

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The estimates include General Provisions language as follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

SECTION 701: Provides authority for the purchase, replacement, and hire of passenger motor vehicles.

Sec. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations made for the Department of Agriculture for the current fiscal year under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed [69] 71 passenger motor vehicles of which [69] 68 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles: *Provided*, That notwithstanding this section, the only purchase of new passenger vehicles shall be for those determined by the Secretary to be necessary for transportation safety, to reduce operational costs, and for the protection of life, property, and public safety.

The first and second changes reflect agency plans for purchase of passenger motor vehicles, including replacements.

SECTION 702: Authorizes the transfer of discretionary, unobligated funds appropriated by this Act or other available unobligated discretionary balances to the Working Capital Fund for the purpose of acquiring plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services with notification to the Agency Administrator and the Appropriations Committees of both Houses of Congress. In addition, language allows up to 4 percent of income for the National Finance Center (NFC) to be reserved for capital equipment or to pay any unforeseen, extraordinary costs of the NFC. Except for emergencies, the amounts reserved are not available for obligation without notification to the Appropriations Committees.

Sec. 702. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated by this Act or any other available unobligated discretionary balances that are remaining available of the Department of Agriculture to the Working Capital Fund for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture, such transferred funds to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the prior approval of the agency administrator: *Provided further*, That none of the funds transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to this section shall be available for obligation without [written notification to and] the prior [approval of] notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: [*Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act or made available to the Department's Working Capital Fund shall be available for obligation or expenditure to make any changes to the Department's National Finance Center without written notification to and prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress as required by section 721 of this Act:] *Provided further*, That of annual income amounts in the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture allocated for the National Finance Center, the Secretary may reserve not more than 4 percent for the replacement or acquisition of capital equipment, including equipment for the improvement and implementation of a financial management plan, information technology, and other systems of the National Finance Center or to pay any unforeseen, extraordinary cost of the National Finance Center: *Provided further*, That none of the amounts reserved shall be available for obligation unless the Secretary submits [written] notification of the obligation to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the limitation on the obligation of funds pending notification to Congressional Committees shall not apply to any obligation that, as determined by the Secretary, is necessary to respond to a declared state of emergency that significantly impacts the operations of the National Finance Center; or to evacuate employees of the National Finance Center to a safe haven to continue operations of the National Finance Center.

The first and second changes requires that notification be provided to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, rather than requiring approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, before the funds transferred to the Working Capital Fund can be available for obligation.

The third change deletes the proviso requiring written notification and prior approval by the Appropriations Committees before funds can be used to make any changes to the National Finance Center.

The fourth change modifies the language to require notification, instead of written notification, before making amounts reserved for the replacement or acquisition of capital equipment available for obligation.

SECTION 703: Provides that no part of any appropriation in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless otherwise specified.

Sec. 703. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SECTION 704: Limits the negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements between the Department and nonprofit institutions to 10 percent of the value of the agreement.

Sec. 704. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SECTION 705: Provides that subsidy authority for certain loan programs remains available until expended to cover obligations.

Sec. 705. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year for the following accounts: the Rural Development Loan Fund program account, the Rural Electrification and Telecommunication Loans program account, and the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account.

SECTION 706: Prohibits the use of funds to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), without approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Technology Investment Review Board and Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Sec. 706. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Information Officer [without written] unless notification has been transmitted to [and the prior approval of] the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Department of Agriculture for information technology shall be obligated for projects over \$25,000 prior to receipt of written approval by the Chief Information Officer.

This change requires that notification be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, rather than approval, prior to any transfer of funds to the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

SECTION 707: Provides that fiscal year funds made available for certain conservation programs and for Agricultural Management Assistance shall remain available until expended to cover obligations made in the same fiscal years but are not available for new obligations.

Sec. 707. Funds made available under section 1240I and section 1241(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 and section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year.

SECTION 708: On a yearly basis, expands eligibility under the Rural Economic Development Grants program to entities that are not current RUS borrowers.

