

Amendment offered by Representative McDonald Rivet

Amendment description

The amendment provides funding for research facilities maintenance, including \$11.5 billion to cover deferred maintenance at Land Grant Universities

AMENDMENT

OFFERED BY MS. McDONALD RIVET

Strike subtitle A.

Page 84, strike lines 1 through 17 and insert the following:

1 (f) AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FACILITIES.—

2 (1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

3 (A) in 2019, agriculture and related indus-
4 tries—

5 (i) contributed \$1,109,000,000,000 to
6 the gross domestic product of the United
7 States (5.2 percent of the total gross do-
8 mestic product of the United States); and

9 (ii) provided 22,200,000 jobs domesti-
10 cally (10.9 percent of total employment in
11 the United States);

12 (B) the National Institute of Food and Ag-
13 riculture provides more than \$1,700,000,000 in
14 research funding each year to schools of agri-
15 culture;

16 (C) a study published in 2015 found that
17 deferred maintenance needs at 91 schools of ag-

1 riculture across the United States totaled
2 \$8,400,000,000, with a total replacement cost
3 of \$29,000,000,000;

4 (D) a study published in 2021 found that
5 deferred maintenance needs at schools of agri-
6 culture across the United States had increased
7 to \$11,500,000,000, with a total replacement
8 cost of \$38,100,000,000; and

9 (E) infrastructure investments must be
10 made at schools of agriculture to ensure that
11 United States agricultural research remains
12 globally competitive.

13 (2) EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS.—Section 3(d)
14 of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390a(d)) is
15 amended—

16 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and
17 (2) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

18 (B) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as
19 so redesignated) the following:

20 “(1) review the proposal in consultation with
21 representatives of National Institute of Food and
22 Agriculture peer review panels;”.

23 (3) GRANTS FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FA-
24 CILITIES.—Section 4 of the Research Facilities Act
25 (7 U.S.C. 390b) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 4. GRANTS FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FACILI-**
2 **TIES.**

3 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to as-
4 sist agricultural research facilities in efforts to alter or re-
5 pair those facilities or equipment of the facilities necessary
6 for conducting agricultural research.

7 “(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
9 lish in the National Institute of Food and Agri-
10 culture a competitive grant program to provide to
11 agricultural research facilities the Federal share of
12 the cost of the construction, alteration, acquisition,
13 modernization, renovation, or remodeling of—

14 “(A) the agricultural research facilities; or

15 “(B) equipment of the agricultural re-
16 search facilities necessary for conducting agri-
17 cultural research.

18 “(2) SECRETARIAL WAIVER.—Notwithstanding
19 section 3(e)(2)(A), the Secretary may provide that
20 the Federal share described in paragraph (1) is up
21 to 100 percent of the costs described in that para-
22 graph on a case-by-case basis, as the Secretary de-
23 termines to be appropriate.

24 “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—

25 “(1) AMOUNT; TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—
26 Grants awarded under this section shall be in such

1 amounts and under such terms and conditions as
2 the Secretary determines are necessary to carry out
3 the purpose of this section.

4 “(2) **EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.**—To the max-
5 imum extent practicable, grants shall be awarded
6 under this section to ensure—

7 “(A) an equitable geographic distribution
8 of funds;

9 “(B) an equitable distribution of funds to
10 diverse institutions;

11 “(C) an equitable distribution of funds to
12 institutions with diverse areas of study within
13 agricultural science; and

14 “(D) an equitable distribution of funds to
15 agricultural research facilities of various sizes.

16 “(3) **LIMITATION.**—Not greater than 20 per-
17 cent of amounts made available to carry out this sec-
18 tion shall be awarded to projects in any 1 State.

19 “(4) **ADMINISTRATION.**—In carrying out this
20 section, the Secretary shall establish procedures
21 for—

22 “(A) the submission of proposals for com-
23 petitive grants; and

24 “(B) in consultation with representatives
25 of National Institute of Food and Agriculture

1 peer review panels, the review and selection of
2 proposals submitted under subparagraph (A).”.

3 (4) FUNDING.—Section 6 of the Research Fa-
4 cilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390d) is amended—

5 (A) by striking the section designation and
6 heading and all that follows through the end of
7 subsection (a) and inserting the following:

8 **“SEC. 6. FUNDING AND LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.**

9 **“(a) FUNDING.—**

10 **“(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—**

11 **“(A) IN GENERAL.—**Subject to subsections
12 (b) through (d), but notwithstanding any other
13 provision of law, on October 1, 2025, and on
14 each October 1 thereafter through October 1,
15 2029, out of any funds in the Treasury not oth-
16 erwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treas-
17 ury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out
18 section 4 \$2,300,000,000 to remain available
19 until expended.

20 **“(B) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—**The
21 Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall ac-
22 cept, and shall use to carry out section 4 the
23 funds transferred under paragraph (1), without
24 further appropriation.

1 “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In
2 addition to amounts made available under paragraph
3 (1), subject to subsections (b) through (d), there is
4 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary not
5 more than \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years
6 2026 through 2030, to remain available until ex-
7 pended, for the study, plan, design, structure, and
8 related costs of agricultural research facilities under
9 this Act.”; and

10 (B) in subsection (b), by inserting “Fed-
11 eral” before “administration”.

12 (g) AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTERS.—

13 (1) FINDING.—Congress finds that the Agricul-
14 tural Research Service Capital Investment Strategy
15 dated April 2012 indicates that research facilities of
16 the Agricultural Research Services have more than
17 \$1,000,000,000 in deferred maintenance.

18 (2) DIRECT FUNDING FOR DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AT ARS RESEARCH FACILITIES.—Title IV of
19 the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education
20 Reform Act of 1998 is amended by inserting before
21 section 404 (7 U.S.C. 7624) the following:
22

1 **“SEC. 401. DIRECT FUNDING FOR DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AT ARS RESEARCH FACILITIES.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Using amounts made available
4 under subsection (c), the Secretary shall provide direct
5 payments to research facilities of the Agricultural Re-
6 search Service for the purpose of addressing deferred
7 maintenance.

8 “(b) PRIORITY.—In providing direct payments under
9 subsection (a), the Secretary shall give priority to the most
10 critical structures in accordance with the Agricultural Re-
11 search Service Capital Investment Strategy dated April
12 2012.

13 “(c) FUNDING.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
15 provision of law, on October 1, 2025, and on each
16 October 1 thereafter through October 1, 2029, out
17 of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appro-
18 priated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer
19 to the Secretary to carry out this section
20 \$200,000,000, to remain available until expended.

21 “(2) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Sec-
22 retary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and
23 shall use to carry out this section the funds trans-
24 ferred under paragraph (1), without further appro-
25 priation.”.

