

production, processing, or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products: *Provided further*, That on and after December 26, 2007, this paragraph shall not apply to research on the medical, biotechnological, food, and industrial uses of tobacco.

(Pub. L. 110–161, div. A, title I, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 1851.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This heading, referred to in text, refers to the headings “COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE” and “RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES” of title I of div. A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, Pub. L. 110–161.

### § 2255. Membership in International Wheat Advisory Committee, International Sugar Council, etc.

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to expend funds, available for agricultural conservation, adjustment, and land use programs, for the share of the United States as a member of the International Wheat Advisory Committee, the International Sugar Council, or like events or bodies concerned with the objectives of said program, together with traveling and other necessary expenses relating thereto: *Provided*, That expenditures under this authority shall not be made unless provision is made therefor in the applicable appropriation and the cost thereof is not in excess of limitations prescribed therein.

(Sept. 21, 1944, ch. 412, title VII, §701(a), 58 Stat. 741.)

#### CODIFICATION

This section was enacted as part of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944.

Section was formerly classified to sections 570 and 574 of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89–554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of all officers, agencies, and employees of Department of Agriculture transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, §1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

### § 2255a. Financial assistance to national and international conferences

On and after October 21, 1993, appropriations available to the Department of Agriculture can be used to provide financial assistance to the organizers of national and international conferences, if such conferences are in support of agency programs.

(Pub. L. 103–111, title I, Oct. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 1050.)

### § 2255b. Department of Agriculture conference transparency

#### (a) Report

##### (1) Requirement

Not later than September 30 of each year, the Secretary of Agriculture 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 on conferences sponsored or held by

the Department of Agriculture or attended by employees of the Department of Agriculture.

#### (2) Contents

Each report under paragraph (1) shall contain—

(A) for each conference sponsored or held by the Department or attended by employees of the Department—

(i) the name of the conference;

(ii) the location of the conference;

(iii) the number of Department of Agriculture employees attending the conference; and

(iv) the costs (including travel expenses) relating to such conference; and

(B) for each conference sponsored or held by the Department of Agriculture for which the Department awarded a procurement contract, a description of the contracting procedures related to such conference.

#### (3) Exclusions

The requirement in paragraph (1) shall not apply to any conference—

(A) for which the cost to the Federal Government was less than \$10,000; or

(B) outside of the United States that is attended by the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee as an official representative of the United States government.

#### (b) Availability of report

Each report submitted in accordance with subsection (a) shall be posted in a searchable format on a Department of Agriculture website that is available to the public.

#### (c) Definition of conference

In this section, the term “conference”—

(1) means a meeting that—

(A) is held for consultation, education, awareness, or discussion;

(B) includes participants from at least one agency of the Department of Agriculture;

(C) is held in whole or in part at a facility outside of an agency of the Department of Agriculture; and

(D) involves costs associated with travel and lodging for some participants; and

(2) does not include any training program that is continuing education or a curriculum-based educational program, provided that such training program is held independent of a conference of a non-governmental organization.

(Pub. L. 110–234, title XIV, §14208, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1462; Pub. L. 110–246, §4(a), title XIV, §14208, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2224.)

#### 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.