Sec. 708. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any former RUS borrower that has repaid or prepaid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, or any not-for-profit utility that is eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under such Act, shall be eligible for assistance under section 313(b)(2)(B) of such Act in the same manner as a borrower under such Act.

SECTION 709: Modifies matching requirements of in-kind support from non-Federal sources for certain research grants.

[Sec. 709. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purposes of a grant under section 412 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, none of the funds in this or any other Act may be used to prohibit the provision of in-kind support from non-Federal sources under section 412(e)(3) of such Act in the form of unrecovered indirect costs not otherwise charged against the grant, consistent with the indirect rate of cost approved for a recipient.]

This change deletes the entire section 709. The Farm Bill repeals the authorization.

SECTION 710: Allows unobligated balances from the Farm Service Agency and Rural Development Salaries and Expenses accounts, to remain available through September 30, 2016, for information technology expenses.

Sec. [710]~~709~~. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Farm Service Agency and the Rural Development mission area, shall remain available through September 30, [2015] 2016, for information technology expenses.

This change allows unobligated balances from the Farm Service Agency and Rural Development Salaries and Expenses accounts, to remain available through September 30, 2016, for information technology expenses.

SECTION 711: Allows the Secretary to exceed the maximum amount of infant formula in regulation (by not more than a specified number of ounces) to allow all major manufacturers' products to remain eligible under the WIC Program.

Sec. [711]~~710~~. The Secretary of Agriculture may authorize a State agency to use funds provided in this Act to exceed the maximum amount of liquid infant formula specified in 7 CFR 246.10 when issuing liquid infant formula to participants.

SECTION 712: Prohibits the use of funds for first-class travel that does not comply with Federal regulations on temporary duty travel allowances.

Sec. [712]~~711~~. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SECTION 713: Allows the use of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds for salaries and related administrative expenses used to implement certain 2014 Farm Bill authorized programs that are funded by CCC.

Sec. [713]712. In the case of each program established or amended by the [Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008] Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law [110-246] 113-79), other than by title I or subtitle A of title III of such Act, or programs for which indefinite amounts were provided in that Act, that is authorized or required to be carried out using funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation—

- (1) such funds shall be available for salaries and related administrative expenses, including technical assistance, associated with the implementation of the program, without regard to the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i); and
- (2) the use of such funds for such purpose shall not be considered to be a fund transfer or allotment for purposes of applying the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in such section.

This change is requested to amend the authority based on the enactment of the new Farm Bill.

SECTION 714: Prohibits funds in excess of \$20 million that have been appropriated in 2014 or prior, as authorized in the Food for Peace Act, to be used to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for the release of eligible commodities under the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust (BEHT) Act.

[Sec. 714. None of the funds made available in fiscal year 2014 or preceding fiscal years for programs authorized under the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.) in excess of \$20,000,000 shall be used to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for the release of eligible commodities under section 302(f)(2)(A) of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f-1): *Provided*, That any such funds made available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation shall only be used pursuant to section 302(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act.]

This change deletes the entire section 714. This provision limits the amount of P.L. 480 funds from prior years that can be used to reimburse the BEHT. When commodities are released from the BEHT, it is an emergency situation that cannot be addressed with available P.L. 480 resources. During periods when P.L. 480 resources are available, it is important to retain the flexibility to reimburse the BEHT as soon as practicable, to ensure the viability of the BEHT for future emergency situations.

SECTION 715: Provides a \$2,900,000 limitation on the amount of funds that the Department is allowed to spend on advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces.

[Sec. 715. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than \$1,800,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.]

This change deletes the entire section 723. This change is requested in order to permit the Executive Branch to carry out programs in the most efficient manner.

