

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS SUPPORT FUNDING IN THE FY2017 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

ACTION NEEDED: Urge your members of Congress, especially those serving on the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, to fund the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development programs at \$2.9 billion as part of a final fiscal year (FY) 2017 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations measure.

BACKGROUND: USDA Rural Development operates a number of grant and loan programs that are important to rural communities and regions. These programs include grant funding and loan financing for water/wastewater projects, community facilities, broadband, and business development.

LATEST ACTION: Federal programs are currently operating at FY2016 levels under a Continuing Resolution that expires April 28. It is anticipated that Congress will approve a FY2017 omnibus appropriations bill after the incoming administration takes office, providing specific funding levels for agencies through October 1, 2017.

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have approved their respective versions of the FY2017 Agriculture Appropriations bill funding rural development programs.

On February 9, 2016 the President released his FY2017 budget proposal which includes \$2.8 billion for USDA Rural Development programs, level with FY2016 funding.

Below is the breakdown of funding recommended by the House and Senate:

Business and Industry Loans: House recommended level is \$920 million, level with the FY2016 level; Senate recommended level is \$995 million

Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Loans: Both the House and Senate recommend \$1.2 billion, level with FY2016 funding

Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Grants: Both the House and Senate recommend \$533 million, an increase of \$11 million above FY2016 funding

Rural Electric and Telephone Infrastructure Loans: Both the House and Senate recommend \$6.94 billion, level with FY2016 funding

Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program: Both the House and Senate recommend \$24 billion in loan authority, level with the FY2016 amount

Rental Assistance for Rural Housing: Both the House and Senate recommend \$1.4 billion, an increase of \$16 million above current funding

For more information, please contact Susan Howard, Legislative Director, at 202.624.8590 / showard@nado.org.

For a list of members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees for the 115th Congress, see reverse.

U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee

Majority:

Thad Cochran (R-MS)*, Full Chair

Mitch McConnell (R-KY)*

Richard Shelby (R-AL)

Lamar Alexander (R-TN)

Susan Collins (R-ME)*

Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)

Lindsey Graham (R-SC)

Roy Blunt (R-MO)*

Jerry Moran (R-KS)*

John Hoeven (R-ND)*, Subcommittee Chair

John Boozman (R-AR)

Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)

James Lankford (R-OK)

Steve Daines (R-MT)

Marco Rubio (R-FL)*

John Kennedy (R-LA)

Minority:

Patrick Leahy (D-VT)*, Vice Chairman

Patty Murray (D-WA)

Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)*

Richard Durbin (D-IL)

Jack Reed (D-RI)

Jon Tester (D-MT)*

Tom Udall (D-NM)*

Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)

Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Ranking Member

Chris Coons (D-DE)

Brian Schatz (D-HI)

Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)*

Chris Murphy (D-CT)

Joe Manchin (D-WV)

Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)

*Indicates Senator serves on the

U.S. Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

U.S. House Appropriations Committee

Maiority:

Minority:

Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Peter J. Visclosky (D-IN)

José E. Serrano (D-NY)

David E. Price (D-NC)

Barbara Lee (D-CA)

Tim Ryan (D-OH)

Henry Cuellar (D-TX)

Mike Quigley (D-IL)

Derek Kilmer (D-WA)

Matt Cartwright (D-PA)

Katherine Clark (D-MA)

Grace Meng (D-NY)

Mark Pocan (D-WI)*

Pete Aguilar (D-CA)

Chellie Pingree (D-ME)*

Betty McCollum (D-MN)

Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT)*

Lucille Rovbal-Allard (D-CA)

Sanford D. Bishop Jr. (D-GA) #

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD)

Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)

Rodney P. Frelinghuysen (R-NJ), Chair Nita M. Lowey (D-NY), Full Ranking

Harold Rogers (R-KY)

Robert B. Aderholt (R-AL) +

Kay Granger (R-TX)

Michael K. Simpson (R-ID)

John Abney Culberson (R-TX)

John R. Carter (R-TX)

Ken Calvert (R-CA)

Tom Cole (R-OK)

Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)

Charles W. Dent (R-PA)

Tom Graves (R-GA)

Kevin Yoder (R-KS)*

Steve Womack (R-AR)

Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)

Tom Rooney (R-FL)*

Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)

Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)

David Joyce (R-OH)

David Valadao (R-CA)*

Andy Harris (R-MD)* Martha Roby (R-AL)

Mark Amodei (R-NV)

Chris Stewart (R-UT)

David Young (R-IA)*

Evan Jenkins (R-WV)

Steven Palazzo (R-MS)*

Dan Newhouse (R-WA)

John Moolenaar (R-MI)

Scott Taylor (R-VA)

+Indicates Chair of the U.S. House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

#Indicates Ranking Member of the U.S. Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

*Indicates Representative serves on the U.S. House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee