

June 27, 2018

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Washington Representatives/State-Federal Contacts
From: Alex Schaefer (202-624-3534)- Agriculture
Amy Zettle (202-624-5378) - SNAP
Anne Clement (202-719-2869)
Re: 2018 Farm Bill – Senate and House

Timelines for the Senate and House farm bills and a description of key provisions of the bills are below. A detailed side-by-side of the bills is also attached. NGA will issue updates as the Senate and House proceed with farm bill consideration and engage in reauthorization of legislation as appropriate.

TAKEAWAYS

- The five-year farm bill will have a direct effect on food, nutritional, and agricultural policy for the nation.
- The current farm bill, the “Agricultural Act of 2014”, expires September 30, 2018.
- Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) released the Senate farm bill S. 3042, the “Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018”, on June 8, and the committee approved the bill on June 13.
- House Agriculture Committee Chairman Michael Conaway (R-TX) introduced H.R. 2, the “Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018”, on April 12, the committee held a markup on April 18, and the House passed the bill on June 21 by a vote of 213-211.
- NGA led a state farm bill priorities [letter](#) on May 17, 2017.

2018 FARM BILL TIMELINE

Senate:

- On June 8, Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) released S. 3042, the “Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018”.
- The Senate Agriculture Committee held a markup on the bill on June 13 and approved it by a vote of 20-1.
- The Senate is considering the farm bill this week.

House:

- On April 12, House Agriculture Committee Chairman Michael Conaway (R-TX) introduced H.R. 2, the “Agriculture & Nutrition Act of 2018”.
- The House Agriculture Committee held a markup on the bill on April 18 and approved it by a party-line vote, 26-20.
- The House failed to pass the bill on May 18 by a vote of 198-213.
- It later reconsidered and passed the bill on June 21 by a vote of 213-211.

KEY PROVISIONS FOR STATES

Senate:

- The bill reauthorizes Price Loss Coverage Program and the Agricultural Risk Coverage County and Individual Programs for crop years 2019-2023. The Margin Protection Program for milk producers is replaced with the Dairy Risk Coverage Program through 2023.
- It raises the acreage cap under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to 25 million acres, leaves the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) as separate entities, restores funding for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, and increases funding for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).
- The bill reauthorizes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through 2023 without making changing to existing work requirements or eligibility criteria. The bill eliminates performance bonuses to states for high or most improved payment error rates.
- The bill reauthorizes through FY 2023 the Specialty Crop Block Grants Program and allows states to regulate hemp growth and production.
- It establishes a National Animal Disease Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Program carried out by USDA through cooperative agreements with state, university, industry, and other partners. Also establishes a National Animal Vaccine and Veterinary Countermeasures Bank.

House:

- The House bill reauthorizes Price Loss Coverage and Agriculture Risk Coverage, and modifies the dairy risk management program.
- It reauthorizes the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) through FY 2023 and increases the number of acres enrolled in the CRP to 29 million by the end of 2023, increases funding for the Agriculture and Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), authorizes increased funding for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), authorizes the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) at \$250 million annually, and eliminates the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and would incorporate some of the program's initiatives into EQIP.
- The bill consolidates four current trade programs to create the new International Market Development Program (IMDP).
- It makes significant changes to work requirements for able-bodied participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and also modifies state waivers, among other things.
- The bill extends authorized appropriations of \$85 million annually for Specialty Crop Block Grants.
- It recognizes the role of state lead agencies under Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and authorizes states to establish and maintain uniform regulation of pesticide through cooperative agreements with the Environmental Protection Agency. It eliminates state-delegated National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements for FIFRA pesticide discharges and enacts H.R. 1029 into law reauthorizing the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2017 (PRIA).
- The bill establishes a new National Animal Preparedness and Response Program and a National Animal Health Vaccine Bank.