SECTION 716: Keeps the cap at 30 percent for indirect costs associated with any agricultural research, education, or extension grant awarded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Sec. [716]713. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs charged against any agricultural research, education, or extension grant awards issued by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture that exceed 30 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310), funds provided by this Act for grants awarded competitively by the National Institute

of Food and Agriculture shall be available to pay full allowable indirect costs for each grant awarded under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

SECTION 717: Changes the amount available for SNAP employment and training in 2014.

[SEC. 717. Section 16(h)(1)(A) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025(h)(1)(A)), is amended by inserting “and fiscal year 2014” after “2013”.]

This change deletes the entire section 717. The Budget does not propose to change the amount for 2015.

SECTION 718: Places limitations on the amount of funds available to carry out certain mandatory programs.

Sec. [718]714. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the following:

(1) [The Watershed Rehabilitation] a program authorized by section 14(h)(1) of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012(h)(1)) and not funded by section 14(h)(1)(H). Of the funds available under sections 14(h)(1)(A) through 14(h)(1)(G) for fiscal year 2015, \$153,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled; and

(2) [The]an Environmental Quality Incentives Program as authorized by sections 1240-1240H of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-3839aa-8), in excess of \$1,350,000,000.

The first change deletes the name of the program.

The second change excludes the new funding made available in the Farm Bill.

The third change permanently cancels the funds.

The fourth and fifth changes are technical corrections to the language.

SECTION 719: Lowers the cap on spending for the Section 32 program by deferring \$119,000,000 until October 1, 2014, for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and rescinds an additional \$189,000,000.

[SEC. 719. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a program under subsection (b)(2)(A)(vi) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246 in excess of \$878,297,000, as follows: Child Nutrition Programs Entitlement Commodities—\$465,000,000; State Option Contracts—\$5,000,000; Removal of Defective Commodities—\$2,500,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act shall be used for salaries and expenses to carry out in this fiscal year section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, except in an amount that excludes the transfer of \$119,000,000 of the funds to be transferred under subsection (c) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246, until October 1, 2014: *Provided further*, That \$119,000,000 made available on October 1, 2014, to carry out section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, shall be excluded from the limitation described in subsection (b)(2)(A)(vii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any employee of the Department of Agriculture or officer of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out clause 3 of section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1935 (Public Law 74–320, 7 U.S.C. 612c, as amended), or for any surplus removal activities or price support activities under section 5 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act: *Provided further*, That of the available unobligated balances under (b)(2)(A)(vi) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246, \$189,000,000 are hereby rescinded.]

This change deletes the entire section 719. New language for 2015 is included in new section 719.

SECTION 720: Prohibits the use of funds to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language to Congress that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fee proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to budget submission.

[Sec. 720. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's Budget submission to the Congress of the United States for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the Budget unless such Budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2015 appropriations Act.]

This change deletes the entire section 720. The 2015 budget includes appropriations requests for funds under current law. Legislative proposals for user fees that will be sent to Congress will not impact 2015 budget requests.

SECTION 721: Prohibits the use of funds, through a reprogramming of funds, which would create new programs; eliminate programs, projects, or activities; increase funds or personnel for which funds have been denied or restricted; relocate an office or employee; reorganize offices, programs, or activities; or contract out or privatize any function presently performed by Federal Employees unless both Houses of Congress are notified 30 days in advance of the reprogramming.

[Sec. 721. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming, transfer of funds, or reimbursements as authorized by the Economy Act, or in the case of the Department of Agriculture, through use of the authority provided by section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257) or section 8 of Public Law 89-106 (7 U.S.C. 2263), that—

- (1) creates new programs;
 - (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;
 - (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;
 - (4) relocates an office or employees;
 - (5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or
 - (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;
- unless the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (as the case may be) notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming of such funds or the use of such authority.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming or use of the authorities referred to in subsection (a) involving funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

- (1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities;
- (2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or
- (3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (as the case may be) notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at

least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming of such funds or the use of such authority.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission shall notify in writing the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before implementing any program or activity not carried out during the previous fiscal year unless the program or activity is funded by this Act or specifically funded by any other Act.

