Hospitals & Asylums

Agricultural Administrative Procedures FY 2022 HA-30-8-21

By Anthony J. Sanders

A. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides leadership on issues related to food, agriculture, food safety, rural development, and natural resources. The USDA was founded by President Abraham Lincoln's signature of the Act to Establish a Department of Agriculture on May 15, 1862. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is made up of 30 agencies and offices with nearly 100,000 employees who serve the American people at more than 4,500 locations across the country and abroad. The U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census conducted the census of agriculture for 156 years (1840-1996). The 1997 Appropriations Act contained a provision that transferred the responsibility for the census of agriculture to National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Since 2017 the USDA was reorganized several times, without authorization of Congress. Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services was divided into Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) governed by a Business Center and Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs with responsibility for the Codex Alimentarius.

1. USDA budget totals are notoriously inaccurate, however so are review attempts. The USDA budget is tricky. It is thought to be necessary to review budget outlays and program levels, agency by agency and cross-examine the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) spending math carefully to capture the surplus and ensure the budget and especially SNAP request is adequate to sustain growth. The legal climate that the Agriculture Department is dealing with is equal opportunity employment for all races, sustaining the promise to not cut SNAP benefits, delinking Sec. 32 funding with vexatious agricultural tariffs, converting USDA long distance vehicles to biodiesel like other federal agencies are switching to electric, and forfeiture of $2.4 billion Active Fo-rest Management to reduce wildfire risk by holding unlawful and setting aside agency action that is arbitrary, capricious, abuse of discretion, not in accordance with law, all around pseudo-science and compel agency action that is unlawfully withheld or unreasonably delayed pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act under 5USC§706. The USDA and Forest Service must provide equal employment opportunities, in proportion with the local and national population, for people with relevant college degrees, without discrimination on the basis of race and color especially, or religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or age pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 under 42USC§2000e-16(e) and E.O.11478. If Congress does not authorize $8.1 billion in spending FY 22 the $36.24 SNAP benefit increase must be overruled by a 2.5 percent annual benefit increase to sustain 0.5 percent population for 3 percent total spending growth and renewal of the SNAP promise not to cut emergency food benefits pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 42USC§2000d under penalty of 18USC§264. The USDA reports receiving only $1.3 billion FY 2020, $1.6 billion FY 21 and $1.2 billion FY 22 Sec. 32 funds although US Customs reports marginal growth in $22 billion collected FY 19 and FY 20, 42 percent, rather than 30 percent of total rather than net customs duties, and it is advised to delink Sec. 32 funding from vexatious agricultural tariffs that should be unilaterally abolished. The American Jobs Plan promises to budget $15 billion, an increase of $14 billion, for economically and scientifically unsupported $250 million biodiesel infrastructure loans less grants, that could be made without limit to credit-worthy borrowers under 7USC§8103, and it is held that instead the USDA should follow the lead of other federal agencies who are converting their fleets of vehicles to electric, to convert USDA vehicles and fuel based electricity generators to biodiesel, with adequate production infrastructure to

supply agency, rural community and national demand, pursuant to 7USC§8102. To prevent forest fires the USDA Forest Service must critically review the pyromaniac pseudo-science that justifies defunding 'Active Fo-rest Management' for destroying the wilderness habitat by littering the national forest with millions of flammable slash piles threatening to ignite the canopy, that cause large modern wildfires and a large share of global warming, and to prohibit commercial forest product contracts except for tax exempt *mano muerta* salvage logging and fire-wood logistics operations, within a year of a major forest fire, or to once and for all eliminate all the abusively slashed piles of green wood that have been negligently left to dry out and arson a territorial jurisdiction under 36CFR§261.5, 18USC§81 and Art. 81 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice under 10USC§881.

USDA Consolidated Balance Sheet FY 17 – FY 24
(millions)

	FY 17 Actual	FY 18 Actual	FY 19 Actual	FY 20 Enacted	FY 21 Budget	FY 22 Budget	FY 23	FY 24
Farm Production and Conservation FPAC								
Farm Service Agency, outlays	1,458	2,035	2,232	1,241	1,240	1,270	1,308	1,347
Transfer from Program	[310]	[318]	[310]	[291]	[294]	[294]	[300]	[300]
Farm Loan Programs	[8,003]	[8,006]	[7,988]	[9,450]	[9,858]	[10,358]	[10,669]	[10,989]
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund	[7,065]	[2,293]	[21,647]	[27,585]	[10,053]	[10,259]	[10,000]	[10,000]
Commodity Credit Corporation Outlays	[9,969]	[10,934]	[3,981]	[17,153]	[10,658]	[9,665]	[10,000]	[10,000]
Farm Service Agency P.L.	[26,805]	[23,268]	[36,158]	[55,720]	[32,103]	[31,846]	[32,277]	[32,636]

Risk Management Agency outlays	5,254	6,554	8,119	8,253	8,808	9,729	9,972	10,222
Crop Insurance Premiums	[3,677]	[3,761]	[3,639]	[3,722]	[3,815]	[3,815]	[3,815]	[3,815]
Risk Management Agency P.L.	[8,847]	[10,315]	[11,838]	[11,975]	[12,623]	[13,544]	[13,787]	[14,037]
Natural Resources Conservation Service	4,520	5,202	5,750	6,267	4,625	5,082	5,235	5,392
Farm Production and Conservation Business Center outlays	0	0	216	220	231	238	245	253
FPAC BC P.L.	[0]	[0]	[293]	[280]	[291]	[298]	[307]	[316]
FPAC outlays	11,232	13,791	16,317	15,981	14,904	16,319	16,760	17,214
FPAC P.L.	[40,172]	[38,785]	[54,039]	[74,242]	[49,642]	[50,770]	[51,606]	[52,381]
Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs								
Foreign Agricultural Service								
Salaries and Expenses	197	206	214	220	222	229	236	243

