critical agricultural issues
19 identified in the plans of work submitted under subsection
20 (a). The Secretary shall develop the protocols in consulta-
21 tion with the National Agricultural Research, Extension,
22 Education, and Economics Advisory Board and land-grant
23 colleges and universities.

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

1 consider plans of work submitted under subsection (a) to
2 satisfy other appropriate Federal reporting require-
3 ments.”.

4 (b) HATCH ACT OF 1887.—Section 7 of the Hatch
5 Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. 361g), as amended by section
6 104(b), is further amended—

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

9 **“SEC. 7. DUTIES OF SECRETARY, ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTI-
10 TLEMENT OF STATE TO FUNDS, AND PLANS
11 FOR WORK.**

12 “(a) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—”;

13 (2) by striking “On or before” and inserting
14 the following:

15 “(b) ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT.—On or be-
16 fore”;

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

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

21 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
22 sections:

23 “(d) PLAN OF WORK REQUIRED.—Before funds may
24 be provided to a State under this Act for any fiscal year,
25 plans for the work to be carried on under this Act shall

1 be submitted by the proper officials of the State and ap-
2 proved by the Secretary of Agriculture.

3 “(e) REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF
4 WORK.—Each research plan of work for a State required
5 under subsection (d) shall contain descriptions of the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(1) The critical short-term, intermediate, and
8 long-term agricultural issues in the State and the
9 current and planned research programs and projects
10 targeted to address such issues.

11 “(2) The process established to consult with
12 users of agricultural research regarding the identi-
13 fication of critical agricultural issues in the State
14 and the development of research programs and
15 projects targeted to address such issues.

16 “(3) The efforts made to identify and collabo-
17 rate with other colleges and universities within the
18 State and other States that have unique capacity to
19 address the identified agricultural issues in the State
20 and current and emerging efforts (including regional
21 efforts) to work with these other institutions and
22 States.

23 “(4) The manner in which research and exten-
24 sion, including research and extension activities
25 funded other than through formula funds, will co-

1 operate to address the critical issues in the State, in-
2 cluding the activities to be carried out separately,
3 the activities to be carried out sequentially, and the
4 activities to be carried out jointly.

5 “(f) RESEARCH PROTOCOLS.—The Secretary of Agri-
6 culture shall develop protocols to be used to evaluate the
7 success of multi-State, multi-institutional, and multidisci-
8 plinary research activities and joint research and extension
9 activities in addressing critical agricultural issues identi-
10 fied in the plans of work submitted under subsection (d).
11 The Secretary shall develop the protocols in consultation
12 with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Edu-
13 cation, and Economics Advisory Board and land-grant col-
14 leges and universities.

15 “(g) TREATMENT OF PLANS OF WORK FOR OTHER
16 PURPOSES.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall
17 consider plans of work submitted under subsection (d) to
18 satisfy other appropriate Federal reporting require-
19 ments.”.

20 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

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

23 (2) DELAYED APPLICABILITY.—With respect to
24 a particular State, the Secretary of Agriculture may
25 delay the applicability of the requirements imposed

1 by the amendments made by this section until not
 2 later than October 1, 1999, if the Secretary finds
 3 that the State will be unable to meet such require-
 4 ments by October 1, 1998, despite the good faith ef-
 5 forts of the State.

6 **Subtitle B—National Agricultural**
 7 **Research, Extension, and Teach-**
 8 **ing Policy Act of 1977**

9 **SEC. 211. PLANS OF WORK FOR 1890 LAND-GRANT COL-**
 10 **LEGES TO ADDRESS CRITICAL RESEARCH**
 11 **AND EXTENSION ISSUES AND USE OF PROTO-**
 12 **COLS TO MEASURE SUCCESS OF PLANS.**

13 (a) EXTENSION AT 1890 INSTITUTIONS.—Section
 14 1444(d) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension,
 15 and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221(d)) is
 16 amended—

17 (1) by striking “(d)” and inserting the follow-
 18 ing:

19 “(d) ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT TO FUNDS;
 20 TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT; STATE REPORTING
 21 REQUIREMENTS; AND PLANS FOR WORK.—

22 “(1) ASCERTAINMENT OF ENTITLEMENT.—”;

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

1 “(2) TIME AND MANNER OF PAYMENT; RELAT-
2 ED REPORTS.—The amount to which an eligible in-
3 stitution is entitled”; and

4 (3) by adding at the end the following new
5 paragraphs:

6 “(3) REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF
7 WORK.—Each extension plan of work for an eligible
8 institution required under this section shall contain
9 descriptions of the following:

10 “(A) The critical short-term, intermediate,
11 and long-term agricultural issues in the State
12 in which the eligible institution is located and
13 the current and planned extension programs
14 and projects targeted to address such issues.

15 “(B) The process established to consult
16 with extension users regarding the identification
17 of critical agricultural issues in the State and
18 the development of extension programs and
19 projects targeted to address such issues.

20 “(C) The efforts made to identify and col-
21 laborate with other colleges and universities
22 within the State and other States that have
23 unique capacity to address the identified agri-
24 cultural issues in the State and current and
25 emerging efforts (including regional research ef-

1 forts) to work with these other institutions and
2 States.

3 “(D) The manner in which research and
4 extension, including research and extension ac-
5 tivities funded other than through formula
6 funds, will cooperate to address the critical is-
7 sues in the State, including the activities to be
8 carried out separately, the activities to be car-
9 ried out sequentially, and the activities to be
10 carried out jointly.

11 “(E) The education and outreach pro-
12 grams already underway to convey currently
13 available research results that are pertinent to
14 a critical agricultural issue, including efforts to
15 encourage multi-county cooperation in the dis-
16 semination of research results.

17 “(4) EXTENSION PROTOCOLS.—The Secretary
18 of Agriculture shall develop protocols to be used to
19 evaluate the success of multi-State, multi-institu-
20 tional, and multidisciplinary extension activities and
21 joint research and extension activities in addressing
22 critical agricultural issues identified in the plans of
23 work submitted under this section. The Secretary
24 shall develop the protocols in consultation with the

1 Advisory Board and land-grant colleges and univer-
2 sities.

3 “(5) TREATMENT OF PLANS OF WORK FOR
4 OTHER PURPOSES.—To the extent practicable, the
5 Secretary shall consider plans of work submitted
6 under this section to satisfy other appropriate Fed-
7 eral reporting requirements.”.

8 (b) AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AT 1890 INSTITU-
9 TIONS.—Section 1445(c) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 3222(c))
10 is amended—

11 (1) by striking “(c)” and inserting the follow-
12 ing:

13 “(c) PROGRAM AND PLANS FOR WORK.—

14 “(1) INITIAL COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF AG-
15 RICULTURAL RESEARCH.—”; and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following new
17 paragraphs:

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

24 “(3) REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PLAN OF
25 WORK.—Each research plan of work required under

1 paragraph (2) shall contain descriptions of the fol-
2 lowing:

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

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

14 “(C) Other colleges and universities in the
15 State and other States that have unique capac-
16 ity to address the identified agricultural issues
17 in the State.

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

22 “(E) The manner in which research and
23 extension, including research and extension ac-
24 tivities funded other than through formula
25 funds, will cooperate to address the critical is-

1 sues in the State, including the activities to be
2 carried out separately, the activities to be car-
3 ried out sequentially, and the activities to be
4 carried out jointly.

5 “(4) RESEARCH PROTOCOLS.—The Secretary of
6 Agriculture shall develop protocols to be used to
7 evaluate the success of multi-State, multi-institu-
8 tional, and multidisciplinary research activities and
9 joint research and extension activities in addressing
10 critical agricultural issues identified in the plans of
11 work submitted under paragraph (2). The Secretary
12 shall develop the protocols in consultation with the
13 Advisory Board and land-grant colleges and univer-
14 sities.”.

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
19 a particular eligible institution (as described in sec-
20 tions 1444(a) and 1445(a) of the National Agricul-
21 tural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act
22 of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3221(a), 3222(a))), the Secretary
23 of Agriculture may delay the applicability of the re-
24 quirements imposed by the amendments made by
25 this section until not later than October 1, 1999, if

1 the Secretary finds that the eligible institution will
 2 be unable to meet such requirements by October 1,
 3 1998, despite the good faith efforts of the eligible in-
 4 stitution.

