

“(4) Section 1323(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-198; 7 U.S.C. 1932 note).

“(5) Title V and section 603(c) of the Rural Development Act of 1972 (7 U.S.C. 2661-2669 and 2204a(c)).

“(6) Sections 5 and 311 and title IV of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. [former] 905, [former] 940a, and 941-950b).”

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12720

Ex. Ord. No. 12720, July 16, 1990, 55 F.R. 29337, as amended by Ex. Ord. No. 12783, Dec. 17, 1991, 56 F.R. 65977, which established the President’s Council on Rural America, was revoked by Ex. Ord. No. 12869, § 4(c), Sept. 30, 1993, 58 F.R. 51751, formerly set out as a note under section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

EX. ORD. NO. 13575. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WHITE HOUSE RURAL COUNCIL

Ex. Ord. No. 13575, June 9, 2011, 76 F.R. 34841, provided:

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America and in order to enhance Federal engagement with rural communities, it is hereby ordered as follows:

**SECTION 1. Policy.** Sixteen percent of the American population lives in rural counties. Strong, sustainable rural communities are essential to winning the future and ensuring American competitiveness in the years ahead. These communities supply our food, fiber, and energy, safeguard our natural resources, and are essential in the development of science and innovation. Though rural communities face numerous challenges, they also present enormous economic potential. The Federal Government has an important role to play in order to expand access to the capital necessary for economic growth, promote innovation, improve access to health care and education, and expand outdoor recreational activities on public lands.

To enhance the Federal Government’s efforts to address the needs of rural America, this order establishes a council to better coordinate Federal programs and maximize the impact of Federal investment to promote economic prosperity and quality of life in our rural communities.

**SEC. 2. Establishment.** There is established a White House Rural Council (Council).

**SEC. 3. Membership.** (a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall serve as the Chair of the Council, which shall also include the heads of the following executive branch departments, agencies, and offices:

- (1) the Department of the Treasury;
- (2) the Department of Defense;
- (3) the Department of Justice;
- (4) the Department of the Interior;
- (5) the Department of Commerce;
- (6) the Department of Labor;
- (7) the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (8) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- (9) the Department of Transportation;
- (10) the Department of Energy;
- (11) the Department of Education;
- (12) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- (13) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (14) the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (15) the Federal Communications Commission;
- (16) the Office of Management and Budget;
- (17) the Office of Science and Technology Policy;
- (18) the Office of National Drug Control Policy;
- (19) the Council of Economic Advisers;
- (20) the Domestic Policy Council;
- (21) the National Economic Council;
- (22) the Small Business Administration;
- (23) the Council on Environmental Quality;
- (24) the White House Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs;
- (25) the White House Office of Cabinet Affairs; and such other executive branch departments, agencies, and

offices as the President or the Secretary of Agriculture may, from time to time, designate.

(b) A member of the Council may designate, to perform the Council functions of the member, a senior-level official who is part of the member’s department, agency, or office, and who is a full-time officer or employee of the Federal Government.

(c) The Department of Agriculture shall provide funding and administrative support for the Council to the extent permitted by law and within existing appropriations.

(d) The Council shall coordinate its policy development through the Domestic Policy Council and the National Economic Council.

**SEC. 4. Mission and Function of the Council.** The Council shall work across executive departments, agencies, and offices to coordinate development of policy recommendations to promote economic prosperity and quality of life in rural America, and shall coordinate my Administration’s engagement with rural communities. The Council shall:

(a) make recommendations to the President, through the Director of the Domestic Policy Council and the Director of the National Economic Council, on streamlining and leveraging Federal investments in rural areas, where appropriate, to increase the impact of Federal dollars and create economic opportunities to improve the quality of life in rural America;

(b) coordinate and increase the effectiveness of Federal engagement with rural stakeholders, including agricultural organizations, small businesses, education and training institutions, health-care providers, telecommunications services providers, research and land grant institutions, law enforcement, State, local, and tribal governments, and nongovernmental organizations regarding the needs of rural America;

(c) coordinate Federal efforts directed toward the growth and development of geographic regions that encompass both urban and rural areas; and

(d) identify and facilitate rural economic opportunities associated with energy development, outdoor recreation, and other conservation related activities.

**SEC. 5. General Provisions.** (a) The heads of executive departments and agencies shall assist and provide information to the Council, consistent with applicable law, as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Council. Each executive department and agency shall bear its own expense for participating in the Council.

(b) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) authority granted by law to an executive department, agency, or the head thereof; or
- (ii) functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(c) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(d) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

BARACK OBAMA.

**§ 2204b-1. Rural development**

**(a) Congressional commitment**

The Congress commits itself to a sound balance between rural and urban America. The Congress considers this balance so essential to the peace, prosperity, and welfare of all our citizens that the highest priority must be given to the revitalization and development of rural areas.

**(b) Location of Federal facilities**

Congress hereby directs the heads of all executive departments and agencies of the Govern-

ment to establish and maintain departmental policies and procedures giving first priority to the location of new offices and other facilities in rural areas as defined in the private business enterprise exception in section 1926(a)(7)<sup>1</sup> of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-524, title IX, §901, Nov. 30, 1970, 84 Stat. 1383; Pub. L. 92-419, title VI, §601, Aug. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 674; Pub. L. 94-273, §7(3), Apr. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 378; Pub. L. 96-355, §6, Sept. 24, 1980, 94 Stat. 1174.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1926(a)(7) of this title, referred to in subsec. (b), was repealed and a new section 1926(a)(7) was added by Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §741(a)(2), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1123. As added, section 1926(a)(7) of this title defined “rural areas” but no longer contained provisions relating to a private business enterprise exception. Subsequently, section 1926(a)(7) was repealed by Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, §6020(b)(1), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 363.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 3122 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

#### AMENDMENTS

1980—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-355 struck out provisions respecting annual report to Congress by the President covering efforts, etc., made for locating all new facilities.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-355 struck out subsec. (c) which related to planning assistance and annual report to Congress respecting such assistance.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-355 struck out subsec. (d) which related to information and technical assistance and annual report to Congress respecting such assistance.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 96-355 struck out subsec. (e) which related to provision of government services and annual report to Congress respecting such services.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 96-355 struck out subsec. (f) which required report to Congress by July 1, 1971, relating to implementation of rural financial assistance requirements.

1976—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 94-273 substituted “December” for “September”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 94-273 substituted “December 1 of” for “September 1 of”.

1972—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 92-419 struck out “insofar as practicable,” after “maintain” and substituted “policies and procedures giving first priority to the location of new offices and other facilities in rural areas as defined in the private business enterprise exception in section 1926(a)(7) of this title”, for “policies and procedures with respect to the location of new offices and other facilities in areas or communities of lower population density in preference to areas or communities of high population densities”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-355 effective Oct. 1, 1980, see section 10 of Pub. L. 96-355, set out as an Effective Date note under section 2204b of this title.

#### EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11797

Ex. Ord. No. 11797, July 31, 1974, 39 F.R. 27893, which delegated to the Secretary of Agriculture the President’s authority to prepare and submit to Congress annual reports concerning the location of new Federal facilities in rural areas, was revoked by Ex. Ord. No. 12553, Feb. 25, 1986, 51 F.R. 7237.

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

## § 2204c. Water management for rural areas

### (a) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, directly or in coordination with any other Federal agency, entity, corporation, department, unit of State or local government, cooperative, confederation, individual, public or private organization, Indian tribe, or university, to—

- (1) conduct research and demonstration projects;
- (2) provide technical assistance and extension services;
- (3) make grants, loans, and loan guarantees; and
- (4) provide other forms of assistance, for the purpose of helping rural areas make better and more efficient use of water resources and to alleviate problems arising in such areas from droughts or lack of water.

### (b) Activities

The Secretary is authorized to provide assistance under this section for the promotion or establishment of irrigation, watersheds, and other water management and drought management activities, including water transmission, application, and activation.

### (c) Cooperation

In implementing this section, the Secretary—

- (1) should address the general, special, and unique problems of water management existing in rural areas;
- (2) may take action independently or in cooperation with Federal, State, public, or private entities and agencies; and
- (3) shall cooperate with—

(A) cooperatives, public or private organizations, confederations, authorities, or other entities (including such entities that may be organized under multiple State agreements or compacts and entities created under State law) to carry out projects authorized under this section; and

(B) water, watershed, and sewer authorities, rural electric cooperatives, Federal agencies, and other State or local governments or agencies.

### (d) Regulations

(1) The Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out this section.

(2) Such regulations shall—

(A) specify the terms and conditions that the entities described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section must meet in order to participate in programs carried out under this section;

(B) establish a procedure under which entities described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section may apply for assistance under this section; and

(C) foster cooperation between such entities and other Federal, State, or local agencies for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section.

### (e) “University” defined

As used in this section, the term “university” means—

- (1) a land grant university established under the Act of July 2, 1862 (known as the “First