

(2) an assessment of the effects of the policy initiatives identified under subsection (d)(2).

**(f) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(May 20, 1936, ch. 432, title VI, § 602, as added Pub. L. 110-234, title VI, § 6111, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1203, and Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title VI, § 6111, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1965.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment 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, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of this title.

**CHAPTER 31A—TELEMEDICINE AND DISTANCE LEARNING SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS**

Sec.	Purpose.
950aaa.	Definitions.
950aaa-1.	Definitions.
950aaa-2.	Telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas.
950aaa-3.	Administration.
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TERMINATION OF CHAPTER

*For termination of chapter by section 1(b) of Pub. L. 102-551, see note set out under section 950aaa of this title.*

**§ 950aaa. Purpose**

The purpose of this chapter is to encourage and improve telemedicine services and distance learning services in rural areas through the use of telecommunications, computer networks, and related advanced technologies by students, teachers, medical professionals, and rural residents.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, § 2331, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, § 704, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1108.)

TERMINATION OF SECTION

*For termination of section by section 1(b) of Pub. L. 102-551, see Termination of Chapter note set out below.*

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 950aaa, Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, § 2331, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4017, provided purposes of chapter, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 104-127.

TERMINATION OF CHAPTER

Pub. L. 102-551, § 1(b), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4100, as amended by Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, § 6203(b), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 421; Pub. L. 110-234, title VI, § 6201(c), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1206, and Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title VI, § 6201(c), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1967, provided that: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XXIII of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C.

950aaa et seq.), including the amendments made by this section [enacting section 950aaa-5 of this title and amending section 950aaa-4 of this title], shall be effective until September 30, 2012 [extended to Sept. 30, 2013, see section 701(a) of Pub. L. 112-240, set out in a 1-Year Extension of Agricultural Programs note under section 8701 of this title]."

**§ 950aaa-1. Definitions**

In this chapter:

**(1) Construct**

The term "construct" means to construct, acquire, install, improve, or extend a facility or system.

**(2) Cost of money loan**

The term "cost of money loan" means a loan made under this chapter bearing interest at a rate equal to the then current cost to the Federal Government of loans of similar maturity.

**(3) Secretary**

The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, § 2332, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, § 704, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1108.)

TERMINATION OF SECTION

*For termination of section by section 1(b) of Pub. L. 102-551, see Termination of Chapter note set out under section 950aaa of this title.*

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 950aaa-1, Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, § 2332, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4017; Pub. L. 102-237, title VII, § 702(g), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1880, provided goal of Federal Government to make affordable advanced telecommunications available to rural residents, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 104-127.

**§ 950aaa-2. Telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas**

**(a) Services to rural areas**

The Secretary may provide financial assistance for the purpose of financing the construction of facilities and systems to provide telemedicine services and distance learning services in rural areas.

**(b) Financial assistance**

**(1) In general**

Financial assistance shall consist of grants or cost of money loans, or both.

**(2) Form**

The Secretary shall determine the portion of the financial assistance provided to a recipient that consists of grants and the portion that consists of cost of money loans so as to result in the maximum feasible repayment to the Federal Government of the financial assistance, based on the ability to repay of the recipient and full utilization of funds made available to carry out this chapter.

**(c) Recipients**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary may provide financial assistance under this chapter to—

(A) entities using telemedicine services or distance learning services;