5 **SEC. 212. MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT FOR RE-**
 6 **SEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES AT 1890**
 7 **LAND-GRANT COLLEGES, INCLUDING**
 8 **TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY.**

9 (a) IMPOSITION OF REQUIREMENT.—Subtitle G of
 10 the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
 11 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting after
 12 section 1448 (7 U.S.C. 3222c) the following new section:

13 **“SEC. 1449. MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT FOR RE-**
 14 **SEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES AT ELI-**
 15 **GIBLE INSTITUTIONS.**

16 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-
 18 ble institution’ means a college eligible to receive
 19 funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C.
 20 321 et seq.) (commonly known as the Second Morrill
 21 Act), including Tuskegee University.

22 “(2) FORMULA FUNDS.—The term ‘formula
 23 funds’ means the formula allocation funds distrib-
 24 uted to eligible institutions under sections 1444 and
 25 1445.

1 “(b) DETERMINATION OF NON-FEDERAL SOURCES
2 OF FUNDS.—Not later than September 30, 1999, each eli-
3 gible institution shall submit to the Secretary a report de-
4 scribing for fiscal year 1999 the sources of non-Federal
5 funds available to the eligible institution and the amount
6 of funds generally available from each such source.

7 “(c) MATCHING FORMULA.—Notwithstanding any
8 other provision of this subtitle, the distribution of formula
9 funds to an eligible institution shall be subject to the fol-
10 lowing matching requirements:

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

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

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

1 “(d) LIMITED WAIVER AUTHORITY.—Notwithstand-
2 ing subsection (f), the Secretary may waive the matching
3 funds requirement under subsection (c)(1) for fiscal year
4 2000 if the Secretary determines with regard to a particu-
5 lar eligible institution, based on the report received under
6 subsection (b), that the eligible institution will be unlikely
7 to satisfy the matching requirement. The waiver of the
8 matching requirements for subsequent fiscal years is not
9 permitted.

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

15 “(f) REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—Federal funds
16 that are not matched by an eligible institution in accord-
17 ance with subsection (c) for a fiscal year shall be redistrib-
18 uted by the Secretary to eligible institutions satisfying the
19 matching funds requirement for that fiscal year. Any re-
20 distribution of funds under this subsection shall be subject
21 to the applicable matching requirement specified in sub-
22 section (c) and shall be made in a manner consistent with
23 sections 1444 and 1445, as determined by the Secretary.”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 (B) in subsections (a) and (b)(2)(B), by
24 striking “Tuskegee Institute” both places it ap-
25 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 activi-
17 ties addressing”;

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

20 (C) in paragraph (4), by striking “sci-
21 entists and experts” and inserting “science and
22 education 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, ex-
9 tension, and teaching agencies”.

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

14 “(d) FULL PAYMENT OF FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE
15 FOR CERTAIN BINATIONAL PROJECTS.—Notwithstanding
16 any other provision of law, the full amount of any funds
17 appropriated or otherwise made available to carry out co-
18 operative projects under the arrangement entered into be-
19 tween the Secretary and the Government of Israel to sup-
20 port the Israel-United States Binational Agricultural Re-
21 search and Development Fund shall be paid directly to
22 the Fund.”.

23 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The subtitle head-
24 ing of subtitle I of title XIV of the National Agricultural

1 Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
2 U.S.C. 3291 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

10 (1) is transferred to the National Agricultural
11 Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of
12 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.);

13 (2) is redesignated as section 1473B;

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

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

20 (b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—The Research Facilities
21 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. AGRICULTURAL GENOME INITIATIVE.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE OF INITIA-
5 TIVE.—Section 1671 of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
6 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5924) is amended
7 by striking the section heading and subsection (a) and in-
8 serting the following:

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

10 “(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agri-
11 culture shall conduct a research initiative for the purpose
12 of—

13 “(1) supporting basic and applied research and
14 technology development in the area of genome struc-
15 ture and function in support of agriculturally impor-
16 tant species, with a particular focus on research
17 projects that will yield scientifically important re-
18 sults that will enhance the usefulness of many agri-
19 culturally important species;

20 “(2) studying and mapping agriculturally sig-
21 nificant genes to achieve sustainable and secure ag-
22 ricultural production;

23 “(3) ensuring that current gaps in existing ag-
24 ricultural genetics knowledge are filled;

1 “(4) identifying and developing a functional un-
2 derstanding of genes responsible for economically
3 important traits in agriculturally important species,
4 including emerging plant and animal diseases caus-
5 ing economic hardship;

6 “(5) ensuring the future genetic improvement
7 of agriculturally important species;

8 “(6) supporting the preservation of diverse
9 germplasm; and

10 “(7) ensuring the preservation of biodiversity to
11 maintain access to genes that may be of importance
12 in the future.”.

13 (b) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—Subsection (b) of such
14 section is amended by striking “subsection (c)” and insert-
15 ing “subsection (a)”.

16 (c) GRANT TYPES AND PROCESS; PROHIBITION ON
17 CONSTRUCTION.—Subsection (c) of such section is amend-
18 ed to read as follows:

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

24 (d) MATCHING FUNDS.—Subsection (d) of such sec-
25 tion is amended to read as follows:

1 “(d) MATCHING OF FUNDS.—

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

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

12 “(A) the results of the project, while of
13 particular benefit to a specific agricultural com-
14 modity, are likely to be applicable to agricul-
15 tural commodities generally; or

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

20 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Sub-
21 section (g) of such section is amended by striking “fiscal
22 years 1996 and 1997” and inserting “fiscal years 1998
23 through 2002”.

1 **Subtitle D—National Research**
2 **Initiative**

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

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

8 (1) by striking “the cost” and inserting “the
9 cost of”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sen-
11 tence: “The Secretary may waive all or a portion of
12 the matching requirement under this subparagraph
13 in the case of a smaller college or university (as de-
14 scribed in subsection (c)(2)(C)(ii) of section 793 of
15 the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform
16 Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 2204f)) if the equipment to
17 be acquired costs not more than \$25,000 and has
18 multiple uses within a single research project or is
19 usable in 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 Range-
7 land Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16
8 U.S.C. 1641) is amended by striking “SEC. 2.” and sub-
9 section (a) and inserting the following:

10 **“SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

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

12 “(1) Forests and rangelands, and the resources
13 of forests and rangelands, are of strategic economic
14 and ecological importance to the United States, and
15 the Federal Government has an important and sub-
16 stantial role in ensuring the continued health, pro-
17 ductivity, and sustainability of the Nation’s forests
18 and 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
22 nonindustrial private owners. These 10,000,000 non-
23 industrial private owners are critical to providing
24 both commodity and noncommodity values to the
25 citizens 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
4 located 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 tim-
8 ber from public to private ownership. As a result of
9 these shifts in supply, some 60 percent of total wood
10 production in the United States is now coming from
11 private 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
17 is 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 sup-
23 port for research is causing domestic wood and
24 paper producers to move outside the United States
25 to find reliable sources of wood supplies, which in

1 turns results in a worsening of the United States
2 trade balance, the loss of employment and infra-
3 structure investments, and an increased risk of in-
4 festations of exotic pests and diseases from imported
5 wood products.

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

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

21 (b) HIGH PRIORITY FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDU-
22 CATION.—Subsection (d) of section 3 of the Forest and
23 Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978
24 (16 U.S.C. 1642) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(d) HIGH PRIORITY FORESTRY AND RANGELANDS
2 RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.—The Secretary may con-
3 duct, support, and cooperate in forestry and rangelands
4 research and education that is of the highest priority to
5 the United States and to users of public and private forest
6 lands and rangelands in the United States. Such research
7 and education priorities include the following:

8 “(1) The biology of forest organisms and range-
9 land organisms.

10 “(2) Functional characteristics and cost-effec-
11 tive management of forest and rangeland
12 ecosystems.

13 “(3) Interactions between humans and forests
14 and rangelands.

15 “(4) Wood and forage as a raw material.

16 “(5) International trade, competition, and co-
17 operation.”.

18 “(e) FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS.—Section 3
19 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Re-
20 search Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1642) is amended by add-
21 ing at the end the following new subsection:

22 “(e) FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS.—

23 “(1) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—In compliance with
24 existing statutory authority, the Secretary shall es-
25 tablish a program to inventory and analyze, in a

1 timely manner, public and private forests and their
2 resources in the United States.

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

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

23 “(A) contains a description of each State
24 inventory of forests and their resources, incor-
25 porating all sample plot measurements con-

1 ducted during the five years covered by the re-
2 port;

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

6 “(C) contains an analysis of forest health
7 conditions and trends over the previous two
8 decades, with an emphasis on such conditions
9 and trends during the period subsequent to the
10 immediately preceding report under this para-
11 graph.

12 “(4) NATIONAL STANDARDS AND DEFINI-
13 TIONS.—To ensure uniform and consistent data col-
14 lection for all public and private forest ownerships
15 and each State, the Secretary shall develop, in con-
16 sultation with State foresters and Federal land man-
17 agement agencies not under the jurisdiction of the
18 Secretary, and publish national standards and defi-
19 nitions to be applied in inventorying and analyzing
20 forests and their resources under this subsection.
21 The standards shall include a core set of variables
22 to be measured on all sample plots under paragraph
23 (2) and a standard set of tables to be included in
24 the reports under paragraph (3).

1 “(5) PROTECTION FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY
2 RIGHTS.—The Secretary shall obtain written author-
3 ization from property owners prior to collecting data
4 from sample plots located on private property pursu-
5 ant to paragraphs (2) and (3).

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

13 “(A) the financial resources required to
14 implement and carry out this subsection, in-
15 cluding the identification of any resources re-
16 quired in excess of the amounts provided for
17 forest inventorying and analysis in recent ap-
18 propriations Acts;

19 “(B) the personnel necessary to implement
20 and carry out this subsection, including any
21 personnel in addition to personnel currently
22 performing inventorying and analysis functions;

23 “(C) the organization and procedures nec-
24 essary to implement and carry out this sub-
25 section, including proposed coordination with

1 Federal land management agencies and State
2 foresters;

3 “(D) the schedules for annual sample plot
4 measurements in each State inventory required
5 by paragraph (2) within the first five-year in-
6 terval after the date of the enactment of this
7 subsection;

8 “(E) the core set of variables to be meas-
9 ured in each sample plot under paragraph (2)
10 and the standard set of tables to be used in
11 each State and national report under paragraph
12 (3); and

13 “(F) the process for employing, in coordi-
14 nation with the Department of Energy and the
15 National Aeronautics and Space Administra-
16 tion, remote sensing, global positioning systems,
17 and other advanced technologies to carry out
18 this subsection, and the subsequent use of such
19 technologies.”.

20 (d) FORESTRY AND RANGELANDS COMPETITIVE RE-
21 SEARCH GRANTS.—Section 5 of the Forest and Rangeland
22 Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.
23 16442) is amended—

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

1 **“SEC. 5. FORESTRY AND RANGELANDS COMPETITIVE RE-**
2 **SEARCH GRANTS.**

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

4 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
5 sections:

6 “(b) EMPHASIS ON CERTAIN HIGH PRIORITY FOR-
7 ESTRY RESEARCH.—The Secretary may use up to five
8 percent of the amounts made available for research under
9 section 3 to make competitive grants regarding forestry
10 research in the high priority research areas identified in
11 section 3(d).

12 “(c) EMPHASIS ON CERTAIN HIGH PRIORITY RANGE-
13 LANDS RESEARCH.—The Secretary may use up to five
14 percent of the amounts made available for research under
15 section 3 to make competitive grants regarding rangelands
16 research in the high priority research areas identified in
17 section 3(d).

18 “(d) PRIORITIES.—In making grants under sub-
19 sections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall give priority to
20 research proposals in which—

21 “(1) the proposed research will be collaborative
22 research organized through a center of scientific ex-
23 cellence;

24 “(2) the applicant agrees to provide matching
25 funds (in the form of direct funding or in-kind sup-

1 port) in an amount equal to not less than 50 percent
 2 of the grant amount; and

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

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

11 **Subtitle A—Extensions**

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

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

18 **SEC. 302. EQUITY IN EDUCATIONAL LAND-GRANT STATUS**
 19 **ACT OF 1994.**

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

1 **SEC. 303. EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAMS FOR HISPANIC-**
2 **SERVING INSTITUTIONS.**

3 Section 1455(c) of the National Agricultural Re-
4 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
5 U.S.C. 3241(c)) is amended by striking “fiscal year 1997”
6 and inserting “each of the fiscal years 1997 through
7 2002”.

8 **SEC. 304. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR AGRICULTURAL**
9 **RESEARCH PROGRAMS.**

10 Section 1463 of the National Agricultural Research,
11 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
12 3311) is amended in subsections (a) and (b) by striking
13 “1997” each place it appears and inserting “2002”.

14 **SEC. 305. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR EXTENSION EDU-**
15 **CATION.**

16 Section 1464 of the National Agricultural Research,
17 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
18 3312) is amended by striking “1997” and inserting
19 “2002”.

20 **SEC. 306. GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOOD AND AGRI-**
21 **CULTURAL SCIENCES EDUCATION.**

22 Section 1417(j) of the National Agricultural Re-
23 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
24 U.S.C. 3152(j)) is amended by striking “1997” and in-
25 serting “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 Re-
7 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
8 U.S.C. 3154(d)) is amended by striking “1997” and in-
9 serting “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
15 through 2002”.

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

18 Section 1424(d) of the National Agricultural Re-
19 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
20 U.S.C. 3174(d)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 1996
21 and 1997” and inserting “each of fiscal years 1996
22 through 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
2 1997” and inserting “each of fiscal years 1997 through
3 2002”.

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

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

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

11 Section 1433(a) of the National Agricultural Re-
12 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
13 U.S.C. 3195(a)) is amended in the first sentence by strik-
14 ing “1997” and inserting “2002”.

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

17 Section 1434(a) of the National Agricultural Re-
18 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
19 U.S.C. 3196(a)) is amended by striking “1997” and in-
20 serting “2002”.

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

24 Section 1447(b) of the National Agricultural Re-
25 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7

1 U.S.C. 3222b(b)) is amended by striking “and 1997” and
2 inserting “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
11 inserting “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
22 “2002”.

23 **SEC. 318. RANGELAND RESEARCH.**

24 Section 1483(a) of the National Agricultural Re-
25 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7

1 U.S.C. 3336(a)) is amended by striking “1997” and in-
2 serting “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 strik-
7 ing “1997” and inserting “2002”.

8 **SEC. 320. WATER QUALITY RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND**
9 **COORDINATION.**

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

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

14 Section 1635(b) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
15 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5844(b)) is amend-
16 ed by 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 amend-
21 ed by striking “1997” and inserting “2002”.

22 **SEC. 323. ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR FARM-**
23 **ERS 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”
4 and inserting “2002”.

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

7 Section 2381(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
8 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 3125b(e)) is
9 amended by 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”
13 and 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 Agri-
24 cultural 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 “eligi-
20 ble partnership” means a partnership consisting of
21 a land-grant college or university and other entities
22 specified in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of sec-
23 tion 402 that satisfies the eligibility criteria con-
24 tained in 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
11 paragraph (1) shall be awarded on a competitive
12 basis.

13 (b) CRITERIA FOR AN ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—

14 (1) PRIMARY INSTITUTIONS IN PARTNER-
15 SHIP.—The primary institution involved in an eligi-
16 ble partnership shall be a land-grant college or uni-
17 versity, acting in partnership with other colleges or
18 universities, nonprofit research and development en-
19 tities, and Federal laboratories.

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

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

25 (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 lab-
8 oratories and the coordination of public and private
9 sector partners to maximize cost-effectiveness.

10 (c) TYPES OF RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVI-
11 TIES.—Research or extension supported by an eligible
12 partnership may address the full spectrum of production,
13 processing, packaging, transportation, and marketing is-
14 sues related to a high-value agricultural product. Such is-
15 sues include—

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 re-
21 source management;

22 (2) genetic research to develop improved agri-
23 cultural-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
14 a grant under this subtitle for a period not to exceed five
15 years.

16 (b) PREFERENCES.—In making grants under this
17 subtitle, the Secretary shall give preference to proposals
18 that—

19 (1) demonstrate linkages with—

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

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

24 (C) colleges and universities; and

25 (D) private industry; and

1 (2) guarantee matching funds in excess of the
2 amounts required by subsection (c).

3 (c) MATCHING FUNDS.—An eligible partnership shall
4 contribute an amount of non-Federal funds for the oper-
5 ation of the partnership that is at least equal to the
6 amount of grant funds received under this subtitle.

7 (d) LIMITATION ON USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—Funds
8 provided under this subtitle may not be used for the plan-
9 ning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of
10 a building or facility.

11 **SEC. 404. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS AND RE-**
12 **LATED PROVISIONS.**

13 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
14 are authorized to be appropriated such funds as may be
15 necessary to carry out this subtitle for each of the fiscal
16 years 1998 through 2002.

