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**H.R. 2997 — FY 2010 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act**

**BY THE NUMBERS:**

*In Millions of Dollars*

	<b>FY09</b>	<b>FY10 Request</b>	<b>FY10 Committee</b>	<b>Cmte v. Request</b>	<b>Cmte v. FY09</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>	20,456	22,980	22,900	-80	2,444
<i>Emergency Approps</i>	7,909	----	----	----	-7,909
Total	28,365	22,980	22,900	-80	-5,465

**Excluding Emergency Appropriations, the Committee Bill is:**

- **\$80 million or 0.3% less than the request**
- **\$2.4 billion or 11.9% more than last year**

**Spending Discussion:** The bill provides \$2.4 billion (11.9%) more than FY 2009 for programs under the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. Compared to FY 2008 (the spending authority the federal government was operating under just nine months ago), the bill is a **\$4.8 billion** or **26.6% increase**. Under the Democrats' 302(b) allocation (which sets the spending plan for the FY 2010 appropriations process), all twelve bills will receive spending increases, with a total spending level of \$1,089.6 trillion—an increase of \$77 billion or 7.6% compared to last year.

**Order of Business:** H.R. 2997 is scheduled to be considered on the House floor on Wednesday, July 8, 2009 under a restrictive *structured* rule ([HH.Res. 609H](#)) that makes in order only 13 amendments out of the 90 that were submitted. The rule provides one hour of general debate, and waives all points of order against the bill's consideration, except for clauses 9 (the earmark rule) and 10 (PAYGO) of Rule XXI. The rule also waives points of order against the bill itself for failures to comply with various rules for appropriations bills (such as prohibitions on appropriating funds to unauthorized programs). The amendments made in order under the rule will be summarized in a separate document.

## **Funding Summaries:**

*In Thousands*

	<b>FY 2009 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2010 Request</b>	<b>FY 2009 Cmte</b>	<b>Cmte vs FY 2009</b>	<b>House vs Request</b>	<b>House vs FY 2009</b>	<b>House vs Request</b>
<b>Agriculture Programs</b>							
Office of the Secretary.....	5,174	5,285	5,285	111	----	2.1%	----
Executive Operations.....	58,871	117,866	111,296	52,425	-6,570	89.1%	-5.6%
Hazardous Materials Management .....	5,100	5,125	5,125	25	----	0.5%	----
Economic Research Service.....	79,500	82,478	82,478	2,978	----	3.7%	----
Agriculture Research Service.....	1,187,158	1,153,368	1,190,568	3,410	37,200	0.3%	3.2%
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service S and E	881,387	877,135	885,731	4,344	8,596	0.5%	1.0%
Agriculture Marketing Service.....	1,347,203	1,496,821	1,496,821	149,618	----	11.1%	----
Grain Inspection, Packer and Stockyards Admin...	40,342	41,964	41,964	1,622	----	4.0%	----
Food Safety and Inspection Service.....	971,566	1,018,520	1,018,520	46,954	----	4.8%	----
Farm Service Agency, S and E.....	1,170,273	1,253,777	1,253,777	83,504	----	7.1%	----
Loan Subsidies.....	147,422	109,122	104,122	-43,300	-5,000	-29.4%	-4.6%
Agriculture Credit Insurance Expenses.....	317,323	326,093	326,093	8,770	----	2.8%	----
Risk Management Agency .....	77,177	80,325	80,325	3,148	----	4.1%	----
<b>Conservation Programs</b>							
Office of the Under Secretary.....	758	895	774	16	-121	-16.0%	-13.5%
Conservation Operations.....	853,400	867,197	869,397	15,997	2,200	2.6%	0.3%
Watershed Surveys and Flood Prevention.....	24,289	----	20,000	-4,289	20,000	-17.7%	NA
Watershed Rehabilitation.....	40,000	40,161	40,161	161	----	0.4%	----
Resource Conservation.....	50,730	----	50,730	----	50,730	----	NA
<b>Rural Development</b>							
Office of the Under Secretary.....	646	895	660	14	-235	2.2%	-26.3%
Rural Housing Loan Authorization.....	7,599,821	7,580,409	7,590,897	-8,924	----	-0.1%	----
Rental Assistance Program.....	902,500	1,091,430	980,000	77,500	-111,430	8.6%	-10.2%
Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants.....	38,727	38,727	45,000	6,273	6,273	16.2%	16.2%
Rural Housing Assistance Grants.....	41,500	41,500	45,500	4,000	4,000	9.6%	9.6%
Farm Labor Program Account.....	18,269	16,968	22,523	4,254	5,555	23.3%	32.7%
Rural Business-Cooperative Service.....	87,385	97,116	97,116	9,731	----	11.1%	----
Rural Development Loan Fund.....	18,888	13,405	13,405	-5,483	----	-29.0%	----
Renewable Energy Programs.....	5,000	68,130	20,000	15,000	-48,130	300.0%	-70.6%
Rural Utility Loan Authorization.....	75,000	1,097,163	1,097,163	1,022,163	----	1,362.9%	----
Dist. Learning, Telemedicine, Broadband Loan Auth	400,487	531,699	400,000	-487	-131,699	-1.2%	-24.8%
Dist Learning and Telemedicine Loans Subsidies.....	63,780	81,691	81,691	17,911	----	28.1%	----
<b>Domestic Food Programs</b>							
Office of the Undersecretary.....	610	813	623	13	-190	2.1%	-23.4%
WIC.....	6,860,000	7,777,000	7,541,000	681,000	-236,000	9.9%	-3.0%
Commodity Assistance Program.....	230,800	233,388	255,570	24,770	22,182	10.7%	9.5%
<b>Foreign Assistance</b>							
Foreign Agriculture Service.....	170,421	186,832	183,601	13,180	-3,231	7.7%	-1.7%
McGovern-Dole Int'l School Lunch Program.....	100,000	199,500	199,500	99,500	----	99.5%	----
PL 480 Program Appropriation.....	1,228,636	1,692,812	1,692,812	464,176	----	37.8%	----
<b>FDA</b>							
Salaries and Expenses Including Fees.....	2,664,318	3,037,369	3,037,369	373,051	----	14.0%	----