Transfer from CCC Export Credit Program Account	[6]	[6]	[6]	[6]	[6]	[6]	[6]	[6]
Salaries and Expenses P.L.	[203]	[212]	[220]	[226]	[228]	[235]	[242]	[249]
Market Development Programs	278	282	277	305	305	305	305	305
Foreign Food Assistance	1,802	1,867	1,851	1,925	1,870	1,800	1,854	1,910
P.L 480 Rescue Act	0	0	0	0	[800]	0	0	0
Food for Progress CCC transfer	[0]	[0]	[145]	[186]	[156]	[157]	[159]	[160]
Export Credit Guarantees	[1,582]	[1,582]	[2,024]	[2,224]	[5,500]	[5,500]	[5,500]	[5,500]
TFAA outlays	2,277	2,355	2,342	2,450	2,397	2,334	2,395	2,458
TFAA P.L.	[4,068]	[4,155]	[4,737]	[5,092]	[9,087]	[8,232]	[8,302]	[8,373]
Rural Development								
Rural Utilities Service Outlays	696	1,774	880	1,225	1,301	1,946	2,005	2,065

Rural Utilities Service P.L.	[8,886]	[11,207]	[9,353]	[9,718]	[9,906]	[10,729]	[11,051]	[11,383]
Rural Housing Service Outlays	2,068	1,996	2,020	2,102	2,765	2,137	2,201	2,267
Rural Housing Service P.L.	[30,059]	[32,332]	[30,221]	[30,656]	[31,953]	[37,248]	[38,365]	[39,516]
Rural Business Cooperative Service	177	178	234	341	223	231	238	245
Rural Business-Cooperative Service P.L.	[1,420]	[1,608]	[1,540]	[2,664]	[1,840]	[3,062]	[3,154]	[3,249]
Rural Development Salaries and Expenses	227	231	237	248	264	367	378	389
Rural Development Salaries and Expenses P.L.	[677]	[681]	[687]	[698]	[714]	[817]	[842]	[867]
Rural Development total outlays	3,168	4,179	3,371	3,916	4,553	4,681	4,822	4,966
Rural Development total	[41,042]	[45,828]	[41,801]	[43,736]	[44,413]	[51,856]	[53,412]	[55,015]

P.L.								
Food Nutrition and Consumer Services								
Food and Nutrition Service								
FNCS regular outlays	100,349	105,259	103,407	98,229	146,046	139,540	143,726	148,038
FNCS relief P.L.	100,349	105,259	103,407	129,791	159,669	163,490	143,726	148,038
Food Safety								
FSIS outlays	1,032	1,056	1,049	1,087	1,076	1,166	1,200	1,237
FSIS P.L.	[1,279]	[1,290]	[1,284]	[1,356]	[1,421]	[1,388]	[1,430]	[1,473]
Natural Resources and Environment								
Forest Service outlays	5,631	5,956	6,105	7,450	8,371	9,161	9,436	9,719
Forest Service P.L.	[6,076]	[6,649]	[7,274]	[8,150]	[8,371]	[9,161]	[9,436]	[9,719]
Marketing and Regulatory Programs								
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	1,085	1,055	1,242	1,055	1,079	1,105	1,138	1,173
APHIS	[1,320]	[1,862]	[2,077]	[1,779]	[2,068]	[1,763]	[1,816]	[1,870]

P.L.								
Agricultural Marketing Service, outlays	1,079	1,412	1,733	1,710	2,523	1,541	1,587	1,635
AMS P.L.	[1,301]	[1,641]	[1,973]	[1,956]	[2,756]	[1,777]	[1,830]	[1,885]
MRP outlays	2,164	2,467	2,975	2,765	3,602	2,646	2,725	2,808
MRP P.L.	[2,621]	[3,503]	[4,050]	[3,735]	[4,824]	[3,540]	[3,646]	[3,755]
Research Education and Economics								
Agricultural Research Service (ARS) outlays and P.L.	1,299	1,410	1,708	1,627	1,566	1,932	1,990	2,050
National Institute of Food and Agriculture outlays and P.L.	1,533	1,564	1,727	1,730	1,782	2,178	2,243	2,311
Economic Research Service outlay and P.L.	87	87	87	85	62	96	99	102
National Agricultural Statistics Service outlays and P.L.	171	191	174	180	184	194	200	205
REE	3,090	3,252	3,696	3,622	3,594	4,400	4,532	4,668

outlays and P.L. total								
Departmental Activities, Subtotal								
Office of the Secretary	52	57	57	21	21	41	72	74
Sec. Supplemental	0	0	0	8,500	9,688	4,910	0	0
Office of Civil Rights	24	24	24	24	23	29	30	31
All Other Staff Offices	253	216	302	355	366	488	503	518
DA outlay and P.L.	329	297	383	8,900	10,098	5,468	605	623
Office of Inspector General	98	98	98	98	101	110	113	117
Total USDA Total P.L.	199,124	202,537	220,769	278,722	291,220	298,415	276,808	284,162
USDA Total outlays inc. supplementals	129,370	138,710	139,743	176,060	208,365	209,775	186,314	191,848
USDA Budget Request	145,939	146,153	139,429	149,906	146,000	198,100	196,314	201,848
Undistributed Offsetting Receipts	16,621	7,.278	-1,025	10,372	N/a	N/a	10,000	10,000

CCC deposit								

Source: USDA Budget Summary FY 19, FY 20, FY 21, FY 22

B. Agriculture, food, and related industries contributed $1.053 trillion to U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2017, a 5.4-percent share, increasing to $1.109 trillion to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019, a 5.2-percent share. The output of America's farms contributed $132.8 billion of this sum—about 1 percent of GDP in 2017, increasing to $136.1 billion —about 0.6 percent of GDP in 2019. In 2017 the agricultural and food sector provided 21.6 million full- and part-time jobs—11.0 percent of total U.S. Employment. In 2019, this increased 22.2 million full- and part-time jobs were related to the agricultural and food sectors—10.9 percent of total U.S. Employment. Direct on-farm employment accounted for about 2.6 million of these jobs, or 1.3 percent of U.S. employment. With 20% of U.S. agricultural produce exported U.S. agricultural exports have continued to outpace U.S. agricultural imports since 1960, generating a surplus in U.S. agricultural trade. More than 20 percent of U.S. agricultural production is exported. In fiscal year 2020, agricultural exports totaled $135.70 billion. The world population is expected reach 9.7 billion by 2050. Feeding this population will require the adoption of new science and technologies and the implementation of science-based conservation plans to sustainably increase agricultural production. Agriculture is extremely subsidized. To produce $136 billion in agricultural produce it takes a $200 billion Department of Agriculture to subsidize loans, insurance, technical assistance and consumers. Food preparation adds the majority of value and although farms directly produced only $136 billion, an equal number of $136 billion agricultural products were exported and the entire agriculture, food and related industries gross about $1.1 trillion.