ATTACHMENT: SIDE-BY-SIDE ANALYSIS

(last updated June 27, 2018)

Senate Farm Bill (S.3042) “Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (June 8, 2018) Committee Approved (June 13, 2018)	House Farm Bill (H.R. 2) “Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (April 12, 2018) Committee Approved (April 18, 2018) House Passed (June 21, 2018)
Commodities	Commodities
<p>Sec. 1103. Reauthorizes the Price Loss Coverage Program for crop years 2019-2023 and requires the county payment rate to be published by the Secretary within 30 days of the end of each marketing year for each covered commodity.</p> <p>Sec. 1104. Reauthorizes the Agriculture Risk Coverage County and Individual Programs for crop years 2019-2023 and requires the county payment rate to be published by the Secretary within 30 days of the end of each marketing year for each covered commodity. Reauthorizes through the 2023 crop year agriculture risk coverage payments.</p> <p>Sec. 1201. Extends current law through 2023 for the availability of nonrecourse marketing assistance loans and loan rates for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans. Also extends current law for repayment of loans for cotton and cotton storage payments, special competitive provisions for extra long staple cotton, and the availability of recourse loans for high moisture feed grains and seed cotton.</p> <p>Sec. 1203. Eliminates economic adjustment assistance for upland cotton users.</p> <p>Subtitle D. (Sec. 1401- Sec. 1413) Through 2023, replaces the Margin Protection Program with Dairy Risk Coverage, ends adjustments to the production history of participating dairy operations with calendar year 2019, eliminates the 25 percent coverage requirement, and sets forth premiums for dairy risk coverage participation. Extends current law through 2023 for the Dairy Forward Pricing Program, Dairy Indemnity Program, and Dairy Promotion and Research Program. Provides support for dairy producers in the MPP in</p>	<p>Sec. 1116. Reauthorizes Price Loss Coverage, which pays farmers when crop prices fall below a certain reference point and modifies the program by allowing reference prices to adjust when markets improve and allowing farmers affected by long-term exceptional drought during the previous opportunity to update their yields.</p> <p>Sec. 1117. Reauthorizes Agriculture Risk Coverage, which pays farmers for a percentage of their losses that are not covered by crop insurance and revises how actual-yields are calculated.</p> <p>Sec. 1202. Extends the loan rates for commodities in current law and adjusts cotton.</p> <p>Subtitle D. (Sec. 1401-Sec. 1406) Modifies the dairy risk management program and authorizes it through 2023. Reauthorizes the dairy forward pricing program, the dairy indemnity program, and the dairy promotion and research program through 2023.</p> <p>Sec. 1612. Allows producers on a farm to file a one-time program contract to enroll in agricultural risk coverage or price loss coverage through the 2023</p>

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<p>the first three years before it was changed by Congress.</p> <p>Sec. 1601 Maintains Sodsaver in certain areas and allows governors to opt into the program in their own states.</p> <p>Sec. 1705. Requires the Secretary to review the establishment, calculation, reallocation, adjustment, and reduction of base acres under the Agricultural Act of 2014 and to report to relevant committees.</p>	<p>crop year during the first enrollment period announced by the Farm Service after enactment. Requires the issuance of regulations as are necessary to carry out the section.</p>
<p>Conservation</p>	<p>Conservation</p>
<p>Sec. 2101. Authorizes through FY 2023 the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and increases the maximum acreage enrolled to 25 million acres. Prioritizes land designated as a State acres for wildlife enhancement area (SAFE area) enrolled through continuous signup on certain practices for wildlife habitat. Authorizes a state or tribe, in consultation with a Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Technical Committee to submit a request to designate a safe area.</p> <p>Sec. 2103. Authorizes cost-share for fencing and other water distribution practices and for certain purposes, expands emergency haying and grazing authority to allow the Governor of a State to declare an emergency if caused by drought or wildfire if certain requirements are met.</p> <p>Sec. 2105. Authorizes the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), which applies to 20 percent of continuous acres. Authorizes the Secretary to enter into an agreement to carry out the CREP with eligible partners and modify existing agreements. Requires the Secretary to make incentive payments for a program that includes riparian buffers, not to exceed 100 percent of cost of maintenance, and for forested riparian buffers, it allows a participant to plant and harvest food-producing woody plants and requires technical assistance to be provided to the State forestry agency.</p> <p>Sec. 2107. Authorizes Conservation Reserve Easements to protect certain land enrolled in a conservation reserve</p>	<p>Sec. 2201. Reauthorizes the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) through FY23 and increases the number of acres enrolled in the CRP to 29 million by the end of 2023 (up from 24 million). Requires the distribution of enrolled acres across states in proportion to historic state enrollment be maintained by the Secretary.</p> <p>Sec. 2205. Requires agreements with states to limit the cost share to 50 percent of the agreement for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.</p> <p>Sec. 2405. Establishes a pilot project for feral swine eradication and control and allocates \$100 million in mandatory funds through FY23. The Natural Resources Conservation Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service must coordinate through State technical committees and the pilot program is required to be carried out in areas of States in which feral swine have been identified as a threat to agriculture, native ecosystems, or the health of humans or animals.</p> <p>Sec. 2408. Amends the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act requiring the establishment of a comprehensive monitoring and program evaluation process to assess progress in reaching identified environmental objectives and the contribution of programs and</p>

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program covered contact. Authority defines terms, makes requirements for the agreement, addresses violations of the agreement, authorizes compatible economic uses, and sets a floor and restrictions for compensation for the easement. A conservation reserve easement plan is required to be developed by the Secretary and allows for certain responsibilities to be delegated.

