

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Table CD-1. 2026 Congressional Directives

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
OBPA	Quarterly Briefings	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement directs the Department to provide no less than quarterly briefings by agency or mission area to the Committees.	Quarterly Briefing
OBPA	Loans and Grant Programs	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs that if an estimate of loan activity for any program funded in Titles II and III of this bill indicates that a limitation on authority to make commitments for a fiscal year will be reached before the end of that fiscal year, or in any event when 75 percent of the authority to make commitments has been utilized, the Secretary shall promptly notify the Committees through OBPA. The Committee directs the Department, through OBPA, to provide quarterly reports to the Committees on the status of obligations and funds availability for the loan and grant programs provided in this bill.	Quarterly Report
OBPA	New Initiatives Quarterly Reports	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee requests quarterly reports on these initiatives until the initiative has been fully implemented.	Quarterly Report
OBPA	Staffing Levels and Funding Levels- Quarterly	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a unified quarterly report detailing staffing levels and obligated balances across the Department. Staffing data should provide detail by agency, including current levels and end-of-year goals, and the source of appropriations, notated by the authority's citation, supporting each staffing level. Obligation data should include year-to-date obligations and current balances at the mission area, agency, and program level, broken down by source of appropriation and the number of FTEs supported by each Program, Project, or Activity. SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a unified quarterly report detailing staffing levels and obligated balances across the Department. Staffing data should provide detail by agency, including current levels and end of year goals. Obligation data should include year-to-date obligations and current balances at the	Quarterly Report

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			mission area, agency, and program level. The obligation data shall also include a comparison of the obligations incurred in the period covered by the update for this fiscal year to the obligations incurred in the same period in the previous two fiscal years.	
OBPA	Staffing Levels-Monthly	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement directs OBPA to provide the Committees with the number of staff years and employees on board for each agency funded by this act on a monthly basis.	Monthly Report
OBPA	Status of House and Senate Report Language	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Department is directed to include in its fiscal year 2027 Congressional Justification, as a single exhibit, a table listing all deliverables, with a column for due dates if applicable. OBPA is directed to provide updates on the status of House and Senate reports upon request from the Committees.	Congressional Justification
OBPA	Status of House and Senate Reports	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: OBPA is directed to provide updates on the status of House and Senate reports upon request from the Committees.	As Directed Report
OBPA	Spending Plans	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The bill continues a provision in Title VII that requires USDA to submit spending plans to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this Act. Previous versions of these plans have not included adequate details that would be useful for Committee oversight. The Committee requests that USDA spending plans include for each program, project, or activity: (1) a comparison between the budget justification funding levels, the most recent Congressional directives or approved funding levels, and the funding levels proposed by the department or agency; and (2) a clear, concise, and informative description/justification.	12/12/2025
OBPA	Org Charts	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement directs the Office of Budget and Program Analysis [OBPA] of the U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA] to provide an organizational chart for each agency funded by this act to the division and	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			subdivision level, as appropriate, within 60 days of enactment of this act.	
OBPA	New Initiatives Execution Plan	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs USDA, no later than 120 days after enactment, to submit an execution plan for each new initiative funded in this Act. This strategy should include, but is not limited to, the steps necessary to make funding available, the timeline thereof, targeted beneficiaries, and expected results.	3/12/2026
OBPA	Critical Inputs	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report within 180 days of enactment on the dependency on the People's Republic of China on critical agricultural inputs such as animal feed, including vitamins, minerals, and amino acids, crop protection chemicals, and veterinary drugs and vaccines, and recommend legislative or regulatory actions to reduce barriers to onshore production and mitigate potential supply chain disruptions that could be exploited by the People's Republic of China.	5/11/2026
OC	Rural News Media and Advertising Campaigns	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to utilize local news media in rural areas for USDA advertising campaigns to reach citizens in these communities with key messages. Local media should include newspapers, including non-daily newspapers, television, and radio. The Committee directs the Office of the Secretary to update the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this act on the efforts of the Department, including the Agricultural Marketing Service, Rural Development, the Farm Service Agency, and the Food and Nutrition Service, in utilization of local media in rural areas as part of the Department's advertising campaigns for fiscal year 2026.	3/12/2026
OCFO	National Finance Center (NFC)	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: The National Finance Center (NFC) is the largest designated Federal Government Payroll Shared Service Provider, and it provides integrated payroll and personnel services for over 640,000 Federal employees. To ensure that thousands of Federal employees pay and human resources services are not interrupted or adversely	Quarterly Report

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			impacted by major organizational changes, the Committee continues requirements under current law relating to NFC payroll and shared services operations, missions, personnel, and functions. The Committee also directs USDA to provide quarterly reports on full-time equivalent (FTE) levels for each of the current NFC divisions, operations, and functions, as well as each of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) and Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) divisions, operations, and functions currently co-located with the NFC. The reports also are to include a detailed breakdown of the FTEs for each and any of these same divisions, functions, or operations for the NFC and the co-located OCFO and OCIO functions compared to those during FY 2017 and 2018. SR: The Committee also directs the USDA to provide quarterly reports on full-time equivalent [FTE] levels for each of the current NFC divisions, operations, and functions, as well as each of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer [OCFO] and Office of the Chief Information Officer [OCIO] divisions, operations, and functions currently co-located with the NFC. The reports also are to include a detailed breakdown of the FTEs for each and any of these same divisions, functions, or operations for the NFC and the co-located OCFO and OCIO functions compared to those during fiscal years 2017 and 2018.	
OCFO	Sec 725 Credit Card Refunds and Rebates	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: SEC. 725. None of the credit card refunds or rebates transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to section 729 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (7 U.S.C. 2235a; Public Law 107-76) shall be available for obligation without written notification to, and the prior approval of, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: Provided, That the refunds or rebates so transferred shall be	As Directed Notification

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			available for obligation only for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment, including equipment for the improvement, delivery, and implementation of Departmental financial management, information technology, and other support systems necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services, including cloud adoption and migration, of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture.	
OCFO	Funding Status Reports	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: Within 30 days of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a written report that provides a list of each grant, cooperative agreement, and contract award that was delayed, terminated, or otherwise withheld for more than five days in calendar year 2025. The report shall include a justification for delay, termination, or withholding for each grant, contract, and cooperative agreement, the location of the project or service, the amount of the award, the current status of the award, and the source of funding.	12/12/2025
OSEC	OCR Obligations	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: That no funds made available under this heading for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency:	As Directed Notification
OSEC	Sec 716 Reprogramming Notification	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming, transfer of funds, or reimbursements as	As Directed Notification

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			authorized by the Economy Act, or in the case of the Department of Agriculture, through use of the authority provided by section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257) or section 8 of Public Law 89-106 (7 U.S.C. 2263), that— (1) creates new programs; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming of such funds or the use of such authority. (b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming or use of the of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that— (1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities; (2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or (3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the	

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming or transfer of such funds or the use of such authority. (c) The Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify in writing and receive approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before implementing any program or activity not carried out during the previous fiscal year unless the program or activity is funded by this Act or specifically funded by any other Act. (d) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for— (1) modifying major capital investments funding levels, including information technology systems, that involves increasing or decreasing funds in the current fiscal year for the individual investment in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent of the total cost, whichever is less; (2) realigning or reorganizing new, current, or vacant positions or agency activities or functions to establish a center, office, branch, or similar entity with five or more personnel; or (3) carrying out activities or functions that were not described in the budget request; unless the agencies funded by this Act notify, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of using the funds for these purposes. (e) As described in this section, no funds may be used for any activities unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services receives from the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress written or electronic mail confirmation of receipt of the notification as required in this section.	