1. Locating the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Risk Management Agency (RMA), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the FPAC Business Center under one mission area provides a simplified one-stop shop for USDA's primary customers, the farmers, ranchers, and forest managers across America. In 2020, FSA provided over $2.6 billion in Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) payments to producers for the 2018 crop year and $182.8 million to Dairy Margin Protection (DMP) via about $10 billion in Commodity Credit Corporation expenditures. The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) are provided by the USDA Supplemental Disaster Assistance Program that administered $335 million in 2020. In 2020, FSA provided almost 35,000 direct and guaranteed loans to farmers and ranchers, totaling more than $7.5 billion. In 2022 there is a $10.4 billion lending limit. In 2020, under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, USDA approved over 1.3 million applications and provided about $10.7 billion in assistance to help farmers, livestock producers, and growers absorb some of the increased marketing costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2019 Market Facilitation Program provided assistance to farmers and ranchers with commodities directly impacted by unjustified foreign retaliatory tariffs, resulting in the loss of traditional export markets, payments amounted to more than $9 billion.

2. The crop insurance program covers around 130 crops. However, the ten principle row crops (barley, corn, cotton, peanuts, potatoes, rice, sorghum, soybeans, tobacco, and wheat) account for around 65 percent of total insured value. The participation rate is high for the principle row crops with around 85 percent of acres covered by insurance. he costs associated with the Federal crop insurance programs

include premium subsidies, indemnity payments (in excess of producer paid premiums), underwriting gains paid to private companies, reimbursements to private companies for delivery expenses, and other authorized expenditures. For the 2020 crop year, the Federal crop insurance program provided about $114 billion in risk protection or about $84.1 billion in (normalized) risk protection. In 2020, the total cost for the Federal crop insurance programs was about $8.3 billion. Of this amount, about $5.9 billion was for net indemnities to producers (gross indemnities minus producer paid premiums/fees). Another $1.7 billion was paid to the private insurance companies for delivery expenses and $0.5 billion for underwriting gains, and $33 million was used for Federal Crop Insurance Act initiatives.

3. The Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) helps landowners who face serious natural resource challenges (such as soil erosion, air quality, water quality and quantity, and the sustainability of fish and wildlife habitat) that impact soil, water, and related natural resources, including grazing lands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has protected and conserved environmentally sensitive land since 1986. In 2020, USDA enrolled about 444,000 acres under the continuous signup program. In 2020, NRCS developed conservation plans covering 25.7 million acres. In accordance with those plans and utilizing Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) Program support, conservation practices and systems designed to improve soil quality were applied to 6.4 million acres of cropland.

4. Over 20 percent of U.S. agricultural production is exported. In FY 2020, U.S. farm and food exports reached $135.7 billion. U.S. agricultural exports have continued to outpace U.S. agricultural imports since 1960, generating a surplus in U.S. agricultural trade. Agricultural exports in 2021 are currently forecast to reach $157 billion. The Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs mission area (TFAA), established by the Secretary in May 2017, works to reduce trade barriers that impede or disadvantage U.S. agricultural exports and open new markets for U.S. farm products. The mission area includes the activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and the U.S. Codex Alimentarius Office. Recent U.S. successes in international trade include significantly increased agricultural exports to China, the pursuit of bilateral trade agreements with Kenya and the United Kingdom, monitoring the implementation of the U.S. Japan Trade Agreement and the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement, and opening or expanding market access for numerous farm products, including blueberries to Chile, shell eggs to Guatemala, bison to Mexico, processed egg products to Morocco and sorghum to Vietnam.

5. The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) administers a variety of programs that are designed to facilitate access to international markets. The Budget includes an overall program level of $5.5 billion for CCC export credit guarantees in 2022. $5 billion will be made available under the GSM-102 program, which provides guarantees on commercial export credit extended with short- term repayment terms (18 months). $500 million for guarantees under the Facility Guarantee Program. CCC provides funding to assist private entities to furnish samples of U.S. agricultural products to foreign importers in order to overcome trade and marketing obstacles in the Quality Sampling Program (QSP). P.L. 480 Title II grants fund emergency and development food aid programs authorized under Title II of the Food for Peace Act (P.L. 83-480). Funding for Title II is appropriated to the USDA and is administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The Budget provides $1.57 billion for P.L. 480 Title II. The Budget provides $230 million for McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program. No assistance has been provided using the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust's authority in 2020 or to date in 2021. As of December 31, 2020, the Trust held $282 million of cash and no commodities. Unnecessarily restrictive regulations to address risks to human, animal, and plant health (SPS) are major barriers to the expansion of global agricultural trade.

The proliferation of labeling, registration, certification, and quality standards requirements for routinely consumed food products can also result in unnecessary technical barriers to trade (TBT). FAS works to improve market access for U.S. agricultural products and reduce the harm to the industry resulting from unnecessarily restrictive regulations by monitoring and enforcing international rules, strengthening the global regulatory framework, and encouraging the adoption of international standards.

C. Rural Development (RD) provides financial and technical assistance to rural communities, residents, businesses, and private and public entities for a broad range of purposes that promote prosperity and better living to rural America. These programs are grouped within three agencies: (1) the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) provides assistance for water and waste disposal, rural electric and telecommunications, including broadband access; (2) the Rural Housing Service (RHS) provides assistance for home ownership, multi-family housing, and essential community facilities such as healthcare, public safety infrastructure, and educational facilities; and (3) the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) provides assistance for the development of business and industry, including small businesses, and renewable energy and energy improvement projects, while creating good paying jobs.

