

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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Utah State University Extension

VALUE OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

In Utah (FY 2009), each dollar we received under the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation was leveraged by \$6.00 in state funding. This in turn was leveraged by \$1.57 in local funds. Combined state and local leveraging totaled \$7.57:

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)	1,597,174	1,670,143	2,023,005
State	13,649,600	12,631,900	11,995,900
Local/County	3,558,676	3,558,676	3,558,676
Total	18,805,450	17,860,719	17,577,581

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

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DATA

- USU Extension maintains offices in 28 of Utah's 29 counties (Daggett is served by Uintah).
- USU Extension employs approximately 150 full-time-equivalent people.
- In 2009, USU Extension served the equivalent of one-third of Utah's population with at least one program designed to enhance the lives of Utahans.
- Nearly 50% of Utah residents obtained research-based information from the Extension website and other electronic newsletters and materials.
- USU Extension supports Utah's agriculture industries that generate over \$15.2 billion in economic output annually, employ 66,500 people (with income compensation of \$2.4 billion), and account for 13.9% of Utah's economy while providing food security to Utahans.

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 \$352,862. We would use this increase to:

- Retain critical employees. Salary expenses constitute about 85% of our budget. With state budget reductions, we must use every available revenue source to avoid losing key Extension faculty members.
- Provide expanded educational and technical support programs to agricultural producers, rural and urban communities and 4-H/youth development in the areas of sustainable and renewable energy, food safety and nutrition, childhood obesity, urban farming and gardening, rangeland management, and commercial farming and marketing technologies.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS FOR UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

- Created a "Freeways to Fuel" program partnering with Utah DOT and ten major universities to develop bio-fuel crops cultivated on government maintained lands. Currently working with the Department of Defense to extend program to the U.S. Air Force.
- Working with the Department of Defense to develop and provide online divorce education programs to military families worldwide.
- Providing online "food handlers' education and certification program" for the State of Utah.
- Assisting Utah cities and counties to develop community gardens and farmers' markets that provide direct sales to consumers.
- Supporting state agencies and NGOs through the "Ag in the Classroom" programs, including online teacher education courses servicing more than 2500 teachers in the region.
- Working with public school districts to provide Spanish language education programs to Latino families resulting in the capacity to use computers and speak English.

