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Highlights of the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2744, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2006

On October 26, the Conference Report, H. Rept. 109-255, was filed.

Noteworthy

- H.R. 2744 provides \$100.098 billion in new budget (obligational) authority for FY06, which is \$848.85 million above the Administration's request and \$11.54 billion above the FY05 enacted level. Of this total, \$17.09 billion is discretionary budget authority and \$83.07 billion is mandatory spending.
- The Conference Report provides \$1.49 billion for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which is \$10.1 million below the Administration's request, but \$39.5 million above the FY05 enacted level.
- The Conference Report provides \$40.71 billion for the Food Stamp program and \$5.26 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). This total includes a \$125 million reserve.
- The Conference Report provides \$1.19 billion for the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, including \$676.8 million for research and education activities, \$456.0 million for extension activities, and \$55.8 million for integrated activities.
- The Conference Report delays mandatory country-of-origin labeling for food until September 30, 2008.

Highlights

(amount in billions)

<u>Title</u>	<u>President's Request</u>	<u>FY06 Conference Report</u>
Title I—Agricultural Programs	\$35.08	\$35.47
Title II—Conservation Programs	\$0.81	\$1.00
Title III—Rural Development Programs	\$2.46	\$2.53
Title IV—Domestic Food Program	\$58.96	\$58.95
Title V—Foreign Assistance	\$1.22	\$1.48
<u>Title VI—FDA, Related Agencies</u>	<u>\$1.60</u>	<u>\$1.59</u>
Total	\$100.13	\$100.98

Bill Provisions

Title I – Agricultural Programs

Title I provides \$35.47 billion for Agricultural Programs, which is \$388.1 million above the Administration's request and \$8.43 billion above the FY05 enacted level.

Executive Operations:

Conference Report: Provides \$166.7 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provides \$185.2 million for Executive Operations, which is \$14.7 million below the Administration's request and \$7.7 million below the FY05 enacted level.

Agricultural Research Service:

Conference Report: Provides \$1.27 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$1.27 billion for Agricultural Research Service, which is \$209.7 million above the Administration's request, but \$17.7 million below the FY05 enacted level.

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES):

Conference Report: Provides \$1.19 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$1.17 billion for CSREES, which is \$149.2 million above the Administration's request and \$5.6 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services:

Conference Report: Provides \$820.5 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$812.8 million for Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services, which is \$47.4 million below the Administration's request and \$269,000 below the FY05 enacted level.

Agricultural Marketing Service:

Conference Report: Provides \$115.3 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$96.5 million for the Agricultural Marketing Service, which is \$5.0 million below the Administration's request, but \$1.8 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Production, Processing, and Marketing:

Conference Report: Provides \$5.04 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$5.02 billion for Production, Processing, and Marketing, which is \$390.6 million above the Administration's request and \$45.2 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Farm Assistance Programs:

Conference Report: Provides \$1.58 billion. Includes \$463.9 million for **Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund**.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$1.59 billion for Farm Assistance Programs, which is \$20.9 million below the Administration's request, but \$62.6 million above the FY05 enacted level. Included within this funding is \$468.0 million for the **Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund**.

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:

Conference Report: Provides \$3.16 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$3.16 billion for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, which is equal to the Administration's request, but \$935.7 million below the FY05 enacted level.

Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:

Conference Report: Provides \$25.69 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$25.69 billion for the Commodity Credit Corporation Fund, which is equal to the Administration's request and \$9.24 billion above the FY05 enacted level.

Title II – Conservation Programs

Title II provides \$1.00 billion for Conservation Programs, which is \$189.8 million above the Administration's request and nearly \$12.3 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Natural Resources Conservation Service:

Conference Report: Provides \$1.00 billion. Includes \$839.5 for **Conservation Operations.**

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$963.9 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, which is \$149.6 million above the Administration's request, but \$27.9 million below the FY05 enacted level. Included within this funding is \$819.6 million for **Conservation Operations.**

Title III – Rural Development Programs

Title III provides \$2.53 billion for Rural Economic Community Development Programs, which is \$70.2 million above the Administration's request and \$114.6 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Rural Development:

Conference Report: Provides \$866.6 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$869.9 million for Rural Development, which is \$180.3 million above the Administration's request and \$12.3 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Loan Authorizations:

Conference Report: Provides \$5.08 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$4.93 billion in Loan Authorizations, which is \$37.9 million below the Administration's request, but \$244.3 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Loan Subsidies:

Conference Report: Provides \$242.1 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$212.5 million for Loan Subsidies, which is \$23.2 million above the Administration's request, but \$13.9 million below the FY05 enacted level.

Rural Housing Insurance Fund (RHIF):

Conference Report: Provides \$1.35 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$1.33 billion for the RHIF, which is \$26.3 million above the Administration's request and \$73.0 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Rural Housing Service:

Conference Report: Provides \$1.48 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$1.47 billion for the Rural Housing Service, which is \$155.4 million below the Administration's request, but \$101.9 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Rural Development Loan Fund:

Conference Report: Provides \$19.5 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$21.4 million for the Rural Development Loan Fund, which is equal to the Administration's request and \$1.4 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service:

Conference Report: Provides \$88.2 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$86.8 million for the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, which is \$29.4 million above the Administration's request and \$3.0 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Rural Utilities Service:

Conference Report: Provides \$97.8 million. Includes a **loan authorization level** of \$6.62 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$105.6 million for the Rural Utilities Service, which is \$22.0 million above the Administration's request and \$3.4 million above the FY05 enacted level. In addition, a **loan authorization level** of \$6.75 billion is provided.