Sec. 2108.

Provides an exception to the requirements of ineligibility for the conservation reserve program based on certain requirements.

Sec. 2201.-Sec. 2204.

Authorizes through 2023 the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and directs the Secretary to rank applications based on certain conservation and environmental benefits. Reauthorizes the acreage enrollment limitation through September 30, 2027 at 8.797 million acres. Authorizes the Secretary to allocate State funding for organic and transition to organic production.

Sec. 2301.-Sec. 2305.

Amends the purposes of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and extends the program through FY 2023. Directs the Secretary to review the process for determining annual State funding allocations and the process used to review State budget proposals. Authorizes the Secretary to streamline and coordinate procedures between EQIP and CSP and provides direction to enhance soil health. Allows for coordinated management of the program and the CSP to facilitate the ability of a program participant to enroll in the CSP after meeting the stewardship threshold for at least two priority resource concerns under that program. Authorizes the establishment of a micro-EQIP pilot program in 10 states to provide financial and technical assistance to small-scale agricultural producers. Allows each state, in consultation with the state technical committee, to designate 10 high-priority practices to be eligible for increased payments under EQIP under certain conditions.

Sec. 2410.

Makes a number of changes to the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), including clarifying a purpose, amending the definition of

initiatives. It allows the implementation of the monitoring evaluation process to be done in part through cooperative or contribution agreements with Federal, State, and local agencies, among other entities. The process would be administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service with assistance from an appointed national technical committee, including those representing State agencies and land grant university natural resource research programs.

Sec. 2501.

Increases funding for the Agriculture and Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) to \$500 million annually through FY23. Authorizes increased funding for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), beginning with \$2 billion in FY19 and increasing to \$3 billion in FY23.

Sec. 2502.

Specifies that technical assistance may be provided by third-parties such as state or local government.

Sec. 2704.

Authorizes the Regional Conservation Partnership Program at \$250 million annually through FY 2023.

Sec. 2801.

Eliminates the Conservation Stewardship Program and would incorporate some of the program’s initiatives into EQIP.

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“eligible land”, amending the non-federal share to eliminate the cash requirement and include various costs in the non-federal share, requiring the development of an agricultural land easement plan by an eligible entity with the landowner that meets certain requirements as a condition of assistance, and directing the Secretary to consider geographic nuances in consultation with State technical committee for evaluation and ranking criteria for applications. Authorizes additional certification criteria for entities and appropriate State agencies and authorizes certified eligible entities to use their own deed terms to account for differences among States and regions, including geographic differences.

Sec. 2411.

Provides \$200 million (increased from \$100 million) in mandatory funding annually for FY 2018-2023 for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and requires the Secretary to transfer 7 percent of funds and acres available from CSP, EQIP, and ACEP each fiscal year. Increases to 40 percent the funding for State projects and adds authority for multistate projects. Makes various other changes to the RCPP.

Sec. 2425.

Codifies the working lands for wildlife conservation partnership and expands authority to the conservation reserve program. Authorizes the Secretary to assist a requesting federal, state, or local agency regarding regulatory certainty through conservation practices in certain circumstances.

Sec. 2426.

Makes changes to the Healthy Forests Reserve Program adding a purpose of the program to conserve habitats for threatened and endangered species of those of greatest conservation under State wildlife action plans.

Sec. 2501.

Provides mandatory funding for each of FY 2019-2023 for the agricultural easement and environmental quality incentives programs. ACEP is funded at \$400 million each year for fiscal years 2019-2021, \$425 million for FY 2022, and \$450 million for FY 2023. EQIP is funded at \$1.473 billion in FY 2019, \$1.478 billion in FY 2020, \$1.541 billion in FY 2021, \$1.571 billion in FY 2022, and \$1.595 billion for FY 2023.