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
OSEC	Sec 724 Loan and Loan Programs	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: SEC. 724. For loans and loan guarantees that do not require budget authority and for which the program level has been established in this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may increase the program level for such loans and loan guarantees by not more than 25 percent: Provided, That prior to the Secretary implementing such an increase, the Secretary notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 15 days in advance.	As Directed Notification
OSEC	Customer Service	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee continues to support the Departments efforts to improve customer service. The Committee directs the Secretary to develop standards to improve customer service, incorporate the standards into the performance plans required under 31 U.S.C. 1115, and submit a report on these efforts within 60 days of enactment of this Act.	1/11/2026
OSEC	Communication from USDA- Notifying on Major Changes	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: A collaborative working relationship between the Committee and USDA is necessary to ensure efficient and effective implementation of Congress' funding decisions. USDA is directed to continue notifying the Committee of major changes to existing policies and any significant developments in its operations before providing non-governmental stakeholders such information, before making the changes public, and before implementing them. SR: A collaborative working relationship between the Committee and USDA is necessary to ensure efficient and effective implementation of Congress' funding decisions. USDA is directed to continue notifying the Committee of major changes to existing policies and any significant developments in its operations before providing non-governmental stakeholders such information, before making the changes public, and before implementing them.	As Directed Notification

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
OSEC	Communications Services for Limited English Proficient Communities.	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee supports efforts to improve communications, which should include mediums such as television and radio, to reach limited English proficient [LEP] communities. The Committee encourages the Department to review its practices and create uniform applications across all Department agencies to strengthen communication practices to include digital, television, and radio advertising when working with LEP communities. The Department shall report to the Committee no later than 60 days after the enactment of this act on planned expenditures in fiscal year 2026 to reach LEP communities, including local media advertising.	1/11/2026
OSEC	Improving Coordination in Safeguarding America's Food Supply	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee strongly supports efforts to provide Americans with healthier food choices but is concerned by the lack of coordination and transparency between USDA, FDA, and CDC in safeguarding our nation's food supply, particularly during foodborne illness outbreak investigations. The Committee directs the USDA Secretary, FDA Commissioner, and CDC Director to provide recommendations on ways to improve interagency collaboration in order to efficiently deploy inspectional resources, conduct coordinated outbreak investigations, and provide unified messages to the American public. These recommendations should also include ways to work with industry to improve food safety. The Committee requests a report from USDA, FDA, and CDC on these recommendations within 90 days of enactment of this Act to ensure that U.S. consumers have access to safe, healthy and affordable foods.	2/10/2026
OSEC	U.S. Fiber Processing	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee encourages USDA to identify programs, such as Value-Added Producer Grants and the Business and Industry Loan Program, that can support the production and processing of plant-based fiber crops, such as cotton, hemp, and flax, and animal-based fibers such as wool, alpaca, and leather. The Committee requests a briefing within 180 days of enactment of this	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			Act on Agency efforts to bolster support for plant and animal-based fiber production and processing in the U.S.	
OSEC	Interstate Commerce of Agricultural Products	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report on the impact of State statutes and regulations on food prices and industry consolidation within 180 days of the enactment of this Act. Such report shall provide recommendations of actions that can be taken to alleviate the impacts of these policies while also respecting States' rights.	5/11/2026
OSEC	Seafood and Aquaculture Report	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes that American demand for seafood has increased significantly and supports increasing the production of domestic aquaculture. The Committee requests a report no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act that evaluates USDA's role, and includes recommendations, for supporting the U.S. aquaculture and the seafood industry. The report should include USDA expenditures, over the last three fiscal years, on seafood and aquaculture purchases; seafood and aquaculture promotion and outreach; the number and amount of grants made to the seafood and aquaculture industries; and the number and amount of grants made to facilitate seafood and aquaculture research.	5/11/2026
OTR	Tribal Self-Determination	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a plan for expanding Tribal self-determination beyond the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations and Tribal Forestry program pilots, including, where possible, through expanding 638 contract authority.	3/12/2026
ERS	Local Food Procurement	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee further directs USDA (Economic Research Service in cooperation with the Office of Contracts and Procurement, Agricultural Marketing Service and Food and Nutrition Service) to report within 180 days of enactment of this act on barriers to local procurement, pathways to overcome the barriers, and recommendations to enhance access to and affordability	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			of locally grown foods across nutrition assistance programs.	
ERS	International Commodity Trade	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee recognizes the economic importance of international trade for U.S. agricultural commodities and believes that producers and markets would benefit from having access to additional data on the country of destination or origin of those commodities. The Committee appreciates that ERS has begun work on the top five agricultural commodity exports and imports by State and to identify the country of destination or origin of those commodities. The Committee directs ERS to publish this data on a quarterly basis in language that is clear, concise, well-organized, and user-friendly, avoiding unnecessary complexity so that it is easier for members of the general public to understand.	Quarterly Publication
ERS	Labor Shortages	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee is aware of a scarcity of skilled agricultural labor, particularly for specialty crop growers, which may be leading to a shortage of domestic fruits, vegetables, and legumes. The Committee directs ERS, within 180 days of enactment of this Act, to evaluate and report to the Committee on the connections between such labor shortages, the domestic supply of fruits and vegetables, particularly those that are specialty crops, and the prices and availability of such nutritious foods for Americans.	5/11/2026
NASS	Discontinuation of data collection programs	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress in writing at least 30 days prior to discontinuing data collection programs and reports.	As Directed Notification
NASS	NASS Frequency Levels and Data Collection	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	HR: The Committee directs NASS to continue all activities and reports at the frequency levels assumed in fiscal year 2023. This includes the July Cattle report; the Cotton Objective Yield Survey; all County Estimates for Crops and Livestock; barley acreage and production estimates;	12/12/2025

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			the Bee and Honey Program; the Chemical Use Data Series; the Floriculture Crops Report; Fruit and Vegetable Reports, including in-season forecasts for non-citrus fruit and tree nut crops such as pecans; the Organic Data Initiative; the TOTAL Survey; and the 5-Year Vineyard and Orchard Acreage Study. SR: The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$187,513,000 for the National Agricultural Statistics Service, of which \$46,000,000 is for the Census of Agriculture. The Committee directs NASS to continue all activities and reports at the frequency assumed in fiscal year 2023. The Chemical Use Data Series provides timely, valuable information on fertilizer and chemical use data on major field crops and selected specialty crops. The Committee encourages NASS to continue funding the collection and analysis of chemical use data, as well as practices such as integrated pest management. The Committee supports efforts to resume collecting Fruit Chemical Use data and Vegetable Chemical Use data in alternating years and directs the continuation of this practice to ensure equal access to Federal statistics. The Committee appreciates the expanded data collection on grape production reflected in the Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts 2024 report. The Committee directs NASS to continue that data collection and brief the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act on the feasibility of expanding data collection and reporting to provide a similar level of detail as the previous Vineyard and Orchard Acreage Survey. ER: The agreement directs NASS to continue all activities and reports at the frequency levels assumed in fiscal year 2023, including the July Cattle report; the Cotton Objective Yield Survey; all County Estimates for Crops	