17 (b) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not
18 more than four percent of the funds appropriated to carry
19 out this subtitle may be retained by the Secretary to pay
20 administrative costs incurred by the Secretary to carry out
21 this subtitle.

22 **Subtitle B—Precision Agriculture**

23 **SEC. 411. DEFINITIONS.**

24 For purposes of this subtitle:

1 (1) PRECISION AGRICULTURE.—The term “pre-
2 cision agriculture” means an integrated information-
3 and production-based farming system that is de-
4 signed to increase long-term, site specific and whole
5 farm production efficiencies, productivity, and profit-
6 ability while minimizing unintended impacts on wild-
7 life and the environment by—

8 (A) combining agricultural sciences, agri-
9 cultural inputs and practices, agronomic pro-
10 duction databases, and precision agriculture
11 technologies to efficiently manage agronomic
12 and 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
23 and deliver site-specific application of agricul-
24 tural inputs and management practices in agri-
25 cultural production systems.

1 (2) PRECISION AGRICULTURE TECH-
2 NOLOGIES.—The term “precision agriculture tech-
3 nologies” includes—

4 (A) instrumentation and techniques rang-
5 ing from sophisticated sensors and software
6 systems to manual sampling and data collection
7 tools that measure, record, and manage spatial
8 and 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 Na-
22 tional Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teach-
23 ing Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123).

24 (4) AGRICULTURAL INPUTS.—The term “agri-
25 cultural inputs” includes all farm management, ag-

1 ronomic, 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 in-
7 puts used in agriculture production.

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

10 (A) a State agricultural experiment sta-
11 tion;

12 (B) a college or university;

13 (C) a research institution or organization;

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

16 (E) a national laboratory;

17 (F) a private organization or corporation;

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

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

22 (6) SYSTEMS RESEARCH.—The term “systems
23 research” means an integrated, coordinated, and it-
24 erative investigative process, which considers the
25 multiple interacting components and aspects of pre-

1 precision agriculture systems, including synthesis of
2 new knowledge regarding the physical-chemical-bio-
3 logical processes and complex interactions with crop-
4 ping, livestock production practices, and natural re-
5 source systems, precision agriculture technologies
6 development and implementation, data and informa-
7 tion collection and interpretation, production scale
8 planning, production-scale implementation, and farm
9 production efficiencies, productivity, and profit-
10 ability.

11 **SEC. 412. COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO PROMOTE PRECISION**
12 **AGRICULTURE.**

13 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Agri-
14 culture may make competitive grants, for periods not to
15 exceed five years, to eligible entities to conduct research,
16 education, or information dissemination projects for the
17 development and advancement of precision agriculture.
18 Such grants shall be limited to those projects that the Sec-
19 retary determines are unlikely to be financed by the pri-
20 vate sector in the absence of a grant under this section.
21 The Secretary shall make such grants in consultation with
22 the Advisory Board.

23 (b) PURPOSE OF PROJECTS.—Research, education,
24 or information dissemination projects supported by a

1 grant under subsection (a) shall address one or more of
2 the following:

3 (1) The study and promotion of components of
4 precision agriculture technologies using a systems
5 research approach that would increase long-term,
6 site-specified and whole farm production efficiencies,
7 productivity, profitability.

8 (2) The improvement in the understanding of
9 agronomic systems, including, soil, water, land cover
10 (including grazing lands), pest management systems,
11 and meteorological variability.

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

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

1 tural producers and consumers, including family
2 owned and operated farms.

3 (c) GRANT PRIORITIES.—In making grants to eligible
4 entities under subsection (a), the Secretary, in consulta-
5 tion with the Advisory Board, shall give priority to re-
6 search, education, or information dissemination projects
7 designed to accomplish the following:

8 (1) Evaluate the use of precision agriculture
9 technologies using a systems research approach to
10 increase long-term site-specific and whole farm pro-
11 duction efficiencies, productivity, profitability.

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

16 (3) Demonstrate the efficient use of agricul-
17 tural inputs, rather than the uniform reduction in
18 the use of agricultural inputs.

19 (4) Maximize the involvement and cooperation
20 of precision agriculture producers, certified crop ad-
21 visers, State cooperative extension services agents,
22 agricultural input machinery, product and service
23 providers, nonprofit organizations, agribusiness, vet-
24 erinarians, land-grant colleges and universities, and
25 Federal agencies in precision agriculture systems re-

1 search projects involving on-farm research, edu-
2 cation, and information dissemination of precision
3 agriculture.

4 (5) Maximize collaboration with multiple agen-
5 cies and other partners that include leveraging of
6 funds and resources.

7 (d) MATCHING FUNDS.—The amount of a grant
8 under this section to an eligible entity (other than a Fed-
9 eral agency) may not exceed the amount which the eligible
10 entity makes available out of non-Federal funds for preci-
11 sion agriculture research and for the establishment and
12 maintenance of facilities necessary for conducting preci-
13 sion agriculture research.

14 **SEC. 413. RESERVATION OF FUNDS FOR EDUCATION AND**
15 **INFORMATION DISSEMINATION PROJECTS.**

16 Of the funds made available for grants under section
17 412, the Secretary of Agriculture shall reserve a portion
18 of such funds for grants for projects regarding precision
19 agriculture related to education or information dissemina-
20 tion.

21 **SEC. 414. PRECISION AGRICULTURE PARTNERSHIPS.**

22 In carrying out this subtitle, the Secretary of Agri-
23 culture, in consultation with the Advisory Board, shall en-
24 courage the establishment of appropriate multi-state and
25 national partnerships or consortia between—

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

13 (2) agricultural producers or other land man-
14 agers.

15 **SEC. 415. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

16 (a) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR CERTAIN
17 PURPOSES.—The Secretary of Agriculture may not make
18 a grant under section 412 for the planning, repair, reha-
19 bilitation, acquisition, or construction of a building or fa-
20 cility.

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

1 the purpose of reviewing applications or proposals submit-
2 ted under this subtitle.

3 **SEC. 416. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out this
6 subtitle \$40,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1998
7 through 2002.

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

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

17 **Subtitle C—Other Initiatives**

18 **SEC. 421. HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INI-**
19 **TIATIVES.**

20 Section 1672 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
21 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925) is amended to
22 read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 1672. HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION**
2 **INITIATIVES.**

3 “(a) **COMPETITIVE SPECIALIZED RESEARCH AND**
4 **EXTENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary of
5 Agriculture, in consultation with the National Agricultural
6 Research, Education, Extension, and Economics Advisory
7 Board, may make competitive grants to support research
8 and extension activities in the high-priority research and
9 extension areas specified in subsection (e).

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

15 “(c) **MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.**—

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

21 “(2) **WAIVER AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may
22 waive the matching funds requirement specified in
23 paragraph (1) with respect to a research project if
24 the Secretary determines that—

25 “(A) the results of the project, while of
26 particular benefit to a specific agricultural com-

1 commodity, are likely to be applicable to agricul-
2 tural commodities generally; or

3 “(B) the project involves a minor commod-
4 ity, deals with scientifically important research,
5 and the grant recipient would be unable to sat-
6 isfy the matching funds requirement.

7 “(d) PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGED.—Following the
8 completion of a peer review process for grant proposals
9 received under this section, the Secretary may give priority
10 to those grant proposals found to be scientifically meritori-
11 ous that involve the cooperation of multiple institutions.

12 “(e) HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION
13 AREAS.—

14 “(1) BROWN CITRUS APHID AND CITRUS
15 TRISTEZA VIRUS RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Re-
16 search and extension grants may be made under this
17 section for the purpose of—

18 “(A) developing methods to control or
19 eradicate the brown citrus aphid and the citrus
20 tristeza virus from citrus crops grown in the
21 United States; or

22 “(B) adapting citrus crops grown in the
23 United States to the brown citrus aphid and the
24 citrus tristeza virus.

1 “(2) ETHANOL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—
2 Research and extension grants may be made under
3 this section for the purpose of carrying on or en-
4 hancing research on ethanol derived from agricul-
5 tural crops as an alternative fuel source.

6 “(3) AFLATOXIN RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—
7 Research and extension grants may be made under
8 this section for the purpose of identifying and con-
9 trolling aflatoxin in the food and feed chains.

10 “(4) MESQUITE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—
11 Research and extension grants may be made under
12 this section for the purpose of developing enhanced
13 production methods and commercial uses of mes-
14 quite.

15 “(5) PRICKLY PEAR RESEARCH AND EXTEN-
16 SION.—Research and extension grants may be made
17 under this section for the purpose of investigating
18 enhanced genetic selection and processing techniques
19 of prickly pears.