(d) As described in this section, no funds may be used for any activities unless the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission receives from the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress written or electronic mail confirmation of receipt of the notification as required in this section.]

This change deletes the entire section 721. The Department will continue its policy of informing the Congress in sufficient time of any reprogramming plans.

SECTION 722: Continues the one-time fee on business and industry guaranteed loans from a maximum of 2 percent to 3 percent. With this fee, the Department will be able to maintain approximately the same program level as authorized in 2013.

Sec. [722]715. Notwithstanding section 310B(g)(5) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)(5)), the Secretary may assess a one-time fee for any guaranteed business and industry loan in an amount that does not exceed 3 percent of the guaranteed principal portion of the loan.

SECTION 723: Prohibits the use of USDA funds to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-USDA employee questions or responses to questions requested for the appropriations hearing process.

[Sec. 723. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or the Farm Credit Administration shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-Department of Agriculture or non-Department of Health and Human Services, non-Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or non-Farm Credit Administration employee questions or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process.]

This change deletes the entire section 723. This change is requested in order to permit the Executive Branch to carry out programs in the most efficient manner.

SECTION 724: Prohibits the use of funds to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio that indicates the prepackaged story was prepared or funded by the Department of Agriculture.

[Sec. 724. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this Act, may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.]

This change deletes the entire section 724. This change is requested in order to provide the Secretary the flexibility needed to carry out programs in the most efficient and effective manner.

SECTION 725: Provides that USDA employees cannot be detailed for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is reimbursed for the period of the assignment.

[Sec. 725. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act or any other Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.]

This change deletes the entire section 725. This change is requested in order to provide the Secretary the flexibility needed to carry out the programs of the Department in the most efficient and effective manner.

SECTION 726: Prohibits using appropriated funds for making nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for mohair.

[Sec. 726. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who provide nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for mohair under section 1201 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8731).]

This change deletes the entire section 726. This program was included in the Farm Bill.

SECTION 727: Rescinds the unobligated balances of the Resource Conservation and Development account.

[SEC. 727. Of the unobligated balances in the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Resource Conservation and Development Account, \$2,017,000 are hereby permanently cancelled: *Provided*, That no amounts may be cancelled from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.]

This change deletes the entire section 727. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2014.

SECTION 728: Provides funds for direct reimbursement payments to geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to transport an agricultural commodity or inputs used to produce an agricultural commodity as authorized in Section 1621 of the 2008 Farm Bill.

[Sec. 728. There is hereby appropriated \$1,996,000 to carry out section 1621 of Public Law 110-246.]

This change deletes the entire section 728. The budget does not include funding for this program.

SECTION 729: Provides funds to FSA for a pilot program to demonstrate new technologies that increase the rate of growth of re-forested hardwood trees on private non-industrial forest lands, enrolling lands on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico that were damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

[Sec. 729. There is hereby appropriated \$600,000 for the purposes of section 727 of division A of Public Law 112-55.]

This change deletes the entire section 729. The budget does not include funding for this program.

SECTION 730: Requires the Department to submit a spending plan to Congress.

[SEC. 730. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and the Chairman of the Farm Credit Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed spending plan by program, project, and activity for the funds made available under this Act.]

This change deletes the entire section 730. The Department will continue its policy of informing the Congress if warranted.

SECTION 731. Rescinds \$30 million in unobligated balances in the Agriculture Buildings and Facilities and Rental Payments account.

[SEC. 731. Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Agriculture under the account “Agriculture Buildings and Facilities and Rental Payments”, \$30,000,000 are rescinded: *Provided*, That no

amount may be rescinded from funds made available for payments to the General Services Administration for rent and funds made available for payments to the Department of Homeland Security for building security activities.]

This change deletes the entire section 731. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2014.

SECTION 732. Requires that PL 480 Title II funds may only be used to provide assistance to recipient nations if adequate monitoring and controls, as determined by the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, are in place to ensure that emergency food aid is received by the intended beneficiaries in areas affected by food shortages and not diverted for unauthorized or inappropriate purposes.

