

Oregon State University Extension Service

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 **OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY – Extension Service** (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation is leveraged by \$ 5.95 in state funding. This in turn leverages \$2.06 in local funds. Combined state and local leveraging adds to a total \$ 8.01:

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)	\$ 3,517,198	\$ 3,693,805	\$ 4,547,839
State	\$ 20,895,548	\$ 21,161,731	\$ 21,161,731
Local/County	\$ 7,235,428	\$ 7,404,809	\$ 7,404,809
Total	\$ 31,648,174	\$ 32,260,345	\$ 33,114,379

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

- OSU Extension Service conducts programs from seven of 11 colleges including Agricultural Sciences, Forestry, Education, Health and Human Science, Liberal Arts, Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences and Veterinary Medicine.
- All 36 counties are served from local offices, many in partnership with the Agricultural Experiment Station and other collaborative partners.
- More than 2.3 million Oregonians were reached with Extension education in 2009-about 60 percent of the state's population.

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 \$ 854,034. We would use such an increase to:

- Support and expand the service of nearly 9,000 trained volunteers. Develop a new Climate Masters volunteer program for citizen's concerned with energy use and reducing their carbon footprint.
- Expand the innovative 4-H youth program, Tech Wizards, to additional locations, increasing the already 150,000 youth, or more than 1 in 5 Oregon K-12 youth participating in 4-H.
- Address the economic survival of businesses and communities struggling to outgrow the recession. The agricultural sector alone consists of more than 100 commodities that contribute 26 Billion dollars to the economy.

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- In partnership with the Portland, Oregon, Food Bank, an Extension educator pioneered a new program to educate health care providers how to recognize signs of hunger and food insecurity—allowing treatment of this malady to consist of nutrition rather than medicine.
- Development of holistic food systems through Extension's work with local growers and farmers markets to support desires of urban residents to supply their food supply locally.
- Extension faculty members assist with policy analysis and development. In 2009, Extension developed model programs for guiding pesticide application around schools and other public areas.