20 “(6) DEER TICK ECOLOGY RESEARCH AND EX-
21 TENSION.—Research and extension grants may be
22 made under this section for the purpose of studying
23 the population ecology of deer ticks and other in-
24 sects and pests which transmit Lyme disease.

1 “(7) RED MEAT SAFETY RESEARCH AND EX-
2 TENSION.—Research and extension grants may be
3 made under this section for the purpose of develop-
4 ing—

5 “(A) intervention strategies that reduce
6 microbial contamination on carcass surfaces;

7 “(B) microbiological mapping of carcass
8 surfaces; and

9 “(C) model hazard analysis and critical
10 control point plans.

11 “(8) GRAIN SORGHUM ERGOT RESEARCH AND
12 EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be
13 made under this section for the purpose of develop-
14 ing techniques for the eradication of sorghum ergot.

15 “(9) ANIMAL WASTE AND ODOR MANAGEMENT
16 RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and exten-
17 sion grants may be made under this section for the
18 purpose of—

19 “(A) identifying, evaluating, and dem-
20 onstrating innovative technologies for animal
21 waste management and odor control; and

22 “(B) conducting information workshops to
23 disseminate the results of such research.

24 “(10) FIRE ANT RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—
25 Research and extension grants may be made under

1 this section for the purpose of control, management,
2 and eradication of fire ants.

3 “(11) WHEAT SCAB RESEARCH AND EXTEN-
4 SION.—Research and extension grants may be made
5 under this section to a consortium of land-grant col-
6 leges and universities for the purpose of understand-
7 ing and combating diseases of wheat and barley
8 caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related fungi
9 (commonly known as wheat scab).

10 “(12) PEANUT MARKET ENHANCEMENT RE-
11 SEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension
12 grants may be made under this section for the pur-
13 pose of evaluating the economics of applying innova-
14 tive technologies for peanut processing in a commer-
15 cial environment.

16 “(13) DAIRY FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT
17 RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and exten-
18 sion grants may be made under this section for the
19 purpose of providing research, development, or edu-
20 cation materials, information, and outreach pro-
21 grams regarding risk management strategies for
22 dairy producers and for dairy cooperatives and other
23 processors and marketers of milk.

24 “(14) COTTON RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—
25 Research and extension grants may be made under

1 this section for the purpose of improving pest man-
2 agement, fiber quality enhancement, economic as-
3 sessment, textile production, and optimized produc-
4 tion systems for short staple cotton.

5 “(15) METHYL BROMIDE RESEARCH AND EX-
6 TENSION.—Research and extension grants may be
7 made under this section for the purpose of—

8 “(A) developing and evaluating chemical
9 and nonchemical alternatives, and use and
10 emission reduction strategies, for pre-planting
11 and post-harvest uses of methyl bromide; and

12 “(B) transferring the results of such re-
13 search for agricultural producer use.

14 “(16) WATER QUALITY AND AQUATIC ECO-
15 SYSTEM RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and
16 extension grants may be made under this section for
17 the purpose of investigating the impact on aquatic
18 food webs, especially commercially important aquatic
19 species and their habitats, of microorganisms of the
20 genus *Pfiesteria* and other microorganisms that are
21 a threat to human or animal health.

22 “(17) POTATO RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—
23 Research and extension grants may be made under
24 this section for the purpose of developing and evalu-
25 ating new strains of potatoes which are resistant to

1 blight and other diseases, as well as insects. Empha-
2 sis may be placed on developing potato varieties that
3 lend themselves to innovative marketing approaches.

4 “(18) WOOD UTILIZATION RESEARCH AND EX-
5 TENSION.—Research and extension grants may be
6 made under this section for the purpose of develop-
7 ing new uses for wood from underutilized tree spe-
8 cies as well as investigating methods of modifying
9 wood and wood fibers to produce better building ma-
10 terials.

11 “(19) LOW-BUSH BLUEBERRY RESEARCH AND
12 EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be
13 made under this section for the purpose of evaluat-
14 ing methods of propagating and developing low-bush
15 blueberry as a marketable crop.

16 “(20) FORMOSAN TERMITE ERADICATION RE-
17 SEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension
18 grants may be made under this section for the pur-
19 pose of—

20 “(A) conducting research for the control,
21 management, and possible eradication of For-
22 mosan termites in the United States; and

23 “(B) collecting data on the effectiveness of
24 research projects conducted under this para-
25 graph.

1 “(21) SWINE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ODOR
2 CONTROL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research
3 and extension grants may be made under this sec-
4 tion for the purpose of investigating the microbiology
5 of swine waste and developing improved methods to
6 effectively manage air and water quality in animal
7 husbandry.

8 “(22) WETLANDS UTILIZATION RESEARCH AND
9 EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants may be
10 made under this section for the purpose of better
11 utilizing wetlands in diverse ways to provide various
12 economic, agricultural, and environmental benefits.

13 “(23) WILD PAMPAS GRASS CONTROL AND
14 ERADICATION RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Re-
15 search and extension grants may be made under this
16 section for the purpose of control, management, and
17 eradication of wild pampas grass.

18 “(24) PATHOGEN DETECTION AND LIMITATION
19 RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and exten-
20 sion grants may be made under this section for the
21 purpose of identifying advanced detection and proc-
22 essing methods to limit the presence of pathogens,
23 including hepatitis A and *E. coli* 0157:H7, in domes-
24 tic and imported foods.

1 “(25) FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT RE-
2 SEARCH AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension
3 grants may be made under this section for the pur-
4 pose of providing research, development, or edu-
5 cation materials, information, and outreach pro-
6 grams regarding financial risk management strate-
7 gies for agricultural producers and for cooperatives
8 and other processors and marketers of any agricul-
9 tural commodity.

10 “(26) ORNAMENTAL TROPICAL FISH RESEARCH
11 AND EXTENSION.—Research and extension grants
12 may be made under this section for the purpose of
13 meeting the needs of commercial producers of orna-
14 mental tropical fish and aquatic plants for improve-
15 ments in the areas of fish reproduction, health, nu-
16 trition, predator control, water use, water quality
17 control, and farming technology.

18 “(27) SHEEP SCRAPIE RESEARCH AND EXTEN-
19 SION.—Research and extension grants may be made
20 under this section for the purpose of investigating
21 the genetic aspects of scrapie in sheep.

22 “(28) ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AT RURAL/
23 URBAN INTERFACES.—Research and extension
24 grants may be made under this section for the pur-
25 pose of identifying, evaluating, and demonstrating

1 innovative technologies to be used for animal waste
2 management (including odor control) in rural areas
3 adjacent to urban or suburban areas in connection
4 with waste management activities undertaken in
5 urban or suburban areas.

6 “(29) GYPSY MOTH RESEARCH AND EXTEN-
7 SION.—Research and extension grants may be made
8 under this section for the purpose of developing bio-
9 logical control, management, and eradication meth-
10 ods against nonnative insects, including *Lymantria*
11 *dispar* (commonly known as the Gypsy Moth), that
12 contribute to significant agricultural, economical, or
13 environmental harm.

14 “(30) DAIRY EFFICIENCY, PROFITABILITY, AND
15 COMPETITIVENESS RESEARCH AND EXTENSION.—
16 Research and extension grants may be made under
17 this section for the purpose of improving the effi-
18 ciency, profitability, and competitiveness of dairy
19 production on farms that are heavily dependent on
20 manufacturing uses of milk.

21 “(31) ANIMAL FEED RESEARCH AND EXTEN-
22 SION.—Research and extension grants may be made
23 under this section for the purpose of maximizing nu-
24 trition management for livestock, while limiting

1 risks, such as mineral bypass, associated with live-
2 stock feeding practices.

3 “(32) FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EXTEN-
4 SION.—Research and extension grants may be made
5 under this section to develop and distribute new,
6 high-quality, science-based information for the pur-
7 pose of improving the long-term productivity of for-
8 est resources and contributing to forest-based eco-
9 nomic development by addressing such issues as for-
10 est land use policies, multiple-use forest manage-
11 ment, including wildlife habitat development, im-
12 proved forest regeneration systems, and timber sup-
13 ply, and improved development, manufacturing, and
14 marketing of forest products.

15 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal
17 years 1998 through 2002 such sums as may be necessary
18 to make grants under this section in each of the high-
19 priority research and extension areas specified in sub-
20 section (e).

