

## 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 71 passenger motor vehicles of which 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 change* removes language restricting the purchase of new passenger motor vehicles.

**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 719 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* require that notification be provided to the agency administrator and to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, rather than requiring approval of the agency administrator and the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, before the Secretary transfers unobligated discretionary balances to the Working Capital Fund.

**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 remain 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, notwithstanding 40 U.S.C. 11319, 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: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 40 U.S.C. 11319, the Chief Information Officer may authorize an agency to obligate funds without written approval from the Chief Information Officer for projects up to \$250,000 based upon the performance of an agency measured against the performance plan requirements [described in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act)] submitted by the CIO to the Committees in fiscal year 2015.

*The first 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.

*The second change* clarifies the relationship between this provision and IT provisions in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015.

*The third change* updates the reference to the 2015 Explanatory Statement.

**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.

*This change* removes language that is no longer needed since Section 1240I was repealed by Section 2706 (a) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 and Section 1241(a) was amended to provide no-year funding.

**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:** Rescinds unobligated balances from the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program.

[Sec. 709. 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 rescinded.]

*This change* deletes the entire section 709. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2015.

**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. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not more than \$20,000,000 in unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Farm Service Agency shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for information technology expenses: *Provided*, That except as otherwise specifically provided by law, unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Rural Development mission area shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for information technology expenses.]

*This change deletes* the entire section 710. These provisions are modified and requested for 2016 in the new section 721.

**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. 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.]

*This change* deletes the entire section 711. This provision is no longer needed since it has been addressed in the final WIC food package rule published in 2014.

**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]709. 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 Farm Bill authorized programs that are funded by CCC.

Sec. [713]710. In the case of each program established or amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 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.

**SECTION 714:** Provides a limitation on the amount of funds that the Department is allowed to spend on advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces.

Sec. [714]711. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than [\$2,000,000] \$2,900,000 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* is requested to increase the authorized amount to \$2,900,000 to permit the Secretary the flexibility needed to carry out the efficient operation of USDA programs. The agency funding is used to support both mandated advisory committees and discretionary committees and other group activities. These groups are needed to assist with the development of advice, program reviews, and identification of options for consideration by the Secretary.

**SECTION 715:** 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. [715]712. 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 716:** Places limitations on the amount of funds available to carry out certain mandatory programs.

Sec. [716]713. 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 program] A program authorized by section 14(h)(1) of the Watershed and Flood Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1012(h)(1)) [in excess of \$73,000,000] 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 2016, \$69,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled;

(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 [\$1,347,000,000] \$1,350,000,000;

*Provided*, That this limitation shall apply only to funds provided by section 1241(a)(5)([B]C) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)(5)([B] C) :*Provided further*, That of the funds provided by such section 1241(a)(5)(C), \$300,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled: *Provided further*, That of the funds available under section 1241(a)(5)(B) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)(5)(B) for fiscal year 2016, \$73,000,000 are permanently cancelled [.] ; and

(3) The Conservation Stewardship Program as authorized by sections 1238D-1238G of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838d-3838g) in excess of [7,741,000] 7,000,000 acres.

[(4) The Biomass Crop Assistance Program authorized by section 9011 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8111) in excess of \$23,000,000 in new obligational authority.

(5) The Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance program as authorized by section 9003 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8103) in excess of \$30,000,000.]

*The first, second, third, fourth, and fifth changes* place limitations and rescissions in 2016 for mandatory programs.

**SECTION 717:** Lowers the cap on spending for the Section 32 program by deferring \$125,000,000 until October 1, 2016, for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and rescinds an additional \$292,020,000.

Sec. [717]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 a program under subsection (b)(2)(A)(viii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246 in excess of [\$959,000,000] \$885,980,000, 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 [\$122,000,000] \$125,000,000 of the funds to be transferred under subsection (c) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246, until October 1, 2016: *Provided further*, That [\$122,000,000] \$125,000,000 made available on October 1, 2016, 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)(ix) 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)(viii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246, [\$203,000,000] \$292,020,000 are [rescinded] hereby permanently cancelled.

*The first change* reflects the amount available in the spending cap for the Section 32 program.

*The second change* defers the amount available for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program until October 1, 2016.

*The third change* permanently cancels Section 32 funding.

**SECTION 718:** 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. 718. 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 2016 appropriations Act.]