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			and Livestock; barley acreage and production estimates; the Bee and Honey Program; the Chemical Use Data Series; the Floriculture Crops Report; Fruit and Vegetable Reports, including in-season forecasts for non-citrus fruit and tree nut crops such as pecans; the Organic Data Initiative; the TOTAL Survey; and the 5-Year Vineyard and Orchard Acreage Study. No other directives on report frequency shall apply.	
NASS	State and Regionally Tailored Publications	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee is concerned by the decision to discontinue publications tailored specifically to individual States and regions, though it notes that the State-level data will continue to be available in national releases and the Quick Stats database. The Committee directs NASS to brief the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act on how the agency will continue to make this information readily available and accessible to producers and stakeholders.	12/12/2025
NASS	Planned Surveys and Reports	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement further directs NASS to provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this act detailing all planned surveys and reports for fiscal year 2026 and the associated costs of each. NASS shall include, as part of its budget submission for 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter, a detailed breakdown of all planned surveys and reports with their associated costs.	2/10/2026, Annually
ARS	Animal Research	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs ARS to provide a report within 60 days of enactment of this act on steps the agency can take to transition away from animal research.	1/11/2026
ARS	ARS Funding, Spending, and Hiring - Bill	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: That no later than 60 days from the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both House of Congress that outlines the current funding levels, staffing levels, and hiring plans in fiscal year 2026 for each research unit:	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
ARS	National Bio and Agro Defense Facility	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	SR: National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility.—The Committee provides an increase of \$6,000,000 to continue stand-up activities and other initial costs to operate and maintain the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility [NBAF]. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this act, USDA and the Department of Homeland Security shall provide a joint briefing to the Committee on the status of the transfer of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center mission to NBAF. The briefing shall identify the root causes that have delayed the mission transition, the remaining barriers to the transition, and the joint plan to overcome those barriers. The briefing shall include a revised timeline and detailed budget requirements to finalize the transition. ER: The briefing required in S.Rpt. 119–37 regarding the transition of programs to NBAF shall include the plan to transition the Foreign Animal Diagnostic Disease Laboratory from Plum Island to NBAF by the end of fiscal year 2026.	2/10/2026
ARS	6PPD	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs ARS to continue coordinating across Federal and State agencies on shared priorities, and to engage in robust government-to-government consultation with impacted Tribes. ARS is directed to provide a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on 6PPD-related activities, including the ARS’s current strategy, an overview of research work completed to date, a plan for addressing potential data gaps, recommendations for future research activities, and potential funding sources.	2/10/2026
ARS	Foreign Research Funding	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee is concerned about USDA funding for animal research in the People’s Republic of China and the Russian Federation. The Committee directs USDA submit a report within 120 days of enactment that details all direct or indirect funding or other USDA support for research conducted in collaboration with the People’s Republic of China and the Russian Federation over the	3/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			last 5 years. This report should include the cost of each project, a list of collaborating institutions, an explanation of the research, and the level of oversight USDA provides over the foreign research.	
ARS	Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) Labor Shortages	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the labor challenges facing the agricultural industry in recent years, especially in the greenhouse and CEA industry. The Committee requests a report within 180 days of enactment on best practices for attracting and retaining greenhouse and CEA labor, as well as processes and systems to increase labor efficiency in this agricultural sector.	5/11/2026
ARS	Geothermal Energy	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee encourages ARS to expand research for geothermal energy systems, particularly those that support agricultural applications such as year-round greenhouse operations. The Committee notes that geothermal energy offers a stable, sustainable source of thermal energy that can significantly reduce heating costs, extend growing seasons, and enhance food security in rural communities. The Committee supports pilot projects and partnerships with research institutions and producers that demonstrate the viability of geothermal systems for greenhouse heating and requests a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act on strategies to expand the use of geothermal energy.	5/11/2026
ARS	PFAS Research	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: Though there is some evidence regarding which crops may be more or less prone to take up PFAS from soil, there are still significant knowledge gaps related to PFAS and its impacts on agriculture. The Committee supports further investment in research investigating PFAS movement in soils and water, plant uptake, remediation options, and livestock feed amendments and directs USDA to provide a report within 180 days of enactment identifying knowledge gaps in this space.	5/11/2026
ARS	Research Facilities	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs ARS to work cooperatively with land-grant universities to better utilize available	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			state-of-the-art laboratory space to effectively address important agricultural research issues, including obstacles to increasing food production. The Committee again directs ARS to study ways in which the Federal labs could be better utilized, in cooperation with land-grant universities, to explore new scientific opportunities that benefit the Nation's food and agriculture system, and to submit a report with recommendations to the Committee no later than 180 days after enactment of this act.	
ARS	Research Funding	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, ARS is directed to submit a report to the Committee detailing how research funds were allocated in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 for each of ARS's research topics at the level shown in the table under this heading in this report.	5/11/2026
ARS	ARS Acquisition of Lands	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Research Service and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100,000 and with prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.	As Directed Notification
NIFA	Requests for Applications and Obligations of Awards	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee is concerned by NIFA's delays in issuing fiscal year 2025 Requests for Applications and subsequent grant awards. The Committee directs NIFA to report to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act and quarterly thereafter on the expected timeline of fiscal year 2026 Requests for Applications and award announcements for each program.	12/12/2025
NIFA	Citrus Disease Research Program	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program is intended to discover and develop tools for early detection, control, and eradication of diseases and pests that threaten domestic citrus production and processing. The program receives \$25,000,000 per year in mandatory funding through the	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			Specialty Crop Research Initiative. The Committee believes that research projects funded under this authority should be prioritized based on the critical threat of citrus greening and encourages NIFA, to the maximum extent practicable, to follow the recommendations of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Advisory Board's citrus disease subcommittee and to collaborate with the HLB MAC group. A report shall be submitted to the Committee on these efforts within 60 days of enactment of this Act.	
NIFA	Minority Outreach	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: All institutions that receive extension funding should seek to ensure that an equitable percentage of their overall extension work reaches minority, socially disadvantaged, and Tribal communities. The Committee directs NIFA to evaluate distribution of extension resources to these three populations and report to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this act	2/10/2026
NIFA	Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee recognizes the importance of the VMLRP in meeting the needs of rural ranchers, farmers, and rural communities across the country by incentivizing licensed veterinarians to practice in USDA-designated veterinary shortage areas. Within 90 days of enactment of this act and quarterly thereafter, NIFA is directed to provide a report to the Committee on the number of declared shortage areas, by State, and how many positions, by shortage area, remain unfilled.	2/10/2026
NIFA	Enhanced Rock Weathering Research	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs NIFA to prioritize funding for projects addressing carbon removal through enhanced rock weathering, including on monitoring, reporting, and verification [MRV] of carbon and non-climate agricultural benefits, among other priorities. NIFA shall report to the Committee 180 days after enactment of this act on grants awarded for such purposes in the previous fiscal year.	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
APHIS	APHIS Inspections of ARS Facilities	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The funding provided for the Animal Welfare program includes funding to support the agreement between APHIS and ARS, under which APHIS conducts compliance inspections of ARS facilities to ensure compliance with the regulations and standards of the AWA. The Committee directs APHIS to conduct inspections of all such ARS facilities and to post the resulting inspection reports online in their entirety without redactions except signatures. The Committee continues to direct APHIS to transmit to the Committees all inspection reports involving ARS facilities, including pre-compliance inspections.	As Directed Report
APHIS	Non Lethal Strategies	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee is aware that Wildlife Services has worked with landowners to deploy non-lethal strategies, such as fladry, electric fencing, and livestock guardian dogs, to reduce predator depredation on livestock. The Committee provides \$5,000,000 for Wildlife Services to hire personnel exclusively to promote and implement non-lethal human-predator conflict deterrence techniques in interested States, with a focus on reducing human-wildlife conflicts related to predators and beavers in the Western Region and Great Lakes States and to assist in providing training in these techniques to agricultural producers, landowners, and other agency personnel in collaboration with the National Wildlife Research Center. Additionally, APHIS is directed to provide an annual report within 120 days of the end of the fiscal year, detailing how these additional funds were dispersed; including regional distribution, wild and domestic species impacted, number and size of livestock/agricultural operations impacted, and nonlethal tools and methods implemented and supported.	Annual Report 1/28/27
APHIS	EID Tag Shortage	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: Further, in the event of a shortage of EID tags, the agreement encourages APHIS to provide enforcement discretion for any producer who is unable to obtain USDA-compliant EID tags from either APHIS (including through	As Directed Notification

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			a State Veterinarian office) or in the private market in a reasonable timeframe prior to livestock transport. APHIS is directed to notify the Committees should the agency become aware of any disruptions or shortages within the EID tag supply chain.	
APHIS	APHIS Emergency Funds Transfer	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: That in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of the United States, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: Provided further, That the Secretary must notify the Committees on Appropriations about any transfer of funds in the preceding proviso within 15 days after such transfer being made: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available	As Directed Notification
APHIS	EID Tags - Greater Yellowstone Area	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement includes \$13,500,000 for APHIS to procure and distribute the requisite number of tags—estimated to be at least 11 million EID tags—associated with the implementation of the cattle and bison traceability rule, including brucellosis EID tags for States in and surrounding the Greater Yellowstone Area. APHIS is directed to provide the Committees an update on the use of these funds within 30 days of enactment of this act and quarterly hereafter.	12/12/2025

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
APHIS	New World Screwworm (NWS)	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee is concerned by the rapidly spreading NWS infestation in Mexico and Central America, which threatens to infect the domestic livestock industry. The Committee recognizes that NWS poses a serious threat to human health, as well as the health of every mammalian livestock species. The Committee further recognizes that past efforts to eradicate this parasite in the U.S. were costly, and if an infestation were to occur within the U.S. borders today, the burden on taxpayers and private industry to eradicate it would be significant. The Committee notes that this Act reaffirms USDA's authority to transfer emergency funds under the Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA) for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests. The Committee directs APHIS to prioritize the establishment of a sterile fly facility in the U.S. to provide the means necessary to prevent and control NWS, including by considering the authorities of the AHPA if necessary. ER: Not later than 30 days after enactment of this act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the New World Screwworm domestic readiness and response initiative of APHIS, with a particular focus on-(1) domestic readiness, including the construction of a domestic production facility in the event of a threat of a domestic outbreak; and exploring partnerships with States and industry with respect to that construction and other domestic preparedness efforts; (2) sterile fly production technology and other eradication tools and technologies; and (3) the benefits of and barriers, including timelines and costs, to enhanced domestic, as compared to international, sterile fly production.	12/12/2025
APHIS	Paraguay Beef	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	HR: The Committee is concerned about the final rule titled "Importation of Fresh Beef From Paraguay" (88 Fed. Reg. 77883). The rule is based on a risk assessment that relies on potentially outdated data from in-country site visits that occurred in 2008 and 2014. Conclusions	12/12/2025