[Sec. 732. Funds made available under title II of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) may only be used to provide assistance to recipient nations if adequate monitoring and controls, as determined by the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, are in place to ensure that emergency food aid is received by the intended beneficiaries in areas affected by food shortages and not diverted for unauthorized or inappropriate purposes.]

This change deletes the entire section 732. This provision is unduly restrictive in the administration of P.L. 480 Title II emergency assistance. Frequently, such assistance must be provided in uncertain and extremely difficult situations, where it can be problematic to monitor the delivery of the assistance. The Administrator of USAID must have maximum flexibility in the administering of this program in such circumstances.

SECTION 733. Rescinds unobligated balances in the Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program.

[SEC. 733. Of the unobligated balance of funds available to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of section 502 single family housing guaranteed loans for fiscal years 2007 through 2010 under the heading “Rural Development Programs—Rural Housing Service—Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account” in prior appropriations Acts, \$1,314,000 is rescinded.]

This change deletes the entire section 733. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2014.

SECTION 734. Rescinds \$8 million in unobligated balances from the Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels.

[SEC. 734. Of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to section 9005(g)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8105(g)(1)), \$8,000,000 are hereby rescinded.]

This change deletes the entire section 734. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2014.

SECTION 735. Expands the pilot program currently in effect to increase the effectiveness of the section 502 single family direct loan program in States and communities currently not served under the existing pilot program.

[SEC. 735. The Secretary shall expand the pilot program currently in effect for packaging section 502 single family direct loans and not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act enter into Memorandums of Understanding with not less than 5 qualified intermediary organizations to work in coordination with the Secretary to increase the effectiveness of the section 502 single family direct loan program in States and communities currently not served under the existing pilot program.]

This change deletes the entire section 735. This was a one-time provision in 2014.

SECTION 736. Limits the funding provided for the Denali Commission Trust Fund.

SEC. [736]716. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 307(b) of division C of the

Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–640) in excess of \$4,000,000.

SECTION 737. Allows any area eligible for rural housing programs as of September 30, 2013, to remain eligible for such programs.

[SEC. 737. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to reclassify any area eligible for rural housing programs of the Rural Housing Service on September 30, 2013 as not eligible for such programs.]

This change deletes the entire section 737. This authority was enacted in the Farm Bill.

SECTION 738. Authorizes the Rural Housing Service to receive funding from the global settlement of any Federal litigation concerning Federal mortgage loans during FY 2012 to be used for servicing guaranteed loans for single family housing, to remain available until expended.

[SEC. 738. Funds received by the Secretary of Agriculture in the global settlement of any Federal litigation concerning Federal mortgage loans during fiscal year 2012 may be obligated and expended, in addition to any other available funds, by the Rural Housing Service to pay for costs associated with servicing single family housing loans guaranteed by the Rural Housing Service and such funds shall remain available until expended.]

This change deletes the entire section 738. This provision provided one-time funding in 2014.

SECTION 739. Provides \$4 million to implement non-renewable agreements for flooded agricultural lands under the Water Bank Act. The Water Bank Act authorizes annual payments for 10-year contracts to preserve, restore, or improve to protect migratory waterfowl nesting and breeding areas on privately-owned ranches and farms.

[SEC. 739. In addition to amounts otherwise made available by this Act and notwithstanding the last sentence of 16 U.S.C. 1310, there is appropriated \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended, to implement non-renewable agreements on eligible lands, including flooded agricultural lands, as determined by the Secretary, under the Water Bank Act (16 U.S.C. 1301–1311).]

This change deletes the entire section 739. This provision provided one-time funding in 2014.

SECTION 740. Names the Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center after Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

[SEC. 740. (a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal building located at 64 Nowelo Street, Hilo, Hawaii, shall be known and designated as the “Daniel K. Inouye United States Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center”. (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Daniel K. Inouye United States Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center”.]