1. The Budget supports $6.5 billion in electric Treasury loans, a $1 billion increase from the previous year, for reliable and affordable clean energy. $400 million to transition to carbon-pollution free electricity by 2035 and $22 million for energy efficiency. The Budget requests $2 million in budget authority to support $690 million in telecommunications Treasury loans to expand broadband and $25 million to modify existing loans of distressed borrowers. The Budget includes $650 million in budget authority, along with $50 million from the earnings from the Cushion of Credit account balance, to continue the Broadband Pilot Program (ReConnect), an increase of $65 million over the 2021. In addition, the Budget includes $35 million for broadband grants and $60 million for Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) grants. The Budget supports $1.4 billion in direct loans and $50 million in guaranteed loans for water and waste disposal facilities to provide safe and sanitary water services. The Budget also requests $717 million in budget authority for grants, providing a total water and waste disposal program level of $2.2 billion, an increase of $100 million over the 2021.

2. The Budget provides $28 million to support a $1.5 billion Single-Family Housing Direct Loan program. The Budget also supports a $30 billion loan level for the Guaranteed Single-Family Housing program. Together, these two programs are expected to provide approximately 181,500 homeownership opportunities. The Budget requests $1.45 billion in budget authority for Rental Assistance and $45 million for Vouchers ensuring that the residents living in USDA-financed multi-family housing properties can continue to benefit from these grants and vouchers. The Budget continues to support $230 million in Section 538 Guaranteed Loans for Multi-Family Housing, which will be the focus of new construction in 2022 and requests $32 million in budget authority for the Multi-Family Housing Preservation and Revitalization program. The Budget supports $2.8 billion in Community Facilities Direct Loans and $500 million in Community Facilities Guaranteed Loans. The Budget requests $58 million in budget authority to support in Community Facilities grants, which will be targeted towards underserved communities. $6 million for Rural Community Development Initiative grants to provide financial and technical assistance to low-income communities, nonprofit organizations, and tribes. $10 million for Tribal College grants to improve education and career-building opportunities, specifically for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) programs. The Budget supports $1.5 billion in Business and Industry (B&I) loan guarantees – an increase of $500 million from the 2021 enacted level with a budget authority of $30 million and a number of small grants and loans. +/- $250 million Farm Bill subsidies for biodiesel are getting out of hand with the

$14.5 billion proposal in American Jobs Plan and need to regulated by reasonable demand for biodiesel by converting long distance USDA vehicles to biodiesel, like other federal agencies are converting to electric.

D. The FY 22 Budget includes funding to support estimated participation levels under current law, including $105.8 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), $26.9 billion for Child Nutrition Programs, and $6.0 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). In 2021, estimated participation levels are: 37.2 million per month for SNAP, 28 million per day for the National School Lunch Program, and 6.2 million per month for WIC. In 2022, estimated participation levels are: 45.4 million per month for SNAP, 30 million per day for the National School Lunch Program, and 6.4 million per month for WIC. The Budget ensures that SNAP benefits will continue to include the emergency allotment payments first authorized by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act for as long as the Public Health Emergency continues. The Budget provides for an increase in benefits to account for a rise in food costs, and promises continuing review of the Thrifty Food Plan. FDPIR provides food packages to Indian Tribal Organizations to improve nutrition and provide culturally appropriate sustenance. The program is projected to serve 90,000 participants a month in 2021, the same number as in 2020. The Budget projects serving 5.25 billion lunches and snacks (an increase of 124 million over the current estimate for 2020) and 2.52 billion breakfasts in schools, 2.1 billion meals in child and adult care centers, and 155 million meals through Summer Food Service Program. Almost 22 million children receive free or reduced-price meals on school days. About one in eight children who participate in the lunch program during the school year, or approximately 3.6 million children, receive 156 million free meals during summer months when school is not in session. In 2021, an average of 6.2 million low-income women, infants and children are expected to participate in the WIC program each month.

1. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) of April 18, provided for the issuance of emergency allotments in response to COVID-19 pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 since April 22, 2020. Across the United States, emergency allotments total nearly $2 billion per month, which is in addition to approximately $4.5 billion in benefits already provided to SNAP households each month. All SNAP households that are eligible to receive less than the maximum benefit will receive the emergency allotment supplement to bring them up to the maximum. By law, SNAP households are not permitted to receive more than the maximum allotment. SNAP emergency allotments allow states to raise benefits to the maximum amount for the household's size for up to two months, and USDA is providing additional guidance today to states that want to further extend these emergency allotments month by month as prescribed by the law. Title I of the FFCRA provided $500 million to remain available until September 31, 2021 for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, credited with $250 million FY 20 and FY 21. The ``Commodity Assistance Program'' for the emergency food assistance program as authorized by section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 under 7USC§2036(a) and section 204(a)(1) of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 under 7USC§7508(a)(1), $400,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2021.

2. The Secretary of Agriculture may approve State agency plans for temporary emergency standards of eligibility and levels of benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 under 7USC§2011 *et seq*. for households with eligible children. Plans approved by the Secretary shall provide for supplemental allotments to households receiving benefits under such Act, and issuances to households not already receiving benefits. The level of benefits shall be determined by the Secretary in an amount not less than

the value of meals at the free rate over the course of 5 school days for each eligible child in the household. A State agency may provide assistance under this section through the EBT card system established under section 7 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 under 7USC§2016. The Secretary of Agriculture may approve waivers of the limits on certification periods otherwise applicable under section 3(f) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 under 7USC§2012(f), reporting requirements otherwise applicable under section 6(c) of such Act under 7USC§2015(c), and other administrative requirements otherwise applicable to State agencies under such Act. The term ``eligible child'' means a child (as defined in section 12(d) or served under section 11(a)(1) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act under 42USC§1760(d), 1759(a)(1)) who, if not for the closure of the school attended by the child during a public health emergency designation and due to concerns about a COVID-19 outbreak, would receive free or reduced price school meals under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act under 42USC§175l *et seq*. at the school. $100,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2021, shall be available for the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa for nutrition assistance in response to a COVID-19 public health emergency.