Title IV – Domestic Food Programs

Title IV provides \$58.95 billion for Domestic Food Programs, which is \$6.8 million below the Administration's request, but \$6.46 billion above the FY06 enacted level.

Child Nutrition Programs:

Conference Report: Provides \$12.66 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$12.42 billion for the Child Nutrition Program, which is \$6.0 million above the Administration's request, but \$640.0 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):

Conference Report: Provides \$5.26 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$5.26 billion for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), which is \$253.0 million below the Administration's request, but \$22.0 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Food Stamp Program:

Conference Report: Provides \$40.71 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$40.71 billion for the Food Stamp Program, which is equal to the Administration's request and \$5.56 billion above the FY05 enacted level.

Commodity Assistance Program:

Conference Report: Provides \$179.4 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$180.0 million for Commodity Assistance Program, which is \$2.0 million above the Administration's request and \$2.6 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Nutrition Programs Administration:

Conference Report: Provides \$140.8 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$141.0 million for Nutrition Program Administration, which is equal to the Administration's request and \$2.0 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Title V – Foreign Assistance and Related Programs

Title V provides \$1.48 billion for Foreign Assistance and Related Programs, which is \$264.1 million above the Administration's request, but \$37.4 million below the FY05 enacted level.

Salaries and Expenses, Direct Appropriation:

Conference Report: Provides \$147.9 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$148.0 million for Salaries and Expenses, Direct Appropriation, which is \$1.0 million below the Administration's request, and \$11.1 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Public Law 480 Program and Grant Accounts:

Conference Report: Provides \$1.23 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$1.23 billion for Public Law 480 Program and Grant Accounts, which is \$265.0 million above the Administration's request, but \$63.0 million below the FY05 enacted level.

CCC Export Loans Program Account:

Conference Report: Provides \$5.3 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$5.3 million for CCC Export Loans Program Account, which is equal to the Administration's request and \$891,000 above the FY05 enacted level.

Title VI – Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration

Title VI provides \$1.59 billion for Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration, which is \$11.1 million below the Administration's request, but \$44.3 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Food and Drug Administration:

Conference Report: Provides \$1.49 billion.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$1.49 billion for the Food and Drug Administration, which, is \$7.7 million below the administration's request, but \$42.0 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Commodity Futures Trading Commission:

Conference Report: Provides \$98.4 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided \$98.4 million for Commodity Futures Trading Commission, which is \$1.0 million below the Administration's request, but \$4.8 million above the FY05 enacted level.

Farm Credit Administration:

Conference Report: Provides limitation on administrative expenses of \$44.3 million.

Senate Committee-Reported bill: Provided a limitation on administrative expenses of \$44.3 million, which is \$1.9 million above the FY05 enacted level.

President's Program Terminations

(in millions of dollars)

Program	Classification	2005 Enacted	2006 Request	House bill	Senate bill	Conference Report
Watershed Rehabilitations *	Reduction	N/A	\$15.1	\$47.0	\$27.3	\$31.6
Program	Classification	2005 Enacted	2006 Request	House bill	Senate bill	Conference Report
Farm Bill Programs (EQUP) *	Reduction	N/A	-\$200	-\$148	-\$183	-\$183
Value-added grants *	Reduction	N/A	-\$120	-\$120	-\$120	-\$120
Rural Strategic Investment Program *	Reduction	N/A	-\$100	-\$100	-\$100	-\$100
CCC-Bioenergy *	Reduction	N/A	-\$90	-\$90	-\$90	-\$90
Rural Business Investment Program *	Reduction	N/A	-\$89	-\$89	-\$79	-\$89
CCC-Market Access Program *	Reduction	N/A	-\$4	\$0	\$0	\$0
Broadband *	Reduction	N/A	-\$50	-\$50	-\$50	-\$80
Farm Bill Programs (CSP) *	Reduction	N/A	-\$210	-\$210	-\$210	-\$210
Rural Firefighter Grants	Reduction	N/A	-\$40	-\$40	-\$40	-\$40
Farm Bill Programs (WHIP) *	Reduction	-\$38	-\$25	-\$42	-\$38	-\$42
Renewable Energy	Reduction	-\$23	-\$23	-\$23	-\$23	-\$23
Farm Bill Program (Farm and Ranchland Protection)	Reduction	-\$13	-\$16	-\$26	\$0	-\$26
Farm Bill Programs (Ag. Management Assistance)	Reduction	N/A	-\$14	-\$14	\$0	-\$14
Biomass Research and Development	Reduction	\$0	-\$2	-\$2	-\$2	-\$2
NRCS Resource Conservation and Development Program	Reduction	\$51.0	\$25.0	\$51.4	\$51.2	\$51.3
Water and Wastewater Grants and Loans	Reduction	\$548.0	\$450.0	**	\$528.1	\$500.0
NRCS Conservation Operations	Reduction	\$831.0	\$767.8	\$773.6	\$819.6	\$839.5
NRCS Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations	Termination	\$75.0	\$0	\$60.0	\$60.0	\$75.0

* According to the President's Major Savings and Reforms, reductions are proposed to various mandatory programs authorized by the FY2005 Farm Bill to create discretionary savings.

** Information was never provided to the RPC.