



The 2024 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies funding bill provides funding of \$17.8 billion – **a level so low that it was last seen in 2007** – which is nearly \$8 billion below what was provided in 2023.

Increases Costs for Rural America

- Cuts rural electric investments in clean energy and energy efficiency from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) by \$1 billion, slashing funding for rural electric co-ops. Co-ops serve 42 million people and cover 56 percent of the nation's land mass. This includes serving 92 percent of persistent poverty counties and powering over 21 million businesses, homes, schools, and farms in 48 states.
 - This means that the many hard-working, rural communities across America who need this help will not receive the benefit from the largest investment in rural utilities since the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 provided in the IRA.
- Strips funding for key rural broadband programs by over 23 percent. This includes a nearly \$100 million cut to the ReConnect program, which has already funded connections for nearly 410,000 households in rural America to high-speed internet.
- Cuts the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) by \$500 million and eliminates all grants under the program. This means House Republicans are raising energy costs for approximately 15,000 rural small businesses and agriculture producers and cutting farmers out of the green energy economy while carving out profits for the banks that benefit from loans under the program.

Cuts Critical Nutrition Assistance

- Cuts WIC by \$800 million, taking food out of the mouths of women and children.
- Slashes the cash value voucher in the Women, Infants, and Children program (WIC). The voucher provides funding for fruit and vegetable purchases for the 5 million women and children enrolled.

Makes it Harder for People to Purchase a Home and Access Clean Water

- Underfunds critical direct loans for the purchase of homes in rural areas, stripping an estimated 104,000 farmers with direct and guaranteed farm loans from the assistance they are expecting. This means farmers who are in the process of applying for assistance to make up for pandemic losses will not receive payments.
 - With this cut, House Republicans are eliminating a lifeline that has already helped more than 20,000 distressed farmers who have received assistance from the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Cuts funding for water and waste disposal projects by 36 percent. This means that over 165 projects to ensure that rural Americans have clean drinking water and modern sewage systems would not happen.

Furtheres the Republican Goal of Making Abortion Illegal Nationally

- Reverses the FDA decision to allow mifepristone to be dispensed in certified pharmacies to patients with a prescription from a certified prescriber, instead of only in hospitals, clinics, and medical offices.