21 “(g) USE OF TASK FORCES.—

22 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—To facilitate the mak-
23 ing of research and extension grants under this sec-
24 tion in a high-priority research and extension area
25 specified in subsection (e), the Secretary may ap-

1 point a task force to make recommendations to the
2 Secretary.

3 “(2) LIMITATION ON COSTS.—The Secretary
4 may not incur costs in excess of \$1,000 in any fiscal
5 year in connection with each task force established
6 under this subsection.

7 “(3) APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.—The Fed-
8 eral Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) and
9 title XVIII of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977
10 (7 U.S.C. 2281 et seq.) shall not apply to a task
11 force established under this subsection.”

12 **SEC. 422. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTEN-**
13 **SION INITIATIVE.**

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

17 **“SEC. 1672A. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EX-**
18 **TENSION INITIATIVE.**

19 “(a) COMPETITIVE SPECIALIZED RESEARCH AND
20 EXTENSION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of
21 Agriculture, in consultation with the National Agricultural
22 Research, Education, Extension, and Economics Advisory
23 Board, may make competitive grants to support research
24 and extension activities regarding organically grown and
25 processed agricultural commodities for the purpose of—

1 “(1) facilitating the development of organic ag-
2 riculture production and processing methods;

3 “(2) evaluating the potential economic benefits
4 to producers and processors who use organic meth-
5 ods; and

6 “(3) exploring international trade opportunities
7 for organically grown and processed agricultural
8 commodities.

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

14 “(c) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require
16 the recipient of a grant under this section to provide
17 funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources
18 in an amount at least equal to the amount provided
19 by the Federal Government.

20 “(2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may
21 waive the matching funds requirement specified in
22 paragraph (1) with respect to a research project if
23 the Secretary determines that—

24 “(A) the results of the project, while of
25 particular benefit to a specified agricultural

1 commodity, are likely to be applicable to agri-
2 cultural commodities generally; or

3 “(B) the project involves a minor commod-
4 ity, deals with scientifically important research,
5 and grant recipient would be unable to satisfy
6 the matching funds requirement.

7 “(d) PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGED.—Following the
8 completion of a peer review process for grant proposals
9 received under this section, the Secretary may give priority
10 to those grant proposals found to be scientifically meritori-
11 ous that involved the cooperation of multiple institutions.

12 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
13 are authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal
14 years 1998 through 2002 such sums as may be necessary
15 to make grants under this section.”.

16 **SEC. 423. UNITED STATES-MEXICO JOINT AGRICULTURAL**
17 **RESEARCH.**

18 Subtitle I of the National Agricultural Research, Ex-
19 tension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by
20 inserting after section 1458 (7 U.S.C. 3291) the following
21 new section:

22 **“SEC. 1459. UNITED STATES-MEXICO JOINT AGRICULTURAL**
23 **RESEARCH.**

24 “(a) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—
25 The Secretary may provide for an agricultural research

1 and development program with the United States/Mexico
2 Foundation for Science, which will focus on binational
3 problems facing agricultural producers and consumers in
4 the two countries, in particular pressing problems in the
5 areas of food safety, plant and animal pest control, and
6 the natural resources base on which agriculture depends.

7 “(b) ADMINISTRATION.—Grants under the research
8 and development program shall be awarded competitively
9 through the Foundation.

10 “(c) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—The provision of
11 funds to the Foundation by the United States Government
12 shall be subject to the condition that the Government of
13 Mexico match, on at least an equal ratio, any funds pro-
14 vided by the United States Government.

15 “(d) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Funds pro-
16 vided under this section may not be used for the planning,
17 repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of a
18 building or facility.”.

19 **SEC. 424. COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL AG-**
20 **RICULTURAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION PRO-**
21 **GRAMS.**

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

1 **“SEC. 1459A. COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL**
2 **AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION**
3 **PROGRAMS.**

4 “(a) **COMPETITIVE GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**—The Sec-
5 retary may make competitive grants to colleges and uni-
6 versities in order to strengthen United States economic
7 competitiveness and to promote international market de-
8 velopment.

9 “(b) **PURPOSE OF GRANTS.**—Grants under this sec-
10 tion shall be directed to agricultural research, extension,
11 and teaching activities that will—

12 “(1) enhance the international content of the
13 curricula in colleges and universities so as to ensure
14 that United States students acquire an understand-
15 ing of the international dimensions and trade impli-
16 cations of their studies;

17 “(2) ensure that United States scientists, exten-
18 sion agents, and educators involved in agricultural
19 research and development activities outside of the
20 United States have the opportunity to convey the
21 implications of their activities and findings to their
22 peers and students in the United States and to the
23 users of agricultural research, extension, and teach-
24 ing;

25 “(3) enhance the capabilities of colleges and
26 universities to do collaborative research with other

1 countries, in cooperation with other Federal agen-
2 cies, on issues relevant to United States agricultural
3 competitiveness;

4 “(4) enhance the capabilities of colleges and
5 universities to provide cooperative extension edu-
6 cation to promote the application of new technology
7 developed in foreign countries to United States agri-
8 culture; and

9 “(5) enhance the capability of United States
10 colleges and universities, in cooperation with other
11 Federal agencies, to provide leadership and edu-
12 cational programs that will assist United States nat-
13 ural resources and food production, processing, and
14 distribution businesses and industries to compete
15 internationally, including product market identifica-
16 tion, international policies limiting or enhancing
17 market production, development of new or enhance-
18 ment of existing markets, and production effi-
19 ciencies.

20 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
21 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
22 necessary to carry out this section.”.

1 **SEC. 425. FOOD ANIMAL RESIDUE AVOIDANCE DATABASE**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 (a) CONTINUATION OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary of
4 Agriculture shall continue operation of the Food Animal
5 Residue Avoidance Database program (referred to in this
6 section as the “FARAD program”) through appropriate
7 colleges or universities.

8 (b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the FARAD pro-
9 gram, the Secretary of Agriculture shall—

10 (1) provide livestock producers, extension spe-
11 cialists, scientists, and veterinarians with informa-
12 tion to prevent drug, pesticide, and environmental
13 contaminant residues in food animal products;

14 (2) maintain up-to-date information concern-
15 ing—

16 (A) withdrawal times on FDA-approved
17 food animal drugs and appropriate withdrawal
18 intervals for drugs used in food animals in the
19 United States, as established under section
20 512(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cos-
21 metic Act (21 U.S.C. 360b(a));

22 (B) official tolerances for drugs and pes-
23 ticides in tissues, eggs, and milk;

24 (C) descriptions and sensitivities of rapid
25 screening tests for detecting residues in tissues,
26 eggs, and milk; and

1 (D) data on the distribution and fate of
2 chemicals in food animals;

3 (3) publish periodically a compilation of food
4 animal drugs approved by the Food and Drug Ad-
5 ministration;

6 (4) make information on food animal drugs
7 available to the public through handbooks and other
8 literature, computer software, a telephone hotline,
9 and the Internet;

10 (5) furnish producer quality-assurance pro-
11 grams with up-to-date data on approved drugs;

12 (6) maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date,
13 residue avoidance database;

14 (7) provide professional advice for determining
15 the withdrawal times necessary for food safety in the
16 use of drugs in food animals; and

17 (8) engage in other activities designed to pro-
18 mote food safety.

19 (c) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Agriculture, in con-
20 sultation with the National Agricultural Research, Edu-
21 cation, Extension, and Economics Advisory Board, may
22 make grants to colleges and universities to operate the
23 FARAD program. The term of a grant shall be three
24 years, with options to extend the term of the grant tri-
25 ennially.

1 **SEC. 426. DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF**
2 **NEW BIOBASED PRODUCTS.**

3 (a) **BIOBASED PRODUCT DEFINED.**—For purposes of
4 this section, the term “biobased product” means a product
5 suitable for food or nonfood use that is derived in whole
6 or in part from renewable agricultural and forestry mate-
7 rials.

8 (b) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR BIOBASED**
9 **PRODUCTS.**—The Secretary of Agriculture may enter into
10 cooperative agreements with private entities described in
11 subsection (c), under which the facilities and technical ex-
12 pertise of the Agricultural Research Service may be made
13 available to operate pilot plants and other large-scale pre-
14 parative facilities for the purpose of bringing technologies
15 necessary for the development and commercialization of
16 new biobased products to the point of practical applica-
17 tion. Cooperative activities may include research on poten-
18 tial environmental impacts of a biobased product, methods
19 to reduce the cost of manufacturing a biobased product,
20 and other appropriate research.

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

24 (1) A party that has entered into a cooperative
25 research and development agreement with the Sec-
26 retary under section 12 of the Stevenson-Wydler

1 Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C.
2 3710a).