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			drawn from a science-based risk assessment are only as reliable as the data included in the assessment. Therefore, it is critical for APHIS to use current data to con-firm Paraguay's animal health and inspection systems can provide an equivalent level of safety compared to the U.S. prior to allowing fresh beef imports from Paraguay. The Committee directs APHIS, as expeditiously as possible, to conduct an additional in-country site visit in Paraguay and provide the Committee an updated risk analysis that incorporates data from the visits.	
APHIS	American Welfare Act	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee continues to encourage APHIS to use its full enforcement capabilities under the AWA against chronic violators of the AWA. The Committee directs the agency to update the Committee within 60 days of enactment of the act on AWA enforcement activities, including the number of cases referred to the Office of the General Counsel, the Department of Justice, or both, when appropriate.	1/11/2026
APHIS	Asian Longhorned Tick (ALT)	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee is concerned about the ongoing spread of ALT, which has been identified in 17 States and represents a growing threat to domestic livestock populations. In addition to monitoring the spread of ALT, APHIS should utilize the resources necessary to enhance collaboration with ARS, NIFA, State partners, and industry stakeholders to improve preparedness, surveillance, and response capabilities. Recognizing that public education and outreach will play an important role in reducing the spread of ALT, the Committee expects APHIS to enhance outreach and education efforts to that end. The Committee directs APHIS to submit a report within 60 days of enactment of this Act outlining the resources which would be required to establish an ALT control program within APHIS.	1/11/2026
APHIS	Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee provides an increase of \$750,000 for exotic fruit fly detection, response, and prevention. The	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			Committee requests a report, in consultation with the Department of Defense (DoD), on plans for repairs, improvements, maintenance, and construction of the Sterile Insect Release Facility at Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos, California.	
APHIS	Glossy Buckthorn	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee is concerned about the spread of glossy buckthorn, an invasive shrub species that thrives in forests and wetlands. Glossy buckthorn is easily spread by birds and animals and can establish itself in any environment that has sufficient moisture. Its spread presents a direct threat to the biodiversity of forests and wetlands across the country, including the Allegheny National Forest. The Committee requests a report on possible mitigation strategies to limit the impacts of glossy buckthorn	1/11/2026
APHIS	In- and Out-Bound Market Access Report.	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee requests that APHIS continue submitting the report on U.S. out- bound and foreign in-bound agricultural market access. The report should provide data for the last three years, including the date access was granted and the in-bound and out-bound volumes shipped by country and commodity.	1/11/2026
APHIS	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	HR: The Committee directs USDA to report on the status of vaccine research, development, and approvals and to engage with other relevant agencies to evaluate the potential for use of vaccines for dairy cattle. USDA should also describe strategies to mitigate the concerns of international trading partners and align with applicable international standards and agreements for potential vaccine use. Further, the Committee understands that there is concern among some dairy producers about data collection efforts to confirm infections in the absence of indemnity assistance assurances. Data collection and testing efforts must take into consideration the importance of a producer's future ability to market milk and meat. The Committee will continue monitoring the	2/10/2026; Monthly Briefings

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			situation and encourages USDA to consider providing indemnity assistance to producers where appropriate. SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this act regarding the economic impact of avian influenza on the whole gamebird supply chain, including small businesses and preserve customers, and proposals for insurance or indemnity options for the impacted businesses and preserves. ER: The agreement directs the Department to continue to provide monthly briefings on the continued outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and New World Screwworm as referenced in S.Rpt. 119-37.	
APHIS	Marine Mammals in Captivity	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs APHIS to prioritize the development and finalization of a humane and science-based rule to modernize its marine mammal regulations and directs the agency to report back within 90 days of enactment of this Act on its progress in achieving that goal.	2/10/2026
APHIS	Wildlife Damage Management	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs APHIS to provide within 90 days of enactment of this act, and annually thereafter, a report to include the state, most utilized methods, and most common reasons for lethal removal of beavers on private and Federal land by the APHIS and its partners.	2/10/2026
APHIS	New World Screwworm Preparednes	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes that proactive measures, including continued research and development on control methods, are critical to responding to and preventing a NWS outbreak. The Committee further notes that the Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness & Response Plan for the New World Screwworm from APHIS was last updated in 2018 and acknowledges the necessity to update these documents in light of the current NWS infestation in Mexico and Central America. Within 120 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs APHIS, alongside the FDA as necessary, and with relevant	3/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			stakeholders, to update the current state of U.S. preparedness and response capabilities and identify critical research and development needs to enhance NWS prevention, control and eradication such as new diagnostic tools, improved sterile insect techniques, and potential drug treatments, to combat the NWS. APHIS shall make all issued guidance documents in relation to NWS outbreak prevention and eradication publicly available.	
APHIS	Rotary Fleet	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs APHIS to submit a report assessing the fleet's current status and future rotary aircraft needs to operate efficiently and effectively to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate no later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this act.	3/12/2026
APHIS	Crop Threat Assessment	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs APHIS to deliver a report that assesses the threats to crops on the U.S. main land from agricultural pests and diseases from Central and South America and the Asia Pacific region within 180 days of enactment of this act.	5/11/2026
APHIS	Nitrogen-Based Depopulation Methods	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee encourages USDA to invest in research and development of whole house gassing with nitrogen and high expansion nitrogen gas-filled foam as methods of large-scale poultry depopulation, particularly during animal disease emergency response events. Further, the Committee requests a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act on the current utilization of nitrogen-based depopulation methods within the animal agriculture industry and barriers to widespread use of these methods during animal disease emergency response events.	5/11/2026
APHIS	Nitrogen Depopulation Methods	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: Senate Report indicated for NIFA: The Committee directs the USDA to continue to utilize available funds through the National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program to facilitate and invest in research and	2/10/2026.