Buildings and Facilities.....	12,433	12,433	12,433	----	----	----	----
<b>Other and General Provisions</b>							
Commodity Future Trading Commission.....	146,000	160,600	160,600	14,600	----	10.0%	----
Hunger Fellowships.....	2,347	----	2,500	153	2,500	6.5%	NA
Market Development.....	1,877	----	1,408	-469	----	-25.0%	NA
Carbon Inventory and Accounting System.....	----	----	1,000	1,000	1,000	NA	NA
International Food Protection Training Institute.....	----	----	1,000	1,000	1,000	NA	NA
Food-borne Illness Health Registry.....	----	----	200	200	200	NA	NA

**Items of Note:**

**Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):** \$7.54 billion—\$681 million or 9.9% above last year, and \$236 million or 3.0% below the request.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA):** \$3.04 billion—\$373.1 million or 14.0% above last year, and the same as the President’s request. The FDA has previously received spending increases of 7% in FY 2007, 15% in FY 2008, and 18% in FY 2009. With the proposed FY 2010 increase added to that, the FDA will receive a **54%** increase compared to just four years ago (when the FDA budget was just under \$2 billion).

**Broadband Telecommunication Loans:** H.R. 2997 provides an appropriation of \$400 million for this program, which is in addition to \$2.5 billion previously provided in the FY 2009 “stimulus.” Some conservatives may be concerned that this program, in some cases, duplicates services already being provided by the private-sector.

**Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS):** \$183.6 million—\$13.2 million or 7.7% above last year, and \$3.2 million or 1.7% below the request. The FAS maintains attachés at 97 foreign posts to assist overseas development of markets for U.S. farm commodities—largely through collecting information regarding a foreign government’s policies, market conditions, etc. This function could be performed by the private sector that benefits from such services.

**Food for Peace Program (PL 480 Program):** \$1.69 billion—\$464.2 million or 37.8% above last year, and the same as the President’s request. This funding increase is on top of the \$700 million provided in the FY 2009 supplemental.

**Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC):** \$160.6 million—\$14 million or 10.0% above last year, and the same as the President’s request.

**Resource Conservation and Development Program:** \$50.7 million—the same as last year, and \$50.7 million above the President’s request (no money was requested for this program). The purpose of the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program is to accelerate the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources, improve the general level of economic activity, and to enhance the environment and standard of living in designated RC&D areas. Conservation programs

are conducted through a number of accounts within the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and current conservation operations within the Department of Agriculture could be better combined and reprioritized.

**Commodity Assistance Program:** \$255.6 million—\$24.8 million or 10.7% above last year, and \$22.2 million or 9.5% above the request. Previous Bush Administration budgets requested no funding for this program on the argument that the program duplicates two other federal nutrition assistance programs: the WIC program and the Food Stamp program.

**Purchase of Cars:** The bill allows the Department of Agriculture to purchase up to 204 passenger vehicles.

**Earmarks:** The [Committee Report](#) lists 322 congressionally-directed earmarks beginning on page 78 of the bill.

**Potential Conservative Concerns:** Some conservatives may be concerned with various aspects of this legislation, including, but not limited to:

**Excess Spending.** H.R. 2997 provides a total spending level of \$22.9 billion—a **\$2.4 billion or 11.9%** increase compared to last year. And compared to FY 2008—the spending authority that programs under this bill were operating under *nine months ago*—this legislation represents a **\$4.8 billion or 26.6%** increase. In addition, the programs funded by this legislation have also received **\$7.9 billion** of emergency-designated spending during the current fiscal year. Virtually every account in the bill receives an increase compared to last year—no effort was made to prioritize spending, even with our current fiscal challenges. And this bill is just one installment of the Majority’s overall spending plan for FY 2010, which provides a spending increase for *each* of the 12 appropriations bills, and proposes an overall spending increase of \$77 billion (or 7.6%) compared to last year.

**Questionable Spending Priorities.** Notable spending choices: \$3.04 billion for the **FDA** (a \$373.1 million or 14.0% increase compared to last year—the FDA will have received a 54% increase compared to just four years ago under this bill), \$1.69 billion for the **Food for Peace Program** (a \$464 million increase on top of the \$700 million of emergency-designated spending in the FY 2009 supplemental), \$400 million for Broadband Telecommunication Loans (which received **\$2.5 billion** earlier this year as part of the so-called stimulus). The bill contains 322 congressionally-directed earmarks.

**Committee Action:** H.R. 2997 was reported out of the House Appropriations Committee as an original measure on June 23, 2009.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The bill appropriates a total of \$22.9 billion in FY 2010.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** Yes, the bill increases spending for programs in the FY 2010 Agriculture bill by \$2.4 billion or 11.9%.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No CBO score is available listing any possible mandates.

**Constitutional Authority:** The House Appropriations Committee, in [House Report 111-181](#), cites Clause 7 of Section 9 of Article I of the Constitution (the power of Congress to appropriate money). The committee did not cite constitutional authority for the various spending items themselves.

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