3 (2) A recipient of funding from the Alternative
4 Agricultural Research and Commercialization Cor-
5 poration established under section 1658 of the Food,
6 Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7
7 U.S.C. 5902).

8 (3) A recipient of funding from the Bio-
9 technology Research and Development Corporation.

10 (4) A recipient of funding from the Secretary
11 under a Small Business Innovation Research Pro-
12 gram established under section 9 of the Small Busi-
13 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

14 (d) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—To carry out this section,
15 the Secretary may use—

16 (1) funds appropriated to carry out this section;
17 and

18 (2) funds available for cooperative research and
19 development agreements (as described in subsection
20 (b)).

21 (e) SALE OF DEVELOPED PRODUCTS.—The Sec-
22 retary shall authorize the private partner or partners in
23 a cooperative agreement consistent with this section to sell
24 new biobased products produced at a pilot plant under the

1 agreement for the purpose of determining the market po-
2 tential for the products.

3 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
5 necessary to carry out this section.

6 **SEC. 427. THOMAS JEFFERSON INITIATIVE FOR CROP DI-**
7 **VERSIFICATION.**

8 (a) INITIATIVE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agri-
9 culture shall provide for a research initiative (to be known
10 as the “Thomas Jefferson Initiative for Crop Diversifica-
11 tion”) for the purpose of conducting research and develop-
12 ment, in cooperation with other public and private entities,
13 on the production and marketing of new and nontradi-
14 tional crops needed to strengthen and diversify the agri-
15 cultural production base of the United States. The initia-
16 tive shall include research and education efforts regarding
17 new and nontraditional crops designed—

18 (1) to identify and overcome agronomic barriers
19 to profitable production;

20 (2) to identify and overcome other production
21 and marketing barriers; and

22 (3) to develop processing and utilization tech-
23 nologies for new and nontraditional crops.

24 (b) PURPOSES.—The initiative is established—

1 (1) to develop a focused program of research
2 and development at the regional and national level
3 to overcome barriers to development of new crop op-
4 portunities for farmers and related value-added en-
5 terprise development in rural communities; and

6 (2) to ensure a broad-based effort encompass-
7 ing research, education, market development, and
8 support of entrepreneurial activity leading to in-
9 creased agricultural diversification.

10 (c) ESTABLISHMENT OF INITIATIVE.—The Secretary
11 shall coordinate the initiative through a nonprofit center
12 or institute that will coordinate research and education
13 programs in cooperation with other public and private en-
14 tities. The Secretary shall administer research and edu-
15 cation grants made under this section.

16 (d) REGIONAL EMPHASIS.—The Secretary shall sup-
17 port development of multi-State regional efforts in crop
18 diversification. Of funding made available to carry out the
19 initiative, 50 percent shall be used for regional efforts cen-
20 tered at land-grant colleges and universities in order to
21 facilitate site-specific crop development efforts.

22 (e) ELIGIBLE GRANTEE.—The Secretary may award
23 funds under this section to colleges or universities, non-
24 profit organizations, or public agencies.

25 (f) ADMINISTRATION.—

1 (1) GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.—Grants awarded
2 through the initiative shall be selected on a competi-
3 tive basis. The recipient of a grant may use a por-
4 tion of the grant funds for standard contracts with
5 private businesses, such as for test processing of a
6 new or nontraditional crop.

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

9 (3) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Secretary shall re-
10 quire the recipient of a grant awarded through the
11 initiative to contribute an amount of funds from
12 non-Federal sources at least equal to the amount
13 provided by the Federal Government.

14 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
16 necessary to carry out this section.

17 **SEC. 428. INTEGRATED RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EX-**
18 **TENSION COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM.**

19 (a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to
20 authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an inte-
21 grated research, education, and extension competitive
22 grant program to provide funding for integrated, multi-
23 functional research, education, and extension activities.

24 (b) COMPETITIVE GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Subject to
25 the appropriation of funds to carry out this section, the

1 Secretary may award grants to colleges and universities
2 (as defined in section 1404(4) of the National Agricultural
3 Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
4 U.S.C. 3103(4))) on a competitive basis for integrated re-
5 search, education, and extension projects in accordance
6 with the provisions of this section.

7 (c) CRITERIA FOR GRANTS.—Grants under this sec-
8 tion shall be awarded to address priorities in United
9 States agriculture, determined by the Secretary in con-
10 sultation with the National Agricultural Research, Exten-
11 sion, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, which in-
12 volve integrated research, education, and extension activi-
13 ties.

14 (d) MATCHING OF FUNDS.—

15 (1) GENERAL REQUIREMENT.—If a grant under
16 this section is to the particular benefit of a specific
17 agricultural commodity, the Secretary shall require
18 the recipient of the grant to provide funds or in-kind
19 support to match the amount of funds provided by
20 the Secretary in the grant.

21 (2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the
22 matching funds requirement specified in paragraph
23 (1) with respect to a grant if the Secretary deter-
24 mines that—

1 (A) the results of the project, while of par-
 2 ticular benefit to a specific agricultural com-
 3 modity, are likely to be applicable to agricul-
 4 tural commodities generally; or

5 (B) the project involves a minor commod-
 6 ity, deals with scientifically important research,
 7 and the grant recipient would be unable to sat-
 8 isfy the matching funds requirement.

9 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
 10 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
 11 essary for each of the fiscal years 1998 through 2002 to
 12 carry out this section.

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

15 The Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act
 16 of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note) is
 17 amended by adding at the end the following new section—
 18 **“SEC. 536. RESEARCH GRANTS.**

19 **“(a) RESEARCH GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—**The Sec-
 20 retary of Agriculture may make grants under this section
 21 on the basis of a competitive application process (and in
 22 accordance with such regulations that the Secretary may
 23 promulgate) to a 1994 Institution to assist the 1995 Insti-
 24 tution to conduct agricultural research that addresses high

1 priority concerns of tribal, national, or multi-state signifi-
2 cance.

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

8 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There
9 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
10 necessary to carry out this section for each of the fiscal
11 years 1998 through 2002. Amounts appropriated shall re-
12 main available until expended.”.

13 **TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS** 14 **PROVISIONS**

15 **SEC. 501. ROLE OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE REGARD-** 16 **ING FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES** 17 **RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION.**

18 The Secretary of Agriculture shall be the principal
19 official in the executive branch responsible for coordinat-
20 ing all Federal research and extension activities related
21 to food and agricultural sciences.

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

23 (a) OBJECTIVE.—The establishment of an Office of
24 Pest Management Policy pursuant to this section is in-
25 tended to provide for the effective coordination of agricul-

1 tural policies and activities within the Department of Agri-
2 culture related to pesticides and of the development and
3 use of pest management tools, while taking into account
4 the effects of regulatory actions of other government agen-
5 cies.

6 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE; PRINCIPAL RE-
7 SPONSIBILITIES.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall es-
8 tablish in the Department of Agriculture an Office of Pest
9 Management Policy, which shall be responsible for—

10 (1) the development and coordination of De-
11 partment of Agriculture policy on pest management
12 and pesticides;

13 (2) the coordination of activities and services of
14 the Department, including research, extension, and
15 education activities, regarding the development,
16 availability, and use of economically and environ-
17 mentally sound pest management tools and prac-
18 tices;

19 (3) assisting the Department in fulfilling its re-
20 sponsibilities related to pest management or pes-
21 ticides under the Food Quality Protection Act of
22 1996 (Public Law 104–170; 110 Stat. 1489), the
23 Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
24 (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.), the Federal Food, Drug, and

1 Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), or other law;
2 and

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

5 (c) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—In support of its
6 responsibilities under subsection (a), the Office of Pest
7 Management Policy shall provide leadership to ensure co-
8 ordination of interagency activities with the Environ-
9 mental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Adminis-
10 tration, and other Federal and State agencies.

11 (d) OUTREACH.—The Office of Pest Management
12 Policy shall consult with agricultural producers that may
13 be affected by pest management or pesticide-related activi-
14 ties or actions of the Department or other agencies as nec-
15 essary in carrying out the Office’s responsibilities under
16 this section.

17 (e) DIRECTOR.—The Office of Pest Management Pol-
18 icy shall be under the direction of a Director appointed
19 by the Secretary who shall report directly to the Secretary
20 or a designee of the Secretary.

21 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
23 necessary to carry out this section.