*This change deletes* the entire section 718. The 2016 budget includes appropriations requests for funds under current law. Legislative proposals for user fees that will be sent to Congress will not impact 2016 budget requests.

**SECTION 719:** Requires advanced written notification to Congress for certain changes in programs, organizations, or funding.

[Sec. 719. (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 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 or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from 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 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 or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming or transfer of such funds or the use of such authority. (c) The Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify in writing and receive approval from 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) 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 derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for--(1) modifying major capital investments funding levels, including information technology systems, that involves increasing or decreasing funds in the current fiscal year for the individual investment in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent of the total cost, whichever is less; (2) realigning or reorganizing new, current, or vacant positions or agency activities or functions to establish a center, office, branch, or similar entity with five or more personnel; or (3) carrying out activities or functions that were not described in the budget request; unless the agencies funded by this Act notify, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of using the funds for these purposes. (e) As described in this section, no funds may be used for any activities unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services 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 719. The Department will continue its policy of informing the Congress in sufficient time of any reprogramming plans.

**SECTION 720:** Continues the one-time fee on business and industry guaranteed loans at 3 percent.

Sec. [720]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 721:** 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. 721. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, or the Farm Credit Administration shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-Department of Agriculture, non-Department of Health and Human Services, 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 721. This change is requested in order to permit the Executive Branch to carry out programs in the most efficient manner.*

**SECTION 722:** 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. 722. 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 722. 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 723:** Provides that USDA employees cannot be detailed for more than 60 days in a fiscal year unless the individual's employing agency or office is reimbursed for the period of the assignment.

[Sec. 723. 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 60 days in a fiscal year 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 723. 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 724:** Prohibits using appropriated funds for making nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for mohair.

[Sec. 724. 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 Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79).]

*This change deletes the entire section 724. Nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for mohair are covered by the 2014 Farm Bill.*

**SECTION 725:** 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 1606 of the 2014 Farm Bill.

[Sec. 725. There is hereby appropriated \$1,996,000 to carry out section 1621 of Public Law 110-246.]

*This change deletes the entire section 725. The Budget does not include funding for this program.*

**SECTION 726:** 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. 726. 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 726. The Budget does not include funding for this program.*

**SECTION 727:** Requires the Department to submit a spending plan to Congress.

[SEC. 727. 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 including appropriated user fees, as defined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).]

*This change deletes the entire section 727. The Department will continue its policy of informing the Congress if warranted.*

**SECTION 728:** 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. 728. 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 728. 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 729:** 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. 729. The Secretary shall continue the pilot program in effect for fiscal year 2013 for packaging and reviewing section 502 single family direct loans. The Secretary shall continue agreements with current intermediary organizations and not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act enter into additional agreements that increase the number of participating intermediary organizations to not less than 10. The Secretary shall work with these organizations to increase the effectiveness of the section 502 single family direct loan program in rural communities and shall set aside and make available from the national reserve section 502 loans an amount necessary to support the work of such intermediaries and provide a priority for review of such loans.]

*This change deletes the entire section 729. This was a one-time provision in 2015.*

**SECTION 730:** 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. [730]716. 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 731:** 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. 731. 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 or enforce the proposed rule entitled `Implementation of Regulations Required Under Title XI, of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008; Conduct in Violation of the Act' published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on June 22, 2010 (75 Fed. Reg. 35338 et seq.) unless the combined annual cost to the economy of such rules does not exceed \$100,000,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to publish a final or interim final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise to implement, sections 201.2(l), 201.2(t), 201.2(u), 201.3(c), 201.210, 201.211, 201.213, or 201.214, as proposed to be added to title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, by such proposed rule: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to implement, enforce, or to take regulatory action other than rescission or repeal based on, or in furtherance of, 201.2(o), 201.3(a), or 201.215(a), of title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act), or to write, prepare, or publish a final or interim final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise to implement, the definitions or criteria specified in such sections: *Provided further*, That sections 201.2(o), 201.3(a), and 201.215(a), of title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act) are hereby indefinitely declared null and void and shall have no force under the laws, and the Secretary of Agriculture shall, within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, rescind sections 201.2(o), 201.3(a), and 201.215(a), of title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on such date).]

*This change deletes* the entire section 731. This change is requested in order to permit the Executive Branch to carry out programs in the most efficient manner.

**SECTION 732:** Limits the use of rebates from credit card purchases to those allowed for WCF balances and requires advanced congressional notification and approval.