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<p>Sec. 2502. Specifies that technical assistance may be provided by third-parties such as state or local government.</p> <p>Sec. 2508. Instructs each state technical committee to regularly review new and innovative technologies and practices, including processes to conserve water and improve water quality and quantity.</p>	
<p>Trade</p>	<p>Trade</p>
<p>Sec. 3201. Consolidates four current trade programs, which will operate separately, to create the new Priority Trade Promotion, Development, and Assistance program. Authorizes \$259.5 million for the new program, with \$200 million set-aside for the Market Access Program.</p>	<p>Sec. 3102. Consolidates four current trade programs, which will operate separately, to create the new International Market Development Program (IMDP). Authorizes \$255.5 million for the IMDP, with \$200 million set-aside for the Market Access Program.</p>
<p>Nutrition</p>	<p>Nutrition</p>
<p>Enrollment Database</p> <p>Establishes an interstate data system for data-matching to prevent the issuance of supplemental nutrition assistance benefits to the same individual by more than one state. Requires states to contact households to clarify or verify, if applicable, certain information relating to the circumstances of the household received from data matches.</p> <p><i>No companion language</i></p>	<p>Enrollment Database</p> <p>Establishes a Duplicative Enrollment Database to be used by States when making eligibility determinations to prevent SNAP participants from receiving duplicative benefits in multiple States. The Secretary will publish an annual report using data submitted to the Database that analyzes SNAP participant characteristics including tenure on the program.</p> <p>SNAP Eligibility</p> <p>Eliminates broad-based categorical eligibility for SNAP for people who receive non-cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The bill also eliminates automatic availability of the Standard Utility Allowance for heating and cooling. Households would need to demonstrate actual utility costs to qualify for an increase SNAP benefits. The elderly would be exempt from the documentation requirement.</p>

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<p>Work Requirements</p> <p>No changes to existing work requirements.</p> <p><i>No companion language</i></p> <p>Employment and Training</p> <p>Requires states to consult with workforce development board or local employers to design an employment and training program. Requires that states provide job search as a component in their program. Also makes effective pilot employment</p>	<p>Work Requirements</p> <p>Requires that all ABAWDs work or participate in an employment training program for a minimum of 20 hours per week starting in fiscal year (FY) 2021. Starting in FY 2026, the requirement would increase to 25 hours per week. The bill also institutes a 12-month ineligibility period for the first violation of the work requirement, and a 36-month ineligibility period for subsequent violations.</p> <p>Current Law: Able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) between the ages of 18 and 59 are only eligible to receive SNAP benefits for three months in a 36-month period unless they are employed or in an employment and training program for at least 20 hours per week. Exempted populations include seniors, disabled, those caring for children under six, or those who are pregnant.</p> <p>Modifications to State Waivers</p> <p>Modifies the waiver system by prohibiting geographic areas from being combined to estimate a region’s jobless rate. This is expected to reduce the number of waived individuals. The bill also changes the “15-percent” exemption criteria and process. The Secretary will adjust the estimated caseload if the number of members of households that receive SNAP benefits changes by more than 10 percent. The State agency will be required to submit reports to the Secretary to ensure compliance with the 15 percent exemption. Ensures that if an individual is ineligible to participate in SNAP as a household member due to failure to meet requirements, remaining household members will not become ineligible to apply to participate.</p> <p>Current Law: States may apply for waivers to lift work requirements for ABAWDs in areas with high unemployment and utilize an exemption from the work requirements for up to 15 percent of ABAWD recipients.</p> <p>Employment and Training</p>

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and training components authorized under the Agricultural Act of 2014 allowable in all employment and training programs.

Allows states and the Secretary to certify workforce partnerships. Allows an individual participating in a workforce partnership to meet any mandatory employment and training requirement and the work requirement for able-bodied adult without dependents.

Establishes a process for referral or reassessment of individuals subject to an employment and training requirement and determined to be ill-suited to the employment and training component to which they had been referred.

Provides \$185 for new pilots aimed at helping individuals over the age of 50, as well people who were formerly incarcerated, or those who have gone through a substance use treatment program.

Electronic Benefit Transfer System

Prohibits fees assessed by State benefit issuers related to the switching or routing of electronic benefit transfer transactions.

