

# University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension

## BACKGROUND

The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 establishes the Cooperative Extension Service and provides federal funds for cooperative extension activities. The act requires that states provide a 100% match from non-federal resources (many states provide a greater match).

Funding under Smith-Lever sections 3(b) and 3(c) are distributed to cooperative extension units at eligible land-grant institutions under a statutory formula.

Congress has provided modest increases in the last two fiscal years, but this has barely slowed the steady erosion of this vital program in recent decades.

**The land-grant system strongly supports funding for Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) at \$350 million in FY 2011.**

## CONTACT

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University of  
Connecticut

College of Agriculture  
and Natural Resources  
*Cooperative Extension  
System*

## VALUE OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

In Connecticut, each dollar we receive under the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation is leveraged by more than \$3 in state funding. The lack of county-based funding makes the federal/state partnership vital for program delivery in local communities.

### Funds Leveraged by Our Pro Rata Share of Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) Appropriation

	FY 2009 <sup>1</sup>	FY 2010 <sup>2</sup>	FY 2011 <sup>3</sup>
<i>Federal Smith-Lever</i>	2,070,458	2,142,874	2,493,061
<i>State</i>	7,525,554	7,055,110	7,055,110
<i>Local/County</i>	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,596,012</b>	<b>\$9,197,984</b>	<b>\$9,548,171</b>

NOTES: (1) FY 2009 funds are actual amounts; (2) FY 2010 is actual; (3) FY 2011 assumes a \$350 million appropriation (as requested by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities).

### Additional Program Data

- Local offices are maintained in eight locations.
- More than 125 faculty and staff deliver locally based programming.
- Extension contacts exceed 500,000 annually.
- Extension reaches more than 30,000 young people through 4-H or other programs annually.

### BENEFITS OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

As shown above, if Congress increases the FY 2011 Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation to \$350 million, our pro rata share would be ~ \$350,000. We would use such an increase to:

- Enhance our nutrition education, obesity and food safety programs in under-served communities.
- Expand key programs in youth development including efforts in science, engineering and technology.
- Expand high demand programs in sustainable ecosystems, urban gardening, food production, and land use planning.

### OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2009, nutrition education programs reached more than 1,000 preschoolers, 2,600 food stamp eligible individuals and families and more than 1,300 households.
- In 2008, extension provided more than 600 local land use commissioners and municipal officials with training on land use planning. Over the life of the program, workshops have been delivered in more than 75% of Connecticut's 169 towns.
- Annually more than 30,000 youth participate in a 4-H club, community service project or after school program.
- In 2008, nearly 200 Connecticut citizens enrolled in Master Gardeners provided more than 10,000 hours of community service in their local communities.