3. Food stamp statistics date to 1969 when $250.5 million fed 2.8 million people. The Food Stamp Act of 1977 wrongly reduced benefits from $5.7 billion for 18.6 million beneficiaries in 1976 to $5.5 billion for 17 million beneficiaries in 1977. Beneficiaries rose to 21 million in 1981 but fluctuated downward until Public Law 100-435, the Hunger Prevention Act of 1988 was signed into law September 19, 1988. Following this initiative, Public Law 101-624, the Mickey Leland Memorial Domestic Hunger Relief Act of November 28, 1990 established EBT as an issuance alternative and permitted the Department to continue to conduct EBT demonstration projects. After the Farm Bill of 2002 food stamp participation increased from about 17.2 million in fiscal year 2000 to 26 million people in July 2006. The rate of payment accuracy in the FSP improved 34 percent between FY2000 and FY2004 and the 94.12% overall payment accuracy rate was the highest achieved since the inception of the program. USDA awarded $48 million to 24 States for their exemplary administration of the program in fiscal year (FY) 2005. By August 2008, participation had reached an all-time (non-disaster) high of 29 million people per month. The 2008 farm bill (H.R. 2419, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008) was enacted May 22, 2008 through an override of the President's veto. The new law increased the commitment to Federal food assistance programs by more than $10 billion over the next 10 years. In efforts to fight stigma, the law changed the name of the Federal program to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP as of Oct. 1, 2008, and changed the name of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

4. The Farm Bill of 2008 changed the name of the Food Stamp Program to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Promising not to cut benefits the average benefit amount increased rapidly from $96.18 in 2007 to $102.19 in 2008, to $125.31 in 2009 to $133.79 in 2010. Participation increased 53% from 26.3 million in 2007 to 40.3 million in 2010 reaching a high of 47.6 million in 2013. Additional Recovery Act funds were terminated as of October 31, 2013 in accordance with an illegitimate Republican interpretation of section 442 of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-296). SNAP promised not to cut benefits and between 2008 and 2013 had the longest uninterrupted spurt of food stamp benefit growth the nation has ever enjoyed. The USDA then intentionally, abruptly, and with significant terrorism, cut aggregate SNAP benefits on Halloween 2013 and Thanksgiving 2016, but couldn't do the math right, although they tried twice on October 7 and November 10, 2016. The most recent food stamp statistic are from 2017 and were offline at FNS when checked in 2020. People like food stamps, but the recertification is abusive. The promise not to cut

benefits needs to equate food stamps with being a more cost-effective and stable agricultural subsidy than commodity insurance, to justify sustaining 3% annual SNAP growth = 0 percent to 1 percent growth in beneficiaries + 2 percent to 3 percent consumer price index (CPI) inflation.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Statistics 1969-2024

Fiscal Year	Average Participation	Average Benefit	Total Benefits	Administration	Total Costs
	--Thousands--	--Dollars--	----------Millions of Dollars----------		
1969	2,878	6.63	228.80	21.70	250.50
1970	4,340	10.55	549.70	27.20	576.90
1971	9,368	13.55	1,522.70	53.20	1,575.90
1972	11,109	13.48	1,797.30	69.40	1,866.70
1973	12,166	14.60	2,131.40	76.00	2,207.40
1974	12,862	17.61	2,718.30	119.20	2,837.50
1975	17,064	21.40	4,385.50	233.20	4,618.70
1976	18,549	23.93	5,326.50	359.00	5,685.50
1977	17,077	24.71	5,067.00	394.00	5,461.00
1978	16,001	26.77	5,139.20	380.50	5,519.70
1979	17,653	30.59	6,480.20	459.60	6,939.80
1980	21,082	34.47	8,720.90	485.60	9,206.50
1981	22,430	39.49	10,629.90	595.40	11,225.20
1982	21,717	39.17	10,208.30	628.40	10,836.70
1983	21,625	42.98	11,152.30	694.80	11,847.10
1984	20,854	42.74	10,696.10	882.60	11,578.80
1985	19,899	44.99	10,743.60	959.60	11,703.20
1986	19,429	45.49	10,605.20	1,033.20	11,638.40
1987	19,113	45.78	10,500.30	1,103.90	11,604.20
1988	18,645	49.83	11,149.10	1,167.70	12,316.80
1989	18,806	51.71	11,669.78	1,231.81	12,901.59
1990	20,049	58.78	14,142.79	1,304.47	15,447.26
1991	22,625	63.78	17,315.77	1,431.50	18,747.27
1992	25,407	68.57	20,905.68	1,556.66	22,462.34
1993	26,987	67.95	22,006.03	1,646.94	23,652.97
1994	27,474	69.00	22,748.58	1,744.87	24,493.45
1995	26,619	71.27	22,764.07	1,856.30	24,620.37
1996	25,543	73.21	22,440.11	1,890.88	24,330.99
1997	22,858	71.27	19,548.86	1,958.68	21,507.55
1998	19,791	71.12	16,890.49	2,097.84	18,988.32
1999	18,183	72.27	15,769.40	2,051.52	17,820.92
2000	17,194	72.62	14,983.32	2,070.70	17,054.02
2001	17,318	74.81	15,547.39	2,242.00	17,789.39
2002	19,096	79.67	18,256.20	2,380.82	20,637.02

2003	21,250	83.94	21,404.28	2,412.01	23,816.28
2004	23,811	86.16	24,618.89	2,480.14	27,099.03
2005	25,628	92.89	28,567.88	2,504.24	31,072.11
2006	26,549	94.75	30,187.35	2,715.72	32,903.06
2007	26,316	96.18	30,373.27	2,800.25	33,173.52
2008	28,223	102.19	34,608.40	3,031.25	37,639.64
2009	33,490	125.31	50,359.92	3,260.09	53,620.01
2010	40,302	133.79	64,702.16	3,581.78	68,283.94
2011	44,709	133.85	71,810.92	3,875.62	75,686.54
2012	46,609	133.41	74,619.34	3,791.27	78,410.61
2013	47,636	133.07	76,066.32	3,866.98	79,933.30
2014	46,536	125.35	69,999.81	4,130.17	74,129.98
2015	45,800	126.83	69,705.77	4,233.42	73,939.19
2016	44,220	125.40	66,539.27	4,374.28	71,913.55
2017	42,317	125.47	63,711.05	4,464.27	68,175.32
2018	40,776	124.50	60,916.85	4,533.60	65,450.46
2019	35,702	129.33	55,622.28	4,773.92	60,396.20
2020	39,887	154.81	74,098.12	4,995.74	79,093.85
2021	41,852	210.07	105,502.20	5,245.53	110,747.73
2022 $36.24	45,400	246.31	134,189.69	5,402.90	139,593.59
2022 2.5%	45,400	215.32	117,307.29	5,402.90	122,710.19
2023	45,627	220.70	120,838.55	5,564.98	126,403.53
2024	45,855	226.22	124,479.82	5,731.93	130,211.75

Source: USDA Food and Nutrition Service 2017 & 2021, 2020 total increased above both SNAP and USDA FY 20 spending estimates, to pay for benefits, crude estimate by HA 2021-2024 0.5% beneficiary, 2.5% benefit, 3% administration inflation.