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			development of large-scale depopulation technologies, including whole house gassing with nitrogen and high expansion nitrogen gas-filled foam as methods of large-scale depopulation during animal disease emergency response events. Further, the Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report to the Committee within 90 days on inclusion of the method in the American Veterinarian Medical Association [AVMA] Depopulation Guidelines and on the barriers to widespread use of nitrogen based depopulation methods during animal disease emergency response events.	
APHIS	Trespass Horses	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs APHIS to coordinate the establishment of a working group to address trespass horses on Federal, State, and private lands in southwest Louisiana. The working group should be comprised of all relevant Federal, State, and local entities to collaborate and identify the best relocation and mitigation practices concerning trespass horses. The Committee directs the working group to provide a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act detailing plans to address trespass horses for public safety and the welfare of the trespass horses.	5/11/2026
APHIS	Wood Imports	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the majority of U.S. manufactured finished wood products require a combination of domestically grown species with international species, the latter of which cannot be grown in the U.S. APHIS, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Customs and Border Protection are jointly responsible for overseeing processes with respect to the Lacey Act. The Committee supports further coordination across the agencies with respect to wood product imports and directs APHIS to provide a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act detailing USDA's current role in the wood importation declaration process and how it interacts with other agencies to help expedite shipments that are delayed.	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
APHIS	Animal Welfare Act (AWA)	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs APHIS to submit a report within 240 days of enactment of this Act on the requirements and enforcement of standards under the AWA, the agency's efforts to educate and advise licensees, and the capacity of the agency to enforce the AWA. The report should also include recommendations to improve the requirements and standards under the AWA, education efforts of the agency with respect to such requirements and standards, and the associated costs of any recommended improvements.	7/10/2026
APHIS	Hawaii Inspections	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs APHIS to provide a report within one year of enactment of this Act outlining recommendations to enhance existing protocols to better protect Hawaii from invasive species. The report should include an evaluation of the feasibility of USDA working with the State to improve biosecurity to prevent the establishment of invasive species and to mitigate damage from existing invasive species. APHIS is encouraged to evaluate the risk of persons, baggage, cargo, and other items entering Hawaii to introduce invasive species of concern. ER: The agreement directs the Department, within 1 year of enactment of this act, to conduct and submit to the Committees an assessment regarding the feasibility of expanding the Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection program to products entering the State of Hawaii, which shall include a determination of the methods of transportation and the types of commerce that are the most likely contributors of invasive pests entering the State of Hawaii, recommendations on how to begin implementing the expansion, and an estimate of the cost.	11/12/2026
APHIS	National Detector Dog Training Center	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee supports the work of the National Detector Dog Training Center in protecting the domestic agriculture sector from invasive pests and diseases. The Committee directs USDA to provide a report within one year of enactment of this Act on the cost and feasibility of	11/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			establishing an additional canine detection training facility on the West Coast	
APHIS	Transfer of CCC Funds to Address HPAI	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	While the Committee agrees that the transfer of CCC funds to APHIS to address HPAI was warranted to continue to address the ongoing outbreak among poultry and the transmission to dairy cattle, to ensure that these funds are used effectively, APHIS is directed to brief the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act and monthly thereafter on the use of these funds. This brief shall include both budgetary and operational data on APHIS' efforts to address HPAI in both dairy cattle and poultry, complemented with a monthly HPAI obligation report, progress update on APHIS' 5-pronged strategy to combat HPAI, as well as how APHIS is working with other Federal partners such as the Centers for Disease Control and the Food and Drug Administration, and State and local entities.	12/12/2025
APHIS	Inspection of Research Facilities Training	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	APHIS shall report to the Committee on an annual basis about the trainings it has offered to VMOs and IACUC members on how to perform adequate research facility inspections. In addition, all training materials used and distributed by APHIS should be publicly accessible online.	11/12/2026
APHIS	Pathogen Transmission Reduction for Agricultural Producers	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	The Committee is concerned about the current and potential future impacts of H5N1 influenza and other biological threats to agriculture, and the needs of producers in protecting livestock from these threats. The Committee directs the Secretary of Agriculture, in coordination with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Environmental Protection Agency, and agricultural producers, to conduct an assessment of pathogen transmission reduction needs in farm facilities that house and process livestock to protect animals and humans from the spread of zoonotic diseases. These structures include, but are not limited to poultry barns, dairy barns and milking parlors, and swine barns. The	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			assessment should determine minimum air quality standards for reducing pathogen transmission among livestock and agricultural workers. The assessment should also identify and detail the methods for enhancing indoor air quality in these facilities and associated costs. The Secretary shall fund this assessment using borrowing authority from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The Secretary shall submit this assessment to Congress no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, and make the assessment publicly accessible digitally, such as on a website or online portal.	
APHIS	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Reportable Disease	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the ongoing efforts to combat CWD. Recent reports suggest there is a substantial species barrier preventing transmission of CWD from cervids to humans. The Committee requests a report from APHIS within 90 days of enactment on the impacts of removing CWD from the USDA National List of Reportable Animal Diseases.	2/10/2026
AMS	Section 32 Authorities	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to provide notification to the Committee in advance of any public announcement or release of section 32 funds under the specific authorities cited above.	As Directed Notification
AMS	Honey	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the department to provide a report on the necessary resources and authorities needed to ensure a fairer market for domestic honey producers and more transparent market for American consumers.	3/12/2026
AMS	National Organic Program	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs USDA to provide all resources needed for the National Organic Program (NOP) to deliver the strongest possible oversight before allowing the USDA organic seal to be granted to domestic and international operations and products, including a continued focus on proactive risk-based investigations and oversight, enhanced training for certifiers, and practice standards development.	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			In addition, within 60 days of enactment of this act, AMS is directed to provide a full report outlining the breakdown of the National Organic Program's key expenditures such as compliance and enforcement activities, practice standards development, and technology upgrades.	
AMS	Equivalency Agreements	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	SR: Within 90 days of the enactment of this act, the Committee directs AMS to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations in the House and Senate that touches on changes to all existing Equivalency Agreements that would need to be made in order to be in compliance with the 2022 Origin of Livestock Rule. The Committee also directs AMS to provide a list within the report to the Committees of infant formula products that do not meet the 2022 Origin of Livestock Rule. To ensure that the industry is compliant with the 2022 Origin of Livestock Rule, AMS is directed to post the report publicly within 30 days of transmitting the report to the Committees and is also directed to provide copies of the report to the Food and Drug Administration and the Customs and Border Protection. ER: The agreement is concerned that there have been imports of critical foods, including infant formula, that do not meet equivalency agreements made with other countries. The agreement directs AMS to provide a report on changes to all existing equivalency agreements that would need to be made in order to be in compliance with the 2022 Origin of Livestock Rule, as outlined in S.Rpt. 119-37, within 90 days of enactment of this act.	2/10/2026
AMS	Local Meat Processing	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act that includes the total amount of Federal investments made in local meat processing across departmental programs, the current status of plants receiving funding, whether the Department has reviewed	2/10/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			any potential sales of plants receiving funding, and, to the extent practicable, an assessment of the economic impact of departmental programs on local meat processing.	
AMS	Vegetable Promotion	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes that specialty crop vegetable growers and value-added processors are under significant pressure from the effects of inflation and increasing imports. The Committee encourages AMS to collaborate with local partners to expand marketing opportunities for domestic specialty crop vegetable growers by increasing promotion activities immediately prior to and during harvest, including for asparagus harvested April to May, carrots harvested August to October, and cucumbers harvested August to September. The Committee directs AMS to report to the Committee on the status of these efforts within 90 days of enactment of this Act.	2/10/2026
AMS	Olive Oil Standards of Identity	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee is aware that the U.S. continues to be an important producer of olive oils and one of the largest olive oil markets globally. The Committee recognizes that the establishment of a uniform set of standards would better inform and protect consumers. The Committee is aware that a petition was submitted to FDA in July 2022 to establish a Standard of Identity for different grades of olive oil. The Committee supports this effort and urges the FDA to work with USDA on the issue of grade standards and to expeditiously evaluate and act on the petition to establish a U.S. Standard of Identity. The Committee requests a briefing on these efforts within 120 days of enactment of this Act.	3/12/2026
AMS	AMS Limitation on Administrative Expenses Notification	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: Not to exceed \$62,596,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: Provided, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent	As Directed Notification

