

University of Hawai'i

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.

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MĀNOA

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VALUE OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

In Hawai'i (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation is leveraged by \$5.48 in state funding to the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). This in turn leverages \$.20 in local funds. Combined state and local leveraging adds to a total \$5.60:

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

	FY 2009 ¹	FY 2010 ²	FY 2011 ³
Federal (Smith-Lever)	1,274,815	1,327,169	1,580,344
State	6,985,970	6,706,531	6,706,531
Local/County	252,556	203,000	201,500
Total	\$8,510,341	\$8,236,700	\$8,488,375

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

Additional Program Data

- CTAHR maintains ten CES offices across four Hawai'i counties.
- CTAHR employs about 85 people who are involved in applied research and outreach activities for CES programs.
- Volunteers worked more than 100,000 hours in CTAHR programs and the value of goods or services provided by partners in these programs, i.e. the in-kind contribution, was more than \$3.5 million in FY 2009.

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 increase by \approx \$153,177. We would use such an increase to:

- Support educational programs that increase the likelihood that adults and youth across the State will adopt healthy lifestyles.
- Continue CTAHR's research and outreach efforts to introduce highly valued agricultural products such as tea and blueberries and to develop profitable niche markets for these crops.
- Expand CTAHR's food safety coaching program for agricultural producers so that more of them can become food safety certified.

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Youth Development program reached thousands of children across the State. A mobile technology lab was assembled with in-kind contributions to provide military and homeless youth with learning opportunities including the ability see a deployed parent or make a video. A school readiness program help thousands of kindergarteners be more successful.
- CTAHR's Beef Initiative identified the best pasture management practices so that ranchers can increase the profits that can be realized from sustainable grazing, which has increased the production of local beef. In the past, nearly all of Hawai'i's feeder calves were shipped to the U.S. mainland for finishing and processing.
- Applied research and outreach programs have stopped the increase in invasive species populations, including fire ants, coqui frogs, fruit flies, and fireweed.
- The Community Development Program formed a statewide coalition to help ensure that all Hawaii residents are financially literate. Adult participants in one class reported that they received \$60,000 in total benefits from attending. Thousands of other adults and youth across the State have reported similar benefits from their involvement in the program.