5. The FY 22 Budget includes $105.8 billion funding to support an estimated 45.4 million Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries. Reevaluation concluded that the cost of a nutritious, practical, cost effective diet is 21% higher than the current Thrifty Food Plan (2021) to fulfill 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. As a result, the average SNAP benefit – excluding additional funds provided as part of pandemic relief – will increase by $36.24 per person, per month, or $1.19 per day, for Fiscal Year 2022 beginning on Oct. 1, 2021. The FY 22 budget is in error that although participation is expected to increase, the overall cost of the program is expected to decrease. The fraudulent decrease is attributed to the effect of the expiration of emergency authorization (EA) payments provided through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), as well as the expiration of 15 percent benefit increase provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 and the American Rescue Plan at the end of FY 2021. It admits EA payments and other program waivers are anticipated to continue for the length of the Public Health Emergency into FY 2022, but may not return to pre-pandemic levels at some point during the fiscal year. The $36.24 per person, per month increase beginning Oct. 1, 2021 must be interpreted to be in addition to the $210.07 (2021) rate. In the future, instead of a large increase in participation, participation is expected to increase only 0.5 percent annually, due to the asset limit, while benefits are expected to increase 2.5 percent for the re-evaluated Thrifty Food Plan to compete with consumer price inflation, 3 percent annual spending growth. To justify overruling the FY 22 USDA budget there is not only the promise

of a $36.24 per person increase FY 22 to uphold the Thrifty Food Plan (2021) to fulfill 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

6. Although the $74 billion FY 20 total benefit payments may be accurate due to partial year enrollment, the SNAP table $70.5 billion FY 21 benefit spending is obviously an underestimate and the accurate figure is $105.5 billion FY 21. Having made such an accounting error, neither the underestimating FNS, nor overestimating USDA has the right to cut benefits. Including $5.3 billion in administrative costs total FY 21 SNAP spending is estimated to be $110.8 billion. FNS received $114 billion in regular appropriations, plus $3.8 billion to extend the 15 percent increase, for total SNAP appropriations of $117.8 billion, yielding a surplus of $7 billion FY 21. With the $36.24 benefit increase total SNAP spending is expected to be $136.9 billion FY 22. FNS requested $105.8 billion in regular appropriations and receives another $16 billion for P-EBT benefits for total appropriations of $121.8 billion plus $7 billion remaining for total SNAP funds of $128.8 billion FY 22 - a -$8.1 billion deficit.

7. To extend the emergency maximum benefits, and make the $36.24 increase a real increase, rather than a decrease in average benefit, Congress would have to pass a $8.1 billion supplemental SNAP appropriation. Congress should pass this supplemental because SNAP made a mathematical error in calculating the FY 21 cost of the program, and FY 22 appropriations only equal FY 21 spending, without allowing for inflation, furthermore, the President made a grave error of judgment promising the population a $36.24 increase. It is only because of this large increase that the population is likely to have their emergency maximum benefit cut in the ensuing genocide. If the President had gone with a regular 2.5 percent increase in average benefits to $215.32 a month, 0.5 percent population growth could be sustained, with 3 percent annual inflation, at a cost of $122.7 billion FY 22 yielding a surplus of $6.1 billion. There is reason to believe that the $36.24 SNAP benefit increase should be overruled by a 2.5 percent annual benefit increase to sustain 0.5 percent population for 3 percent total spending growth. It is difficult to decide whether or not to again commit genocide by cutting the maximum benefit for the noble cause of providing the poorest with a pseudo-scientifically determined nutritious diet, still $500 short, per individual, per month, partially filled by underfunded, once a month, Food Banks. The true enemy of the sustainable consumer economy is health inflation, ie. the price of onions and garlic to prevent diabetes. Three meals a day power to the Food Bank and Community Feeds.

E. The Food Safety mission area is responsible for ensuring that the Nation's domestic and imported commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe, wholesome, and properly labeled and packaged. The Budget proposes discretionary funding of $1.166 billion, an increase of $90 million from 2021. About 128,000 people are hospitalized, and 3,000 die each year from food-borne diseases. The COVID-19 pandemic created many challenges for FSIS, but none of the 6,500 regulated establishments closed due to a lack of inspection personnel who collected about $222 million in fees. FSIS allowed temporary labeling flexibilities through the end of 2020 to help redirect food from food service (e.g., hotels, restaurants) to retail establishments. FSIS achieved a faster, more efficient label evaluation process and quicker turnaround of label applications. In FY 2020, the new label approval process took about 5-7 days, significantly less than in previous years. Ground beef standards have been raised for *Salmonella* and six non-O157 Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) and cultured animal cell food and feed products are being jointly studied with the FDA. Larger establishments often run a second shift, giving them a total 16 hours of free inspection instead of 8 hours of inspection per day before they would have to pay for overtime or holiday. To reduce costs for small business the plan is for very small establishments would pay 25 percent of the published rate, while small establishments would pay 70 percent of the published rate.