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			with notification to the committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.	
AMS	Limitation on Inspection and Weighing Services	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: Not to exceed \$55,000,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: Provided, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.	As Directed Notification
FSIS	Humane Slaughter Annual Report	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs FSIS to continue to provide annual reports to the Committee on the implementation of objective scoring methods undertaken by FSIS to enforce the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (Public Law 85-765).	Annual Report
FSIS	Humane Handling Quarterly Reports	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs the agency to continue preparation and online publication of the Humane Handling Quarterly Reports, to include: (1) the number of humane handling verification procedures performed, (2) the number of administrative enforcement actions taken, (3) the time spent on Humane Handling Activities Tracking System activities, and (4) comparisons of these measurements by plant size and FSIS district. SR: The Committee further directs FSIS to continue preparation and online publication of the Humane Handling Quarterly Reports, to include the number of humane handling verification procedures performed, the number of administrative enforcement actions taken, time spent on Humane Handling Activities Tracking System activities, and comparisons of these measurements by plant size and FSIS district.	Quarterly Report
FSIS	Non-Ambulatory Livestock	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	The Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress, 90 days after enactment of this act, a report on the scope of non-ambulatory livestock at slaughter establishments; the causes that render livestock non-ambulatory at	2/10/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			slaughter establishments; the humane treatment of non-ambulatory livestock at slaughter establishments; the public health threat of nonambulatory pigs entering the food system, including, at minimum, the impact on public health from pathogens associated with nonambulatory pigs including, but not limited to Salmonella and Campylobacter.	
FPAC-BC	USDA Farm Delivery Systems Modernization / USDA Customer and Producer Farm Delivery Systems Modernization	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs the Secretary within 60 days of enactment of this Act to provide an IT modernization plan that accelerates the continued implementation and expansion of the Farmers.gov system using the Enterprise Data Analytics Platform and Toolset (EDAPT) to enable USDA customers to: (1) view their information, complete transactions, quickly review the status, and update tabular customer information; (2) submit applications for FPAC programs and receive program payments for all USDA farm programs; (3) to complete their own applications, including electronic signatures and submissions, for all farm programs that require direct application; (4) enable electronic income reporting between USDA and the Internal Revenue Service; and (5) access and manage acreage reporting, farm records mapping, and farm records information within Farmers.gov	1/11/2026
FPAC-BC	Fruit Fly Quarantine Areas	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee is aware of quarantines in California as a result of detections of Oriental fruit fly and Queensland fruit fly. The Committee recognizes the importance of Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service Plant Protection and Quarantine in safeguarding crops and forests against the entry, establishment, and spread of pests. However, with very few treatment options available for crops located within the California quarantine areas, farmers have faced devastating losses. The Committee urges APHIS to take the necessary steps to resolve the infestation so that the quarantine may be lifted. Further, the Department is directed through all	3/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			agencies, including within Farm Production and Conservation, to evaluate available financial assistance for producers impacted by the quarantines and provide a report of its findings to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this Act. Within the report, the Department is encouraged to provide recommendations of program changes that would make them more accessible and beneficial to producers negatively impacted by quarantines	
FPAC	State Disaster Assistance Agreements	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement directs the Department to provide state disaster assistance agreements to the Committees upon request.	As Directed Report
FPAC	Internships	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Department to provide a report on how interns can be better utilized, including converting interns that work for third-party partners and any statutory or regulatory changes that may be necessary.	3/12/2026
FPAC	PFAS Research	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: Though there is some evidence regarding which crops may be more or less prone to take up PFAS from soil, there are still significant knowledge gaps related to PFAS and its impacts on agriculture. The Committee supports further investment in research investigating PFAS movement in soils and water, plant uptake, remediation options, and livestock feed amendments and directs USDA to provide a report within 180 days of enactment identifying knowledge gaps in this space.	5/11/2026
FPAC	Credit Subsidy Rates	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee notes that the release of the OMB Budget coincided with the Committee's work to draft this Act. In preparation for the appropriations process for fiscal year 2027, the Committee directs USDA to transmit to the Committee the estimated credit subsidy rates for fiscal year 2027 for each program for which amounts are provided in the Act for gross obligations for the principal amount of direct or guaranteed loans no later than March 1, 2026.	3/1/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
FSA	Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA)	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: USDA is responsible for monitoring foreign purchases of agricultural land under the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) and for assessing penalties on entities that have failed to make disclosures as required. The Committee is concerned that USDA failed to assess penalties for a failure to disclose foreign investments in American agricultural land. The Committee directs the Secretary to report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on USDAs efforts to ensure that foreign investments are being accurately disclosed, including an analysis of any barriers USDA faces in conducting oversight of these purchases and planned steps for overcoming these challenges. SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on USDA's efforts to ensure that foreign investments are being accurately disclosed, including an analysis of any barriers USDA faces in conducting oversight of these purchases and planned steps for overcoming these challenges.	2/10/2026
FSA	Disaster Preparedness	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs USDA to provide a report on the number or percentage of producers receiving payments under the Livestock Indemnity Program who have disaster plans in place at the time of loss, and additional activities conducted by the Department to promote disaster planning and ensure that livestock and poultry producers have adequate disaster plans in place to reduce animal deaths and injuries within 90 days of enactment of the act.	2/10/2026
FSA	FSA Staffing	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: The Committee is concerned about FSA's ability to attract and retain field staff to do FSA's critical work in rural communities. The Committee is also concerned that local FSA offices are often tasked with implementing new programs with little notice. The Committee directs the Secretary to report on a plan to address retention and communication between FSA offices and the national	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			office. Additionally, the Committee encourages FSA to factor in administration of disaster assistance programming when contemplating additional staffing resources needed to successfully carry out its mission. SR: The Committee commends FSA for the analytical and data-driven work that it has done to identify the appropriate staffing levels at county offices and how to most effectively serve their constituents. The Committee looks forward to continuing to work with FSA on ensuring county offices are staffed accordingly. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter, FSA is directed to brief the Committee on its workload analysis and staffing, and to include planned versus actual hires.	
FSA	agricultural production and farm loss in New England	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement remains concerned about the loss of agricultural production and farms, particularly in New England. Within 180 days of enactment of this act, FSA is directed to provide a report to the Committees on what factors are leading to agricultural production and farm loss in New England, to include historical and projected data on acreage and crop types.	5/11/2026
FSA	FSA Reports Assessment	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: the agency shall submit a report by the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2026 to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress that identifies for each project/investment that is operational (a) current performance against key indicators of customer satisfaction, (b) current performance of service level agreements or other technical metrics, (c) current performance against a pre-established cost baseline, (d) a detailed breakdown of current and planned spending on operational enhancements or upgrades, and (e) an assessment of whether the investment continues to meet business needs as intended as well as alternatives to the investment:	9/30/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
FSA	FSA Relocation of County Employee Notification	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: That none of the funds available in this or any other Act, including prior year Acts, shall be used to permanently relocate county based employees that would result in an office with two or fewer employees without prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.	As Directed Notification
FSA	Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account Notification	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership, operating, conservation, and emergency direct loans and loan guarantees may be transferred among these programs: Provided, That the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.	As Directed Notification
USRD	Cover Crop Incentives	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes that cover crops show promise of potentially reducing indemnities for crop insurance in certain circumstances. The Committee encourages USDA to conduct a study regarding crop insurance premium benefits for cover crops using available cover crop data from RMA and FSA, information collected as part of the Pandemic Cover Crop Programs, and data from state-level programs. The Committee requests that USDA provide the study no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.	5/11/2026
RMA	Cover Crops	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee remains interested in USDA's efforts to streamline opportunities for farmers to insure primary and secondary crops with revenue streams resulting from biofuel use, with particular reference to carinata, pennycress, camelina, and other oilseeds. The Committee expects USDA to provide a briefing within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the Department's progress on this effort.	3/12/2026
RMA	Biofuels	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Secretary of Agriculture, within 12 months after the date of the enactment of this act, and in consultation with the Risk Management Agency, the Farm Service Agency, and the Natural	11/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			Resource Conservation Service, to submit to Congress a written report on how the Department can streamline opportunities for farmers to insure primary and secondary crops with revenue streams resulting from biofuel use, including but not limited to sustainable aviation fuel, with particular reference to carinata, pennycress, camelina, and other oilseeds.	
RMA	Cover Crops Report	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Secretary, in consultation with the Risk Management Agency, shall submit a written report, within 1 year of enactment of this act, on how the Department can streamline opportunities for farmers to insure primary and secondary crops with revenue streams resulting from biofuel use, with particular reference to carinata, pennycress, camelina, and other oilseeds.	11/12/2026
NRCS	NRCS Initiatives Monthly Briefings	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs NRCS to continue to brief the Committee on ongoing and upcoming initiatives on a monthly basis, as well as resources necessary for continued success of the Service.	Monthly Briefing
NRCS	Excluding Wildlife from Farmland	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The agreement directs NRCS to provide a briefing to the Committees within 30 days of enactment of this act on how producers can utilize NRCS programs to exclude wildlife from farmland.	12/12/2025
NRCS	Technical Assistance	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs NRCS to maintain a record of total technical assistance dollars for the past 3 years and annually in the future and to provide the data to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture and the Committee on Agriculture Nutrition and Forestry.	3/12/2026
NRCS	Land Grants and Acequias	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee urges USDA to develop EQIP guidance that ensures timely input from local communities, including listening sessions with land grants and acequias and directs NRCS to update the Committee on these efforts within 90 days of enactment of this Act.	2/10/2026
NRCS	Migratory Big Game Initiative	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs NRCS to submit a report to the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this act on	2/10/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			the progress made in implementing the Migratory Big Game Initiative, outlining plans for expanding the Migratory Big Game Initiative into additional States, and identifying barriers to achieving the goals outlined by the initiative.	
NRCS	Virtual Fencing Technologies	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: The Committee supports further investments regarding the positive impacts and benefits of virtual fencing compared to traditional fencing on grazing lands. The Committee directs NRCS to compile available data and submit a report within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the positive impacts of precision agriculture grazing technologies, including virtual fencing, to improve soil health, grazing outcomes, and profitability. SR: The Committee directs the Natural Resources Conservation Service to compile all available research data and submit a report, within 90 days of enactment of this act, on the positive impacts of precision agriculture grazing technologies, including virtual fencing, to improve soil health, grazing outcomes, and profitability.	2/10/2026
NRCS	Working Lands for Wildlife	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs NRCS to dedicate sufficient staff positions to WLFW, and to coordinate with the Farm Service Agency on WLFW. The Committee further directs the Under Secretary of Farm Production and Conservation to provide a report to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this act on the current activities and expansion of WLFW, including identification of barriers or challenges to further expansion in areas such as western migratory big game, northeastern deciduous forests, Southern pines, SE aquatics, and overall habitat connectivity across framework geographies.	3/12/2026
NRCS	Conservation Programs timeline	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the importance of NRCSs conservation programs and their positive impact on water and soil quality. The Committee also recognizes that these programs must consist of realistic timelines and outcomes as identified by the farmers using them. The	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			Committee encourages NRCS to review all conservation programs to ensure their funding timelines related to conservation planning and program delivery meet legislatively mandated timelines to support farmers in developing their practices and fulfilling the mission of the programs. The Committee directs NRCS to report back on its findings and efforts to improve program funding timelines within 180 days of enactment.	
CCC	CCC Obligations and Commitments	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	HR: The Secretary is directed to notify the Committees in writing 15 days prior to any announcement on the use or cancelation of funds from the CCC or the obligation, commitment, transfer, or cancelation of any emergency funds from the CCC. SR: The Secretary is directed to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate in writing 15 days prior to any announcement on the use or cancellation of funds from the CCC or the obligation, commitment, transfer, or cancellation of any emergency funds from the CCC. PL: That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate in writing 15 days prior to the obligation, commitment, or transfer of any emergency funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation or the transfer or cancellation of any previously obligated Commodity Credit Corporation funds: Provided further, That such written notification shall include a detailed spend plan for the anticipated uses of such funds and an expected timeline for program execution if such obligation, commitment, transfer, or cancellation exceeds 100,000,000.	As Directed Notification
CCC	CCC Section 4 and Section 11 Planned Spending	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report on November 15, 2025, and May 15, 2026, on planned uses of funding under the authorities of Section 4 and Section 11 of the CCC Charter Act.	11/15/2025; 5/15/2026
RD	Quarterly Reviews	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Department to continue to provide quarterly briefings to the Committees and to send	Quarterly Briefing

