

## Key Farm Bill Provisions of Interest to NASULGC Member Institutions

Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-234)

- ***Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics strengthened.*** Becomes “Chief Scientist” for USDA. Required to develop an annual USDA science “Roadmap.” Receives an enhanced program staff to coordinate research, extension, and education among agencies.
- ***National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) created.*** Cooperative State Research, Extension, and Education Service (CSREES) becomes NIFA with elevated stature and visibility in the Department. Existing CSREES programs and authorities maintained and reauthorized. NIFA Director to be esteemed scientist and appointed by the President for a six year term.
- ***Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.*** Combines authorities from National Research Initiative (NRI) and Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAFS). Increased authorization for appropriation – from \$500 million/year to \$700 million/year. Monies eventually appropriated to be divided 60% for basic research and 40% for applied research. Also, 30% of grants must go to projects that integrate research with extension and/or education.
- ***Indirect cost rate increased.*** Indirect cost rate on competitive grant programs increased from current level of 19% to 22%. (Agency calculation different than NSF, etc. so new rate equates to approximately 29%.)
- ***New mandatory research funding provided.*** Organics: \$78 million. Specialty crops: \$230 million. Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program: \$75 million. Biomass R&D: \$118 million. (Additional \$190 million per year in new “discretionary” spending subject to the annual congressional appropriations process for these four programs.) (See Table below.)
- ***Research, extension, education, and international programs reauthorized.*** Numerous land-grant university programs that provide capacity funding for the 1862, 1890, and 1994 institutions extended through 2012.
- ***Enhanced authorities and programs.*** Numerous authorizations enhanced and expanded to reflect NASULGC priorities.
- ***Capacity building programs authorized.*** Non-land-grant colleges of agriculture and Hispanic-serving institutions authorized to receive appropriated funds to increase their “capacity” to provide education and other programs to undergraduates.

## NIFA Research Program Funding Included in 2008 Farm Bill

Mandatory and Authorized Funding Levels (\$Millions)

<b>NIFA Program Funding Levels: FY 2008 – FY 2012</b>						
<b>Organic Agriculture R&amp;E</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Total</b>
Mandatory Funding		18	20	20	20	78
Authorized Funding*		25	25	25	25	100
<b>Organics Subtotal</b>						<b>\$178</b>
<b>Specialty Crops Research</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Total</b>
Mandatory Funding	30	50	50	50	50	230
Authorized Funding*	100	100	100	100	100	500
<b>Specialty Crops Subtotal</b>						<b>\$730</b>
<b>New Farmer/Rancher</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Total</b>
Mandatory Funding		18	19	19	19	75
Authorized Funding*	30	30	30	30	30	150
<b>New Farmer/Rancher Subtotal</b>						<b>\$225</b>
<b>Biomass R&amp;D</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Total</b>
Mandatory Funding		20	28	30	40	118
Authorized Funding*		35	35	35	35	140
<b>Biomass R&amp;D Subtotal</b>						<b>\$258</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>Mandatory</b>					<b>\$501</b>
	<b>Authorized</b>					<b>\$890</b>

Notes: R&E = Research and Extension

\*Authorized funding is subject to Congressional appropriations.