This change deletes the entire section 740. The building has been renamed.

SECTION 741. Rescinds \$40.7 million of unobligated balances from the Biorefinery Assistance program.

[SEC. 741. Of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to section 9003(h)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8103(h)(1)), \$40,694,000 are hereby rescinded.]

This change deletes the entire section 741. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2014.

SECTION 742. Allows the Secretary to increase the program level by not more than 25 percent for loans and loan guarantees that do not require budget authority. Prior to implementing the increase, the Secretary is required to provide written notification at least 15 days in advance.

SEC. [742]717. For loans and loan guarantees that do not require budget authority and the program level has been established in this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may increase the program level for such loans and loan guarantees by not more than 25 percent: *Provided*, That prior to the Secretary implementing such an increase, the Secretary notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 15 days in advance.

SECTION 743. Establishes a national Commission on Hunger and provides \$1 million to conduct an assessment of the scope of domestic hunger and food insecurity.

[SEC. 743. (a)(1) There is hereby appropriated \$1,000,000 to conduct an assessment of the existing (as of the date of the enactment of this Act) and prospective scope of domestic hunger and food insecurity in accordance with this section.

(2) The Secretary of Agriculture shall select, through a competitive process, and enter into an agreement with an independent, private-sector entity that is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code, that has recognized credentials and expertise in domestic hunger affairs to—

(A) conduct the assessment required under subsection (a); and

(B) provide technical expertise to the National Commission on Hunger established under subsection (b).

(3) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the entity selected in accordance with paragraph (2) shall submit to the President and Congress and make publicly available a report containing the assessment required under this subsection and any policy recommendations that such entity considers appropriate.

(b)(1) There is established a commission to be known as the “National Commission on Hunger” (in this section referred to as the “Commission”).

(2) The Commission shall—

(A) provide policy recommendations to Congress and the Secretary to more effectively use existing (as of the date of the enactment of this Act) programs and funds of the Department of Agriculture to combat domestic hunger and food insecurity; and

(B) develop innovative recommendations to encourage public-private partnerships, faith-based sector engagement, and community initiatives to reduce the need for government nutrition assistance programs, while protecting the safety net for the most vulnerable members of society.

(3) The Commission shall be composed of 10 members, of whom—

(A) 3 members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(B) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(C) 3 members shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; and

(D) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.]

This change deletes the entire section 743. This was a one-time provision in 2014.

SECTION 744: Places conditions on the use of funds to write, prepare, or publish a final or interim rule to further or implement regulations related to the Packers and Stockyards Act unless the annual cost to the economy does not exceed \$100 million.

[Sec. 744. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to write, prepare, or publish a final rule or an interim final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise to implement, “Implementation of Regulations Required Under Title XI of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008; Conduct in Violation of the Act” (75 Fed. Reg. 35338 (June 22, 2010)) unless the combined annual cost to the economy of such rules does not exceed \$100,000,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds be made available by this or any other Act to publish a final or interim final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise implement, proposed sections 201.2(l), 201.2(t), 201.2(u), 201.3(c), 201.210, 201.211, 201.213, or 201.214 of

“Implementation of Regulations Required Under Title XI of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008; Conduct in Violation of the Act” (75 Fed. Reg. 35338 (June 22, 2010)).]

This change deletes the entire section 744. This change is requested in order to permit the Executive Branch to carry out programs in the most efficient manner.

SECTION 745. Prohibits inspection of horses for slaughter.

SEC. [745]718. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel to—

- (1) inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603);
- (2) inspect horses under section 903 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104–127); or
- (3) implement or enforce section 352.19 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations.

SECTION 746. Sets aside funding from certain RD programs for REAP Zones until August 15, 2014, to equal the amount last obligated for REAP Zones under each program.

