



SUMMARY OF REPUBLICAN FISCAL YEAR 2025 BILL

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

The fiscal year 2025 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies funding bill provides discretionary funding of \$25.9 billion – approximately a 3.6 percent cut below the comparable level for fiscal year 2024. The bill includes a total of \$210 billion for discretionary and mandatory programs.

The legislation:

- **Increases costs for Rural America** by cutting critical investments in rural communities including direct loans to help hardworking Americans buy homes in rural areas, water and waste grants to help the poorest communities get safer water services, and energy savings programs that support rural small businesses. Republicans are also cutting funding that helps low- and very low-income rural homeowners repair or rehabilitate their homes.
- **Threatens access to food for hardworking and vulnerable Americans** by cutting, underfunding, or altering critical food assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, the Farmers Market Nutrition Program, and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).
- **Slashes Food for Peace to the lowest level since 2002** at a time when the Russian attack on Ukraine, conflicts on nearly every continent, and climate change are drastically endangering global food security.
- **Jeopardizes the health of children and communities across the United States** by effectively blocking FDA from finalizing rules prohibiting menthol in cigarettes, characterizing flavors in cigars, or mandating maximum nicotine levels in cigarettes. This bill stands in the way of reducing the use and addictiveness of cigarettes.

Bill Summary

Food and Nutrition Programs

- **WIC** – The bill provides \$7.2 billion in discretionary funding for WIC, which is \$462 million, or 6 percent, below the Biden Administration’s fiscal year 2025 budget

request. It fully funds the cash value vouchers for fruits and vegetables in the WIC Food Package as requested by the President. In fiscal year 2023, WIC served nearly 6.6 million women, infants, and children.

- **SNAP** – The bill provides \$123 billion in funding for SNAP, which is \$165 million below the request, jeopardizing food assistance.
- **Commodity Assistance Programs** – The bill provides \$410 million for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, \$15 million or 4 percent, below the request level; \$10 million for the Farmers Market Nutrition Program, \$4 million or 26 percent, below the request level; and \$80 million for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), \$15 million or 16 percent, below the request level.
- **Child nutrition programs** – The bill provides \$32 billion in funding for child nutrition programs. It includes \$10 million for school breakfast equipment grants and \$3 million for the Farm to School program.

International Food Assistance Programs – The bill includes \$1 billion for Food for Peace grants, a cut of \$800 million below the request and \$688 million below 2024. This is the lowest level since 2002. The bill also includes \$240 million for the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program, which is \$3 million below the request and equal to the 2024 level.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) – The bill includes a total of \$3.5 billion in discretionary funding for the FDA, \$22 million below the 2024 level. Total funding for FDA, including revenue from appropriated user fees, is \$6.7 billion.

Rural Development

- **Rural housing programs** – The bill provides \$28.1 billion in rural housing programs, including \$950 million in single family direct loans, \$300 million or 24 percent below the request.
- **Rural Energy for America Program** – The bill provides \$100 million in REAP loans, \$900 million, or 90 percent, below the request level.
- **Rural Energy Savings Program** – The bill provides \$5 million in RESP loans, \$15 million less than 2024 and over \$94 million below the request level.
- **Water and waste grants** – The bill provides \$220 million, \$35 million below the 2024 level and \$165 million below the request.

- **ReConnect program** – The bill provides \$100 million, which is \$10 million over the 2024 level but \$12 million below the request.
- **Direct single family housing loans** – The bill provides \$950 million for single family direct home loans, an increase of \$70 million above the 2024 enacted level but \$300 million below the request.
- **Staffing** – The bill provides \$794 million, \$7 million below the 2024 level and \$84 million, or 10 percent, below the request.
- **Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act** – The bill does not include any funding for the PAWS Act, which provides short-term shelter and housing assistance, such as expenses incurred for the temporary shelter, housing, boarding, or fostering of the pets of domestic violence victims.

Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) – The bill provides \$345 million, a cut of \$20 million below 2024 and \$29 million below the requested need. CFTC faces increasing cybersecurity threats while it regulates a multi-trillion-dollar derivatives market that American farmers and businesses rely on to manage market risk. This penny-wise, pound-foolish funding level risks gutting the agency at a time of increasing market uncertainty for American producers caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and global severe weather events.

Agricultural Research – The bill provides \$3.7 billion, \$34 million below 2024, for agriculture research programs, including the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). It maintains research investments in U.S. land-grant colleges and universities. The bill underfunds the Economic Research Service (ERS) by \$12.5 million. It also underfunds the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) by \$7 million, which will likely prevent the agency from reinstating important surveys including July Cattle, Cotton Objective Yield, and County Level Estimates.

Agriculture Marketing Service – The bill provides \$19 million, which is \$31 million below the 2023 level and \$43 million below the request. The program includes funding for the National Organic Program, the Packers and Stockyards program, the Acer program, and other work to facilitate the movement of agriculture products and to open market opportunities for producers.

Farm Programs – Funding for Farm Service Agency salaries and expenses is roughly flat at the 2024 level of \$1.5 billion but is \$36 million below the request. The funding in the

bill for farm loan programs is equal to the administration's request but significantly below 2024.

Conservation Programs – The bill provides \$903 million to help farmers, ranchers, and other private landowners conserve and protect their land, a \$12 million cut below the FY 2024 enacted level. It eliminates funding for the Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Program.

Animal and Plant Health – The bill includes \$1.2 billion, \$16 million below the 2024 level and \$28 million below the request, for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Food Safety and Inspection Service – The bill includes \$1.2 billion for food safety and inspection. These activities help ensure the safety and productivity of the country's meat and poultry industry and keep safe, healthy food on American tables.

This legislation includes riders that would:

- Prohibit FDA from finalizing rules to prohibit menthol in cigarettes or characterizing flavors in cigars, or mandating maximum nicotine levels in cigarettes until FDA updates its enforcement guidance, issues a final rule requiring foreign tobacco manufacturers to register with FDA, prevents the importation of unapproved products, and publicly discloses the list of legal products.
- Eliminate protections for small meat and poultry producers against large companies.
- Prohibit USDA from paying for the construction of energy efficient housing.
- Create a license for people and organizations to discriminate against LGBTQI+ people.
- Prohibit the use of funds for diversity, equity, and inclusion training or implementation.
- Prohibit the promotion or advancement of Critical Race Theory.
- Limit the ability to fly flags at USDA facilities, aimed at eliminating the use of pride flags.
- Close a loophole in the 2018 Farm Bill definition of hemp to address or exclude delta-8 and other intoxicating hemp products.