1 **SEC. 503. FOOD SAFETY RESEARCH INFORMATION OFFICE**
2 **AND NATIONAL CONFERENCE.**

3 (a) FOOD SAFETY RESEARCH INFORMATION OF-
4 FICE.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The Sec-
6 retary of Agriculture shall establish a Food Safety
7 Research Information Office at the National Agri-
8 cultural Library. The Office shall provide to the re-
9 search community and the general public informa-
10 tion on publicly funded, and to the extent possible,
11 privately funded food safety research initiatives for
12 the purpose of—

13 (A) preventing unintended duplication of
14 food safety research; and

15 (B) assisting the executive and legislative
16 branches of the Government and private re-
17 search entities to assess food safety research
18 needs and priorities.

19 (2) COOPERATION.—The Office shall carry out
20 paragraph (1) in cooperation with the National In-
21 stitutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administra-
22 tion, the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
23 tion, public institutions, and on a voluntary basis,
24 private research interests.

25 (b) NATIONAL CONFERENCE.—Not later than 120
26 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-

1 retary shall sponsor a conference to be known as the “Na-
2 tional Conference on Food Safety Research”, for the pur-
3 pose of beginning the task of food safety research
4 prioritization. The Secretary shall sponsor annual work-
5 shops in each of the subsequent four years after the con-
6 ference so that priorities can be updated or adjusted to
7 reflect changing food safety concerns.

8 (c) **FOOD SAFETY REPORT.**—With regard to the
9 study and report to be prepared by the National Academy
10 of Sciences on the scientific and organizational needs for
11 an effective food safety system, the study shall include rec-
12 ommendations to ensure that the food safety inspection
13 system, within the resources traditionally available to ex-
14 isting food safety agencies, protects the public health.

15 **SEC. 504. NUTRIENT COMPOSITION DATA.**

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

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

21 (1) the method the Secretary will use to update
22 nutrient composition data, including the quality as-
23 surance criteria that will be used and the method for
24 generating the data; and

25 (2) the timing for updating the data.

1 **SEC. 505. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS RECEIVED OR COL-**
2 **LECTED ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL ARBORE-**
3 **TUM.**

4 Section 6(b) of the Act of March 4, 1927 (20 U.S.C.
5 196(b)), is amended by striking “Treasury” and inserting
6 “Treasury. Amounts in the special fund shall be available
7 to the Secretary of Agriculture, without further appropria-
8 tion,”.

9 **SEC. 506. RETENTION AND USE OF AGRICULTURAL RE-**
10 **SEARCH SERVICE PATENT CULTURE COLLEC-**
11 **TION FEES.**

12 All funds collected by the Agricultural Research Serv-
13 ice of the Department of Agriculture in connection with
14 the acceptance of microorganisms for deposit in, or the
15 distribution of microorganisms from, the Patent Culture
16 Collection maintained and operated by the Agricultural
17 Research Service shall be credited to the appropriation
18 supporting the maintenance and operation of the Patent
19 Culture Collection. The collected funds shall be available
20 to the Agricultural Research Service, without further ap-
21 propriation or fiscal-year limitation, to carry out its re-
22 sponsibilities under law (including international treaty)
23 with respect to the Patent Culture Collection.

1 **SEC. 507. REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED**
2 **UNDER SHEEP PROMOTION, RESEARCH, AND**
3 **INFORMATION ACT OF 1994.**

4 Using funds available to the Agricultural Marketing
5 Service, the Service may reimburse the American Sheep
6 Industry Association for expenses incurred by American
7 Sheep Industry Association between February 6, 1996,
8 and May 17, 1996, in preparation for the implementation
9 of a sheep and wool promotion, research, education, and
10 information order under the Sheep Promotion, Research,
11 and Information Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).

12 **SEC. 508. DESIGNATION OF KIKA DE LA GARZA SUB-**
13 **TROPICAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CEN-**
14 **TER, WESLACO, TEXAS.**

15 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal facilities located at
16 2413 East Highway 83, and 2301 South International
17 Boulevard, in Weslaco, Texas, and known as the Sub-
18 tropical Agricultural Research Center, shall be known and
19 designated as the “Kika de la Garza Subtropical Agricul-
20 tural Research Center”.

21 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
22 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
23 States to the Federal facilities referred to in subsection
24 (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Kika de la
25 Garza Subtropical Agricultural Research Center”.

1 **SEC. 509. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING AGRICUL-**
2 **TURAL RESEARCH SERVICE EMPHASIS ON IN-**
3 **FIELD RESEARCH REGARDING METHYL BRO-**
4 **MIDE ALTERNATIVES.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that, of the Agricultural
6 Research Service funds made available for a fiscal year
7 for research regarding the development for agricultural
8 use of alternatives to methyl bromide, the Secretary of Ag-
9 riculture should use a substantial portion of such funds
10 for research to be conducted in real field conditions, in
11 particular pre-planting and post-harvest conditions, so as
12 to expedite the development and commercial use of methyl
13 bromide alternatives.

14 **SEC. 510. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING IMPORTANCE**
15 **OF SCHOOL-BASED AGRICULTURAL EDU-**
16 **CATION.**

17 It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Agri-
18 culture and the Secretary of Education should collaborate
19 and cooperate in providing both instructional and tech-
20 nical support for school-based agricultural education.

21 **SEC. 511. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING DESIGNATION**
22 **OF DEPARTMENT CRISIS MANAGEMENT**
23 **TEAM.**

24 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

25 (1) The Department of Agriculture plays a cru-
26 cial role in ensuring that the United States is a

1 world leader in maintaining the most affordable,
2 abundant, wholesome, and safe food supply for its
3 citizens.

4 (2) It is in the best interest of consumers, pro-
5 ducers, processors, retailers, government officials,
6 and other interested parties to ensure that any crisis
7 that may affect the operation of the Department or
8 the production of a safe and wholesome food supply
9 is addressed in an effective manner.

10 (3) Unforeseen circumstances, including natural
11 disaster, personnel management problems, threats to
12 public health, and trade disruptions, have the poten-
13 tial to undermine the operation of the Department
14 and the Nation's ability to efficiently provide a safe,
15 affordable, abundant, and wholesome food supply.

16 (4) Department of Agriculture employees,
17 consumer confidence, and the food production sector
18 have been adversely impacted as a result of the chal-
19 lenges associated with Federal agencies' ability to
20 respond to incidents in a coordinated and timely
21 fashion.

22 (5) An effective response to crises, emergencies,
23 and similar situations depends upon the timely and
24 efficient coordination of Federal, State, and local
25 government agencies.

1 (6) It is in the best interests of the Nation to
2 ensure that whenever a crisis occurs the appropriate
3 Federal agencies coordinate their activities.

4 (7) The Department of Agriculture should take
5 the lead in ensuring a safe and wholesome supply of
6 food for the Nation because of its broad and diverse
7 relationship with consumers and the food production
8 sector.

9 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
10 gress that the Secretary of Agriculture should—

11 (1) designate a Crisis Management Team with-
12 in the Department of Agriculture, which would be
13 composed of senior departmental personnel with
14 strong subject matter expertise selected from each
15 relevant agency of the Department and would be
16 headed by a team leader with strong management
17 and communications skills;

18 (2) upon establishment of such a Crisis Man-
19 agement Team, direct that the Crisis Management
20 Team—

21 (A) develop a department-wide crisis man-
22 agement plan, taking into account similar plans
23 developed by other government agencies and
24 other large organizations;

1 (B) develop detailed written procedures for
2 implementing the crisis management plan;

3 (C) conduct periodic reviews and revisions
4 of the crisis management plan and procedures;

5 (D) ensure compliance with crisis manage-
6 ment procedures by departmental personnel;

7 (E) coordinate the Department's informa-
8 tion gathering and dissemination activities con-
9 cerning issues managed by the Crisis Manage-
10 ment Team;

11 (F) ensure that all employees of the De-
12 partment are familiar with the crisis manage-
13 ment plan and procedures and are encouraged
14 to bring information regarding crises or poten-
15 tial crises to the attention of team members;

16 (G) ensure that departmental spokes-
17 persons convey accurate, timely, and scientif-
18 ically sound information that is easily under-
19 stood by the target audience; and

20 (H) cooperate and coordinate with other
21 Federal agencies, States, local governments, in-
22 dustry, and public interest groups; and

23 (3) seek to enter into cooperative agreements
24 with other Federal departments and agencies that
25 have related programs or activities to help ensure

1 consistent, accurate, and coordinated dissemination
2 of information throughout the executive branch in
3 the event of a crisis.

Passed the House of Representatives November 8,
1997.

Attest:

Clerk.