[SEC. 746. The Secretary shall set aside for Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones an amount of funds made available in title III under the headings of Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account, Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants, Rural Housing Assistance Grants, Rural Community Facilities Program Account, Rural Business Program Account, Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account, and Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account equal to the amount obligated for REAP Zones by the Secretary with respect to funds provided under such headings in the most recent fiscal year any such funds were obligated under such headings for REAP Zones and such set-asides shall remain in effect until August 15, 2014.]

This change deletes the entire section 746. This was a one-time set aside in 2014.

SECTION 747. Fees made available to the Food and Drug Administration that were sequestered in 2013 pursuant to section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act shall be available until expended for the same purposes for which those funds were originally appropriated.

[SEC. 747. Fees deposited under the heading “Department of Health and Human Services—Food and Drug Administration—Salaries and Expenses” in fiscal year 2013 and sequestered pursuant to section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended (2 U.S.C. 901a) shall be available until expended for the same purpose for which those funds were originally appropriated.]

This change deletes the entire section 748 and the justification will be provided in the Food and Drug Administration congressional justification package.

SECTION 748. Provides \$20 million to APHIS for one-time control and management and associated activities related to multiple-agency response to citrus greening.

[SEC. 748. For an additional amount for “Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses”, \$20,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for one-time control and management and associated activities directly related to the multiple-agency response to citrus greening.]

This change deletes the entire section 748. This provision provided one-time funding in 2014.

SECTION 749. Limits the use of rebates from credit card purchases to those allowed for WCF balances and requires advanced congressional notification and approval.

[SEC. 749. None of the credit card refunds or rebates transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to section 729 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (7 U.S.C. 2235a; Public Law 107-76) shall be available for obligation without written notification to, and the prior approval of, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided*, That the refunds or rebates so transferred shall be available for obligation only for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture.]

This change deletes the entire section 749. This change is requested in order to permit the Executive Branch to carry out programs in the most efficient manner.

SECTION 750. Extends authorization and funding for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program at \$1.6 billion in FY 2015.

[SEC. 750. (a) Section 1240B(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-2(a)) is amended by striking “2014” and inserting “2015”. (b) Section 1241(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)) is amended—(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “(6),and (7)),” and inserting “and (7) and each of fiscal years 2014 and 2015 in the case of the program specified in paragraph (6)),”; and (2) in paragraph (6)—(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end; (B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and (C) by adding at the end the following: “(F) \$1,622,000,000 in fiscal year 2015.”.]

This change deletes the entire section 750. This provision provided a one-time change. Funding and authorization for the program was provided in the new Farm Bill.

SECTION 719: Lowers the cap on spending for the Section 32 program by deferring \$122,000,000 until October 1, 2015, for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and rescinds \$203,000,000.

SEC. 719. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a program under subsection (b)(2)(A)(vii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246 in excess of \$959,000,000, as follows: Child Nutrition Programs Entitlement Commodities--\$465,000,000; State Option Contracts--\$5,000,000; Removal of Defective Commodities--\$2,500,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available in this or any other Act shall be used for salaries and expenses to carry out in this fiscal year section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, except in an amount that excludes the transfer of \$122,000,000 of the funds to be transferred under subsection (c) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246, until October 1, 2015: *Provided further*, That \$122,000,000 made available on October 1, 2015, to carry out section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, shall be excluded from the limitation described in subsection (b)(2)(A)(viii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any employee of the Department of Agriculture or officer of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out clause 3 of section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1935 (Public Law 74-320, as amended; 7 U.S.C. 612c), or for any surplus removal activities or price support activities under section 5 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act: *Provided further*, That of the available unobligated balances under (b)(2)(A)(vii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246, \$203,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled.

SECTION 720: USDA proposes to establish the Nonrecurring Expenses fund, a no year account to capture expired 2015 unobligated balances from discretionary accounts prior to cancellation. Since 2009, USDA has initiated a number of actions to become more efficient and effective in the delivery of the multiple benefits provided to the public from the Department’s diverse programs. In addition, most of USDA research facilities are at or beyond their useful life and are in need of significant modernization or replacement. Investments in facilities and improved technology will be a critical step to enable additional consolidation and savings as well as ensuring cutting edge research can be performed in a wide range of areas critical to long term food security. Accommodating funding for

such major projects within current allocations has been difficult. This alternative financing mechanism would provide a means for USDA to carry out its mission and cover costs to enable further efficiency gains needed to operate within overall lower funding levels.