[SEC. 732. 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 732. This change is requested in order to permit the Executive Branch to carry out programs in the most efficient manner.

**SECTION 733:** Allows farmers to access both the Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Program and the Non Insured Crop Assistance Program or Crop Insurance Program for payments for agricultural crop losses.

[Sec. 733. For the 2014 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, losses under section 1501 of Public Law 113-79 shall not be considered the same loss for the purposes of 7 U.S.C. 7333(i)(3) and 7 U.S.C. 1508(n).]

*This change deletes the entire section 733. The provision enacted in 2015 covers 2014 and future years.*

**SECTION 734:** Restricts funding for the Food and Drug Administration until the agency finalizes “Guidance for Industry: Abuse-Deterrent Opioids- Evaluation and Labeling”.

[Sec. 734. Of the funds made available to the Food and Drug Administration, Salaries and Expenses, Office of the Commissioner, \$20,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Food and Drug Administration finalizes the draft guidance of January 2013 entitled `Guidance for Industry: Abuse-Deterrent Opioids- Evaluation and Labeling': *Provided*, That if the Food and Drug Administration fails to finalize such guidance by June 30, 2015, such funds shall be made available for obligation to the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Criminal Investigation for the purpose of assisting Federal, state, and local agencies to combat the diversion and illegal sales of controlled substances.]

*This change deletes the entire section 734. The provision applies to 2015 funds provided to the Food and Drug Administration.*

**SECTION 735:** Limits the funding provided for the Denali Commission Trust Fund.

[SEC. 735. 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.]

*This change deletes the entire section 735. This provision addresses 2015 funding.*

**SECTION 736:** Restricts processed poultry products imported from China from being served in the Child Nutrition Programs.

[Sec. 736. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to procure processed poultry products imported into the United States from the People's Republic of China for use in the school lunch program under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child and Adult Food Care Program under section 17 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1766), the Summer Food Service Program for Children under section 13 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1761), or the school breakfast program under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).]

*This change deletes the entire section 736. Provisions of the Buy American Act restrict the Department's ability to procure products from China for the Child Nutrition Programs.*

**SECTION 737:** 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. 737. 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 737. The Budget does not include funding for this program.*

**SECTION 738:** Provides authority for the Secretary of Health and Human Services to relinquish the Jefferson Labs campus to the State of Arkansas.

[Sec. 738. (a) In General- The Secretary of Health and Human Services, on behalf of the United States may hereafter, whenever the Secretary deems desirable, relinquish to the State of Arkansas all or part of the

jurisdiction of the United States over the lands and properties encompassing the Jefferson Labs campus in the State of Arkansas that are under the supervision or control of the Secretary. (b) Terms- Relinquishment of jurisdiction under this section may be accomplished, under terms and conditions that the Secretary deems advisable--(1) by filing with the Governor of the State of Arkansas a notice of relinquishment to take effect upon acceptance thereof; or (2) as the laws of such State may otherwise provide. (c) Definition- In this section, the term `Jefferson Labs campus' means the lands and properties of the National Center for Toxicological Research and the Arkansas Regional Laboratory. (d) Agreement Regarding Jefferson County Technology Research and Commercialization Center-(1) IN GENERAL- The Secretary may hereafter enter into an agreement with the State of Arkansas or an agency of such State or a public or private entity with respect to the establishment or operation of a technology research and commercialization center in Jefferson County, Arkansas, proximate to the Jefferson Labs campus. (2) RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS- Pursuant to such agreement, the Secretary may hereafter receive and retain funds from such entity and use such funds, in addition to such other funds as are made available by this act or future acts for the operation of the National Center for Toxicological Research, for the purposes listed in paragraph (3). Funds received from such entity shall be deemed to be appropriated for such purposes and shall remain available until expended. (3) PURPOSES-(A) IN GENERAL- Funds described by paragraph (2) shall be available to defray-(i) the costs of creating, upgrading, and maintaining connections between such center and roads, communications facilities, and utilities that are on the Jefferson Labs campus; and (ii) the costs of upgrades, relocation, repair, and new constructions of roads, communications facilities, and utilities on such campus as may be necessary for such agreement. (B) OTHER ACTS- For purposes of this and any subsequent Act, the operation of the National Center for Toxicological Research shall be deemed to include the purposes listed in subparagraph (A).]

*This change deletes the entire section 738. The provision applies to future years and does not need to be repeated in the 2016 Budget.*

**SECTION 739:** Sets aside funding from certain RD programs for REAP Zones until August 15, 2015, to equal the amount last obligated for REAP Zones under each program.

[Sec. 739. The Secretary shall set aside for Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones, until August 15, 2015, an amount of funds made available in title III as follows: (a) with respect to funds under the headings of Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account, Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants, Rural Community Facilities Program Account, Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account, and Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account the set aside shall equal the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings during the 2008 fiscal year; and (b) with respect to funds under the headings of Rural Business Program Account, and Rural Housing Assistance Grants the set aside shall equal the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings in the most recent fiscal year funds were obligated under the heading.]

*This change deletes the entire section 739. This was a one-time set aside in 2015.*

**SECTION 740:** Allows the Secretary to provide potable water for an additional 120 days through the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Program to communities with inadequate water supplies due to a natural disaster.

Sec. [740]717. In response to an eligible community where the drinking water supplies are inadequate due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, including drought or severe weather, the Secretary may provide potable water through the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Program for an additional period of time not to exceed 120 days beyond the established period provided under the Program in order to protect public health.

**SECTION 741:** Prohibits the use of funds to establish a Safe Meat and Poultry Inspection Panel.

[Sec. 741. Hereafter, none of the funds appropriated by this or any other 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).]

*This change deletes the entire section 741. This provision was made permanent in 2015.*

**SECTION 742:** Establishes a Nonrecurring Expenses Fund to make expired, uncanceled balances of discretionary funds available for facilities infrastructure capital acquisition. Starting with balances from FY 2015 appropriations, the Fund would be used to cover nonrecurring expenses that are difficult to predict under normal budget process, such as capital acquisitions necessary to operate the Department, including facilities infrastructure.

Sec. [742]718. 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 or any succeeding 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 facilities infrastructure capital acquisition necessary for the operation of the Department of Agriculture, 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 743:** Provides funding for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program, the Emergency Forestry Restoration Program, and the Emergency Conservation Program.

[Sec. 743. There is hereby appropriated for the 'Emergency Watershed Protection Program', \$78,581,000, to remain available until expended; for the 'Emergency Forestry Restoration Program', \$3,203,000, to remain available until expended; and for the 'Emergency Conservation Program', \$9,216,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds under this section are for necessary expenses resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), and are designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.]

*This change deletes the entire section 743. This provision provided one-time funding in 2015.*

**SECTION 744:** Allows funding made available for the national Commission on Hunger to be used for travel and administrative purposes.

[Sec. 744. Of the funding provided in section 743 of division A of Public Law 113-76, not more than \$75,000 may be used for administrative purposes, including a modification to an existing contract to allow reimbursement for travel and other administrative purposes.]

*This change deletes the entire section 744. This provision is no longer needed since this contract modification allowing up to \$75,000 for travel and administrative expenses will be completed during 2015.*

**SECTION 745:** Rescinds the unobligated balances of the Agricultural Research Service Buildings and Facilities account.

[Sec. 745. Of the unobligated balances identified by Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbol 12X1401, \$1,530,000 are rescinded.]

*This change deletes the entire section 745. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2015.*

**SECTION 746:** Rescinds the unobligated balances of the Foreign Agricultural Service Ocean Freight Differential account.

[Sec. 746. The unobligated balances identified by Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbol 12X2271 are rescinded.]

*This change deletes* the entire section 746. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2015.

**SECTION 747:** Includes a technical correction for the 2014 Farm Bill provision regarding the organic checkoff program.

[Sec. 747. Section 501(f)(1)(C)(ii)(II) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7401(f)(1)(C)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking 'section 514' and inserting 'a commodity promotion law'.]

*This change deletes* the entire section 747. This provision made the technical correction permanent.

**SECTION 748:** Rescinds the unobligated balances of the Repowering Assistance Program account.

[Sec. 748. Of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to section 9004(d)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, as amended, (7 U.S.C. 8104(d)(1)), \$8,000,000 are hereby rescinded.]

*This change deletes* the entire section 748. This provision provided a one-time rescission in 2015.

**SECTION 749:** Includes new language maintaining matching requirements for AFRI funds in effect before changes in the 2014 Farm Bill.

Sec. [749]719. Funds provided by this or any prior Appropriations Act for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative under 7 U.S.C. 450i(b) shall be made available without regard to section 7128 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 3371 note), under the matching requirements in laws in effect on the date before the date of enactment of such section: *Provided*, That the requirements of 7 U.S.C. 450i(b)(9) shall continue to apply.

**SECTION 750:** Prohibits inspection of horses for slaughter.

SEC. [750]720. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel—(1) to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603); (2) to 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) to implement or enforce section 352.19 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

**SECTION 751:** Includes new language allowing States to grant schools an exemption from the whole grain requirements from the date of enactment through the 2015-2016 school year.

[Sec. 751. For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act through school year 2015-2016, with respect to the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) or the school breakfast program established under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) and final regulations published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on January 26, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 4088 et seq.), the Secretary shall allow States to grant an exemption from the whole grain requirements that took effect on or after July 1, 2014, and the States shall establish a process for evaluating and responding, in a reasonable amount of time, to requests for an exemption: *Provided*, That school food authorities demonstrate hardship, including financial hardship, in procuring specific whole grain products which are acceptable to the students and compliant with the whole grain-rich requirements: *Provided further*, That school food authorities shall comply with the applicable

grain component or standard with respect to the school lunch or school breakfast program that was in effect prior to July 1, 2014.]

*This change deletes the entire section 751. This provision should be deleted since current regulations concerning meal standards and requirements are based on the recommendations of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences as required by the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010.*

**SECTION 752:** Includes new language prohibiting implementation of any regulations that would require a reduction in the quantity of sodium contained in federally reimbursed meals and snacks below the first of three targets over 10 years until scientific research establishes the reduction is beneficial for children.

[Sec. 752. 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 implement any regulations under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-296), or any other law that would require a reduction in the quantity of sodium contained in federally reimbursed meals, foods, and snacks sold in schools below Target 1 (as described in section 220.8(f)(3) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) until the latest scientific research establishes the reduction is beneficial for children.]

*This change deletes the entire section 752. This provision should be deleted since current regulations concerning meal standards and requirements are based on the recommendations of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences as required by the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010.*

**SECTION 753:** Requires the Department to remove the restriction on white potatoes for the WIC Program.

[Sec. 753. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to exclude or restrict, or to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to exclude or restrict, the eligibility of any variety of fresh, whole, or cut vegetables (except for vegetables with added sugars, fats, or oils) from being provided under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children under section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786) (in this section referred to as the 'program'). (b) Not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each State agency shall carry out the program in a manner consistent with subsection (a). (c) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall commence under section 17(f)(11)(C) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(f)(11)(C)) the next regular review of the supplemental foods available under this program, including a review of the nutrient value of all vegetables. (d) If, upon completing the review under subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture recommends that a vegetable be eligible for purchase under the program, none of the funds made available under this Act or any other Act may be used to exclude or restrict the eligibility of that variety of vegetable (except if that vegetable has added sugars, fats, or oils) from being purchased under the program, and subsection (a) shall continue to be effective. (e) If the review in subsection (c) recommends that any vegetable shall not be available for purchase under the program, based upon the nutritional content of the vegetable and the nutrition needs of WIC participants, subsection (a) shall expire upon the publication of the regularly scheduled review. (f) Not later than 90 days after completing the review under subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture shall make publicly available all scientific research and data used to make the final recommendations and explain the results of the review by submitting a report containing such information to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, the Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of Representatives, and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives. (g) Upon completion of the review under subsection (c) by the Secretary of Agriculture, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of the review which shall include an audit of the scientific research and data used to conduct the review.]

*This change deletes the entire section 753. This provision is not required to be repeated as it remains in effect unless the scientific review concludes otherwise.*

**SECTION 721:** Allows unobligated balances from the Farm Service Agency and Rural Development Salaries and Expenses accounts, to remain available through September 30, 2017, for information technology expenses.

Sec. 721. 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, 2017, for information technology expenses.

**SECTION 722:** Rescinds the unobligated balances of the Natural Resources Conservation Service Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations account.

Sec. 722. Of the unobligated balances provided for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Program and identified by Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbol 12X1072, \$20,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled: *Provided*, That no amounts may be cancelled from amounts that were designated by Congress as an emergency or disaster relief requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

**SECTION 723:** Allows the section 502 single family housing guaranteed loan program to be a direct endorsement program similar to FHA guarantees and VA home loan guarantees. This provision will allow lenders to issue the loan guarantees on behalf of the Federal government.

Sec. 723. In carrying out subsection (h) of section 502 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.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 724:** 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. 724. 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, 521 and 542 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472, 1474, 1490a, and 1490r).