

K-State Research and Extension

Kansas State University

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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VALUE OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

In Kansas (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation is leveraged by \$3.98 in state funding. This in turn leverages \$3.72 in local funds. Combined state and local funding totals \$7.70 per federal dollar:

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)	\$5,225,408	\$5,440,191	\$6,478,840
State	\$20,787,802	\$18,788,645	\$18,788,645
Local/County	\$19,450,802	\$19,819,509	\$20,000,000
Total	\$45,464,012	\$44,048,345	\$45,267,485

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

- K-State Research and Extension has a local presence in all 105 counties, partnering with over 2,400 locally elected County Extension Council and District Governing Board representatives.
- The organization reached 1,095,848 educational contacts through its targeted programs in the 2009 program year.
- More than 98,000 youth are engaged in positive 4-H youth development experiences in the state.
- The organization employs the full-time equivalent of roughly 240 locally based Extension agents and 159 regional and campus-based Extension faculty.

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 \approx \$1,038,649. We would use such an increase to:

- Address the critical needs of people living in Kansas around issues of agricultural production, technology, and management; nutrition, diet, and healthy living; personal and business financial and entrepreneurial decision-making processes; local community development; and environmental conservation and stewardship.
- Support the continued growth and development of eXtension.
- Create increased opportunities for youth in areas of science, engineering, and technology; citizenship; and healthy living, building towards successful careers in this 21st Century.

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Adoption of new technologies in agriculture pays off in big dividends. For example, adoption of new wheat varieties developed through research in Kansas over a 30-year period has increased production by 6.2 bushels per acre. For every dollar invested in the wheat breeding research and educational program, a \$17 gain has been realized in the state's economy.
- During the fall of 2009, nearly 3,000 people in four counties alone were assisted in choosing the best Medicare Part D plan, saving them over \$1.1 million.
- Through the Kansas Community PRIDE program, volunteers invested over 85,000 hours, raised a reported \$900,712, and partnered with 644 other organizations in completing 1,216 community improvement projects. In its 40 year history, 392 Kansas communities have directly benefited from active participation in the Kansas PRIDE program.
- Kansas ServSafe educational program has made an impact with 829 foodservice operations through employee training in the past 5 years. More than 27,956 contact hours of food handler education were provided to 3,715 foodservice personnel. This includes 1,637 participants who completed the manager certification training and 2,078 entry-level personnel who received food safety best practices training.