SEC. 720. There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the “Nonrecurring expenses fund” (the Fund): *Provided*, That unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated in this fiscal year from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Department of Agriculture (except the Forest Service) by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated) into the Fund: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available until expended, and in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for capital acquisition necessary for the operation of the Department of Agriculture, including facilities infrastructure and information technology infrastructure, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That amounts in the Fund may be obligated only after the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

SECTION 721: Prohibits the use of funds to establish a Safe Meat and Poultry Inspection Panel.

Sec. 721. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to carry out section 410 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 679a) or section 30 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 471).

SECTION 722: Allows the section 502 single family housing guaranteed loan program to be a direct endorsement program just like FHA guarantees and VA home loan guarantees. Specifically, this provision will allow lenders to issue the loan guarantees on behalf of the Federal government.

SEC. 722. In carrying out subsection (h) of section 502 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42U.S.C. 1472(h)), the Secretary may use the authority described in subsections (h) and (j) of section 538 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1490p-2(h) and (j)).

SECTION 723: Fees may be charged to cover reasonable administrative and other costs associated with the performance of the Rural Utilities Service for environmental and historical preservation projects.

Sec. 723. Notwithstanding section 18(b) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918(b)), the Secretary may charge a fee under such Act to cover reasonable administrative costs incurred by the Secretary (acting through the Rural Utilities Service), its consultants, or other retained professionals, in the performance of its environmental and historic preservation activities associated with facilitating the review and processing of electric transmission infrastructure projects under such Act: *Provided*, That the recovery of such costs shall be paid to the appropriate account covering the salaries and expenses of the Rural Utilities Service, such funds shall be in addition to any other available funds, shall be available for obligation by the Secretary without further appropriation for such purposes, and shall remain available until expended.

SECTION 724. Fees may be charged to lenders to access the Rural Housing Service automated underwriting system for loan guarantees.

Sec. 724. The Secretary may charge a fee for lenders to access Department loan guarantee systems in connection with such lenders’ participation in loan guarantee programs of the Rural Housing Service: *Provided*, That the funds collected from such fees shall be made available to the Secretary without further appropriation and such funds shall be deposited into the Rural Development Salaries and Expense Account and shall remain available until expended for obligation and expenditure by the Secretary for administrative expenses of the Rural Housing Service Loan Guarantee Program in addition to other available funds: *Provided further*, That such fees collected shall not exceed \$50 per loan.

SECTION 725. Allows the Rural Housing Service access to the IRS database to verify the income of applicants seeking assistance from the rental assistance program, single family housing loan program and the very low-income housing repair program.

Sec. 725. The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary's designees are hereby granted the same access to information and subject to the same requirements applicable to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development as provided in section 453 (j) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C 653(j)) and section 6103 (l)(7)(D)(ix) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 6103 (l)(7)(D)(ix)) to verify the income for individuals participating in sections 502, 504 or 521 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472, 1474, and 1490a).

SECTION 726. Prohibits funding used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that the agency was aware of having any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability.

Sec. 726. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan guarantee to, any corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless a federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and make a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SECTION 727: Prohibits funding to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that the agency was aware of having been convicted (or had an officer or agent of such corporation acting on behalf of the corporation convicted) of a felony criminal violation under any Federal or State law within the preceding 24 months.

Sec. 727. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless a federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SECTION 728: Provides funding for the Southwest Border Regional Commission.

Sec. 728. For necessary expenses of the Southwest Border Regional Commission in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, up to \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended.

SECTION 729: Rescinds unobligated balances from the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program.

Sec. 729. Of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to section 12033 and section 15101 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, \$125,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled.