

the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

**(5) Small business**

The term “small business” has the meaning given the term “small-business concern” by section 632(a) of title 15.

**(b) Establishment**

The Secretary shall establish a rural electronic commerce extension program to expand and enhance electronic commerce practices and technology to be used by small businesses and microenterprises in rural areas.

**(c) Grants**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall carry out the program established under subsection (b) of this section by making—

(A) grants to each of the development centers; and

(B) competitive grants to land-grant colleges and universities (or consortia of land-grant colleges and universities) and to colleges and universities (including community colleges) with agricultural or rural development programs—

(i) to develop and facilitate innovative rural electronic commerce business strategies; and

(ii) to assist small businesses and microenterprises in identifying, adapting, implementing, and using electronic commerce business practices and technologies.

**(2) Eligibility**

The selection criteria established for grants awarded under paragraph (1)(B) shall include—

(A) the ability of an applicant to provide training and education on best practices, technology transfer, adoption, and use of electronic commerce in rural communities by small businesses and microenterprises;

(B) the extent and geographic diversity of the area served by the proposed project or activity under the extension program;

(C) in the case of a land-grant college or university, the extent of participation of the land-grant college or university in the extension program (including any economic benefits that would result from that participation);

(D) the percentage of funding and in-kind commitments from non-Federal sources that would be needed by and available for a proposed project or activity under the extension program; and

(E) the extent of participation of low-income and minority businesses or microenterprises in a proposed project or activity under the extension program.

**(3) Non-Federal share**

**(A) In general**

As a condition of the receipt of funds under this section, a development center or grant applicant shall agree to obtain from non-Federal sources (including State, local, nonprofit, or private sector sources) contributions of an amount equal to 50 percent of the grant amount.

**(B) Form**

The non-Federal share required under subparagraph (A) may be provided in the form of in-kind contributions.

**(C) Exception**

The non-Federal share required under subparagraph (A) may be reduced to 25 percent if the grant recipient serves low-income or minority-owned businesses or microenterprises, as determined by the Secretary.

**(d) Report**

Not later than 2 years after May 13, 2002, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

(1)<sup>1</sup> the policies, practices, and procedures used to assist rural communities in efforts to adopt and use electronic commerce techniques; and

**(e) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007, of which not less than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the amount made available for each fiscal year shall be used to carry out activities under subsection (c)(1)(A) of this section.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1670, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, §6202, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 419; amended Pub. L. 110-234, title VII, §7511(c)(22), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1269; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VII, §7511(c)(22), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2031.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 5923, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1670, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3769; Pub. L. 102-237, title IV, §407(10), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1865; Pub. L. 104-127, title VIII, §834, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1169, authorized establishment of livestock product safety and inspection program, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-185, title III, §302(c), June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 563.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 110-246, §7511(c)(22), substituted “Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture” for “Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

Amendment by section 7511(c)(22) of Pub. L. 110-246 effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 7511(c) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 1522 of this title.

**§ 5924. Agricultural Genome Initiative**

**(a) Goals**

The goals of this section are—

<sup>1</sup> So in original. No par. (2) has been enacted.

(1) to expand the knowledge of public and private sector entities and persons concerning genomes for species of importance to the food and agriculture sectors in order to maximize the return on the investment in genomics of agriculturally important species;

(2) to focus on the species that will yield scientifically important results that will enhance the usefulness of many agriculturally important species;

(3) to build on genomic research, such as the Human Genome Initiative and the Arabidopsis Genome Project, to understand gene structure and function that is expected to have considerable payoffs in agriculturally important species;

(4) to develop improved bioinformatics to enhance both sequence or structure determination and analysis of the biological function of genes and gene products;

(5) to encourage Federal Government participants to maximize the utility of public and private partnerships for agricultural genome research;

(6) to allow resources developed under this section, including data, software, germplasm, and other biological materials, to be openly accessible to all persons, subject to any confidentiality requirements imposed by law; and

(7) to encourage international partnerships with each partner country responsible for financing its own strategy for agricultural genome research.

#### (b) Duties of Secretary

The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a research initiative (to be known as the “Agricultural Genome Initiative”) for the purpose of—

(1) studying and mapping agriculturally significant genes to achieve sustainable and secure agricultural production;

(2) ensuring that current gaps in existing agricultural genetics knowledge are filled;

(3) identifying and developing a functional understanding of genes responsible for economically important traits in agriculturally important species, including emerging plant and animal pathogens and diseases causing economic hardship;

(4) ensuring future genetic improvement of agriculturally important species;

(5) supporting preservation of diverse germplasm;

(6) ensuring preservation of biodiversity to maintain access to genes that may be of importance in the future;

(7) reducing the economic impact of plant pathogens on commercially important crop plants; and

(8) otherwise carrying out this section.

#### (c) Grants and cooperative agreements

##### (1) Authority

The Secretary may make grants or enter into cooperative agreements with individuals and organizations in accordance with section 3318 of this title.

##### (2) Competitive basis

A grant or cooperative agreement under this subsection shall be made or entered into on a competitive basis.

#### (d) Administration

Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of section 450i of this title shall apply with respect to the making of a grant or cooperative agreement under this section.