Allows farmers’ markets to operate a point of sale device at more than 1 location under the same supplemental nutrition assistance retailer authorization and requires GAO to examine EBT outages and intermediaries and services in between redemption at retail food store and state-contracted EBT processors. Require USDA to review state EBT contract service agreements and compatibility of such systems with USDA fraud monitoring systems.

Requires the Secretary issue guidance to retail food store on selecting EBT equipment and service providers that provide sufficient transaction information to minimize the risk of fraudulent transactions.

Quality Control

Requires states to provide the Secretary with access to state systems containing SNAP records for inspection and audit purposes. Requires the

Requires that states offer employment and training services, including case management services, for all individuals subject to work requirements under SNAP. It would authorize funding for employment and training program by the following amounts:

- o \$90 million for FY 2019
- o \$250 million for FY 2020
- o \$1 billion for each fiscal year thereafter

The bill would also adjust the minimum allocation for each state to not less than \$100,000. It also reserves up to \$150 million each year for eligible providers under section 122 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act who provide services for SNAP participants to meet work requirements.

Electronic Benefit Transfer System

Allows for periodic review of EBT regulations to account for evolving technology, recipient access and ease of use, and alternatives for securing transactions.

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Secretary to issue interim final regulations within 180 days of date of enactment to ensure the integrity of the quality control system.

Eliminates performance bonuses to states for high or most improved payment error rates.

Nutrition Education State Plans

Requires states to submit an annual evaluation report to the Secretary and use an electronic reporting system that measures and evaluates projects.

Allows SNAP nutrition education projects to be coordinated with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, subject to the approval of the Secretary.

Emergency Food Assistance Program

Provides \$10 million **per year** through fiscal year 2023 for states to partner with emergency feeding organizations. Provides mandatory funding for states to pay for up to 50 percent of the cost of the projects. Extends the authorization of appropriations for emergency food program infrastructure grants through fiscal year 2023.

Extends funding for the purchase of commodities to distribute to states under the Emergency Food Assistance Program through fiscal year 2023.

Quality Control

Repeal bonuses for States that demonstrate high or most improved performances for fiscal year 2018 and each fiscal year thereafter, while retaining requirements regarding performance criteria including actions taken to correct payment errors, reduce error rates, and improve eligibility determinations.

Repeals Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program

Emergency Food Assistance Program

Provides \$60 million through 2023, and to establish a Farm-to-Food bank fund. \$20 million of the funds would be distributed to states to procure, or to enter into agreements with food banks to procure excess fresh fruits and vegetables grown in the State or surrounding region to be provided to eligible recipient agencies.

Directs the Secretary to implement the program; requires eligible institutions to the extent practicable, to provide for the employment and training of professional and paraprofessional aides from the target population to engage in direct nutrition education, and to partner with other public and private entities as appropriate to optimize program delivery; increases mandatory funding for the program to \$485 million beginning in fiscal year 2019; authorizes additional appropriations for the program of \$65 million for fiscal years 2019 through 2023; updates the allocation of funds so that, beginning in fiscal year 2019, funds are allocated based solely on States’ SNAP populations; and

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<p>RURAL ELECTRIFICATION Sec. 6202. Amends the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to allow the Secretary of Energy to provides technical assistance for rural electrification loans.</p> <p>Sec. 6210. Amends the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to allow the Secretary to make loans for cybersecurity and grid security improvements.</p> <p>RURAL WATER Sec. 6106. Reauthorizes the Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grant Program at \$50 million per year through 2023, prioritizing funding of projects that address water contamination posing a threat to human health or the environment. Also creates an interagency task force to study drinking water and surface water contamination in rural communities and submit its findings to Congress.</p> <p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Sec. 6114. Reauthorizes rural economic area partnerships through FY2023.</p>	<p>Modifies the Rural Gigabit Programs, renaming it the Innovative Broadband Advancement Program, which would make grants or loans available for projects demonstrating innovative broadband technologies or methods of deployment, which would decrease costs and provide faster broadband service. The program would give priority to public-private partnerships.</p> <p>Sec. 6113. Extends authorized appropriations of \$150 million annually for loans regarding access to broadband telecommunications services in rural areas.</p> <p>Sec. 6201 Instructs the Secretary to prioritize rural projects that implement strategic community investment plans and reserve program funds for these projects. The proposed language would also allow the USDA to provide assistance to rural communities to develop community investment plans and provide \$5 million annually for this technical assistance.</p> <p>RURAL WATER: Sec. 6208. Reauthorizes the Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grant Program until 2023 and reduces the authorization to \$27 million per year.</p> <p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Sec. 6304.</p>

