

## **FY 2019 APPROPRIATIONS**

On February 15, 2019, the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2019 (H.J. Res. 31, Public Law 116-6), which provides annual funding for the Federal government including the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Act includes total funding for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) for approximately \$1.7 billion which is an increase of \$117 million, or about 7.4%, over the FY 2018 Appropriations Act. The total funding includes \$1.486 billion in discretionary funding and \$0.216 billion in mandatory and endowment funding.

The bill provides funding increases for several NIFA research and extension programs. Increased funding is provided for programs, as follows:

- An increase of \$15 million above 2018 for a total of \$415 million, for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative;
- An increase of \$15.3 million above 2018 for a total of \$259 million for the Hatch Act;
- An increase of \$2 million above 2018 for McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry for a total of \$36 million;
- A total of \$58 million for Evans-Allen Program, an increase of \$3.8 million above 2018;
- A total of \$2 million for Aquaculture Research, an increase of \$0.650 million above 2018;
- A total of \$37 million for Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education, an increase of \$2 million above 2018;
- A total of \$1 million for an Supplemental and Alternative Crops, and increase of \$0.175 million above 2018;
- A total of \$3 million for Alfalfa and Forage Research, an increase of \$0.750 million above 2018;
- A total of \$3 million for the Veterinary Services Grant program, an increase of \$0.500 million above 2018;
- Organic Transition for \$6 million, an increase of \$1 million above 2018;
- An increase of \$15 million above 2018 for Smith-Lever 3 (b) & (c), for a total of \$315 million;
- An increase of \$3 million above 2018 for 1890 Institutions, for a total program level of \$48.6 million;
- A total of \$69 million for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, and increase of \$1.07 million above 2018; and
- A total of \$8 million for the Food Safety Outreach Program, an increase of \$1 million above 2018.

The funding includes a new extension program, Farmer Stress Assistance Network \$2 million, and provides \$3 million for Rural Health and Safety Education Program to address the opioid abuse epidemic and to combat opioid abuse in rural communities.

In addition to the continuation of the FY 2018 General Provision which provided \$5 million to support farming and ranching opportunities for military veterans, the bill provides a General Provision for \$5 million to support three Centers of Excellence at 1890 Land-Grant Universities.

The Act does **not** contain the general provisions for indirect costs not to exceed 30 percent under grant awards, nor does it continue the language maintaining matching requirements for AFRI funds in effect before changes that had occurred in the 2014 Farm Bill.

See the attached table for specific program funding amounts.

The Agriculture Appropriations Bill portion of the Report can be found here (see page 102 for NIFA information):

<https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20190211/116hrpt9-JointExplanatoryStatement.pdf#page=102>

Bill Text can be found here (see page 37 for NIFA information):

<https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hjres31/BILLS-116hjres31enr.pdf#page=37>