

Service, for the Federal share of the cost of acquiring radio transmitters to increase coverage of rural areas by the all hazards weather radio broadcast system of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) Eligibility

To be eligible for a grant under this section, an applicant shall provide to the Secretary—

- (1) a binding commitment from a tower owner to place the transmitter on a tower; and
- (2) a description of how the tower placement will increase coverage of a rural area by the all hazards weather radio broadcast system of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(c) Federal share

A grant provided under this section shall be not more than 75 percent of the total cost of acquiring a radio transmitter, as described in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §379B, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, §6024, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 371; amended Pub. L. 110-234, title VI, §6021, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1172; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VI, §6021, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1934.)

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 L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub.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, §6021, substituted “2008 through 2012” for “2002 through 2007”.

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, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

§ 2008q. Grants to train farm workers in new technologies and to train farm workers in specialized skills necessary for higher value crops

(a) In general

The Secretary shall make grants to nonprofit organizations, or to a consortium of nonprofit organizations, agribusinesses, State and local governments, agricultural labor organizations, farmer or rancher cooperatives, and community-based organizations with the capacity to train farm workers.

(b) Use of funds

An entity to which a grant is made under this section shall use the grant to train farm workers to use new technologies and develop specialized skills for agricultural development.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §379C, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, §6025, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 372.)

§ 2008q-1. Grants to improve supply, stability, safety, and training of agricultural labor force

(a) Definition of eligible entity

In this section, the term “eligible entity” means an entity described in section 2008q(a) of this title.

(b) Grants

(1) In general

To assist agricultural employers and farmworkers by improving the supply, stability, safety, and training of the agricultural labor force, the Secretary may provide grants to eligible entities for use in providing services to assist farmworkers who are citizens or otherwise legally present in the United States in securing, retaining, upgrading, or returning from agricultural jobs.

(2) Eligible services

The services referred to in paragraph (1) include—

- (A) agricultural labor skills development;
- (B) the provision of agricultural labor market information;
- (C) transportation;
- (D) short-term housing while in transit to an agricultural worksite;
- (E) workplace literacy and assistance with English as a second language;
- (F) health and safety instruction, including ways of safeguarding the food supply of the United States; and
- (G) such other services as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(c) Limitation on administrative expenses

Not more than 15 percent of the funds made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year may be used to pay for administrative expenses.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 110-234, title XIV, §14204, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1459; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XIV, §14204, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2221.)

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.

Section was enacted as part of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, and not as part of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

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.

DEFINITION OF “SECRETARY”

“Secretary” as meaning the Secretary of Agriculture, see section 8701 of this title.

§ 2008r. Delta region agricultural economic development

(a) In general

The Secretary may make grants to assist in the development of state-of-the-art technology in animal nutrition (including research and development of the technology) and value-added manufacturing to promote an economic platform for the Delta region (as defined in section 2009aa of this title) to relieve severe economic conditions.

(b) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$7,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §379D, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, §6027(i), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 374.)

§ 2008s. Rural microentrepreneur assistance program

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Indian tribe

The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 450b of title 25.

(2) Microentrepreneur

The term “microentrepreneur” means an owner and operator, or prospective owner and operator, of a rural microenterprise who is unable to obtain sufficient training, technical assistance, or credit other than under this section, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) Microenterprise development organization

The term “microenterprise development organization” means an organization that—

(A) is—

(i) a nonprofit entity;

(ii) an Indian tribe, the tribal government of which certifies to the Secretary that—

(I) no microenterprise development organization serves the Indian tribe; and

(II) no rural microentrepreneur assistance program exists under the jurisdiction of the Indian tribe; or

(iii) a public institution of higher education;

(B) provides training and technical assistance to rural microentrepreneurs;

(C) facilitates access to capital or another service described in subsection (b) for rural microenterprises; and

(D) has a demonstrated record of delivering services to rural microentrepreneurs, or an effective plan to develop a program to deliver services to rural microentrepreneurs, as determined by the Secretary.

(4) Microloan

The term “microloan” means a business loan of not more than \$50,000 that is provided to a rural microenterprise.

(5) Program

The term “program” means the rural microentrepreneur assistance program established under subsection (b).

(6) Rural microenterprise

The term “rural microenterprise” means—

(A) a sole proprietorship located in a rural area; or

(B) a business entity with not more than 10 full-time-equivalent employees located in a rural area.

(b) Rural microentrepreneur assistance program

(1) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a rural microentrepreneur assistance program to provide loans and grants to support microentrepreneurs in the development and ongoing success of rural microenterprises.

(2) Purpose

The purpose of the program is to provide microentrepreneurs with—

(A) the skills necessary to establish new rural microenterprises; and

(B) continuing technical and financial assistance related to the successful operation of rural microenterprises.

(3) Loans

(A) In general

The Secretary shall make loans to microenterprise development organizations for the purpose of providing fixed interest rate microloans to microentrepreneurs for start-up and growing rural microenterprises.

(B) Loan terms

A loan made by the Secretary to a microenterprise development organization under this paragraph shall—

(i) be for a term not to exceed 20 years; and

(ii) bear an annual interest rate of at least 1 percent.

(C) Loan loss reserve fund

The Secretary shall require each microenterprise development organization that receives a loan under this paragraph to—

(i) establish a loan loss reserve fund; and

(ii) maintain the reserve fund in an amount equal to at least 5 percent of the outstanding balance of such loans owed by the microenterprise development organization, until all obligations owed to the Secretary under this paragraph are repaid.

(D) Deferral of interest and principal

The Secretary may permit the deferral of payments on principal and interest due on a loan to a microenterprise development organization made under this paragraph for a 2-year period beginning on the date the loan is made.

(4) Grants

(A) Grants to support rural microenterprise development

(i) In general

The Secretary shall make grants to microenterprise development organizations to—

(I) provide training, operational support, business planning, and market development assistance, and other related