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<p>Sec. 6119. Reauthorizes the national rural development partnership through FY2023.</p> <p>TASK FORCE ON PRECISION AGRICULTURE See Section 12516.</p>	<p>Directs the Secretary to provide grants or zero interest loans to borrowers to promote rural economic development and job creation projects, including funding for project feasibility studies, startup costs, and incubator projects. The program is authorized for \$10 million annually through FY23.</p> <p>RURAL TELEPHONE BANK Sec. 6602. Repeals the rural telephone bank.</p> <p>TASK FORCE ON PRECISION AGRICULTURE Sec. 6802. Establishes the Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States, which includes representatives from State and local governments.</p>
<p>Research</p>	<p>Research</p>
<p>Sec. 7114. Allows for funds appropriated under the section concerning extension at 1890 land-grant colleges to be carried over beyond the previous restriction of 20 percent and requires a report to Congress describing allocations made to and matching state funds received by the institutions eligible for extension.</p> <p>Sec. 7115. Requires a report to Congress concerning agricultural research at 1890 land-grant colleges describing allocations made to and matching state funds received by eligible institutions for agricultural research.</p> <p>Sec. 7116. – Sec. 7117. Reauthorizes grants for 1890 land-grant colleges and insular area land-grant institutions to upgrade agricultural and food sciences facilities.</p> <p>Sec. 7123. Reauthorizes university research programs, including agricultural research at State agricultural experiment stations.</p> <p>Sec. 7128.</p>	<p>Sec. 7106. Requires the Secretary to submit a report each year on the allocations of Federal funds made to, and matching funds received by, 1890 institutions that receive certain grant funding.</p> <p>Sec. 7114. Establishes a grant program for 1890 institutions for individuals who intend to pursue a career in the food and agricultural sciences. Authorizes \$19 million each year for fiscal years 2019-2023.</p> <p>Sec. 7115 -Sec. 7116. Reauthorizes appropriations through FY23 for grants for 1890 land grant institutions to upgrade agriculture and food sciences facilities.</p> <p>Sec. 7118. Prevents additional entities from being designated as eligible to receive land grant funding, and notes that “no state shall receive an increase in funding under a covered program as a result of the State’s designation of additional entities as eligible to receive such funding”.</p>

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Authorizes an advanced research and development authority pilot program aimed at overcoming challenges related to long-term and high-risk agricultural and food related research and development. Establishes the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Fund in the Treasury and authorizes \$10 million for each of fiscal years 2019-2023 to be appropriated to the Fund, in addition to other amounts available to carry out the section.

Sec. 7133.

Prohibits an increase in the amount of funding a State can receive due to the designation of additional entities as eligible to receive funds under a capacity program. Capacity programs are specified agricultural research, extension, education, and related programs.

Sec. 7134.

Requires the Secretary to establish a grant program to award grants to land grant universities to support individuals intending to pursue a career in food and agricultural sciences. Authorizes \$19 million for each fiscal year for 2019-2023.

Sec. 7213.

Requires the establishment of at least three centers of excellence, each led by a land-grant university, to support activities to ensure students have the skills needed to work in the agriculture and food industries, carry out research and education programs, and share best practices with farmers, among other things. Authorizes \$10 million annually for fiscal years 2019-2023.

Sec. 7405.

Establishes a competitive grant program to support adaptive prototype systems design for extension and education. Entities eligible to receive grants are State agricultural experiment stations and land-grant colleges or universities.

Sec. 7408.

Repeals the Agricultural Research Service review commissioned in 2003.

Sec. 7601.

Reinstates the matching requirements for Federal funds in place before the 2014 Farm Bill.

Sec. 7122.

Reauthorizes appropriations through FY23 for research programs focused on agriculture, including research at State agricultural experiment stations.

