

# NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY (NMSU)

## 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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**New Mexico Cooperative  
Extension Service**

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## VALUE OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

In **New Mexico** (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation is leveraged by \$7.05 in state appropriations, \$1.23 in local appropriations, and \$11.85 in sponsored grants and contracts. Combined leverage totals \$20.13.

### 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>
Federal (Smith-Lever)	\$1,960,364	\$2,051,028	\$2,489,463
State	\$13,825,069	\$13,424,500	\$13,424,500
Local/County	\$2,412,816	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000
Grants/Contracts	\$23,230,319	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$41,428,568</b>	<b>\$37,875,528</b>	<b>\$38,313,963</b>

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

- 57 Extension office staff assists 1,586 communities to explore and find solutions to issues of employment, security, leadership, family health, and economic wellbeing.
- 67 agents work with 70,000 youths and 10,500 volunteers to carry out 200 science, engineering, technology, citizenship, and healthy living projects.
- 52 specialists - experts in 159 areas - teach farmers, ranchers, and families environmental stewardship, sustainable energy, water conservation, and healthy nutrition practices.
- Extension faculty partner with 1,000 organizations; receive over \$25M/yr from grant proposals; provide training to volunteers who give back over \$3,285,084 in volunteer hours; and directly respond to over 527,400 information requests yearly (state population 1,928,384 in 2005).

### 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 ≈ \$438,435.** We would use such an increase to:

- Decrease childhood obesity by reaching an increasing the number of families receiving nutrition education by hiring additional nutrition educators.
- Create demonstrations of alternative energy development and use including bio-fuels, wind-energy, photo voltaic, and bio-diesels and their applications to increased food production efficiencies, product development, rural prosperity, and jobs.
- Expand the work of the Water Task Force, the Range Improvement Task Force, and the many faculty who provide leadership for the allocation, conservation, adjudication, planning, rights, and drought mitigation water issues statewide. In addition, meet the demands for consultation as a world leader in arid lands water conservation and management practices.

### OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Agricultural safety programs reach nearly all 33 counties. Parents and teachers report yearly that this program has decreased home, classroom, and farm accidents; children have taught their parents many of the safety precautions even months after the program; and communities and schools continue to demonstrate strong support for the yearly program.
- Building community partnerships and training to reduce the use of methamphetamines.
- Small Farms Task Force and the Small Farm Institute increase sustainable agricultural education around small and niche farming, urban horticulture and landscaping, organics, integrated pest management and food security particularly in Northern New Mexico and the Rio Grande Corridor.