

Senate's Farm Bill

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with the 1989 crop of honey, the program is terminated.

CONSERVATION:

-Includes "sodbuster" and "swampbuster" provisions that provides that any person who produces any agricultural commodity on highly erodible land and certain wetlands will be ineligible, as to any commodity produced that crop year, for payments and assistance under government agricultural programs.

-Establishes a conservation acreage reserve program of 40 million acres of erosion-prone land. At least 5 million acres must go into the reserve in the 1986 crop year, another 10 million acres in each of crop years 1987, 1988, and 1989, and the final 5 million acres by the close of crop year 1990. The Secretary is given authority to enter into contracts with producers of 7-15 years. At least 5 million of the total acres entered into the reserve must be devoted to trees. Also required is a 50 percent cost sharing in establishing the appropriate cover crops for the reserve. In determining the acceptability of contract offers, the Secretary is required to give priority to producers facing the highest degree of economic stress.

RESEARCH:

-Generally extends the current

agricultural research programs. Authorizes the Secretary to enter into cooperative agreements with private agencies, organizations, and individuals on a cost sharing or cost reimbursement basis for the development of new agricultural technology. Includes research to develop new and alternative industrial uses for agricultural crops as high priority research for competitive grants, and research to formulate new uses for farm and forest products, and designates the Department of Agriculture as the lead agency for establishing appropriate controls for the development and use of the application of biotechnology to agriculture.

CREDIT:

-Consolidates the FmHA farm ownership and farm operating loan programs into one lending program with an annual authorization of \$4 billion annually for FY 86-88, apportioned as follows: FY 86-\$2 billion for direct loans, of which not less than \$260 million must be used for farm ownership loans, and \$2 billion for guarantees, of which not less than \$260 million must be used for ownership loans. FY 87-\$1.5 billion for direct loans, of which not less than \$195 million must be used for ownership loans, and \$2.5 for guarantees, of which not less than

\$325 million must be used for ownership loans; FY88-\$1 billion for direct loans, of which not less than \$130 million must be used for ownership loans, and \$3 billion for guarantees, of which not less than \$390 million must be used for ownership loans. The Secretary may shift up to 20 percent of the funds for loan guarantees into the insured loan fund.

-Participation in the crop insurance program is encouraged by restricting access to the emergency disaster loan program to eligible producers who have suffered physical losses and eligible producers who do not have access to Federal crop insurance.

-Requires the Secretary to establish a 3-year interest rate buydown program for FmHA guaranteed loans, funded at a level of \$490 million over 3 years. Eligible guaranteed loan borrowers can receive up to a 2 percent buydown.

-The current cap on emergency disaster loans is retained at \$500,000. The bill requires that disaster loans be made available to producers in disaster counties who double crop if they have experienced a 50 percent loss on one crop.

ANIMAL WELFARE:

-Requires the Secretary of Agriculture to issue new regulations governing laboratory animal research and transportation. These regulations will

cover such areas as:

-the exercise of dogs and the maintenance of an environment to promote the psychological well-being of primates;

-consideration of alternatives to research procedures involving pain;

-the use of adequate anesthetics, analgesics, and tranquilizers in

animal research;

-the establishment of institutional animal committees to inspect the research facility and to ensure compliance with animal standards; and

-annual training of research scientists and technicians in humane practices of animal maintenance and experimentation.



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