<p style="text-align: center;">Senate Farm Bill (S.3042) “Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (June 8, 2018) Committee Approved (June 13, 2018)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">House Farm Bill (H.R. 2) “Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (April 12, 2018) Committee Approved (April 18, 2018) House Passed (June 21, 2018)</p>
<p>Forestry</p>	<p>Forestry</p>
<p>STATE FOREST ACTION PLANS</p> <p>No comparable provisions.</p> <p>LANDSCAPE-SCALE RESTORATION Sec. 8101. Establishes the State and Private Forest Landscape-Scale Restoration Program, authorized at \$20 million per year through FY2023. A competitive grant program to encourage collaborative, science-based, landscape-scale restoration of priority forest landscapes.</p> <p>ESA</p> <p>No comparable provisions.</p> <p>CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS</p> <p>No comparable provisions.</p> <p>WATERSHED CONDITION FRAMEWORK Sec. 8405. Requires the Chief of the Forest Service to establish a Watershed Condition Framework for National Forest System land to evaluate the condition of watersheds to identify priority watersheds for protection and develop an action plan for watershed protection and restoration for each priority watershed. Requires coordination with State, Tribal, and local governments, as well as interest non-Federal partners in the relevant watersheds.</p>	<p>STATE FOREST ACTION PLANS Sec. 8101. Reauthorizes \$10 million per year through FY2023 for state-wide assessment and strategies for forest resources.</p> <p>LANDSCAPE-SCALE RESTORATION Sec. 8104. Reauthorizes the landscape-scale restoration program authorized at \$10 million annually to states to support public benefits derived from state and private forest land.</p> <p>ESA Sec. 8303. Removes the requirement for an Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 consultation if a Forest Service project is found not likely to adversely affect a listed species or allows for an expedited consultation.</p> <p>CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS Subtitle C. Categorical Exclusions. (Sec. 8304) Gives the Secretary discretion in the case of two or more categorical exclusions (CE). (Part II Sec. 8311-8321) Provides the availability of CEs, limited to 6,000 acres, for expediting salvage operations in response to catastrophic events, to meet forest plan goals, and to reduce the risk of wildfire in National Forest System or public lands. Authorizes CEs to remove hazard trees to protect public safety, water supply, or public infrastructure.</p>

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<p>HEALTHY FORESTS RESERVE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION Sec. 8407. Reauthorizes the Healthy Forests Reserve Program through 2023.</p> <p>GNA Sec. 8624. Expands the use of Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) to Indian tribes and counties.</p>	<p>HEALTHY FORESTS RESERVE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION Sec. 8107. Reauthorizes the Healthy Forests Reserve Program through 2023 and makes various changes, including to its purpose and to eligibility for enrollment.</p> <p>GNA Sec. 8331. Expands the use of good neighbor authority (GNA) to Indian Tribes.</p> <p>COMPETITIVE FORESTRY, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS PROGRAM Sec. 8511. Allow for grants in the competitive forestry, natural resources, and environmental grant program to support forest restoration in addition to research. Competitive grants for forest restoration would be awarded based on criteria, including risk posed to the forests of that state by non-native pests, the proportion of the State’s forest composed of species vulnerable to non-native pests, and the pests’ rate of spread.</p>
<p>Energy Sec. 9102. Instructs the Secretary of Agriculture to update the eligibility criteria used to determine which renewable chemicals qualify to receive the “USDA Certified Biobased Product” label. Also instructs the Secretary to establish guidelines for an integrated and expedited eligibility processes for Federal Procurement preference and approved for the “USDA Certified Biobased Product” label.</p> <p>Sec. 9107. Reauthorizes the Rural Energy for America Program at \$50 million (from \$20 million) each year through FY2023, while maintaining mandatory baseline funding of \$50 million per year.</p>	<p>Energy The bill does not include an energy title.</p>
<p>Horticulture Sec. 10107. Reauthorizes through FY 2023 the Specialty Crop Block Grants Program. Updates the State plan to set performance measures and provide best practices; requires the Secretary to provide guidance regarding</p>	<p>Horticulture Sec. 9004. Extends authorized appropriations of \$85 million annually for Specialty Crop Block Grants and directs USDA to enter into cooperative agreements with</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Senate Farm Bill (S.3042) “Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (June 8, 2018) Committee Approved (June 13, 2018)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">House Farm Bill (H.R. 2) “Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (April 12, 2018) Committee Approved (April 18, 2018) House Passed (June 21, 2018)</p>
<p>best practices and priorities, based on stakeholder input, prior to the submission of State plans; adds an evaluation based on performance measures to audit requirements; increases the administrative cap for funds for the Secretary (4 percent) and funds for States (9 percent); and designates the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service as administrator of multistate projects and provides mandatory funding (\$5 million each year) for these projects.</p> <p>Sec. 10111. Allows states to regulate hemp growth and production, based on a state or tribal plan developed by each state’s department of agriculture, in consultation with the Governor and chief law enforcement officer. States and tribes without approved plans would be required to follow federal laws and regulations promulgated on hemp production by USDA.</p> <p>Sec. 10112. Clarifies that nothing in the title authorizes interference with interstate commerce with respect to hemp.</p>	<p>state departments of agriculture to evaluate performance.</p> <p>Subtitle B. Regulatory Reform. (Sec. 9101) Recognizes the role of state lead agencies under Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and authorizes states to establish and maintain uniform regulation of pesticide through cooperative agreements with the Environmental Protection Agency. (Sec. 9118) Eliminates state-delegated National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements for FIFRA pesticide discharges. (Sec. 9119) Enacts into law H.R. 1029, the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2017 (PRIA).</p>
<p>Crop Insurance</p>	<p>Crop Insurance</p>
<p>Sec. 11105. Updates the role of the Specialty Crop Coordinator and requires a Specialty Crop Liaison in each regional office. Requires the Corporation manager to present each year to the Board for review research and development of insurance for a new crop, expansion of existing insurance to additional States or counties, and research and development for a new policy or plan of insurance for crops with existing insurance.</p>	<p>Sec. 10002. Changes the administrative basic fee producers must pay for catastrophic risk protection from \$300 to \$500 per crop per county.</p> <p>Sec. 10010. Eliminates the crop insurance education and information program for targeted states implemented by the Risk Management Agency and Agricultural Management Assistance Program and reauthorizes risk management education and assistance implemented through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.</p>
<p>Misc. Provisions</p>	<p>Misc. Provisions</p>
<p>Sec. 12103. Establishes a National Animal Disease Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Program carried out by USDA through cooperative agreements with state, university, industry, and other partners. Also establishes a National Animal Vaccine and</p>	<p>Sec. 11101. Establishes a new National Animal Preparedness and Response Program to address the risk of introduction and spread of animal diseases that have an adverse effect on livestock and related industries, and authorizes \$70 million in FY19 and at least \$30</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Senate Farm Bill (S.3042) “Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (June 8, 2018) Committee Approved (June 13, 2018)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">House Farm Bill (H.R. 2) “Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018” Bill text, Section-by-section Introduced (April 12, 2018) Committee Approved (April 18, 2018) House Passed (June 21, 2018)</p>
<p>Veterinary Countermeasures Bank and authorizes “such sums as are necessary”.</p> <p>Sec. 12203. Directs response planning for biological disease threats to agriculture in coordination with State authorities.</p> <p>Sec. 12306. Establishes a National Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coordinator and requires the Secretary to designate an employee in each state as the State Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coordinator. The coordinator would be responsible for the creation of a State plan to coordinate outreach and technical assistance in county and area offices.</p> <p>Sec. 12410. Requires 60-day notification of relevant committees before closing a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office or relocating personnel employed within NRCS or the Rural Development mission area.</p> <p>Sec. 12516. Establishes a Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture, which includes representatives from State and local governments.</p> <p>Sec. 12517. Authorizes USDA to improve soil moisture monitoring, including by increasing monitoring stations. Allows the Secretary to coordinate with other Federal agencies and State and local governments, among others, when carrying out certain provisions in the bill.</p> <p>Sec. 12608. Makes conforming changes to the Controlled Substances Act concerning hemp.</p>	<p>million for FY20-23. Also establishes a National Animal Health Vaccine Bank authorized at \$150 million for FY19 and up to \$20 million for FY2023.</p> <p>Sec. 11202. Requires the designation of a State beginning farmer and rancher coordinator from among existing employees. The coordinator would coordinate technical assistance at the State level, work with outreach coordinators in other State offices, and facilitate partnerships and outreach with State regional, state, and local organizations and stakeholders.</p> <p>Sec. 11617. Repeals the 2015 Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule.</p> <p>Sec. 11701. Prohibits a State or locality from imposing a standard or condition on the production or manufacture of any agricultural product sold in interstate commerce if such production occurs in another State and the standard or condition is in addition to standards applicable to such production pursuant to Federal law and the laws of the State and locality where the production occurs.</p> <p>Sec. 11702. Allows for specified entities, including a State government, affected by a regulation of a State or local government which regulates an agricultural product sold in interstate commerce to bring an action in the appropriate court to invalidate such a regulation and seek damages.</p>