#### (e) Matching of funds

##### (1) General requirement

If a grant or cooperative agreement under this section provides a particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, the Secretary shall require the recipient to provide funds or in-kind support to match the amount of funds provided by the Secretary under the grant or cooperative agreement.

##### (2) Waiver

The Secretary may waive the matching funds requirement of paragraph (1) with respect to a research project if the Secretary determines that—

(A) the results of the project, while of particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural commodities generally; or

(B) the project involves a minor commodity, the project deals with scientifically important research, and the recipient is unable to satisfy the matching funds requirement.

#### (f) Consultation with National Academy of Sciences

The Secretary may use funds made available under this section to consult with the National Academy of Sciences regarding the administration of the Agricultural Genome Initiative.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1671, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3769; Pub. L. 104-66, title I, §1011(s), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 710; Pub. L. 104-127, title VIII, §835, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1169; Pub. L. 105-185, title II, §241, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 547; Pub. L. 107-171, title VII, §7208(a), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 442; Pub. L. 110-234, title VII, §7406(d)(2), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1252; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VII, §7406(d)(2), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2013.)

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

#### AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-246, §7406(d)(2), substituted “Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B)” for “Paragraphs (1), (6), (7), and (11)”.

2002—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 107-171, §7208(a)(1), inserted “pathogens and” before “diseases causing economic hardship”.

Subsec. (b)(7), (8). Pub. L. 107-171, §7208(a)(2)-(4), added par. (7) and redesignated former par. (7) as (8).

1998—Pub. L. 105-185 amended section catchline and text generally, substituting present provisions for provisions which in subsec. (a) required plant genome mapping program, in subsec. (b) authorized competitive grants for research projects, in subsec. (c) described research areas for projects, in subsec. (d) set forth deadline for submission of plan for awarding grants, in subsec. (e) directed coordination of section activities with certain related activities, in subsec. (f) required protection of proprietary interests when considered to be appropriate, and in subsec. (g) authorized appropriations for fiscal years 1996 and 1997 to carry out this section.

1996—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 104-127 inserted “for fiscal years 1996 and 1997” after “appropriated”.

1995—Subsecs. (g), (h). Pub. L. 104-66 redesignated subsec. (h) as (g) and struck out former subsec. (g) which required Secretary to submit annual reports to Congress describing operations of grant program for plant genome mapping.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

Amendment by section 7406(d)(2) of Pub. L. 110-246 inapplicable to any solicitation for grant applications issued by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service before June 18, 2008, see section 7406(c) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 450i of this title.

### § 5925. High-priority research and extension initiatives

#### (a) Competitive specialized research and extension grants authorized

The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) may make competitive grants to support research and extension activities specified in subsections (e) through (i) of this section. The Secretary shall make the grants in consultation with the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

#### (b) Administration

##### (1) In general

Except as otherwise provided in this section, paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of section 450i of this title shall apply with respect to the making of grants under this section.

##### (2) Use of task forces

To facilitate the making of research and extension grants under this section in the research and extension areas specified in subsections (e) through (i) of this section, the Secretary may appoint a task force for each such area to make recommendations to the Secretary. The Secretary may not incur costs in excess of \$1,000 for any fiscal year in connection with each task force established under this paragraph.

#### (c) Matching funds required

##### (1) In general

The Secretary shall require the recipient of a grant under this section to provide funds or in-kind support from non-Federal sources in an amount at least equal to the amount provided by the Federal Government.

##### (2) Waiver authority

The Secretary may waive the matching funds requirement specified in paragraph (1) with respect to a research project if the Secretary determines that—

(A) the results of the project, while of particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural commodities generally; or

(B) the project involves a minor commodity, the project deals with scientifically im-

portant research, and the grant recipient is unable to satisfy the matching funds requirement.

#### (d) Partnerships encouraged

Following the completion of a peer review process for grant proposals received under this section, the Secretary shall provide a priority to those grant proposals, found in the peer review process to be scientifically meritorious, that involve the cooperation of multiple entities.

#### (e) High-priority research and extension areas

##### (1) Ethanol research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of carrying out or enhancing research on ethanol derived from agricultural crops as an alternative fuel source.

##### (2) Aflatoxin research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of identifying, improving, and eventually commercializing, aflatoxin controls in corn and other affected agricultural products and crops.

##### (3) Prickly pear research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of investigating enhanced genetic selection and processing techniques of prickly pears.

##### (4) Deer tick ecology research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of studying the population ecology of deer ticks and other insects and pests that transmit Lyme disease.

##### (5) Peanut market enhancement research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of evaluating the economics of applying innovative technologies for peanut processing in a commercial environment.

##### (6) Dairy financial risk management research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of providing research, development, or education materials, information, and outreach programs regarding risk management strategies for dairy producers and for dairy cooperatives and other processors and marketers of milk.

##### (7) Cotton research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of improving pest management, fiber quality enhancement, economic assessment, textile production, and optimized production systems for short staple cotton.

##### (8) Methyl bromide research and extension

Research and extension grants may be made under this section for the purpose of—

(A) developing and evaluating chemical and nonchemical alternatives, and use and emission reduction strategies, for pre-planting and post-harvest uses of methyl bromide; and

(B) transferring the results of the research for use by agricultural producers.