1. To meet demand for American grain and to ensure consistent grain quality, Market Regulatory Program (MRP) is providing service at export facilities 24 hours a day. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) works cooperatively with State and local agencies, private groups, and foreign governments to protect the Nation's agriculture. APHIS has a budget in excess of $1 billion FY 22, and obtained more than $1.2 billion in penalties related to animal health and specialty crops programs to protect domestic livestock, poultry, and specialty crops production annually valued at more than $213 billion. Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) mission is to facilitate the competitive and efficient marketing of agricultural products in domestic and international markets, while ensuring fair trading practices, such a the National Organic Certification Program, and Sec. 32 funds to encourage domestic consumption of perishable commodities that are not eligible for price support from USDA and encourage the export of agricultural products, with a budget of +/- $2 billion. After the Commodity Credit Corporation paid billions of dollars in compensation for economic damage caused by the trade war, the USDA FY 21 budget requested delinking Sec. 32 funds with Customs revenues. The USDA reports receiving only $1.3 billion FY 2020, $1.6 billion FY 21 and $1.2 billion FY 22 Sec. 32 funds although US Customs reports marginal growth in $22 billion collected FY 19 and FY 20, 42 percent, rather than 30 percent of total collections. Although the malpractice seems to predate the recent trade war in raw material tariffs, the entire hyperinflation in Customs duties could be attributed to the vexatious addition of agricultural tariffs, rather than subtraction of 30 percent (actually 42 percent) Sec. 32 share, from Customs duties, as well 3.04 percent (actually 0.00006 percent) for agricultural disaster relief.

2. Research, Education, and Economics (REE) responsibilities are carried out by four agencies: (1) the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) conducts intramural research in natural and biological sciences. In FY 2020, ARS conducted retrospective reviews of its Water Availability and Watershed Management; Soil and Air; Plant Diseases; and Animal Health research programs and is providing major funding for climate change research (2) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) partners with land-grant and non-land grant colleges and universities in carrying out extramural research, higher education, and extension activities. In FY 2020 NIFA invested $90 million in research projects seeking to improve the sustainability of the nation's food supply. (3) the Economic Research Service (ERS) performs intramural economic and social science research and market analysis, and produces indicators of agricultural and rural economic performance, and of food security. ERS funded 11 cooperative research efforts to address market responses to, and trade and global security implications of, the COVID-19 pandemic. (4) the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts the Census of Agriculture and provides the official, current statistics on agricultural production and indicators for the economic and environmental health of the farm sector, in the United States and it the only source of such statistics in each of the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

F. The Forest Service manages over 193 million acres of public land in 44 States and Puerto Rico, collectively known as the National Forest System (NFS). The FY 22 Budget requests $9.2 billion, a 9.4 percent increase over FY 21. For FY 2022, it is marked 'Transfer to Interior'. $1.07 billion is proposed for Forest Service Operations to support staff salaries and expenses, facilities maintenance and leases, information technology, and administrative support for the agency. $2.37 billion is for the NFS, prioritizing forest restoration, hazardous fuel reduction, recreation service delivery, climate adaptation, and supporting the creation of good paying jobs with a free and fair choice to join a union.

For 2022, $305 million is proposed for State and Private Forestry programs. This funding will help leverage shared priorities with State and private-sector conservation partners to support climate resilience and the President's 30x30 initiative to conserve 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030. Grantor's right to occupy and use lands conveyed to the United States 36CFR§251.17 may be employed by the Forest Service with up to $50,000 a year just compensation under 16USC§555. *Division O of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018* (P.L. 115-141) provided new budget authority to fight wildfires known as the "fire fix." Beginning in 2020, the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior have budget authority available when base Suppression funding has been exhausted. This budget authority is $2.45 billion in 2022 (of which $2.12 billion is allocated to the Forest Service) and increases by $100 million each year through 2027.

1. Over the last ten years, across all jurisdictions nationwide, an average of more than 64,000 wildfires burned about 6.5 million acres of Federal, Tribal, State, and private land. 2020 saw more acres burned on Forest Service-managed lands and impacting homes and communities,than in any previous year since the historic Big Burn of 1910. The budget admits about 63 million acres of NFS lands and 70,000 communities are at risk of uncharacteristically severe wildfires. Analysis of 2017 data reveals an acre of National Forest was 65 times more likely to burn than an acre of National Park. The pyromania and pseudo-science has been consolidated by the introduction to the FY 22 USDA budget as $2.4 billion for 'Active Fo-rest Management', that is forfeit. This fuel pyromania pseudo-science falls within the scope of review of the Administrative Procedures Act under 5USC§706. The forest is for rest. Recreational and game production habitat is best protected against all ill-conceived work in the fo-rest pursuant to the Wilderness Preservation Act 16USC§1131. Forceful work on the urban-forest interface must stay on the National Trail System inter-city-cross-connecting recreational trails for wilderness camping and pedestrian travel under 16USC§1245. Due the increase in pedestrian road fatalities, it is estimated that the Department of Transportation must be matched by the USDA and Interior Departments, to blaze at least 1.5 percent carbon footprint of any public investment in rural road or highway work for public transportation to federal lands under 23USC§203 and sidewalk-end recreational trails for inter-city pedestrian travel under 23USC§206. Right of way constitutes no right of possession of the land itself, merely a right to pass through pursuant to *United States Forest Service v. Cowpasture River Preservation Association* 590 US __ (2020). This entails a trail with reasonably clean water, forage, camping and safe campfire pits in mineral soil and on the banks of rivers. The Forest Service must cease enforcing their frequent camping and campfire prohibition, falsely attributed, to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act under 16USC§1281 and amend the prohibition of entry or access to 'emergency area closures, private land, urban drinking watersheds, endangered species habitat, and military perimeters' to 36CFR261.58(e)(z).

2. The Budget includes a total of $4.4 billion to mitigate wildfire risk, of which only the $2.4 billion for wildfire fighting is *bona fide*. Another estimated $2.4 billion so-called 'Active Fo-rest Management' subsidy is forfeit - hazardous fuels reduction, forest products and commercial logging. With $510 million for Hazardous Fuels Reduction and $385 million for Forest Products, among other programs, the agency will accomplish a timber output of 4 billion board feet while 'improving' 3.5 million acres of National Forest System land to reduce or maintain fuel conditions and 1.1 million acres of National Forest System lands to mitigate wildfire risk. Because wildfire fighting has adopted the term fire suppression, it is no longer adequate to merely say that the most common cause of forest fire is a history of fire suppression. The presence of acres of slash piles in any jurisdiction is equally to more indicative of future forest fire risk as an acre of forest that has already been burned. The $2.4 billion Active Fo-rest Management forfeiture is justified in the count of $500 fine and six months in prison, for

negligently leaving millions of slash piles of green wood to dry for two years, if they ever get any terrorism finance but equal punishment with ignition under 36CFR§261.5. The flames from a slash pile leap up 30 feet in the air and ignite the canopy, causing a "large modern wildfire" setting timber afire in violation of 18USC§1855.