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			reports ahead of the briefings covering the following topics: information technology report with updates on retiring legacy systems, making improvements to existing systems, and moving programs away from paper-based applications; staffing report that breaks out staffing by program, including planned versus actual hiring by pay period; a commitment and obligation report; and Congressionally Directed Spending obligation report. The quarterly reports should also include key operational metrics to ensure the Committee receives a complete picture of how RD is implementing its programs and using its funding to do so.	
RD	Streamlining Applications	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes GAO Report 21-579, which found that HUD, EDA, and USDA have similar requirements for stakeholder engagement, strategic planning, and application requirements for State and local organizations applying for economic development programs. Per the report, while HUD and EDA have a written agreement to align requirements and issue joint guidance to streamline the application process, USDA does not have such a report. The Committee urges USDA to work with EDA and HUD to evaluate economic development programs and, where feasible, enter into such an interagency agreement. The Committee looks forward to reviewing the report requested in House Report 118-124.	1/11/2026
RD	Field Office Analysis	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	SR: The Committee directs Rural Development to complete a comprehensive analysis of their field offices. This analysis shall include an initial data pull of all field offices by county and the number of employees working in each office, as well as which offices are co-located with FSA and NRCS. Rural Development shall brief the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this act on this initial analysis. ER: The agreement reminds the Department to complete a field office analysis, as referenced in S.Rpt. 119-37,	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			and brief the Committees within 60 days of enactment of this act.	
RD	Persistent Poverty Areas	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: The Committee supports targeted investments in impoverished areas. The Committee urges USDA to implement measures to increase the share of investments in persistent poverty counties, distressed communities, and any other impoverished areas. The Committee directs USDA to define performance measures, increase capacity to collect and analyze data, evaluate data sets, and develop a report to the Committee on how investments in persistently poor communities have improved economic outcomes. SR: The Committee supports targeted investments in impoverished areas, particularly in persistent poverty counties, and directs the Department to complete the report requested on this matter, which is now several years overdue.	1/11/2026
RHS	Decoupling of Rental Assistance	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee reminds the Department that this strategy should only be used when all other methods of preservation are exhausted and directs the Department to provide the Committee with quarterly updates on the implementation of this policy. Additionally, the Committee provides \$1,000,000 for the Department to make the necessary information technology upgrades to facilitate its decoupling efforts.	Quarterly Report
RHS	Tribal Property Valuation Project	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to report to Congress before the pilot program is terminated, including on the pilot program's impacts on breaking down barriers in lending on Tribal lands and in assisting more eligible very low to moderate income applicants seeking to purchase or rehabilitate affordable housing on Tribal lands.	Prior to Program End
RHS	Single Family Housing Program Access	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: Additionally, the Committee directs the Department to submit a report, within 60 days of enactment, on the current appraisal requirements for these homes and how	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			they compare to requirements used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or the Department of Veterans Affairs.	
RHS	Section 502 Manufactured Home Loans	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs USDA to continue to update Section 502 procedures and regulations to clearly allow for Section 502 home loans to be made to finance manufactured homes sited in resident-owned communities, and to brief the Committee on its work to do so within 90 days of enactment of this act.	2/10/2026
RHS	Section 523 and 524 Site Development Loans	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Department to work to support rural housing stakeholders in understanding and utilizing the revised loans and to brief the Committee on any changes to demand for Section 523 and 524 loans within 180 days of enactment of this act.	5/11/2026
RHS	Multifamily Housing Preservation Strategy	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Department to consider all preservation tools at its disposal and to develop a report within 6 months of enactment of this act with its multifamily housing preservation strategy including goals, objectives, timeline, resources required, and tools to be utilized.	5/13/2026
RHS	RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026	PL: Provided further, That no amounts may be made available pursuant to the fifth proviso without prior notification and approval of the Committees of Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: Fifth Proviso: That any unobligated balances from prior year appropriations under this heading for the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees and grants, including amounts deobligated or cancelled, may be made available to cover the subsidy costs for direct loans, loan guarantees and or grants under this heading in this fiscal year:	As Directed Notification
RBCS	Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: The Committee notes that SAF has the potential to decarbonize the aviation industry by utilizing several feedstocks such as ethanol, soy, tallow, wood biomass, agricultural residue, and cover crops. The cultivation of these feedstocks could provide a significant economic	1/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			opportunity in rural communities across the nation. While there is significant demand by global air carriers, the Committee believes more volume is needed to produce 3 billion gallons by 2030. The USDA 9003 Program has significant potential to scale up the volume of SAF by providing loans and financial support to burgeoning enterprises in rural America. The Committee directs the Secretary to provide a report that includes 9003 program loan metrics and alternative actions that could accelerate and scale SAF Research and Development and biorefinery construction. SR: The Committee directs the Secretary of Agriculture to provide a report to Congress that includes 9003 program loan metrics and if converting current loan authority into grants could be used to accelerate and scale SAF research and development and biorefinery construction.	
RBCS	RBCS Program Administration Notification and Approval	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: This agreement recognizes that RD is the most well-positioned agency to administer programs authorized under the Rural Business Cooperative Service [RBCS] to meet the specific needs of businesses and communities across rural America and that any administration of RBCS programs outside of the agency or Department shall not be conducted without prior notification and approval from the Committees no less than 30 days prior to the transfer of such administrative authorities.	As Directed Notification
RBCS	Changes to Business and Rural Energy guaranteed loan programs	2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	ER: The Department is directed to brief the Committees within 30 days of enactment of this act to provide additional details on the recent changes to the business and rural energy guaranteed loan programs regarding certified cropland.	12/12/2025
RBCS	Rural Business Program Delivery	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Department, in collaboration with the SBA, to report on the activities undertaken as a result of the memorandum, including opportunities to collaborate on technical assistance, especially with respect to exportation and procurement.	3/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
RUS	Uninhabited Properties	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the demand for affordable rural housing and is concerned about federal funding supporting uninhabited properties. The Committee directs the agency to provide a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act outlining how many Rural Development housing properties are uninhabited and in foreclosure or real estate owned (REO), the number of foreclosure sales that have taken place within the previous three fiscal years, amount spent on taxes, mortgage, and insurance for uninhabited properties in foreclosure or REO.	5/11/2026
RUS	Rural Business Investment	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the implementation of the Rural Business Investment Program (RBIP) and the RBIP Operational Assistance Grants for leveraged Rural Business Investment Companies (RBIC) did not meet the desired outcomes. The Committee requests the Department report to the Committee within 270 days of enactment of this Act an analysis identifying why the programs did not succeed and the potential for other avenues of similarly leveraged funds for rural businesses.	8/9/2026
FNCS	FNCS Quarterly Briefings	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the FNCS to provide quarterly briefings to the Committee, which should commence 30 days after the enactment of this act and continue quarterly, to provide updates on key nutrition programs, including participation.	Quarterly, starting 2/12/2025
FNCS	SNAP Card Skimming	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: The Committee remains concerned about the prevalence of SNAP benefit theft due to identity theft, card skimming, card cloning, and other fraudulent methods. The Committee is also concerned that Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards lack the proper security features necessary to protect against benefit theft. The Committee directs FNS to engage with State and local agencies and appropriate stakeholders to develop a more secure EBT card that contains innovative technologies to protect against benefit theft. Further, the Committee	12/12/2025

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			directs FNS to take immediate action and safeguard SNAP from fraudulent activity by adopting industry-standard, real-time analytics capable of detecting and preventing fraudulent transactions before they are completed. SR: The Committee recognizes that authority for States to repay skimming victims expires on September 30, 2025. No later than 30 days after enactment of this act, the Committee directs USDA to provide a report on progress toward making skimming victims whole.	
FNCS	Breastfeeding Services	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee remains interested in how to improve breastfeeding rates through consistent, collaborative, and high-quality breastfeeding services and supplies. Reports that some WIC agencies only make breast pumps and related supplies available to WIC participants who meet certain criteria are concerning and seem to be in opposition to the goals of encouraging breastfeeding. FNS is directed to provide a report to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this Act detailing any conditions WIC agencies consider, or requirements they impose, when determining whether a WIC participant who intends to fully breastfeed her infant may access breastfeeding supplies and services. The report should also identify any waivers active or granted in the last five years allowing any state agency to spend less than required by WIC program regulations on breastfeeding promotion and support activities.	3/12/2026
FNCS	Local School Wellness Policies	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	HR: Any difficulty in having access to healthy food amongst youth can cause significant issues, including a higher risk of obesity and eating disorders. The Committee requests a report within 120 days of the enactment of this Act on FNS' progress to inform State Education Agencies that obesity and eating disorder information can be included in local school wellness policies. SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to update local school wellness policy guidance to incorporate eating	3/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			disorder prevention and education into the existing local school wellness policy framework. The Committee requests a report within 120 days of the enactment of this act on the agency's progress to update State Education Agencies on the inclusion of eating disorders education and prevention within Local School Wellness Policies.	
FNS	Team Nutrition	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee supports the nutritional health of school children and recognizes the need for additional support for schools to meet certain nutrition standards for school meals, particularly for sodium and whole grains. The Committee encourages FNS to help schools meet these targets and directs FNS to report on the use of funds to assist schools.	As Directed Report
FNS	TEFAP Local Foods Pilot	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs FNS to conduct a pilot program to provide funds for States to purchase locally grown priority agricultural products-including fruits, vegetables, dairy, meats, seafood, grains, poultry, or other commodity food products-sourced from small and underserved producers to be distributed to low-income households through emergency feeding organizations. The Committee directs FNS to submit a report to Congress following the conclusion of the pilot to assess project effectiveness in providing nutritious and culturally-relevant food to individuals in need, improving agricultural supply chain resiliency, and expanding economic opportunity for small and underserved local agricultural producers.	On Conclusion of the Pilot
FNS	Territories	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the differences in assistance provided through Nutrition Assistance Program block grant funding for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa, compared to SNAP. The Committee encourages FNS to continue engaging the appropriate stakeholders	As Directed Updates

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			and directs FNS to provide the Committee with updates on the separate plans and discussions to includes these territories in SNAP.	
FNS	FDPIR Warehouse Report	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee was very disappointed when USDA failed to ensure Tribal communities had food to provide to their most vulnerable citizens last year. The decision to have one warehouse supply the entire FDPIR program, as well as the CSFP program, must be carefully examined to prevent this situation from occurring again. The Committee directs USDA to provide a briefing within 60 days of enactment of this Act detailing how USDA has addressed the missteps to ensure vulnerable populations do not go without necessary food again.	1/11/2026
FNS	Commodity Supplemental Food Program	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a report to study barriers to program participation and strategies that States have utilized to increase CSFP participation rates. The Committee also requests that USDA publish an update to guidance document FNS-GD-2020-0078 reiterating that current CSFP program flexibilities give State and local agencies discretion to allow for home delivery, including contracting with third-party delivery.	3/12/2026
FNS	Program Vouchers	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: While the Committee supports efforts to modernize and streamline program administration of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, there is concern about the un-intended consequences for both seniors and farmers who are facing significant barriers in adapting to the new digital system. The Committee notes that many farmers, particularly smaller or rural vendors, lack the infrastructure or resources to support digital transactions and that many seniors in rural communities lack access to the necessary technology, such as reliable internet, to effectively use digital coupons. Therefore, the Committee directs USDA to work with State and local administrators to address the needs of all program participants and to	2/10/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			ensure that no senior or farmer is excluded from the program due to the limitations of digital technology. The Committee further directs USDA to provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this Act on vendor participation and benefit redemption rates.	
FNS	Study on Infant Formula Consolidation	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172; 2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	HR: The Committee directs USDA in partnership with the FTC to study and report to Congress making recommendations on how to reduce market concentration and consolidation in infant formula, including recommendations for whether and how Congress could alter the single supply contract model under WIC to address these issues. SR: The Committee directs the Food and Nutrition Service to provide a report within 90 days of the enactment of this act, that outlines the changes in Infant Formula Rebates since fiscal year 2022, and recommendations so that Infant Formula Rebates continue to meet the needs of the WIC program. ER: The agreement directs the Department, in partnership with the Federal Trade Commission, to report to the Committees on implementation of recommendations in the 2024 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report on Challenges in Supply, Market Competition, and Regulation of Infant Formula in the United States aimed at reducing market concentration and consolidation in infant formula, including recommendations for whether and how Congress could alter the single supply contract model under WIC.	2/10/2026
FNS	Seafood in the National School Lunch Program	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: USDA is directed to submit to the Committee, within 120 days of enactment of this Act, the plan to address factors limiting seafood consumption in schools developed in response to the GAO report "National School Lunch Program: USDA Could Enhance Assistance to States and Schools in Providing Seafood to Students" [GAO-23-105179].	3/12/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
FNS	Local Food Purchases	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee recognizes the importance of strengthening local and regional food systems to enhance food security, support producers, and stimulate rural economies. The Committee directs USDA to work in coordination with State agencies, Territories, Tribes, and Child Nutrition Program institutions, and emergency food providers, including food banks and pantries, to facilitate the use of federal nutrition and food assistance funds—including funds under Child Nutrition Programs—for the direct purchase of food from local and regional producers. The Committee also directs FNS and AMS to work with DoD when engaged with a program to review current practices to identify opportunities that increase local food purchases through the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, USDA Foods, and DOD Fresh. The Committee encourages USDA to provide technical assistance and streamline administrative requirements to ensure that institutions and providers can easily identify and procure from local producers. The Committee further directs USDA to report within 180 days of enactment of this Act on barriers to local procurement and recommendations to enhance access to locally grown foods across all nutrition assistance programs, including The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).	5/11/2026
FNS	Nutrition Education and Guidelines	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: As the diabetes epidemic increases, it is crucial that USDA consistently examine the role that nutrition plays in the prevention and management of diabetes and prediabetes. FNS shall examine how nutrition guidelines and education for individuals living with diabetes, prediabetes, and other chronic conditions could help decrease the prevalence of chronic diet-related disease and improve health, reducing overall healthcare spending. The Committee directs FNS to submit a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act detailing the	5/11/2026

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			results of this examination and recommendations for implementation.	
FNS	SNAP Pilot	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a report, within 180 days of enactment, to the Committee, compiled in consultation with stakeholders and the appropriate State and Federal officials, describing how any waiver or pilot program will improve SNAP participant experience. The report shall include the approximate cost, to include the administration, of the implementation of and SNAP authorized retailer compliance with any waiver or pilot program. The report shall also include an explanation of how the Department will communicate to States and SNAP authorized retailers which foods are SNAP eligible and ensure retailers can implement and comply with food restriction requirements in their point-of-sale [POS] systems and ongoing technical support.	5/11/2026
FNS	Nutrition Standards	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Secretary is directed to establish a working group of nutrition experts to determine a national standard for nutritious foods and beverages that should be purchased with SNAP benefits. These nutrition standards can guide States and USDA in implementing SNAP waivers and policies. Within one year of the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary is directed to make these nutrition standards public.	11/12/2026
FNS	TEFAP Resources Analysis	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: To provide a needs assessment to Congress, the Secretary should include in its next budget justification, an analysis of the food, fuel, storage and other costs associated with distributing USDA food to communities and the increased TEFAP administrative funding needed to address rising food distribution costs. The analysis shall include an evaluation of the additional administrative expenses required to serve rural and remote communities.	One Time Report
FAS	Food For Peace Quarterly Reports	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Secretary is directed, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to provide to the Committee a	Quarterly Report

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			quarterly report on obligations and current balances of Food for Peace Title II grants. This report should also include any supplemental funding.	
FAS	Ready-To-Use Therapeutic Foods [RUTF]	2026 House Agriculture Report 119-172	HR: The Committee directs FAS, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, to provide a report on how existing funding may be used for the procurement of RUTFs to combat hunger and support domestic agriculture.	2/10/2026
TFAA	Market Access Program [MAP] and Foreign Market Development Program [FMD] Reporting	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee directs the Department to publish an annual report describing the recipients of funds, including the quantity and specific uses of such funding awards, granted through MAP and FMD for the purpose of promoting agricultural sales in Cuba, to ensure compliance with Sec. 3201 of Public Law 115-334.	Annual Report
TFAA	Reimbursements	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37	SR: The Committee is concerned by the administration's delays in providing reimbursements for activities previously performed to partners in the distribution of foreign food assistance. The Secretary is directed to consult with the Secretary of State on ways to best improve timeliness within the reimbursement process and improve the agency's payments system to eliminate delays in the future. The Secretary is further required to provide a report to the Committee within 30 days of enactment of this act on progress related to this directive.	12/12/2025
TFAA	Food for Peace program and the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	SR: Within 60 days of the enactment of this Act, the Committee directs USDA, in coordination with the Department of State where appropriate, to brief the Committee on the status of both programs, including any proposed improvements and opportunities for efficiencies for the Committee to consider. ER: The agreement supports the Food for Peace program and the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program and remains concerned about delays impacting both programs. The agreement directs USDA, in coordination with the Department of State	Quarterly Briefing

2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Agency	Title	Congressional Source	Description	Date Due to Congress
			where appropriate, to brief the Committees quarterly on the status of both programs, including unobligated balances and any proposed improvements and opportunities for efficiencies. The Secretary is further directed to consult with the Secretary of State on ways to best improve the timeliness of reimbursements and improve the agency's payments system to eliminate future delays.	
TFAA	Food for Peace Interagency Review and Report	2026 Senate Agriculture Report 119-37; 2026 Joint Explanatory Statement	SR: The Committee provides \$1,000,000 and directs the Foreign Agricultural Service [FAS] within the Department of Agriculture [USDA] to work with the U.S. Agency for International Development [USAID] on an interagency review and report to Congress that outlines the process and needs within the USDA to operate the Food for Peace program should Congress direct such a transfer of administration from USAID to USDA. ER: The agreement provides \$1,000,000 for FAS and USDA to work with the Department of State to conduct an interagency review and provide a report to Congress that outlines the process and needs within USDA to operate the Food for Peace program should Congress direct such transfer. The agreement directs the report to include information outlined in the S.Rpt. 119-37.	1/11/2026