3. The Forest Service must stop slashing 4.6 million acres of living habitat a year, 2.4 percent of their 193 million acres, under color of restoration. Cutting green wood greatly increases the risk of forest fire. Cutting and injuring trees destroys recreational game habitat and is a crime of animal and vegetable cruelty in its own right under 18USC§1853. The FBI/National Parks Service identity theft operation arsons the slash piles left in the National Forest, before prescribed burns are funded. The Forest Service must stop permitting the destruction of valuable habitat to negligently leave flammable debris in slash piles for the arson conspiracy under 18USC§81 and Art. 81 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice under 10USC§881. The Forest Service must prohibit slash piles once and for all, salvage the firewood, chip, burn or scatter the rest, and bury any ashes. The Forest Service must refocus their *mano muerta*, fewer chainsaws and more skids, on salvage logging freshly burned snags from the 3 to 10 million acres that are burned annually in the United States, 1.5 percent to 5 percent a year. Only about 300,000 acres of forest are commercially logged in any given year, 0.15 percent of total NFS land a year. 10 to 40 times more forest is burned than logged. The Forest Service must stop permitting the destruction of living habitat, and permit loggers to harvest copious quantities salvageable dead wood in commercial quantities from burned lands, in a timely fashion, for free logistics.

4. The Forest Service must salvage log burned forests, within one year of catastrophic fire, or the sawmills will go out of business for want of timber. No more special use permits shall be issued to commercially harvest, log or leave slash piles in any living forest habitat. Commercial logging is the most dangerous career in the nation with more than 100 fatalities per 100,000 work years. In the Fire Service, there are about 1.1 million structural firefighters, roughly 825,000 volunteer and 275,000-paid career. It is estimated that about 100,000 are involved with wildland firefighting to some degree or another. There are estimated to be about 18,590 contract wildland firefighters, helping to fill the gap in personnel needs in very active fire seasons. There are 56,000 wildland firefighters within the federal and state government. Between 2001-2012, over 200 on-duty Wildfire Fighter fatalities occurred. That comes to about 20 deaths per 100,000 workers, or 20 deaths per year. Commercial loggers and slash burners would be paid to be trained and deployed to fight major wildfires. They would be permitted by climate scientists to stay to utilize the forest roads to salvage timber and fire-wood, from the sites of major fires, before the snags rot. Wildfire fighting and logging operations would be safer and more effective with skids and other heavy logging trucks, and scientific logistics. Salvage logging would leave snag free land and trails, fertile for *bona fide* restoration work - replanting native species, thick with wild edibles, and thin on bird nesting snags, for the tax exempt occupation of future generations of campers.

G. Departmental staff offices provide essential support to Departmental agencies and programs, ensuring that all agencies can carry out their duties, and lead the Department's efforts to improve customer service to the public. This Budget includes $41.4 million for the Office of the Secretary, of which $9.1 million will be expended for activities relating to climate change, including coordinating such activities across the Department, as well as $5 million to support the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AgARDA), in the Office of the Chief Scientist. The Budget includes $13.4 million for the office of Homeland Security (OHS) and $13.3 million for the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE), $26 million for Departmental Administration (DA),

$10.5 million for the Office of Communications (OC), $3.1 million for the Office of the Chief Economist (OCS), $16.2 million for the Office of Hearing and Appeals (OHA), $12.8 billion for the Office of Budget and Program Analysis (OBPA), $101 million for the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), $7.1 million for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCEO), $133.4 million for Agriculture Buildings and Facilities (Ag B&F), $27 million for the Office of Safety, Security and Protection (OSSP), $6.6 million for Hazardous Materials Management (HMM), $29.3 million for the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), and $60.7 million for the Office of the General Counsel (OGC). Furthermore, the Budget requests $106.3 million to enable the independent Office of Inspector General (OIG) to review existing and proposed legislation and regulations and make recommendations to the Secretary and Congress regarding the impact these laws have on the Department's programs and conduct critical oversight for a full range of USDA's programs and operations, including response to the COVID19 pandemic and other Department initiatives.

1. The legal climate that the Agriculture Department is dealing with is equal opportunity employment for all races, sustaining the promise to not cut SNAP benefits, converting USDA long distance vehicles to biodiesel like other federal agencies are switching to electric, and forfeiture of $2.4 billion Active Fo-rest Management to reduce wildfire risk by sustaining salvage logging pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act under 5USC§706. The USDA and Forest Service must provide equal employment opportunities, in proportion with the local and national population, for people with relevant college degrees, without discrimination on the basis of race and color especially, or religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or age pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 under 42USC§2000e-16(e) and E.O.11478. If Congress does not authorize $8.1 billion in spending FY 22 the $36.24 SNAP benefit increase should be overruled by a 2.5 percent annual benefit increase to sustain 0.5 percent population for 3 percent total spending growth and renewal of the SNAP promise not to cut emergency food benefits pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 42USC§2000d under penalty of 18USC§264. The American Jobs Plan promises to arbitrarily and capriciously provide nearly $15 billion for economically and scientifically unsupported biodiesel infrastructure under 7USC§8103, and it is held that instead the USDA should follow the lead of other federal agencies who are converting their fleets of vehicles to electric, to convert their vehicles to biodiesel, with adequate production infrastructure to supply agency, rural community and national demand, pursuant to 7USC§8102. To prevent forest fires the USDA Forest Service must critically review the arbitrary, capricious, abuse of discretion, not in accordance with law, pyromaniac pseudo-science that justifies defunding 'Active Fo-rest Management' for destroying the habitat by littering the national forest with millions of flammable slash piles threatening to ignite the canopy that cause large modern wildfires and a large share of global warming and to prohibit commercial forest product contracts except for tax exempt *mano muerta* salvage logging and fire-wood logistics operations, within a year of a major forest fire under 36CFR§261.5.